

PUBLIC QUESTIONS FOR PLACE SCRUTINY

MONDAY 23 January 2017

Question 1 from Mr David Webb to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Waste and Cleansing

How many completed road surfaces were completed in Westborough in 2016 as Westminster Drive, Inverness Avenue and parts of Westborough road need resurfacing (Fleetwood - Hildaville) which are very bad and are filled with parts of tarmac compared to other wards in Southend like Thorpe Bay, Leigh. What roads are planned to be resurfaced in Westborough in 2017 and when will these occur?

ANSWER

The Council has developed a comprehensive asset management system that contains condition assessment of roads and footways in the Borough. This condition information is used to prioritise the Council's revenue and capital funds. This helps to ensure that the Council funds are spent where they are most needed, in order to keep our highways in their optimum condition for public safety.

We have assessed the situation in the following streets:

1. Westminster Drive – This along with Fairmead Avenue are to be on the future work programme during the next 3-4 years based on the current condition.
2. Inverness Avenue – The current condition is average as in other areas and will be monitored and action taken if needed to re-prioritise.
3. Westborough Road from Southbourne Grove to Tintern Avenue is due to be resurfaced in the last week of March 2017, with the second section from Tintern Avenue up to West Road will be part of a programme for consideration for future years.
4. The footway on Wenham Drive was re-slabbed in August/September 2016.

5. **Fairfax Drive – Bedell to Southbourne is currently programmed for July/August 2017.**

Roads in the area will be continually assessed and reviewed as part of the future work programme priorities, along with the rest of the Borough.

Notwithstanding the above, all category 1 defects will be repaired as and when needed.

Question 2 from Mr David Webb to the Portfolio Holder for Enterprise, Tourism and Economic Development

Westcliff Library will have a meeting room created. Who will manage the running, how will this be booked out during opening and after opening hours, will there be a business rate and a community rate for community and charity groups and will the money raised from the room be put back for the running and investment into Westcliff Library?

ANSWER

The meeting room will be managed by and booked through the Library Service. The design allows access to the meeting room independently to the main library. It has been the Council's policy to have differential rates for business and community use and we would expect this to be the case at Westcliff. Income from the room will go into the Library Service budget.

Question 1 from Mr Daniel Nelson to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Waste and Cleansing

It has been noted that during their commute to school a number of students from Thorpe Hall have been littering along Daines Way and Broadclyst Gardens? Is the Council able to place a general waste bin along the route from Thorpe Bay train station to Thorpe Hall School in order to help resolve this issue?

ANSWER

School routes are normally a problem with littering and we do try and site litter bins at the best locations to ensure that this is kept to a minimum. I can advise that a new litter bin was sited in the walkthrough between Broadclyst Gardens & Shoebury Road that is helping support litter reduction in the area.

Question 2 from Mr Daniel Nelson to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Waste and Cleansing

Will the council work with Thorpe Hall School in order to help reduce the amount of litter their students produce?

ANSWER

I can advise that we do bring these types of concerns to the attention schools by providing anti-littering advice for them to cascade down to their pupils. I will ensure that this recent concern is also brought to the attention of the Head-teacher and that our street cleansing contractor is also made aware of this particular concern to ensure that they monitor the situation.