Bromsgrove District Council – 24th January 2024 Member Questions

1. From Councillor R. Hunter Questions for the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services

"The new NPPF published in December 2023 clarifies that: 'there is no requirement for Green Belt boundaries to be reviewed or changed when plans are being prepared or updated' (Paragraph 145, p42). What will you do to enact this new Government directive here in Bromsgrove so that our Green Belt is better protected in the next local plan?"

2. From Councillor M. Marshall Question for the Leader

"Empty shops on Bromsgrove High Street give an unsightly and depressing impression of our town, deterring visitors and potential investors. The former Edinburgh Woollen Mill is by far the worst example. What is the council doing to ensure the site is made safe and when will the barriers be removed?"

3. From Councillor D. Nicholl Question for the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing and Strategic Housing

"I have a resident in my ward who has been waiting almost 5 months for a walk in shower funded by DFG to be installed. This is causing considerable hardship. How long should residents normally have to wait for aids and adaptations such as this and what can be done to speed up the process?"

4. From Councillor S. Evans Question for the Portfolio holder for Planning, Licensing and WRS

"Chronic traffic congestion in Bromsgrove town centre has been exacerbated recently by the closure of Whitford Road. The huge additional strain this put on local roads has caused significant delays, making people late for work and children late for school. Residents fear this could be a sign of things to come when the number of homes increases. What planning obligations have been placed on the developer to mitigate traffic congestion and is there a timescale within which these must be completed?"

5. From Councillor J. Robinson Question for the Leader

"With the news that Bromsgrove will no longer be benefiting from the services of NWEDR, what action will you be taking to ensure efforts to regenerate North Worcestershire remain joined up and that Bromsgrove is still able to bid competitively for grant funding?"