

**Full Council  
15 October 2020  
Councillor Questions and Responses**

**Question 1**

**Submitted by Cllr Louie O’Leary**

As someone who was proudly born in a council house under the former Weymouth and Portland housing board I know that housing is one of the most important jobs of local government. I believe that since the decline in social housing stock due to Right to buy a policy I wholeheartedly support and the remainder being taken over by housing associations councils no longer have housing committees and as a result I believe councillors and residents who are social housing tenants feel more and more powerless over the vital service of social housing. Members often find that families with genuine housing needs and local connections are overlooked angering local residents and seeing a massive breakdown in traditional communities such as mine that are strongly based around social housing provision. Will the council commit to creating a housing committee once again where members can hold housing associations and relevant officers to account on this vital issue as well as supporting the creation of resident led tenants associations to give residents a voice. Taxpayers money built these houses something that should not be forgotten. We must bring accountability to housing and re-build trust between ratepayers, tenants, members and housing associations.

**Response by Cllr Graham Carr-Jones**

We have identified ‘Suitable Housing’ as one of the five key priorities within the Council’s Plan for 2020 to 2024. In the plan, we state very clearly that we will work with registered housing providers, community land trusts and local housing partners to deliver affordable, suitable and decent housing. Housing Associations and Registered Providers (RPs) of housing are vitally important partners to the council in the provision of suitable homes for our residents, and also contributing to strong, healthy, safe and thriving communities.

Locally active Housing Associations and Registered Providers are all closely engaged with council officers and Lead Members. This includes regular meetings to monitor all of the work they do in our area, including the management, letting and maintenance of their housing stock. This also includes important joint work to fund and provide new affordable homes. As portfolio holder for Housing, I am close to these important relationships with the key partners and work with officers to make sure that the interests of residents and the council are promoted.

Registered Providers are independent organisations with their own systems of accountability in place – also being expected by their own regulator to take account of the views and interests of their tenants and leaseholders. In the event of a complaint, a tenant or leaseholder is encouraged to go directly to them in the first instance – with the Housing Ombudsman available where there is a question of service failure. Direct communications with a councillor or MP about an issue are expected to receive the appropriate response from parties concerned.

We have established a strong system of governance within the council to oversee and scrutinise our Housing policies. It is not necessary to introduce a separate Housing Committee, as there is a good focus on the range of points you raise. There is also an ongoing process of overview and scrutiny to look at developing strategies, issues and matters for decision. This includes current plans to draw the work of Registered Providers into our Scrutiny programmes. A new Housing Allocations policy will be coming to Cabinet and full Council in November and December. This has been through a substantial period of public consultation, involving many elected members.

**Question 2 submitted by Cllr Susan Cocking, Cllr Rob Hughes, Cllr John Worth and Cllr Louie O'Leary**

We hear on a regular basis how Weymouth Portland and Chickerell is plagued by economic deprivation, a low skilled economy based around seasonal jobs and also state funded public sector jobs many of us and our families have seen the effects of de-industrialisation the decline of our fishing, engineering and shipping industry. With Portland port doing so well over the past couple of years, and a potential rebirth of our fishing industry on the cards as well as the need to protect the remaining high skills jobs we have many based on Portland and the Grandby Industrial estate will this council actively commit to fight for the Western relief road? This road has the backing of major industry, big business small business, the civic society, and many residents plagued by living in a congested mess on Weymouth's north side and low pay or insecure jobs on North side areas such as Melcombe Regis and Littlemoor. It's time to bring Weymouth Portland and Chickerell forward and complete this vital missing link in the puzzle of economic pro-growth and diversity. This road has other benefits it will take traffic out of residential roads in Rodwell and Wyke, make the school run in those areas safer for thousands of school children, stop the rat run along South Harbourside and Cross road, reduce air pollution on Boothill and return Lanehouse rocks road to a quieter state. Please commit to fight for this vitally important route we need to show central government that we mean business

## **Response by Cllr Ray Bryan**

Until the A354 between Weymouth and Portland is recognised by Government as being crucial to driving economic growth in Dorset and adds it to the Major Road Network, there will be no Government funding available for a new road to bypass it. Without this recognition and funding any proposed scheme is unachievable. Dorset Council has made this case but it has not been accepted.

Central Government has also made it very clear that road building should be the last resort in any area's transport strategy. Highway Authorities must exhaust all other opportunities to reduce traffic on the road that is proposed to be bypassed to reduce environmental damage. We need to be changing our outlook and behaviour to take unnecessary short-distance car journeys off the road by providing alternative, safe and reliable modes of travel.

