

a) Hari Sharma of Furze Platt ward will ask the following question of Councillor Haseler, Cabinet Member for Planning, Parking, Highways and Transport:

If you have a pure electric car and live in the borough you can get a free parking permit, which is a hugely popular scheme. Can I ask the Cabinet Member how many residents have taken advantage of this and what action this council is taking to create more charging points?

Written Response:

At the end of June 2022, there were 76 permits issued for use within resident parking zones and 393 permits issued for off-street car parks. As set out in our Corporate Plan we will be developing an Electric Vehicle Implementation Plan, which we expect to consult on later this year. This will set out the plans to deliver more electric vehicle charging points to meet growing demand and our commitments to take action to tackle climate change. This will build on the pilot project of 29 new chargers delivered in Windsor and Maidenhead as well as new charging facilities being delivered within the new Vicus Way Car Park.

Note: Vicus Way Car Park is a long stay contract parking car park that is only open from 6am to 8pm. A parking permit will not enable you to use these charging points.

b) Hari Sharma of Furze Platt ward will ask the following question of Councillor McWilliams, Cabinet Member for Digital Connectivity, Housing Opportunity, and Sport & Leisure:

As I see cranes and diggers everywhere in the borough, building more homes for our children and grandchildren which is wonderful news for our residents and their children who can live close to their elderly parents, how many developments have agreed to build 30% social and affordable homes to buy or rent, or are paying Council Infrastructure Levy?

Written Response:

The Borough Local Plan was adopted on the 8th February 2022 and updated the development plan for the Borough. The objective of policy HO3 is to secure 30% affordable homes on most major residential developments (those containing more than 10 or more units). 40% is sought in some circumstances such as on greenfield sites up to 500 dwellings. The definition of affordable homes includes social rented, affordable rented and intermediate tenures (such as shared ownership or low cost home ownership). The evidence in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment shows that there is a high need (45%) for social rented homes and all qualifying schemes since February will need to provide this. The Housing Strategy 2021-26 outlines our clear ambition to give more local people the opportunity to stay in the area they grew up in.

Since the 8th February the Council has received major planning applications proposing a total of 817 private market homes and 429 affordable homes. On average 34.4% of all housing applied for since the adoption of the Borough Local Plan is affordable. (figures correct on 14th July 2022).

Prior to the 8th February applications were determined under a different policy context. The amount of affordable housing completed and secured in previous years is reported within the Authority Monitoring Reports which are available on the Council's website at: [Monitoring | Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead \(rbwm.gov.uk\)](#)

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a levy which is applied to all developments specified within the Council's Charging Schedule unless the development qualified for an exemption under the Council's exemption policies. All eligible development must pay the levy. The Council reports annually on the collection and expenditure of these funds and the annual reports are available on the Council's website at: [Community Infrastructure Levy | Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead \(rbwm.gov.uk\)](#). CIL collections are reported through the citizen's portal: [Amount \(£\) of CIL receipted for the reported year \(inphase.com\)](#)

The CIL Charging Schedule was examined by an independent examiner before being approved. The Council keeps its Charging Schedule, which is subject to indexation each year, under constant review.

c) Lars Swann of Clewer and Dedworth East ward will ask the following question of Councillor Johnson, Leader of the Council:

Given the state of the high street in Windsor and the fact that there are now too many hospitality businesses in Windsor Town Centre, what plans do the council have to improve the town centre in particularly the area around the Windsor Yards Area in their own right, or in partnership with 3rd parties?

Written Response:

A paper was approved by RBWM Cabinet in March 2022 to bring forward a Vision for Windsor. The project, in partnership with the Princes Foundation, will bring together the views of communities, stakeholders and businesses to shape future investment. This will provide a unique opportunity to shape a compelling vision for the town. We encourage as many people as possible to engage in the project which will include a series of workshops to further understand and explore Windsor's current and emerging opportunities, strengths and constraints, alongside people's priorities and aspirations for the place.

The pandemic has had a significant impact on the economy and town centres across the country but by working closely with our businesses through partnership such as the Windsor and Eton Town Partnership and Visit Windsor Board we have been able to support the local economy, create jobs and drive investment in the Borough. This approach has led to the recovery of visitor numbers and footfall in the town back to pre-pandemic levels and vacancy rates are at 13.7%, which is below the national average.

In relation to Windsor Yards, there has been a recent consultation on proposals with a recent two-day consultation in the town on 7th and 9th July with further information being provided online (<https://windsorconsultation.co.uk/>) as well as being promoted across social media. The council is investing in a number of projects across the town through its capital programme, as well as considering potential future projects in developing its investment plan for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

d) Ed Wilson of Clewer and Dedworth West ward will ask the following question of Councillor Hilton, Cabinet Member for Asset Management & Commercialisation, Finance, & Ascot:

Can you advise if Royal Borough made a bid for funding via the UK Community Renewal Fund and what was the outcome of the bid?

Written response:

The Government set out the prioritisation of the Top 100 Places (see link below) and it was felt that across Berkshire there was limited chance of success. RBWM was not in the Top 100 places likely to receive funding. A bid was therefore not made – we decided that with limited resource we target those funds we are most likely to be successful in securing.

[UK Community Renewal Fund: prioritisation of places methodology note - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-community-renewal-fund-prioritisation-of-places-methodology-note)

e) Ed Wilson of Clewer and Dedworth West ward will ask the following question of Councillor Johnson, Leader of the Council:

Can you explain the value generated by the Council's development of its former properties in St Ives Rd, Maidenhead?

Written response:

The matter remains subject to the confidentiality clause on the Development Agreement (per Propco).