

Dear Councillor

**COUNCIL - MONDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2022**

Please find attached, for consideration at the meeting of the Council on Monday, 14 November 2022, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was published.

**Agenda No    Item**

7.    **Questions To Portfolio Holders Under Standing Order 22A (Pages 3 - 4)**

To ask questions of Portfolio Holders. Questions received are enclosed.

Yours sincerely

**Kate Ryan**  
**Chief Executive**

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## FULL COUNCIL – 14 NOVEMBER 2022 – QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDERS UNDER STANDING ORDER 22A

### First Questions

#### Question 1

**From Cllr Malcolm Wade to the Portfolio Holder Planning, Regeneration and Infrastructure, Cllr Diane Andrews**

Why has the District Council started adopting the description of "Strategic Land Reserve" (a term introduced by Associated British Ports) for land that has always been known as Dibden Bay to this Council and local residents?

#### Question 2

**From Cllr Philip Dowd to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Regeneration and Infrastructure, Cllr Diane Andrews**

It is expected that the Freeport will generate thousands of new skilled jobs. Taking into account the low unemployment and lack of relevant skills in the New Forest District, where do you see housing being built for these workers? The Waterside communities are sandwiched between the National Park and Southampton Water and the Local Plan does not take into account all of the labour requirements of the Freeport such as those of the ABP at Dibden Bay.

#### Question 3

**From Cllr Alex Wade to the Portfolio Holder for Partnering and Wellbeing, Cllr Geoff Blunden**

As you are a keen cyclist yourself, as seen on the cover of the well-being strategy, you will want to see local residents using their bikes to access the five Leisure Centres in the New Forest.

However, there have been reports of bikes being stolen from outside local Centres, with Applemore in my ward being targeted in particular.

With no visibility from reception, and some Managers not trained to use the CCTV I have been told, can you advise what precautions Freedom are taking to ensure Cycle security and what you are doing to ensure Freedom takes this responsibility seriously?

#### Question 4

**From Cllr Hilary Brand to the Portfolio Holder for Business, Tourism and High Streets, Cllr Michael Harris OBE**

With high streets struggling due to cost of living and energy crisis, and some traders having to make difficult decisions and possibly cease trading, what action is the Portfolio Holder going to consider to support our village and towns through this very challenging time?

#### Question 5

**From Cllr Caroline Rackham to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Regeneration and Infrastructure, Cllr Diane Andrews**

Would the Portfolio Holder agree that the Bartley Water and the green spaces it flows through in Totton and Eling, should be given Site of Nature Conservation Status?

## **Question 6**

### **From Cllr Jack Davies to the Leader of the Council, Cllr Edward Heron**

Many residents have contacted me to express concern about the new legislation forcing people to display ID in order to vote. I understand that local authorities are duty-bound to provide residents with free voter ID. Can the Leader tell me what progress has been made on providing free voter ID to residents before the local elections in May?

## **Second Questions**

### **Question 7**

### **From Cllr Alex Wade to the Portfolio Holder for Partnering and Wellbeing, Cllr Geoff Blunden**

It has been nearly 18 months since Freedom took over NFDC leisure centre management, do you think the current performance levels have justified this decision?