In line with the Government's plans to de-carbonise our transport system and Dorset Council's Climate & Ecological Emergency Action Plan, our ongoing work along this route includes investment in walking and cycling options, review of parking and loading restrictions to help the flow of traffic - particularly to improve bus and HGV journey time reliability and consideration of junction improvements.

This year's pandemic has clearly affected travel behaviour and indeed whether people travel at all. Home working, online shopping, increased walking, cycling and staggered school times have changed travel patterns meaning less peak time congestion and improved journey times at certain times of day. Government is keen to lock in the health and economic benefits of improved air quality and increased physical activity by delivering active travel schemes and this is our current focus for Weymouth.

## **Question 3 submitted by Cllr Maria Roe**

### Tree Policy

In January 2019 Dorset Council added a Tree Planting and Climate Emergency paper on its website. It is still there.

It states that Dorset Council is investigating in-house tree planting on land owned by Dorset Council and a group has been established to make recommendations by April 2020. It also states that moving forward and in order to contribute effectively to the Climate Change and Ecological Emergency we will determine a realistic number of trees to be planted annually on Dorset Council land and identify a budget or alternative funding streams to carry out this work. Given that many councils have added doubling the amount of trees on their land to their climate emergency plans this is a positive statement. However, I cannot see anything in the action plan that gives us an indication of a budget or a number of

trees to be planted. The policy document states that within the current policies, there is an onus on us to replace every tree that we must remove for safety reasons on the highway verge. However, there is no specific budget allocation to replace these trees and this cost must be found from within the existing maintenance budget or from income that we have generated. This can mean that tree planting to replace the trees along the highway is not guaranteed.

I should like to know when we can expect a Dorset Council tree policy which includes the number of trees that it will plant on its own land with a timeline for this to be achieved?

### **Response by Cllr Ray Bryan**

The original Tree Planting and Climate Emergency paper was a holding response at the request of the EAP before the work on the Strategy was complete. The paper has now been superseded by the Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy and Action Plans that will shortly be published for consultation.

The updated Tree Policy is complete in draft and will be presented to Council for adoption in December. The Tree Policy deals primarily with the Council's approach to management of its tree stock, especially in relation to safety inspections and reactive works. The Tree Policy does include commitments around the planting of new trees but does not set any specific targets for new tree planting in relation to climate change.

The primary objective of tree planting in terms of Climate and Ecological Emergency response is to increase carbon sequestration and biodiversity value. Whilst tree planting does provide a valuable contribution towards these outcomes it is by no means the only option and in many cases not the most effective or suitable.

There are many areas in Dorset where due to landscape character, habitat type (unimproved grassland or heathland as examples), ground conditions or practicalities (highway verge or land use classification) considerations there are many other options to provide carbon sequestration and biodiversity improvements.

In order to capture the technicalities and deliver the most effective biodiversity and carbon sequestration benefits we have actioned the work as follows in the Climate and Ecological Action Plan – which will in all cases include tree planting wherever possible.

- 'Identify areas on Dorset Council land to enhance ecological value, carbon sequestration and climate resilience (surface water runoff and natural flood management)'

- 'Develop a scientifically robust approach to identify & monitor carbon sequestration values of council owned open space'
- 'Creation of suitable high ecological value areas on council land (incl. bee-friendly, wild flower, hedge & woodland planting zones) & areas for carbon sequestration & climate resilience'

Work on these actions will begin as a priority following public consultation and be published as part of the ongoing monitoring and review process in 2021

#### **Question 4 submitted by Cllr Cathy Lugg**

I have had a number of complaints recently, from residents, about dog fouling in Ferndown.

One of these was about a dog waste bin which had been removed from a local nature reserve, Slop Bog, and the pile of dog waste bags that were now building up at the site.

