

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR W.A. HENNESSY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, EQUALITIES
AND REGULATORY SERVICES

MODEL FARM DEVELOPMENT

Has the Council recognised that development on Model Farm goes counter to the Vale's commitment to take action on the Nature Emergency, so that there is a need to reassess the designation in revisiting the LDP?

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QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR PERFORMANCE
AND RESOURCES

REPRESENTATION ON CABINET

In May last year, Welsh Labour and Llantwit First received 38% of votes cast at the election and a slim majority of seats. The fine margin has been transferred to 100% of seats at the Cabinet table for members of these two political parties – excluding talent and expertise from important roles and imbedding party politics into decision-making.

Proportional representation results in a more inclusive system of governance and encourages Elected Members to collaborate, compromise and work together for the betterment of our communities.

At Cabinet level, should we be considering more inclusive, equitable and representative systems of Governance for the Vale of Glamorgan Council?

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FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR PERFORMANCE
AND RESOURCES

RESHAPING SERVICES

Nothing appears to have come of the 'Reshaping Services' initiative, leaving participants from Town and Community Councils feeling that their time, effort and money was wasted. Management of grass cutting, Local Areas for Play and Local Equipped Areas for Play, etc. remain with the Vale Council.

Will 'Reshaping Services' be rebooted or left in the gutter?

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FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, EQUALITIES
AND REGULATORY SERVICES

PLACEMAKING WALES CHARTER

Should the Vale of Glamorgan follow Carmarthenshire County Council, Monmouthshire County Council, Neath Port Talbot Council, Swansea Council, Wrexham County Borough Council and sign the Placemaking Wales Charter?

The Placemaking Wales Charter has been developed by Welsh Government and the Design Commission for Wales in collaboration with the Placemaking Wales Partnership – a multi-disciplinary group representing professions and organisations working within the built and natural environment.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

USE OF UPVC ALTERNATIVES ON COUNCIL PROPERTIES

I am disappointed to hear that the Vale Council continues to use building products made from uPVC by default rather than less environmentally harmful alternatives (e.g. products made from wood / aluminium).

The production of uPVC is energy intensive and requires the use of chlorine gas. uPVC decomposes very slowly and as a waste product it contains environmentally dangerous substances such as cadmium and lead based stabilisers. Recycling of PVC is a complex, expensive procedure due to the presence of the associated polymers and reinforcement materials.

Given the Council's apparent commitment to the climate emergency, environment and nature emergency, shouldn't the Council set an example by procuring the most sustainable building materials available or transparently balance cost with environmental impact?

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FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

MAINTENANCE BACKLOG FOR SOCIAL RENTED DWELLINGS

I saw a frustrated and embarrassed tenant of the Vale Council highlighting a maintenance backlog at their home on social media. What can you tell us of the maintenance backlog for socially rented dwellings and when might this backlog be resolved?

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QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC SECTOR HOUSING AND TENANT
ENGAGEMENT

TENANT ENGAGEMENT FOR COUNCIL TENANTS

What Tenant Engagement is occurring to ensure tenants of the Vale of Glamorgan Council are living in well maintained buildings?

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FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

POTHOLES

Residents complain that the surfaces of rural roads are reduced to a patchwork of multiple rough repair patches with very little of the original surface surviving. In other places, the surface has crumbled away to hardcore, but fails to meet the definition of a pothole which is at least 40mm deep **AND** 300mm in length. Residents clearly believe we have got the definition of what constitutes a pothole wrong.

Would you, as the Cabinet Member responsible for Highway Maintenance, investigate redefining potholes and switching to prevention of potholes through resurfacing of areas of road, rather than reacting to new holes, and bring options and costings to a meeting of the Full Council by this autumn?

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QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

ROAD NOISE AND HIGHWAY RESURFACING PLANS

Following on from my supplemental question at the meeting of the Full Council on 5TH December, 2022.

The Community Liaison Committee was told that Road Noise and associated health and wellbeing is not a criteria for selecting roads for highway resurfacing and at the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee held on 12th July, 2022 when considering the latest Resurfacing Plan, the Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport confirmed that Road Noise is not considered when selecting roads for resurfacing.

Can we now agree that Road Noise is not a criteria for deciding which roads will be resurfaced and given the negative impact on the sleep and wellbeing of people living near excessively noisy roads can we agree that roads identified in the Noise and Soundscape Action Plan for **Priority Action** in 2012 need urgent intervention by the Vale of Glamorgan Council to reduce road noise and road noise must become a key/priority criteria for future highway maintenance and repair?

