

Council 29 June 2016 - Questions submitted by Members

Question No.	Question from:	Question:	Question to:	Service area:
1.	Cllr Roger Truelove	How is the improvement to children’s play areas progressing?	Cabinet Member for the Environment and Rural Affairs	Emma Wiggins – Head of Economy and Community Services/Dave Thomas Head of Commissioning & Customer Contact
2.	Cllr Roger Truelove	Can you tell the Council whether the Spirit of Sittingbourne intends to remove the “It’s Here” signs which, if they ever had any utility, are now a little obsolete?	Cabinet Member for Regeneration	Regeneration - Katherine Carr – Director of Regeneration
3.	Cllr Cameron Beart	<p>Currently blue badge holding residents and visitors to our town centres are limited to 4 hour parking in the nearest short stay car parks and are unable to make the walk to our long stay car parks.</p> <p>This prevents disabled residents seeking employment in our towns, it prevents shoppers who require longer to move around the luxury to do so and prevents tourists from enjoying many of our facilities.</p> <p>Would the Cabinet Member for Safer Families and Communities consider extending current time limits for disabled blue badge holders in our short stay car parks from 4 hours to 8 hours?</p>	Cabinet Member for Safer Families and Communities	Dave Thomas - Head of Commissioning & Customer Contact

Question No.	Question from:	Question:	Question to:	Service area:
4.	Cllr Angela Harrison	Would the Cabinet Member tell me what arrangements have been made to clear the weeds and other detritus in the gated alleys in Sheerness?	Cabinet Member for Environment and Rural Affairs	Emma Wiggins – Head of Economy and Community Services/Dave Thomas Head of Commissioning & Customer Contact
5.	Cllr Nicholas Hampshire	I understand that the Cabinet Member for Safer Families and Communities has been clear that he considers safeguarding as his number one priority within his new portfolio. Can I ask the Cabinet Member, therefore, to update us on the Council's capability and capacity in regards to meeting its safeguarding responsibilities?	Cabinet Member for Safer Families and Communities	Emma Wiggins – Head of Economy and Community Services
6.	Cllr Ghlin Whelan	I note that the homelessness figure now stands at 105 residents and still increasing. With further increases anticipated towards the end of the year when the benefit cuts begin to bite, what has this administration done to reduce this figure?	Cabinet Member for Housing and Well-Being	Amber Christou – Head of Housing Services
7.	Cllr Ghlin Whelan	Five years ago this council agreed to press ahead with a proposal to provide a state of the art Skatepark in Sittingbourne. In the spring of 2014 "Inside Swale" proclaimed that "skatepark plans scooting ahead" and in a more recent edition a year ago "Inside Swale" claimed "All was on Track"! In June 2015 it was agreed that : An operating trust was to be in place by Sept 2015 Build contractor to be appointed December 2015 Revised Planning application to be lodged with Swale Borough Council January 2016 Land transfer to be initiated with Essential lands January 2016	Cabinet Member for Housing and Well-Being	Emma Wiggins – Head of Economy and Community Services

Question No.	Question from:	Question:	Question to:	Service area:
		<p>Final planning application and required funding to be in place April 2016 Build to commence May 2016</p> <p>Why have none of these actions yet been expedited and why has the St George's playing field and facilities in Faversham recently been granted major open ended funding possibly to the tune of £1,000,000 when Sittingbourne is being denied any real help with operating costs and in fact has achieved almost nothing after 5 years of talking? This time next year are we still going to be in the same position we were in a year ago?</p>		