

Council 24 September 2014
Questions submitted from Members of the Public

Question No.	Question from:	Question:	Question to:	Responsible Officer:
1.	Mr Greenhill	<p>At the Council meeting on 30 July 2014, the Leader gave a written response to a question submitted by Danielle Smith who, co-incidentally, happens to be the prospective Conservative candidate for the proposed Homewood Ward. In her question Ms Smith opined as follows: "...I and everyone represented by the Labour party members are being short-changed and disconnected from the very important democratic process of reviewing policies of the Council and suggesting new ones." Anyone who attends Council meetings would realise that such a statement is palpable nonsense. The Labour members of Council take active part in debate and other procedures both in and out of the Council Chamber and are seen to do so.</p> <p>Would the Leader reflect on all that he said in his response and agree with me that it is in fact the Conservative members who are in fact short-changing and disconnecting by, amongst other things, curtailing the democratic processes in the Council Chamber and positively supporting, for ulterior motives, the effective and affective disenfranchisement of the residents of the Woodstock Ward by the decampment of the Conservative Willicombe councillors – the very councillors Ms Smith would aspire to succeed? And following in the vein of the Leader’s invective in responding to Ms. Smith’s question, has he not noticed or been aware in Council that the Conservative members resemble lemmings in their subservience to himself and his ‘cabinet’ and that ordinarily, in the collective, there would appear to be more activity on a fishmonger’s counter or a mortician’s slab than on the Conservative benches? If his answer is simply “No” to either or both parts of this question, then why?</p>	Leader	
2.	Christina Booth	The appalling traffic situation that exists at the junction of A2500 (Lower Road) and Barton Hill Drive on the Isle of Sheppey is well known to all road users in the area. There have been several recent studies of this junction and a number of observations that could go some way to alleviating the	Cabinet Member for Regeneration	Pete Raine

	<p>daily congestion suffered particularly during the morning and evening high traffic flow periods.</p> <p>I understand that KCC have finally agreed that the current traffic light junction be removed and replaced with a purpose built roundabout. It is agreed that this measure would substantially improve traffic flows and reduce the exceptional delays that the area currently experiences.</p> <p>Whilst this decision is seen as a positive move, I am concerned that past history of Highways working takes a lengthy period to come to fruition. Would it not be appropriate for Swale Borough Council to consider if there is any way they can help and to offer a financial contribution to the scheme and in doing so demonstrate to the road users of this heavily congested route that the Council both understands and appreciates the concerns.</p>		
--	--	--	--