

Bromsgrove District Council – 22nd January 2025
Member Questions

1. From Councillor H. Rone-Clarke
Question for the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Community Safety

“We have previously passed a motion at Full-Council encouraging multi-agency meetings to resolve land disputes, how can we also ensure that residents get resolutions to local issues when County Council functions fail? - A key example being the shocking state that the trees at Shepherds Walk have been left in and the problems this is causing residents on Avon Close and FairOak Drive.”

2. From Councillor McDonald
Question to the Leader

“The Overview and Scrutiny Board are concerned about the extensive use of consultants in recent months to support the work of the Cabinet and the services of external professionals in the day-to-day delivery of Council business. We would ask the Leader to ensure that the Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny is advised in circumstances where the use of a consultant is being proposed to formulate strategic items so that consideration can be given to the value for money in these circumstances.

Whilst we understand that there is a need to procure the services of external professionals in the day to day delivery of Council business and services, a quarterly report of these services are presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Board.”

3. From Councillor D Nicholl
Question for the Leader

“Given the recent problems where the 145a bus service was to be cut and the 145 bus was due to have significant route changes in Stoke Prior. This only became apparent via residents Facebook posts. Can the Leader please contact Worcestershire County Council to get assurance that Bromsgrove District Council is informed of the consultation process on route changes through their wards in the future by notifying Assistant Director Community & Housing Services?”

4. From Councillor C Hotham
Question for the Leader

“This council has been facing almost unprecedented pressures: The redevelopment projects, the play audit, the car parking audit, the letting agency start up, a new strategic district plan, a new chief exec and 151 officer, a projected financial deficit of millions of pounds. We Bromsgrove District Council

are now faced with our extermination. Whether we agree or disagree with the government's policy, the one thing we must realise is that it will happen and it must be managed by us elected representatives for the benefit of the people of Bromsgrove. It is vital that all of us are involved as none of us want to feel that any part of Bromsgrove district is disadvantaged by the change.

Currently, the cabinet consists of the Leader and 6 members, they already have their work cut out managing and overseeing our existing challenges. My question for the Leader is:

Is it now time to appoint a further cabinet member with primary responsibility for the change to a unitary authority who would hold regular working groups for all members to attend?"

5. From Councillor J. Robinson
Question for the Leader

"The Labour Government promised the end of austerity and to fund local Government fairly. It is with dismay that this council notes the financial settlement provided to Bromsgrove District Council for the financial year 25/26 resulting in a real terms cut in the money available to our council. We therefore call on the Leader to write to the secretary of state to urge the Government to urgently provide further funding."