Thinking it easy to resolve, I contacted DWP to find out when a replacement would be installed. Oh, that it was only that simple. I am told that when our waste service transferred to DWP in 2012, dog and litter waste bins were not formally part of the contract. Dog waste bins, DWP have, informally, continued to replace bins with black wheelie bins. These are better because they can be used for litter and dog waste, emptied during normal bin deliveries and can go to normal depots to be emptied. However these bins need new stands and concrete fixings to stop them disappearing, and there is no budget for this. Various means have been used. Where there is a Countryside and Greenspace Ranger, and the site is vulnerable to dog waste, there might be money in their budget. Towns and Parish Councils might be willing to fund, especially if they would prefer dedicated dog waste bins, but there is no consistency. With less and less money available this gets trickier and some bins are not being replaced, leaving unacceptable dog fouling. I have had several reports from residents that dog walkers are putting their waste in accessible household bins, including garden waste bins. Not very fair if you don't have a dog. In an ideal world responsible dog owners would take their waste home to dispose, however we all know this doesn't always happen. What are we doing about this as a council? If we are considering asking Towns and Parish Councils to pay for replacements, can we please have those conversations now before budgets are set for next year? As a matter of urgency, can I please ask the Cabinet member concerned to look into this matter, before Ferndown disappears under a tide of dog waste?

## **Response by Cllr J Haynes**

The dog bin at Slop Bog was removed because the post had rotted through and when the new post has arrived this bin will be replaced with a wheeled bin that can be used for dog waste and general litter. During the time that the bin is not there any waste left there will continue to be collected. We not aware of any other dog bin related issues in that area.

Dorset council waste services continue to service the bins which came across to DWP when the district and boroughs joined. In 2015 the then DWP joint committee approved the replacement of dog bins with wheeled bins where waste could be mixed. This practice is continuing today.

Any additional bins requested by a town or parish council are charged as a paid service to the respective council. Funding is available in each operational depot for posts and installation.

Dorset Council encourages responsible dog ownership – if there isn't a dog waste bin, the bag can be put in any suitable litter bin, or alternatively taken home and deposited in the household refuse bin. Failure to clean up after your dog in any area that is open to the public may result in a fixed penalty fine.

## **Questions 5 & 6 submitted by Cllr Nick Ireland**

A planning decision last week concerning the village of Loders in West Dorset highlighted the fact that many Neighbourhood Plans which have been adopted or 'made' are now essentially worthless and carry no weight. In simple terms, if they are more than two years old and the vestigial planning area that they 'belong' to i.e. North Dorset, West Dorset etc. doesn't have a demonstrable five-year housing supply, then the Neighbour Plan goes in the bin. I know full well how much time, effort and financial cost is involved in taking a Neighbourhood Plan from birth to adoption and our local communities have been actively encouraged to pursue the process.

The current government webpage on NPs states ...

*"Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. They are able to choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built, have their say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided, and grant planning permission for the new buildings they want to see go ahead. Neighbourhood planning provides a powerful set of tools for local people to plan for the types of development to meet their community's needs"*

... and so it is galling for our local communities to find out the fruits of their hard work and hopes for increased local democracy have a shelf-life of two years through no fault of their own.

There are approximately 20 adopted local plans in our council area, some of which are now regarded via the current situation as 'out of date' and many more about to be similarly 'shredded' next year. Another 10 or so are in various states of progress (including some in the final referendum stage, postponed until at least May 2021).

It seems that the lack of a five-year housing supply will likely get worse, at least for several years, rather than improve, and hence there is no prospect of this form of local democracy being returned to the towns and parishes of Dorset. There is also the possibility of NPs being essentially extinguished at the stroke of a Minister's pen if the planning White Paper proceeds to legislation.

My two questions are thus:

What cunning scheme does the portfolio holder have to restore the Neighbourhood Plan back to its proper place in the planning decision process?

What advice does he give to those still in the process of creating a Neighbourhood Plan when indications are that it may well all be for nought?

### **Response by Cllr David Walsh**

Neighbourhood plans, like local plans, form part of the statutory development plan for the council area.

Under current national planning policy, a local planning authority that does not have the required five-year supply of land for housing is not able to give as much weight to its local planning policies relating to the supply of housing, in making decisions on planning applications.

This applies to policies in neighbourhood plans as well as local plans, but there is an additional protection for neighbourhood plan policies, as referred to in the question. Where there is a neighbourhood plan, that has been made within the last two years and that makes allocations of land for new housing development, its policies only lose weight if the housing land supply is below three years.

Having a neighbourhood plan is definitely an advantage for its first two years, if the council does not have a five year land supply.

But the neighbourhood plan does not become worthless after the two years. It is only the policies relevant to housing supply that start to carry less weight. And if the council regains its five year land supply then the policies could be given full

weight again – though it must be recognised that all plans need to be reviewed and will not last forever.

The consultation on the planning white paper leaves many questions unanswered in relation to the intended role of neighbourhood planning, though it does support their continuation. We have raised this matter in our consultation response as considered by Cabinet last week.

