

COUNTY COUNCIL – 6 December 2017
PUBLIC QUESTIONS

<p>1. Questioner's name: Tracy Millard</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Mark Hawthorne</p>
<p>To: Cllr Mark Hawthorne</p> <p>What procedures are in place to ensure visits from Gloucestershire Adult Service - Reablement Team - are not missed?</p>	<p>The reablement team have a scheduling and monitoring system called Coldharbour. Workers have PDA's for logging when they enter and exit a property to deliver care and support. The PDA's have GPS facilities to support workers in lone working and for querying variations to their planned rotas.</p> <p>A missed visit could be logged as a result of the service user not being present at the property for any number of reasons including hospital admissions. The protocol is that if the worker does not see the person, they can either gain entry where people have key safes, or they will escalate to the office, who will contact the next of kin etc.</p> <p>Missed visits from staff, such as needing to stay unexpectedly longer with a previous client, will be flagged and either reallocated to another worker to attend, and / or person and family advised of any delays.</p> <p>Any missed visits are flagged in red in real time and are proactively followed up. If the questioner has a specific issue in mind, I would be very happy to look into it outside the meeting.</p>
<p>2. Questioner's name: Tracy Millard</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Mark Hawthorne</p>
<p>To: Cllr Mark Hawthorne</p> <p>During the financial years of 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016- 2017 and this current financial year, year by year, how many missed visits have there been of the reablement team?</p>	<p>We updated the IT system 18 months ago – and information is only available from that point. Since 30th April 2016, there have been 192933 planned visits. During the same period 31 visits were cancelled due to no worker being available.</p>

3. Questioner's name: Tracy Millard	Respondent's name: Cllr Mark Hawthorne
<p>To: Cllr Mark Hawthorne</p> <p>Whilst it has been recognised by Ofsted the continual failings of Children Services within Gloucestershire, what checks and balances are in place to ensure the Adult social care service is not failing another group of vulnerable individual's in the same way?</p>	<p>As the questioner will recall from here own time on the council, unlike other areas, Gloucestershire has consistently invested in the most vulnerable people in our area – despite opposition from some to the savings we needed to make to do so.</p> <p>The Council has used that funding to support the implementation of the Care Act to develop social work practice for adults and ensure it responds to the challenges of that legislation. This includes appointing a new post of Principal Social Worker (PSW) and advanced practitioners in each locality to provide direct support on individual cases as well as oversee standards locally in tandem with the locality manager and the PSW. The PSW has also just completed our first full Health Check of the service and whilst there is very positive feedback regarding the changes made we are also preparing an action plan in response to issues raised by those on the front line as to how the service could be further developed. I have asked Cllr Kathy Williams to oversee this plan and its delivery. Finally I have also asked our Corporate Performance Team to provide an independent view as to whether expected management practices are being robustly undertaken in each locality.</p>
4. Questioner's name: Max Wilkinson	Respondent's name: Cllr Nigel Moor
<p>Following a recent public meeting at the Municipal Offices in Cheltenham, parking officers and Cllr Harman took away actions to look for resolutions to the residents' parking problem in Tivoli caused by displacement from the new scheme in Lansdown and St Mark's. Could the appropriate cabinet member provide an update on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. assessment of the success of the scheme in Lansdown; 2. evidence of the effect the scheme has had on inbound journeys by car to Cheltenham town centre, including shifting journeys 	<p>We will be carrying out a further technical assessment of parking availability before the end of next month. That will allow the council, now the scheme has bedded in, to look at how we can work with local residents to address some of the reported issues. Dangerous parking is a matter for the police – but I am happy to draw to their attention any examples that the public is aware of.</p>