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FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, EQUALITIES
AND REGULATORY SERVICES

PUBLIC OPEN SPACE IN THE RURAL VALE

The Community Liaison Committee was informed at its meeting held on 25th January 2022 that there is an under-provision of Public Open Space in the rural Vale of Glamorgan and participants at the meeting expressed their concerns about this shortfall.

The 10-mile-long St Nicholas and Llancarfan Ward is largely reliant on one grazing Common for its provision – which is not in easy reach of many residents of the ward. Three areas of public open space within this ward have either been lost entirely or diminished already this decade by unpopular decisions. Provision of public open space contributes to the Welsh Government's Well-being Goals.

How is the Vale of Glamorgan Council going to address this issue of under-provision of public open space across the rural Vale?

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FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, EQUALITIES
AND REGULATORY SERVICES

ST NICHOLAS CIW SCHOOL

Visitors to the St Nicholas CIW School site will note that the current layby in front of the school (already designated for footway when the new building opens) can provide a sufficient area of footway for parents to wait outside for their children each afternoon and retaining the established hedge to the road along the rest of the frontage would preserve the rural character of School Lane and Conservation Area.

Also, it's most disappointing that the two prominent mature trees at the front of St Nicholas CIW School, in the Conservation Area, will be removed due to the problem of them shedding their leaves each autumn.

Perhaps some additional thought could now be given to retaining the existing hedging and prominent trees at the front of the school?

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FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, EQUALITIES
AND REGULATORY SERVICES

THE GREEN AT BONVILSTON

It seems that a political statement might have been published in place of the answer to my question at last December's Full Council meeting on the Green at Bonvilston. In December I said:

There was surprise to read in the Final Report for 8 dwellings to replace much of the green space:

The 'do nothing' approach is not especially desirable. Evidence shows that the land is not needed as public open space, and if it were left undeveloped it might become unsightly over time, particularly the area where the garages used to be. Furthermore, vacant land would not have the same positive social and economic effects as the development proposal.

This statement suggests that the Community Council was considered incapable of maintaining this area of Public Open Space by the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

So, I ask again, **does the wording in the Final Report for the development in place of the much-desired Public Open Space at Bonvilston that suggests the Community Council in ownership of the Green would not be capable of maintaining (and improving) the Village Green as a visual, social and play amenity give cause for the Vale Council to apologise to St Nicholas with Bonvilston Community Council?**

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QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR A.M. ERNEST

TO: THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES

VISITS TO PLYMOUTH WARD, PENARTH

Will the Leader explain why, on at least two recent occasions, visits have been made by the Leader, and a Welsh Government Minister, into the Plymouth Ward of Penarth, which I and my honourable colleague represent, for the purpose of promoting grants to, and investment in, buildings and areas of our Ward, without the knowledge of the Ward Members concerned, let alone an invitation to join the delegation on the day?

And will the Leader also apologise for this appalling lack of courtesy to the Local Members, and ensure that in future any such visits are not only notified in advance to the appropriate Ward Members, but also in line with common convention and Best Practice, ensure that relevant officers are also aware of the requirement to advise and inform Local Members of any future such visits, by both Vale Council, and external visitors, to their respective Wards, and that appropriate invitations are sent to the Ward Members concerned.

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QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR DR. I.J. JOHNSON

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC SECTOR HOUSING AND TENANT
ENGAGEMENT

**SUPPORT FOR EXISTING AND FUTURE REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS
IN THE COUNTY**

Over a number of years, I have asked questions at Full Council about this Council's support for refugees and asylum seekers.

I would like to confirm my group's full support for the proposals at Eagleswell in Llantwit Major. This is the right thing to do.

How is the Council supporting existing and future refugees and asylum seekers in the county to successfully integrate and participate in community life in the Vale?

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QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR DR. I.J. JOHNSON

TO: DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR SUSTAINABLE PLACES

PROMOTION OF FAIRTRADE

What is the Vale of Glamorgan Council doing to promote Fairtrade, particularly during Fairtrade Fortnight?

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QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR M.J. HOOPER

TO: DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR SUSTAINABLE PLACES

REPLACEMENT OF URBAN STREET TREES

In light of the Council's various commitments to Project Zero and its declaration of a climate emergency, can you please outline the policy associated with the replacement of urban street trees across the Baruc ward, and elsewhere?

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FROM: COUNCILLOR M.J. HOOPER

TO: DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR SUSTAINABLE PLACES

STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE AGAINST FLOOD RISK

Given the sometimes concerning predictions regarding sea level rises due to climate breakdown, can you please outline the Council's strategies to mitigate against flood risk? I would be grateful for particular consideration to the dockside developments, both residential and industrial.