

Council – 20 December 2017

Councillors Questions and answers

1. From Councillor Ian Meyers to Councillor Mrs Berry, Cabinet Member for Transport and Commercial

How much of the surplus (profit) from on street and off street parking has Shepway used for highway improvement in the district.

ANSWER:

The council has made a small surplus for on street parking in the last year. Previous years accounts demonstrate considerable losses. In accordance with the legislation, we will use the surplus to repay deficits that have occurred in the last five years. KCC are responsible for highway improvements within the District. When and if the Council makes a surplus for on-street parking above £100,000, once deficits have been paid, then SDC and KCC together will decide upon what schemes will benefit from the surplus.

Off street parking surpluses support the Council's General Fund, there is no requirement to spend these surpluses in any particular way and they are therefore not directed at highway improvements.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION:

When will Shepway produce a report detailing what the surplus from parking has been spent on as the council is required to do under Section 55 of the RTR Act 1984. After almost 10 months, since the end of the last financial year, the public has a right to see a report on how this money has or is to be spent.

ANSWER:

A response to this question would be provided after the meeting.

2. From Councillor Mrs Lawes to Councillor Mrs Berry, Cabinet Member for Transport and Commercial

Does this Council support KCC Road safety Drink Drive Campaign and Kent Police Christmas drink drug drive campaign?

ANSWER:

Yes, we are fully supportive of the KCC Road safety Drink Drive Campaign and Kent Police Christmas drink drug drive campaign and will continue to use social media to make people aware of campaign messages.”

3. From Councillor Mrs Lawes to Councillor Ewart-James, Cabinet Member for Housing

How many homeless people does the district have at the present time?

ANSWER:

At this time (19th December 2017) the council has 16 verified rough sleeping homeless people. In addition we have 23 households residing in bed and breakfast style short term accommodation, a further 6 residing in East Kent Housing Temporary Accommodation, and 30 in other forms of what is termed nightly let accommodation giving a total of 59 + 16.”

Of those 59, cases in temporary accommodation 33 have been accepted as statutorily homeless, leaving 26 who we have yet to decide if they are homeless or not and if so what if any statutory duty may be owed to provide rehousing assistance”

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION:

£900,000 had been spent on B&B accommodation, and £1 million for six flats to be built for temporary accommodation. Should more funds be spent on providing permanent housing?

ANSWER:

There was always a transitional period for housing needs to be assessed, and temporary accommodation was needed for this, which is why the council was investing in this.