<p>to sustainable methods;</p> <p>3. evidence on the impact of commuters who need to secure adequate parking for access to their work place;</p> <p>4. progress towards a solution to residents' parking in the area surrounding Tivoli, including St Stephen's Rd, Hatherley Court Road and Bournside Road;</p> <p>5. action to prevent dangerous parking, and parking on pavements, in the area into which parking has been displaced.</p>	
5. Questioner's name: Max Wilkinson	Respondent's name: Cllr Nigel Moor
<p>At the public meeting it was claimed that a townwide solution to residents' parking in Cheltenham was 'utopian'. Could the appropriate cabinet member explain why it is deemed so difficult to find a solution that meets the needs of residents across the town?</p>	<p>We have to balance aspirations for simple, consistent and clear parking rules with the reality that each area within the town has different characteristics. Some granularity is therefore unavoidable if we are to meet the needs of residents, businesses and visitors.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkinson may recall that only a few years ago in his own ward residents petitioned the council to introduce Residents Parking. The proposals were then rejected by the wider community during a public consultation.</p>
6. Questioner's name: Max Wilkinson	Respondent's name: Cllr Nigel Moor
<p>How does the strategy of introducing residents' parking zones in Cheltenham fit within the council's aims to encourage greater use of public transport and other sustainable modes such as walking and cycling?</p>	<p>Evidence, from pre-scheme surveys, suggests that many journeys are local and/or could easily be undertaken via an alternative form of transport. Strategy is wholly in line with LTP3 which has already been widely consulted on.</p>
7. Questioner's name: Max Wilkinson	Respondent's name: Cllr Nigel Moor
<p>With the increasing popularity of electric vehicles, more and more people have started to install EV charging points at home. What assessment has been made to accommodate the need for an</p>	<p>Cllr Wilkinson will no doubt welcome the government's significant commitment in the recent budget to commit £340m to develop a national charging network. The County Council will look closely at</p>

<p>on-road parking space near private charging points in areas where residents do not have off-road parking?</p>	<p>how we can make sure Gloucestershire gets a fair share of this funding. In the meantime, we are investigating bidding for funds from the Office for Low Emission Vehicles and have been in touch with other authorities to understand the methodologies they have used to predict and plan for new EV charging points in residential areas.</p>
<p>8. Questioner's name: Max Wilkinson</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Has the county council considered allowing residents who drive EVs permits for a reserved space outside their property?</p>	<p>The law does not allow councils to reserve parking spaces for individuals on the Public Highway, only for a class of vehicle. On street electric vehicle charging points are likely to be located in areas of high demand for parking and few bays, such as terraced streets. Therefore shared EV bays, available to all drivers of EV's, may be more suitable as they could be used by several people throughout the day.</p>
<p>9. Questioner's name: Max Wilkinson</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>What steps are being taken to install further public EV charging points in residential areas?</p>	<p>Officers are investigating the options, including charging points fitted to street lighting columns, and are investigating bidding for funds from the Office for Low Emission Vehicles. This is also an issue which members on the council's Air Quality Scrutiny Task Group may wish to consider.</p>
<p>10. Questioner's name: Max Wilkinson</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>St George's Place in Cheltenham is an important cut through for cyclists. Since work relating to the Brewery development was undertaken on the High Street more than a year ago, a bollard preventing vehicle parking in a cycle lane at the end of St George's Place has not been replaced. Consequently, the cut through is often blocked by vehicles. When will the bollard be replaced to prevent</p>	<p>Officers are following up this matter with the contractor which carried out highway works relating to the Brewery development.</p>

