

**Council – 22 February 2023****Councillor Questions:****1. From Councillor Whybrow to Councillor Monk, Leader of the Council**

A large proportion of the emails I receive from local residents relate to problems in the planning system including errors on the planning website; lack of enforcement and a failure to correspond with the applicants for small developments. Data from the Local Government Ombudsman shows that in 2021/22, 6 of the 18 complaints received by the ombudsman about this council related to planning. That suggests that the council must have received an even higher number of complaints about planning. What steps are being taken to improve our service?

**2. From Councillor J Martin to Councillor Monk, Leader of the Council**

Following the successful motion by Councillor Tim Prater to abandon the Prince's Parade Development in summer 2019, can Councillor Monk tell me why this successful motion, democratically voted on by the people's representatives at Council was not even considered by Cabinet?

**3. From Councillor Treloar to Councillor Monk, Leader of the Council**

Vegetation in the reptile receptor area by the canal was recently flailed by the council. There have been warmer days recently which may have drawn reptiles out, making this work potentially unsafe for the reptiles. Was the council ecologist consulted before the flailing took place so we can be sure that the risk to wildlife was minimised?

**4. From Councillor Meade to Councillor Wimble, Cabinet Member for the District Economy**

As the place plan regarding the town Centre has now received positive feedback from levelling up funding, can you please confirm that there will still be room for the Folkestone market, and if indeed there are plans to expand what could indeed be a very good visitors market if expanded?

**5. From Councillor Meade to Councillor Mrs Hollingbee, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities**

Following on from a previous question some time ago, KCC have now confirmed a cut of £4 million in the budget that supports such services as Porchlight and indeed are expecting the District councils to provide the plans and funding for this. Now that the cuts have been passed can you now confirm that there will be funding within the District budget to continue this vital service for the homeless and that plans for the transition of this service between KCC and District are now in place ?

**6. From Councillor Keen to Councillor Field, Cabinet Member for Transport and Digital Transformation**

Can you please explain why the CPZ has been increased from £35.00 last year to £38.50 this year and why do you feel that this increase is appropriate when Folkestone Residents already pay one of the highest Council Taxes in Kent and during a period of high inflation.

**7. From Councillor Keen to Councillor Collier, Cabinet Member for Property Management and Grounds Maintenance**

Could we please have an a breakdown as to why there has been such a massive leap in the lease charges in FHDC beach huts coupled with a 5% increase each year over the next four years.

**8. From Councillor Keen to Councillor Monk, Leader of the Council**

In November 2022 I asked the leader how many agency staff FHDC were employing. I was informed that there were 11 members of temporary staff employed. If we employed 11 members of staff could we please have an explanation and breakdown of cost on how 11 staff cost FHDC a total of £155,769.87.

**9. From Councillor Keen to Councillor Monk, Leader of the Council**

Earlier this week I read in the press that Princes Parade will very likely be sold off to a development company and that the Swimming Pool/ Leisure Centre that was planned as part of the Councils Prince`s Parade Development would still be by the developer. If this is the case can we be assured that the complex will be open to the general public and be affordable for local wage earners to use?

**10. From Councillor Davison to Councillor Mrs Hollingsbee, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities**

What steps is the council taking to work with the police and others to ensure we protect everyone in our community from the type of horrendous incident we saw in Knowsley outside a hotel being used to house people seeking refuge, earlier this month?