

To: All Members and Officers of the County Council.

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Dear Sir/Madam,

County Council - Thursday, 23rd May, 2019

I have recently forwarded to you a copy of the agenda for the next meeting of the County Council.

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at next Thursday, 23rd May, 2019 meeting of the County Council, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

14. **Questions (Pages 1 - 6)**

Questions to be asked by Members of the County Council of the Leader of the Council, a Cabinet Member, or a Chairman of a Committee. The question will be answered by the relevant Member and the Member asking the question may then ask a follow up question which will also be answered

John Henderson
Chief Executive

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QUESTION 1

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 23 MAY 2019

**Question to Helen Fisher
Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport**

By Syed Hussain

Question

Residents are suffering from shortage of car parking space and traffic congestion. Does the county have any plan to resolve this issue?

Reply

The Local Transport Plan for Staffordshire (2011 – 2026) sets out high level highway & transport objectives, policies and strategy to support our vision for a 'Connected Staffordshire'. This includes how we will aim to reduce reliance on the private car, improve air quality and promote more sustainable forms of sustainable transport and active travel.

Beneath the Local Transport Plan are 8 local District Transport Strategies. These have been developed in consultation with Borough and District Councils to help make Local Development Plans acceptable in Transport terms. They include details of key highway and transport improvement needs, which is key to being able to secure developer funding contributions through s.106 or s.278 agreements.

The East Staffordshire District Transport Strategy was publicly consulted on during 2013 and signed off by Cabinet in April 2014. It is available on the county council's internet pages and the local Member's portal.

With regards to parking this is a key part of the Local Transport Plan. It is a very important part of all our lives - affecting where we go and how we choose to get there.

A revised draft parking strategy has recently been reviewed and agreed with the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee and will be going out to public consultation next month.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 23 MAY 2019

**Question to Helen Fisher
Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport**

By Kyle Robinson

Question

Can the Cabinet Member for Highways please give a date for when potholes on Chapel Street, Butt Lane will be repaired?

Reply

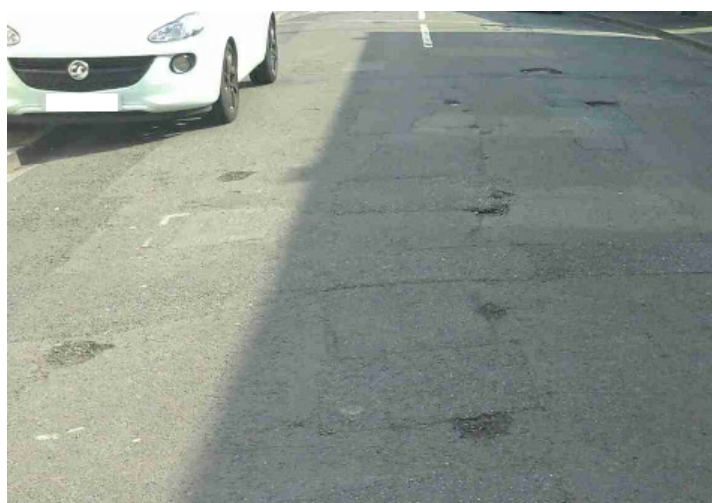
As all Members will be aware we do not have unlimited resources and so in line with national Codes of Practice repairs to potholes and all other highway defects are prioritised to minimise the risk of personal injury or property damage.

Over the last 4 months the performance levels achieved are:

- 100% of Emergency defects have been completed within 2 hours;
- 97.6% of high-risk (Category 1) defects repaired within 24-hours;
- 91.8% of high-to-medium risk (Category 2) defects repaired within 7 days; and
- Approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ of all other identified or reported highway defects completed within 60 days.

The potholes on Chapel Street Butt are all of a very minor nature and as such have not yet been prioritised for repair. However, they have been given a Category 3 status so that if the opportunity arises repairs can be considered alongside any other more urgent works.

However, if the local Member is minded, then he also has the option of locally prioritising these repairs through his £20k maintenance allocation.



COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 23 MAY 2019

**Question to Helen Fisher
Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport**

By Paul Northcott

Question

We have heard about the extra 20k allocated for each member of the Council. Could the Cabinet Member for Highways outline the steps presently being taken to facilitate and improve capacity to meet the members' DHP requests for timely work to be undertaken in their respective divisions?

Reply

As every single member will know, last year we had spending controls in place to support the development of our MTFS. I would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding where this affected services you come in to regular contact with, such as the Community Highways Teams, where in some parts of the County these vacancies have meant response rates from the remaining staff have been slow.

I am pleased to report that the Community Highways team have just completed a recruitment process to fill longstanding vacancies in the team. New staff will be in post within the next couple of months. This will help the team to facilitate the delivery of the £20k Life Enhancing Maintenance Funding and DHP requests from members.

In addition, Amey have allocated an extra engineer to oversee the implementation of the more significant works identified by members for the £20k Life Enhancing Maintenance Funding.

The highways team has a strong appreciation of the importance of these initiatives and will continue to work hard to successfully deliver both programmes across the county.