vehicles blocking the cycle route?	
11. Questioner's name: Ken Pollock	Respondent's name: Cllr Lynden Stowe
<p>On 13th December County Cabinet is going to make a 'Key' decision to "establish" a further Secondary school in Cheltenham (apparently in Leckhampton parish).</p> <p>As the demand is very questionable in southern Cheltenham (and is inadequately evidenced), this project is not likely to attract government funding, and therefore its £30 to £40millions cost would have to come from County funding, at the expense of other areas and projects.</p> <p>Considering that Gloucester's JCS-planned population increase is much larger than Cheltenham's, yet no new Secondary school is planned for Gloucester (whereas Cheltenham already has one new Secondary school planned, and developer-funded, in its NorthWest urban extension, 'Elms Park'), should not this major school funding issue have been debated by GCC Full Council, <u>and still be so</u> ?</p> <p>As comprehensive <u>forecast</u> evidence for Secondary school provision across the full JCS area has still not been released by GCC Education, it is evasive (of disclosure and due consultation) to conclude this major allocation solely via one Cabinet meeting.</p>	<p>The need for additional school places is very real and necessary to prevent children already in local primary schools being without a secondary school place from 2019. By 2021 there will be a shortage of 180 secondary school places each year for Cheltenham families; equivalent to a school of 900 pupils once full.</p> <p>The pupil capacity and forecast information is publically available on the Department for Education's website. Additional information, including Strategic Review Documents, are also publicly available on the Council's dedicated Cheltenham School Planning webpage and form part of the background documents for the Cabinet report.</p> <p>No new free school proposal in the country is currently able to attract government funding.</p> <p>The Department of Education (DfE) has yet to announce if and when there will be another round of bids for Government Funded Free Schools.</p> <p>Additional school provision will be required for the Gloucester area, with plans already underway for increasing capacity. However, forecasts show that this additional capacity will not required in the short term given the surplus capacity currently available within the local school system.</p> <p>Since 2007 there has been an increase in birth rates which has, in part, resulted in a sustained growth in demand for school places. This, coupled with additional pupil yield from strategic and non strategic housing, has resulted in the significant increase in demand.</p> <p>Since 2011 it has been possible to meet the rising demand for primary places by working collaboratively with schools in the</p>

	<p>primary sector to expand, with over 900 new primary school places being added to the local school system. This growth will continue and we are preparing to accommodate a further 60 additional places for the September 2018 intake.</p> <p>Whilst a bidding round for Wave 13 of the Free School Programme was originally expected to commence in the Spring of 2017, and the council has since been waiting for an announcement to progress the new school for Cheltenham, the delay means that even if a bidding round were to open at this stage, there would now be insufficient time to deliver the new school through any national programme.</p> <p>A Strategic Review of Gloucester Place Planning is expected to report in the Spring of 2018.</p> <p>The Council's dedicated webpage is: http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/cheltenham-school-planning</p>
<p>12. Questioner's name: Adrian Mears</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Lynden Stowe</p>
<p>Leckhampton with Warden Hill Parish Council understands that the County Council Cabinet is proposing to take a decision on 13 December to establish a new school in South Cheltenham without this being debated by the Full Council. We understand that GCC has been unable to find any suitable land and is therefore likely to resort to locating the school on the small area of land that it owns along Farm Lane, Leckhampton. This site is too small for the large school proposed of 1000 or more pupils, both primary and secondary, and it has also been ruled out for development by the JCS Examiner on landscape grounds. The area is subject to severe traffic congestion, which was one of the grounds on which the Secretary of State refused development on other land on the Leckhampton Fields in 2016. If the proposal were to use the GCC owned land for the playing fields and to locate the school buildings on the adjacent land closer to the A46, GCC would have to attempt</p>	<p>The council has carried out a sequential land test assessment of potential sites for accommodating a new school in Cheltenham. This has identified land off Kidnappers Lane in Leckhampton as the most appropriate site. The proposal is for a new 6 form entry secondary school, providing a total of 900 places once full.</p> <p>The Head of Education has written to Cheltenham Borough Council asking for the proposal to be included in the Cheltenham Borough Local Plan.</p> <p>This proposal was not considered by the JCS Examiner and will need to go through the statutory planning process in the usual way; this would include consideration of highways issues.</p> <p>The potential risks have been included within the Cabinet Report,</p>

