#### County Council - 21 July 2016

#### **Questions from County Councillors**

## Question from Paul Kimber to the Cabinet Member for Learning and Skills and the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Highways in relation to school sites on Portland

Portlanders are naturally very concerned about the proposed developments on school sites on Portland and retaining some of the open spaces that the community have enjoyed for years.

With the intention to build on all the school sites could I have assurance that open space will be left so Portlanders can and will enjoy the open space, as part of the design?

### Question from Paul Kimber to the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing and Children's Safeguarding in relation to Hate Crimes

The report in the Dorset Echo 14/7/16 reports Hate Crimes in the county has increased by 22 percent. Can I be assured we are doing everything, including working with the police and all agencies, to bring about effective action to combat Hate Crimes?

### Question from Spencer Flower to the Cabinet Member for Organisational Development and Transformation in relation to Queen Elizabeth's School, Wimborne

Can the Leader reassure members that every effort is being made to prepare for and pursue a claim against Mouchel or any successor company, for the design shortcomings that caused this council so much difficulty during the construction of the QE School and subsequent cost escalation? Further that this matter will be concluded at the earliest opportunity and that no settlement nor decision regarding any claim will be agreed without the consent of the members of this council in accordance with the provisions of the constitution. That if necessary Chairman this meeting go into exempt business so that a proper debate take place. This matter has gone on for far too long. We must surely stop 'kicking the can down the street' and reach a considered position without further delay.

# Question from Spencer Flower to the Cabinet Member for Organisational Development and Transformation in relation to the Forward Together 2020 change programme

Members will be aware that the Forward Together Board and the Cabinet are committed to continue to be assertive in their approach to the budget challenges. Can the Leader reassure members in this chamber that this council will not revert to the discredited practice of top slicing budgets in the old fashioned way. That fundamental redesign of services and council management structures, which have been the cornerstone of policy in recent years, will continue and not be abandoned as the principle means of living within our available and reducing financial resources. That this approach be strengthened and widened, rather than pursuing policy, which would have an immediate impact on front line services, for example, the withdrawal of funding from services such as rural bus subsidies among a number of other key service areas.

Note: The responses to all questions will be provided verbally at the meeting. The responses will then be emailed to the relevant member following the meeting and included in the minutes of the meeting.