And in terms of advice to groups considering starting work on a neighbourhood plan, the council has always stressed the fact that neighbourhood plans are about planning positively for future development in their areas, and a neighbourhood plan that makes provision for development is more likely to be effective.

### **Question 7 submitted by Cllr Robin Legg**

The Government's online guidance note about the Rule of Six restriction which is set out in Covid-19 (safer public places) says in section 2.7 that those running events following Covid-19 secure guidelines should take additional steps to ensure the safety of the public and prevent large gatherings or mass events from taking place.

With Remembrance Sunday approaching many will be left wondering whether this important event can be marked in the traditional way.

However, there is a confusing gap between the online advice and the law as set out in the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (No.2) (England) Regulations 2020. It would appear that many large gatherings are lawful if the event is one which can pass the "excepted gathering" test. It seems to me that if acts of remembrance are to take place then we may be called upon to decide if highways are premises operated by a public body, if a public outdoor space is the same thing as a public outdoor place (which includes a highway) and whether a parade is a relevant outdoor activity. Unlike the advice the regulations are far from simple.

Is the Leader similarly confused by this mixed message from the Government and will appropriately organised and risk assessed acts of remembrance be possible next month?

### **Response by Cllr David Walsh**

Although rates of transmission of covid-19 within Dorset remain low the situation faced nationally and globally is a very serious one. If there is confusion then this may reflect what is a rapidly changing situation. Regulations and guidance in



place at the time when Cllr Legg submitted his question may well have changed by the time of the full Council meeting.

The Royal British Legion has prepared a 2020 Remembrance Overview. This suggests that under current restrictions we all have to think differently about how we engage and interact with our neighbours or our wider communities. To ensure that national and local acts of Remembrance can still take place the overview provides some ideas for how we all might want to consider remembering this year whilst keeping ourselves and others safe. I encourage all members to look at the 2020 Remembrance Overview on the Royal British Legion website.

As will be the case across the country during this pandemic, the Dorset Council Remembrance Service this year will be very different from the remembrance service that we are all used to. Staff and Councillors of Dorset Council will not be invited to attend what will be a short, socially distanced service at the Cenotaph at County Hall, Dorchester led by Revd John Yarrien with a maximum of eight wreaths being laid. A bugler will be attendance standing away from others on the raised platform behind the Cenotaph. The Lord Lieutenant and Major Dan Tanner will read the Exhortation and Kohima respectively, and invitations have been strictly limited with a maximum of 14 persons in attendance.

The Chairman will ensure that the service complies with any restrictions or guidance in place at the time of the Service.

#### **Question 8 submitted by Cllr Robin Legg**

I note with astonishment and concern that at the meeting of the cabinet earlier this month members were faced with an agenda and associated reports running to 812 pages. In less than three months cabinet members have comfortably read more pages than are contained in Tolstoy's epic "War and Peace". Does this feat cause the Leader to reflect with pride on their achievement or raise a doubt in his mind about how the effective management of the authority can be properly conducted through a cabinet governance structure.

#### **Response by Cllr Spencer Flower**

The benefits of Cabinet style local government is acknowledged to deliver greater efficiency, transparency and accountability to the decision-making process. That is the general view shared across the Local Government Sector. Members should all be very proud of what we have achieved in the past 18 months. Dorset Council governance was acknowledged during the LGA Corporate Peer Review, which took place during the Autumn of 2019, as having created a well-functioning Cabinet and governance structure supported by a strong cross-party ethos of collaborative working across the chamber.

Cllr Legg's question concerns the Cabinet meeting of the 6 October. The agenda for this meeting did have an exceptional number of items. This resulted in the meeting lasting a few minutes short of three and a half hours.

Members will be aware that due to the unprecedented COVID-19 Pandemic a significant amount of the 'business as usual' items had to be put on hold, to allow officers to be seconded to deal with the crisis, which has and will continue to impact on the number of individual reports coming to Cabinet.

The importance of the key roles played by the Audit and Governance Committee, the Overview Committees and the Scrutiny Committees cannot be overstated. It is worth noting that a significant number of the reports before Cabinet on the 6 October had been seen, commented on and/or endorsed by one or more of these committees. Two reports, notably the Climate and Ecological Change and the review of Leisure Provision had benefited from a significant involvement by cross party EAP's both over a prolonged period of time.

This level of member involvement cross-party is extremely helpful to Cabinet and demonstrates the healthy checks and balances which are so essential in ensuring the council maintains a sound and progressive governance structure fit for the 21 Century and the size of Dorset Council, which has a net budget exceeding £300.0m pa.