<p>compulsory purchase because the developers are not prepared to make any land available. Compulsory purchase would not be feasible within the timescale of two years by which the school is said to be needed and might not be successful at all because of the problem of severe traffic congestion and doubts over the requirement for so many additional school places.</p> <p>Question 1 - Is the Parish Council's understanding as stated above correct and if not, where is it in error?</p> <p>Question 2 - Is it not the case that a decision that is so fraught with problems, liabilities and potential for judicial challenge demands proper debate in Full Council and ought not to be taken just by the Cabinet?</p>	<p>with appropriate mitigation measures also identified, to enable robust and appropriate consideration of the proposal to take place.</p>
<p>13. Questioner's name: Margaret White</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Lynden Stowe</p>
<p>Would you kindly advise why the GCC Cabinet is making a Key decision in December to establish a further Secondary School in South Cheltenham without releasing the Secondary and Primary school needs report to the public?</p>	<p>The pupil capacity and forecast information is publically available on the Department for Education's website. Additional information, including Strategic Review Documents, are also publicly available on the Council's dedicated Cheltenham school planning webpage and form part of the background documents for the Cabinet report.</p> <p>The Council's dedicated webpage is: http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/cheltenham-school-planning</p>
<p>14. Questioner's name: David Willingham</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>A number of residents in roads including Alstone Avenue, Alstone Croft, Alstone Lane and Pates Avenue have complained about parking displacement caused by the expansion of permit parking zones in the West End area of Cheltenham. Furthermore, some residents in the newly extended area also complain about "snagging issues" which they feel need to be resolved. Could the Cabinet Member for Highways please advise when a post-implementation</p>	<p>I have been briefed on the issues raised and the Local Highway Manager and Traffic Regulation Officer are working together to identify and solve any dangerous parking.</p> <p>There is more detail in my answer to Public question 4.</p>

review of the Cheltenham West End parking scheme and adjacent areas will commence, so that these residents who now feel their roads are blighted by commuter parking and those who feel changes are necessary to the current implementation, can have their say on what they want their County Council to do to try to improve the situation?

COUNTY COUNCIL –6 December 2017
Members' Questions

<p>1. Questioner's name: Cllr Bernie Fisher</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Vernon Smith</p>
<p>The A438, Charlton Hill, from the Lilleybrook Golf Course to Severn Springs Roundabout, has had large areas coned off for years because of subsidence (?). Surely by now there must be an action plan with finance in place to repair this busy A road, one of the main arteries into Cheltenham. In view of your recent answer to Paul Hodgkinson regarding the old A40 near Northleach, is GCC treating this as a major priority</p>	<p>I understand Cllr Fisher has been updated by officers on this, but to reiterate their advice. GCC have been monitoring the A435 Charlton Hill since 2014 when part of one lane collapsed. The findings suggest that there are four separate land slips along the section between Charlton Kings and the Seven Springs roundabout, all needing different approaches to remedy the problem. We have begun a feasibility study to understand the potential solutions and the estimated costs to fix the road. Once we have this information we can bid for the funding from central government.</p> <p>More information can be found on the Council's website where a dedicated page has been set up to communicate to the public the current status of works planning for the site.</p>
<p>2. Questioner's name: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Richard Boyles</p>
<p>To: Cllr Richard Boyles</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member tell me the reasons why an investigation into allegations of sexual and physical abuse dating back to the 1960s and 1980s at Dowdeswell Court and Badgeworth Court has been reopened?</p>	<p>That is really a question which Cllr Hodgkinson must direct to Gloucestershire Police. We understand that there may have been more recent referrals after the previous investigation – but this is a police investigation and any further details would have to come from them.</p>
<p>3. Questioner's name: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Richard Boyles</p>
<p>To: Cllr Richard Boyles</p> <p>I am aware that the former schools Dowdeswell Court and</p>	<p>I am happy for Cllr Hodgkinson to look at the entire file which the county council has on this issue.</p>

