



SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
THURSDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER, 2021

**Please find attached the paper in respect of Item 16 on
the agenda for the above meeting**

16.	Open Questions (Pages 3 - 4) (Copy attached.)	15 mins
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OPEN QUESTIONS FOR SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL 23 SEPTEMBER 2021

Questions from Councillor Robson

To Executive Member for Adult Wellbeing

1. Can the Executive Member advise how many occupational therapists employed by Scottish Borders Council were in post in the Borders as at 31st March 2020, as at 31st March 2021 and are currently in post now?
2. Can the Executive Member advise how many grant applications for aids and adaptations to private dwellings were received in the last two financial years and have been in this financial year, what percentage of the applications were granted aided or are presently outstanding, what percentage of the applications required or will require an assessment on site and how many of those assessments have been carried out?

Question from Councillor Bell

To Executive Member for Adult Wellbeing

I have become concerned about our Social Work Department's capacity to resource Care at Home provision. On how many occasions in total over all of the past 3 months have SBC been unable to resource 'packages' of Care at Home, either through our own staff or using contracted staff?

To understand this in context what - if any – were the equivalent figures for the same 3 months in 2019, and 2017; assuming that these numbers can be identified?

Questions from Councillor H. Scott

1. To Executive Member for Transformation & Service Improvement

In terms of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act, 2005, what are the current estimates, both in officer time, and monetary value, of completing Scottish Borders Council's Gaelic Language Plan to fully comply with the provisions of the Act?

2. To Executive Member For Infrastructure, Travel And Transport

The Stirling Street / Park Street / Stirling Place junction in Galashiels is one of the busiest in the town, carrying not only motor cars, but 'buses travelling to and from the Transport Interchange. Northbound traffic in Stirling Street must give way to traffic travelling from Stirling Place to Park Street, but at the moment is governed only by a single pole mounted 'give way' sign. The give way road markings at the junction are almost invisible. The absence of clear road markings at this very busy junction is causing confusion, and some danger, not only to drivers who may miss the sign, but to pedestrians crossing the road at that junction.

On 15 March 2021, I was told that the give way markings would be renewed at some point. Can I ask that some urgency is given to the repair of the give way markings on the road surface to mitigate against, as far as possible, vehicular accidents occurring there, and when are these repairs likely to be carried out?

Question from Councillor H. Anderson

To the Executive Member for Community Development & Localities

I am pleased to hear that the Scottish Government are providing additional funding for play parks. I understand that the Scottish Borders will receive an initial allocation *of* an additional £113,000 to support play park provision across the Borders.

Given that this additional funding was not factored into our budget deliberations in February, can you advise of the democratic process to be used by this council in order to ensure a fair and equitable allocation of these funds across the whole council area?