### **Question 9 submitted by Cllr Brian Heatley**

The Draft Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy issued on 15 July 2020 sets out on page 21 a proposed trajectory for Dorset's emissions from now down to zero by 2050 and claims that this trajectory produces total emissions from now up until 2050 that fit within the budget of 21mt required from 2017 to contain global temperature rise by no more than 1.5 deg C.

This trajectory has the following levels of emissions at certain intermediate dates

2025	1.396mt
2030	0.872 mt
2040	0.349 mt
2050	0 mt

I have sought to reproduce the underlying figures in the attached table, assuming about .07 mt reduction per year for the years 2017-2020 by looking at the dots on the graph on page 21.

My table below shows that this trajectory exceeds the budget in 2034, and will break the budget by nearly 4mt by 2050.

Since it is this trajectory which justifies the proposal that the Council adopts a target as late as 2050 rather than the earlier targets proposed in motions to Council from Cllrs Turner and Clayton, perhaps the Portfolio holder would like to comment on my arithmetic?

Appendix to question attached.

### **Response by Cllr Ray Bryan**

As noted, the graph within the strategy aims to plot a trajectory to achieve a 2050 target for the whole Dorset Council AREA while keeping within a total 21 Million tonne carbon budget. The data behind this graph was not explicitly provided with the strategy in order to keep the strategy publicly accessible and understandable, but a review of the annual emissions data shows total emissions (from 2017 to 2050) of 20.7 Million Tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, just below the budget identified.

Comparing this to figures provided by Cllr Heatley shows a close approximation, but a slight over estimation of total emissions. This gives a total emissions figure of 24.9million tonnes, 4 million tonnes over the budget. This difference is due to the slight variation in assumptions used in Cllr Healeys emissions trajectory leading to over estimations of annual emission early on in year 2020-2029.

Critically, these large difference in overall emissions from just slight differences in emissions trajectories shows how important it is to reduce emissions quickly early on. It is not the target end date which is important; it is the path that is followed to get there! It is also important to note that the target date for Dorset Council ITSELF to become Carbon Zero is 2040.

### **Question 10 submitted by Cllr Mark Roberts**

The Prime Minister's announcement a few weeks ago that Dorset County Hospital will see a new community hospital, emergency department and intensive care unit is great news for my residents, as well as all the residents of Dorset who use, or might need to use, the hospital's extraordinarily good services.

What does this new investment mean for the integrated care system in Dorset - particularly with regard to our partnerships with our acute hospitals?

### **Response by Cllr Laura Miller**

Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has been allocated £62.5million of Government funding to expand key clinical services on its Dorchester site as part of the national Health Infrastructure Plan.

This is a long-term project which will take four to five years to deliver. It includes a new build expansion of the Emergency Department (ED) and Intensive Care Unit (ICU), and a new build integrated acute, community and primary care services hub to better join up health and care services to improve patient experience and outcomes and reduce demand, based on the existing Dorset County Hospital site. The developments will help further facilitate and embed closer integrated working - exact clinical models and infrastructure plans are being worked up at the moment.

Further background information about site development plans can be found here: <https://www.dchft.nhs.uk/about/site-development/Pages/default.aspx>

Dorset Council welcomes the new facilities at Dorset County Hospital. As part of the Dorset Integrated Care System we are working with our partners to deliver improved outcomes for people receiving emergency and planned health interventions. The larger and improved facilities will enhance not only the 24/7 emergency services offered, but will also be a pivotal facility for community services to operate from. These community services could potentially include staff and services from a variety of organisations to create an integrated hub focused around a person's health and social care needs.

#### **Question 11 submitted by Cllr Clare Sutton**

In light of acting CEO John Sellgren's comment that "we [Dorset Council] do not tolerate disrespectful behaviour and take racism very seriously" it is important that the public can have full confidence that we adhere to this. In this context, are there occasions when group leaders should take steps, in addition to applying The Code of Conduct, in order to uphold values which we all share?

#### **Response by Cllr Spencer Flower**

I would like to thank Cllr Sutton for her question because it gives me the opportunity to endorse John Sellgren's statement publicly.

I think we can agree that sometimes group leaders can and do take steps in addition to those available through the Code of Conduct. However, I will not be answering questions or commenting on individual councillors.

I certainly share the view that we must all take member behaviour very seriously indeed and that we are all reminded annually about our responsibilities as elected members of this council.