<p>Badgeworth Court were privately owned and that Gloucestershire County Council did not have any responsibility for regulating activities at any of the establishments, but I have seen some records showing that officers from this Council did visit these schools more than once. Can you therefore tell me what the records say about these visits?</p>	
<p>4. Questioner's name: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Richard Boyles</p>
<p>To: Cllr Richard Boyles</p> <p>Please can the Cabinet Member tell me what this Council's responsibility is for those children in care placed in Gloucestershire from other Local Authorities and how long this responsibility has been in place?</p>	<p>Our responsibility is outlined in the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review statutory guidance and the associated regulations (Children Act 1989). Updated in 2013 this outlines duties on local authorities to notify other local authorities if they place a child in care within their area.</p> <p>The same notification duty applies when those children move back out of the other local authority area. Every local authority has a duty to keep a register of all children in care placed in their area by other local authorities.</p> <p>Where the child will require specialist health services such as CAMHS, the Clinical Commissioning Group that commissions secondary healthcare in the area authority [where it is proposed the child is placed] should be consulted, so the responsible authority can establish whether the placement is appropriate and able to meet the child's needs. The designated nurse for looked-after children in the area authority will also be a valuable source of advice and information.</p> <p>Similarly, the Virtual School Head for looked-after children in the area authority should be able to advise about access to school support. For children vulnerable to exploitation and abuse, children's services in the area authority will be an important source of intelligence and information about local arrangements for safeguarding children.</p>

<p>5. Questioner's name: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Richard Boyles</p>
<p>To: Cllr Richard Boyles</p> <p>This Council became aware of allegations involving staff at Dowdeswell Court and Badgeworth Court in the early 1970s and stopped using the schools afterwards. The schools however continued to operate for a further 15 years, closing some time in 1985. Did the County Council not tell other councils the reasons why it was no longer placing children at the schools?</p>	<p>We have copies of a standard letter from 1978 from the then Director of Social Services, a Mr. H.D. Nichols. This standard letter was sent to a number of authorities when asked about the suitability of Badgeworth Court. This letter said it was difficult to provide information because we had not placed children at Badgeworth Court for some considerable time, nor did we currently supervise children placed by other authorities, and that we can only suggest a visit by a member of staff from the other authority prior to the prospective placement would be appropriate.</p>
<p>6. Questioner's name: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Richard Boyles</p>
<p>To: Cllr Richard Boyles</p> <p>What oversight or role of an advisory nature did the Council or any members serving on the Council have with regard to Dowdeswell Court and Badgeworth Court?</p>	<p>The Council did not have any responsibility for regulating activities at any of the establishments, because they were privately run – oversight was required by the Department of Education and Science (DfES) and Her Majesty's Inspectors.</p>
<p>7. Questioner's name: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Richard Boyles</p>
<p>To: Cllr Richard Boyles</p> <p>Can you provide me in chronological order with the names of this Council's Directors of Education serving from 1965 onwards?</p>	<p>GCC Chief Education Officers:</p> <p>C P Milroy 1963 - December 1970</p> <p>M G R Adams January - December 1971 (Acting Chief Education Officer)</p> <p>C P Milroy January 1972 – March 1976</p> <p>R D Clark April 1976 - March 1983</p> <p>Keith Anderson April 1983 – June 1997</p> <p>Roger Crouch July 1997 – November 2000</p>

	<p>(Director of Education)</p> <p>Stewart King December 2000 - January 2002 (Acting Head of Education)</p> <p>Margaret Davies 2002 (Interim Director of Education)</p> <p>Jo Davidson August 2002 – July 2010 (Executive Director of Education)</p> <p>Jo Grills April 2006 – November 2016 (Director of Learning)</p> <p>Tim Browne Oct 2016 onwards (Head of Education)</p>
8. Questioner's name: Cllr Joe Harris	Respondent's name: Cllr Richard Boyles
Please can the Cabinet Member provide me with an update on the police investigation into Colne House School?	We don't believe that there is an ongoing investigation – but details on police investigations are something you should approach Gloucestershire Police for.
9. Questioner's name: Cllr Simon Wheeler	Respondent's name: Cllr Kathy Williams
Is the Cabinet Member aware of the difficulties associated with returning mobility equipment back to social services?	GIS (Healthcare) have a service level agreement to collect community equipment that has been supplied through the Community Equipment Service by them within 5 working days of notification. Each piece of equipment has a label with a barcode and GIS (Healthcare) contact details. A Service User Leaflet also goes out with every delivery giving information on how request a collection. Once contact has been made with GIS (Healthcare) they will arrange a date and time for the collection to take place. GIS (Healthcare) do not collect single items under the value of £20 i.e. walking frame/sticks. However it is important that we collect and

