

## **Cabinet – 20 June 2023**

### **Questions from Councillors**

#### **1. Question for Cllr J Orrell**

The new parking charges have hit coastal towns harder than prosperous market towns. This is unfair. The coastal towns have a 6 week busy period in the summer but also contain the wards with the highest deprivation. Residents will struggle with paying in advance for season tickets. Has there been an equalities impact assessment? Can the short stay £78 permit be broken down to monthly tickets? Why do tourists visiting Abbeys, Minsters or Castles get cheaper parking than hard working families on the beach? Would a unified fee structure across the whole of Dorset demonstrate economic justice and fairness?

#### **2. Question for Cllr P Kimber**

##### **Cycling and walking targets 'to be missed'**

A National Audit Office report has found that the Government is likely to miss targets to increase walking and cycling, in a bid to reduce emissions and reach net zero by 2050, despite investing heavily in the sector. LGA transport spokesperson Cllr Linda Taylor said councils have been at the forefront of active travel schemes but added “they can only continue to do this with long-term certainty for vital local projects that help to cut congestion and make our air cleaner” and called on government to urgently restore much-needed £200 million funding to councils’ budgets for these projects. Cllr Taylor said: “This will allow councils to plan a pipeline of active travel infrastructure investments, engage more effectively with local communities and invest in necessary skills and capacity for their own staff.”

**I would like to request are we in Dorset behind in our Cycling and walking targets, as suggested by the national Audit office, and are we planning effectively with local communities.**