

Questions to Cabinet

Responses for the Cabinet Meeting on **6 October 2022**

1.	Questioner: County Councillor John Potter	Respondent: County Councillor Jayne Rear
	<p><u>Item 11 - School Place Planning Delivery Programme 2023-25</u></p> <p>I first raised concerns about school places in NW Preston back in July 2018, yet as late as February this year, the Conservatives voted down my budget amendment with the cabinet member, Cllr Jane Rear, saying there had been a “slow down of housing delivery”</p> <p>It has been obvious to anyone who lives and works in these areas that the issue of inadequate school provision was escalating. Does the cabinet regretting dismissing my concerns?</p>	<p>Officers from the County Council engaged with schools in 2018 seeking expressions of interest to provide additional places and to understand whether there was support amongst existing schools for the development of a new school in the area.</p> <p>When the forecast projections were updated the following year, the need for additional places was reduced, resulting in the provision of additional places at primary and secondary phases, on a temporary basis.</p> <p>The pupil projections showed that the scale of demand reduced between 2018 and 2019, potentially due to the delivery of new housing being lower than projected and lower migration at the time.</p> <p>The pupil projections are regularly reviewed before making any recommendation for action, on the understanding that providing too many places in an area may disadvantage the less popular or successful schools.</p>



		<p>Forecasts are routinely updated. The position has now changed in recognition of the need to provide sufficient places to address demand in higher year groups as the pupil cohort moves through. This is a different approach to only providing additional places to meet intake year demand i.e., at reception and year 7, and so increases the number of places required. The Delivery Programme sets out how it is proposed to meet that need subject to consultation and decision making.</p>
2.	Questioner: County Councillor Sue Whittam	Respondent: County Councillor Charlie Edwards
	<p><u>Item 9 - Woodplumpton Village Traffic Calming Scheme - Approval of Traffic Regulation Orders</u></p> <p>Will the Cabinet Member agree with me that this project will have a major benefit to the residents of Woodplumpton and Catforth, and that our impact on our residents is improved when we work with our excellent Parish Councils?</p>	<p>This is a great example of what we can achieve by enabling our communities to take an active role in developing their ideas for how they want their neighbourhood to look and feel, in this case creating a traffic calmed corridor and more attractive and appealing public space. We have an agreed charter: Working Better Together with town and parish councils, and by unlocking money from local developments from a Community Infrastructure Levy, it benefits these organisations without a huge burden to wider Council taxpayers.</p> <p>These schemes aim to provide traffic calmed environments within the villages of Catforth and Woodplumpton by addressing the concerns of residents; and capturing the ideas of local communities through parish led engagement.</p> <p>Developing the schemes with the parish council has required some negotiation. This has resulted in a longer than normal</p>



		<p>design process to achieve solutions which satisfy the design standards expected of highway schemes, but also meet the aspirations of the parish council. I understand discussions regarding the Catforth scheme remain ongoing and we will continue to work together to find a positive solution.</p> <p>I want to thank Woodplumpton Parish Council for their excellent cooperation throughout this process, I am pleased to see that Paul Entwistle is here today and I appreciate the hard work he and his team have put into this. And a huge thanks to CC Whittam for being such a strong and passionate advocate for parish councils.</p>
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