

- a) Deborah Mason of Riverside ward asked the following question of Councillor Stimson, Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Sustainability, Parks and Countryside:**

Does the Lead Member agree that the UK is facing ecological freefall, that biodiversity gain must be the over-riding priority in all natural habitats owned by the Council and that assumptions we have made in the past about public rights must be reassessed in view of this?

Written response: *The council is committed to delivering nature recovery and biodiversity net gain. The Natural Environment is one of the four themes of our strategy with the intent to protect and enhance our natural environment, raise awareness of biodiversity and green our towns and cities. We have been working closely with stakeholders to develop a borough-wide biodiversity action plan, that will support improved habitats across the borough. Any decisions that the council makes will be guided by the evidence of the specific case, using our internal and independent expertise, rather than making blanket assumptions. Allowing some controlled access can reduce overall risks to wildlife and habitats as well as providing valuable opportunities to educate, inform and raise awareness of these critical issues.*

- b) Ed Wilson of Clewer and Dedworth West ward asked the following question of Councillor Carroll, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Health and Mental Health:**

Will the Lead Member confirm how much RBWM has collected through the Adult Social Care Precept since its' inception?

Written response: *I am pleased to confirm that since the inception of the Adult Social Care Precept in 2016-2017, £29,812,493 has been collected over the six years. This is broken down as follows:*

FINANCIAL YEAR	ADULT SOCIAL CARE PRECEPT	£
2016/17	1,191,500	
2017/18	3,061,000	
2018/19	5,054,000	
2019/20	5,109,000	
2020/21	6,557,243	
2021/22	8,839,750	
TOTAL	29,812,493	

This also shows our determination to collect the necessary funding to increase investment in adult social care and ensure we provide the best for our local residents.

- c) Ed Wilson of Clewer and Dedworth West ward asked the following question of Councillor Hilton, Cabinet Member for Finance and Ascot:**

Will the Lead Member for Finance advise by ward which roads and pavements were improved under the Clewer & Dedworth Improvement Programme?

The table below provides the full details requested:

Ward	Clewer & Dedworth Improvements	Type of work	Works including fees
Clewer & Dedworth West	Pierson Road	Joint Repairs and surface treatment	55,690
Clewer & Dedworth West	Kingsfield	Joint Repairs	9,151
Clewer & Dedworth West	Hayse Hill	Joint Repairs and surface treatment	36,038
Clewer & Dedworth West	Alden View	Joint Repairs and surface treatment	9,649
Clewer & Dedworth East	Bell View	Joint Repairs and surface treatment	43,765
Clewer & Dedworth East	Bell View Close	Joint Repairs	8,788
Clewer & Dedworth East	Clifton Rise	Joint Repairs	28,303
Clewer & Dedworth East	Mill Lane, Clewer	Surfacing/Lining	13,686
Clewer & Dedworth East	Stephenson Drive	Surfacing/Lining	12,046
Clewer & Dedworth West	Wolf Lane (2 locations)	Surfacing/Lining	32,696
Clewer & Dedworth West	Cawcott Drive (patching)	Patching	13,363
Clewer & Dedworth West	Dedworth road resurfacing	Resurfacing	54,765
Clewer & Dedworth East	Vale Road (patching)	Patching	16,993
	Footway Schemes		
Clewer & Dedworth West	Dedworth Road	Reconstruction	15,739
Clewer & Dedworth West	Holly Crescent	Reconstruction	5,372
Clewer & Dedworth East	Hatch Lane	Reconstruction	12,676
Clewer & Dedworth East	Orchard Avenue	Patching	6,655
	Other		
Clewer & Dedworth East	Spencer Denney		6,987
Clewer & Dedworth East	Parks	Clewer Play area	24,063
	Total		406,425

d) Andrew Hill of Boyn Hill ward asked the following question of Councillor Johnson, Leader of the Council:

In 2019 Councillors granted permission to dispose of the 50% freehold in the Nicholson Shopping centre on the understanding of multi-billion pound backing from “€22bn” Tikehau Capital. When did the Council become aware that funding for the Nicholson Quarter was no longer secured, and when was this reported to Members?

Written response: *Funding for the Nicholson Quarter is secured and the developer is proceeding, Tikehau and ARELI Reast Estate remain committed to the scheme.*

The questioner may have misunderstood how this is being funded. Tikehau Capital is an investment fund and they are funding the redevelopment. Tikehau is however a retail fund so they have always said they would hold the retail assets created. They are now looking for partners in the market at present for the other assets that are to be delivered, including investors and occupiers, as is standard practice for very large mixed-use developments such as this.

e) Andrew Hill of Boyn Hill ward asked the following question of Councillor Hilton, Cabinet Member for Finance and Ascot:

In light of the s114 ‘bankruptcy’ by Slough Borough Council, and their £159m deficit projected for 2024/25 what is RBWM’s equivalent projected year end general fund reserve figure for 2024/25, and does RBWM share any joint ventures/financial interests with SBC that may be affected or miscalculated?

Written response: *The reserve position for 2024/25 would be at a similar level to the current £6.7m. The newly published Medium Term Financial Plan shows the savings required to achieve balanced budgets each year that would maintain the general reserve at its current level. (As part of the budget each year the s151 would of course review the exact required level). RBWM does not share any joint ventures/financial interests with Slough BC that may be affected or miscalculated due to the recent s114 notice there.*