	<p>recycle this equipment and we have alternative arrangements available for anyone who wishes to drop off a piece of equipment. These arrangements and comprehensive information about the Community Equipment Service can be found at:- www.glosequip.co.uk/index.php. However, I would be very interested to hear any specific problems that Cllr Wheeler or his constituents might have experienced.</p>
10. Questioner's name: Cllr Colin Hay	Respondent's name: Cllr Lynden Stowe
<p>Please can the Cabinet Member provide me with the figures of how much this Council has financially contributed to the Gfirst LEP over the last five financial years and also the anticipated contribution for 2018/19?</p>	<p>GCC has made a £250,000 contribution to GFirst LEP each year over the past 5 years, this contribution has been made towards its core operational costs as the locality matched funding that is required to enable the LEP to obtain a further £500,000 of core funding from DCLG each year.</p> <p>A recent decision by the GEGJC (Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee) has confirmed that from 2018/19 the £250,000 locality match requirement will be met by the 7 Councils through the Strategic Economic Development Fund of the Business Rate Pool.</p>
11. Questioner's name: Cllr Suzanne Williams	Respondent's name: Cllr Roger Wilson
<p>As noted in a motion submitted to this Council back in 2003, the Unison Ethical Care Charter seeks to establish a minimum baseline for the safety, quality and dignity of care by ensuring employment condition, and so ensuring the recruitment and retention of a more stable workforce through sustainable pay, conditions and training levels - Does the Cabinet Member agree that the adoption of this Charter would ensure that appropriate levels of care are provided to vulnerable people across Gloucestershire?</p>	<p>That motion was of course not supported by the Council and I remain of the view that adopting the charter would not provide such assurance. The enforceable elements of the charter are already in our contract or are within the remit of the Care Quality Commission. The remainder may suggest good intent but in reality providers would still be free to ignore them if they so chose. However I do see this as a priority area and we are already working positively with the sector in the County, Skills for Care and regional colleagues on Proud to Care with a view to creating a jointly owned and sustainable approach to recruitment and retention.</p>

<p>12. Questioner's name: Cllr Suzanne Williams</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Roger Wilson</p>
<p>This Charter has now been signed by over 30 Councils - Please can the Cabinet Member tell me the reasons why Gloucestershire's Health and Well-Being Board have not adopted this Charter?</p>	<p>This is an Executive issue for the Cabinet and thus would not be submitted to the Health and Well Being Board.</p>
<p>13. Questioner's name: Cllr Alan Preest</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>To: Cllr Nigel Moor</p> <p>On the 28 September this year an invitation was issued to Abellio Rail Cymru, Keolis Amey, Arriva Rail Wales and MTR to submit their bids for the new Wales and Borders rail franchise due to commence in October 2018. Subsequently the existing provider Arriva Rail Wales has withdrawn from the process.</p> <p>Can I ask Cllr Moor if he agrees with to me as to the importance of this issue and will ensure that this Council write to the Welsh Government and state in the strongest possible terms, that it is imperative for cross-border Economic and Tourism stability and improvement that the new franchise holder shall seek to enhance the service frequency or, as a minimum maintains the existing service delivery that is currently provided by Arriva Rail Wales.</p>	<p>Thank you for highlighting this important issue. I have asked officers to write to the Welsh Government to emphasise the importance for cross border economic and tourism stability and improvement of the new franchise. It is expected that the new franchise will build on the services currently provided by Arriva Trains Wales.</p>
<p>14. Questioner's name: Cllr Rachel Smith</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Mark Hawthorne</p>
<p>To: Cllr Mark Hawthorne</p> <p>In view of the concerns being raised nationally about sexual harassment in the highest levels of government, what are the mechanisms in place at GCC to prevent harassment and support those victims who have been subjected to harassment to come forward and speak out?</p>	<p>We treat any complaints of this sort very seriously, although they are thankfully rare. As Cllr Smith will be aware, as part of our response to the recent Ofsted response we are significantly enhancing support for complaints and whistleblowing across the council, which I hope will further extend the protections against sexual harassment, and other inappropriate behaviour.</p>

