

Questions from County Councillors

Questions from Cllr Paul Kimber to the Cabinet Member for Adult Health, Care and Independence in relation to Tricuro

Question

What were statements made by and the undertakings given by Dorset Council to Dorset staff about their terms and conditions as part of the consultation with staff on the transfer to Tricuro and will the Cabinet member circulate a copy of those statements and undertakings to members of this Council?

Question from Cllr Susan Jefferies to the Cabinet Member for Learning Skills and Children's Safeguarding in relation to Youth Clubs

Questions

Nearly a year ago our Youth Clubs were dealt a devastating blow by DCC when it was announced that funding was to be withdrawn. The suggestion was to transfer their management to local communities. I would like to request an update for each affected Club: their current status, the level of activities which are currently being provided, and an assessment of the changes which have taken place.

£200,000 was set aside to assist the communities and the Youth Clubs. How has that money has been spent, and how much remains unspent? How much use and for what purposes has CrowdFunder UK, been used? Initially enthusiastic about Crowdfunding many Clubs were disappointed to learn that these funds were not available for running costs and salaries, just the expenses that needed immediate support in the initial set up phase.

Clubs were also promised assistance from DCC, however the Forward Together for Children team has been dispersed and it is not clear that this support is being provided. There has been one Council Officer on the premises team who has been exceptionally helpful on property issues but there has been little support for other matters.

In my own area of Corfe Mullen, the Youth Centre is within the premises of a school, although is not part of the school, as is also the case with several other Youth Clubs. Corfe Mullen brokered an individual deal with the Cabinet to share the building with the school; the building would be transferred to the school, once divided into two, and the Youth Centre would occupy half of the building under a long-term lease or similar. Building work will not start before July 2017 and as we are fully funded by the Parish Council, we have tried to arrange to rent the building in the evenings until July, for the Young People, but we are still, to date, unsuccessful and our Youth Workers are only able to do outreach work or meet young people at a local café. The Police report a significant increase in anti-social behaviour since the Youth Centre closed last July, yet the County Council does not seem to share our sense of urgency to get the Youth Centre up and running again. We feel this is not in the spirit of the Cabinet's decision, which was to enable the Youth Club to continue as seamlessly as possible.

Would the County Council agree that it is in its best interests and those of our young people to ensure that this initiative is a success and that a full report on the transition to communities should be presented?

**Question from Cllr Richard Biggs to the Cabinet Member for
Environment, Infrastructure and Highways in relation to Emergency Planning**

Question

A week ago there was an explosion in the generating hall at the EDF run nuclear generating facility at Flamanville France under 80 miles due south of Portland. Thankfully no radiation was released.

Can the leader clarify if DCC as the nearest U.K. mainland County was informed within hours of the event either by the UK or French Authorities and does he agree with me that with 56 ageing nuclear facilities just across the Chanel our emergency planning for such an event needs to be urgently reviewed and practiced?