Arrangements are now in place for Unconscious Bias Training facilitated by an outside organisation. Members will be advised of the date for this training shortly.

**Questions 12, 13 & 14 submitted by Cllr Kate Wheller (Urgent question in 3 parts accepted by the Chairman of Council)**

On Monday I was startled to read on the front page of the Dorset Echo that Dorset “**has a 75% chance of being among the UK’s worst hotspots by October 25<sup>th</sup>**. “

This was based on predictions from Imperial College, but when I looked at their data I found that they didn’t say any such thing. Rather, they predicted that by the end of this month we would be seeing more than 50 new cases per 100,000 population in the Dorset Council area. That is the threshold for a ‘hotspot’ as defined by Imperial College, so we are expected to become a hotspot on that definition.

But even then we would fall far short of being among the UK’s worst hotspots as the Echo claimed.

Nottingham	800+ new cases per 100K population
Liverpool	~600
Newcastle	~500

By Tuesday, the Echo had swung the other way, and as well as stating that the latest weekly figure for Dorset is 37 per 100K, they pointed out that the cumulative rate in Dorset is far lower than the England average.

Obviously we mustn’t be either alarmist or complacent. So what steps are we taking –

- 1. To monitor local infection rates against ongoing projections from Imperial College?**
- 2. To provide accurate and timely information to local media?**
- 3. To ensure that adequate track and tracing is being carried out within the Dorset Council area?**

**Responses from Cllr Laura Miller**

**Question 1**

The director of public health has access to daily reports produced by Public Health England that show our infection rates, compared with other Council areas within the South West, and England. In addition, we undertake specific pieces of work to model and project where Dorset might be over the next few weeks, using the EpiCell group, which reports to the Health Protection Board each week. The hotspot threshold referred to was 50 cases per 100,000, which several weeks ago would have seemed very high for our local area – today we are not far off that figure, not just in Dorset but for the SW region as a whole. We are very careful when issuing any figures to the public to be clear about their origin, and not to rely on projections or modelling because they can be subject to variation and misinterpretation.

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## **Question 2**

Public Health Dorset publishes a briefing on its website every Thursday which is in the public domain, updating on the latest cases, and infection rates, and also showing how this has changed over the past few weeks. We regularly issue press releases to local media outlets about our current situation. In addition, the Director of Public Health and members of the public health team publish regular video briefings on the current situation. We also use a range of social media channels to update the public, as do both of our Councils.

We provide regular system updates which are currently published weekly on our website and shared with a whole range of stakeholders. We promote this on all social media channels across the Local Resilience Forum and direct to people through a range of e-newsletters including Dorset Council, Health and Wellbeing and our new Trusted Voices network reaching a variety of community leaders.

We arrange regular interviews with local and regional media and share audio clips of all our videos with community radio stations.

We issue regular press releases from Public Health Dorset as well as joint releases with the council and LRF wide releases on behalf of all public sector partners.

All local media outlets follow our social media channels and we have worked hard to increase that following tagging them in various posts so that they have timely information.

We have held and would look to hold more online press briefings and are planning to do a live Q&A session with the public in the next couple of weeks.

## **Question 3**

EpiCell routinely monitors performance of the Test and Trace system in the Dorset Council area, to ensure that it is following up people and ensuring completion of information on contacts. The completion rate for the last week for which we have data was 70 per cent. Bear in mind this was based on reaching an increasing number of contacts compared with previous weeks, which has led to a slight fall in performance. In addition to contact tracing via Test and Trace, Dorset Council now calls all positive cases to offer support with any immediate welfare needs, and to make it as easy as possible for people to complete their self-isolation period.

**Question 9 submitted by Cllr Brian Heatley**

**Appendix**

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050
Total emitted that year	1.75	1.68	1.61	1.54	1.51	1.48	1.45	1.42	1.40	1.29	1.19	1.08	0.98	0.87	0.82	0.77	0.72	0.66	0.61	0.56	0.51	0.45	0.40	0.35	0.31	0.28	0.24	0.21	0.17	0.14	0.10	0.07	0.03	0.00
Budget left year end	21.00	19.33	17.72	16.19	14.68	13.20	11.75	10.32	8.93	7.64	6.45	5.37	4.39	3.52	2.70	1.93	1.21	0.55	-0.06	-0.62	-1.12	-1.58	-1.98	-2.33	-2.64	-2.92	-3.17	-3.38	-3.55	-3.69	-3.79	-3.86	-3.90	-3.90