<p>15. Questioner's name: Cllr Rachel Smith</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Ray Theodoulou</p>
<p>To: Cllr Ray Theodoulou</p> <p>I first asked this question as a supplementary question at September's meeting where I was promised a written response. Despite chasing, at the time of submitting this question, I have not had a response, so I am putting it to you again.....</p> <p>The 21st March (Ernst & Young Report) publication gives figures from prior to the revised project plan and only reports figures in Net Present Value which cannot be compared to the headline £100m figure the cabinet use. In terms comparable to the £100m claim, which I understand relies on NOT hitting the 70% recycling rate, please can the member provide the current, cash value estimated saving in the event we do hit the 70% recycling rate?</p>	<p>Can I repeat my apology for the delay in replying to Cllr Smith's original enquiry? Whilst I wouldn't wish to get into discussion of commercially exempt information, I am happy to confirm to Cllr Smith that we expect the Javelin Park plant to still deliver savings of over £100m if 70% recycling is achieved.</p>
<p>16. Questioner's name: Cllr Rachel Smith</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Ray Theodoulou</p>
<p>To: Cllr Ray Theodoulou</p> <p>A number of constituents have written to me in recent months voicing their concern over Gloucestershire County Council's pensions invested in fossil fuels. What proportion of Gloucestershire County Council's pensions investments are invested in fossil fuels? Please can you provide both percentages and the actual monetary figures?</p>	<p>There isn't a separate county council pension fund – we manage the Gloucestershire pension fund on behalf of 190 organisations, including county council staff. There isn't a separate investment category for fossil fuel investments, but £24m of the shares held directly by the Gloucestershire LGPS, or 3.5% of directly held shares, is currently invested in the oil and gas industry.</p>
<p>17. Questioner's name: Cllr Rachel Smith</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Ray Theodoulou</p>
<p>To: Cllr Ray Theodoulou</p> <p>The Governor of the Bank of England Mark Carney has warned that fossil fuel investments may become 'stranded assets' - what level of</p>	<p>The Gloucestershire Pension fund only makes investment decisions on the advice of professional fund managers – they are required to undertake on-going risk assessments of all of the investments that they make for all LGPS funds in order to deliver</p>

<p>risk assessment has been carried out to ensure that pension funds will make a good return for the people who will eventually be drawing on them?</p>	<p>the performance targets stipulated in each investment mandate.</p>
<p>18. Questioner's name: Cllr Rachel Smith</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Ray Theodoulou</p>
<p>It has been noted by many investors that one of the most promising area for investment is in clean, renewable energy. Do you agree that it would be appropriate for Gloucestershire County Council to not only invest for the best returns for its employees, but also to invest in the most ethical way with the least impact on the environment?</p>	<p>As I mentioned above, the pension fund doesn't belong to the county council, or even to the 190 member organisations, but to the thousands of staff, across all those organisations, who have paid into it. As Cllr Smith may be aware, the fund is moving to a new regional scheme Project Brunel in future, which will see our assets pooled with similar funds from across the South West. Project Brunel is alive to the concerns that Cllr Smith raises – it states:</p> <p><i>“Responsible investment (RI) and stewardship is part of our cultural vision and a key investment principle which will apply across all the assets within the pool. The RI policy will ensure the financial impact of such risks are managed and that responsible stewardship in terms of voting and engagement is embedded in our investment process.</i></p> <p><i>Within the pool, the Environment Agency Pension Fund has been recognised over many years for its commitment to and development of its responsible investment work and is acknowledged as an industry leader. We will look to adopt much of their best practice standards within this area. In addition, we are helping to develop best practice in this area as part of a collaboration on responsible investment across the eight LGPS pools.”</i></p>