

OPEN QUESTIONS FOR SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL 17 DECEMBER 2020

Questions from Councillor H. Scott

1. To Executive Member for Children and Young People

Education Maintenance Allowance - for each of the last three years external auditors have noted, and brought to notice, that council attendance records for pupils were not being adequately updated by schools and did not always match payment details during the year. Whilst assurances were received from management that this was a housekeeping issue and did not impact on the payments claimed for the year, auditors recommended that arrangements were put in place to confirm records are being correctly updated.

Please detail what management steps are in progress to improve the maintenance of these records, and by whom?

2. To Executive Member for Public Protection

Section 40 of 'Transport Scotland's Good Practice Guide on 20mph Speed Restrictions', states that, *"Any decision to lower the speed limit to 20mph should seek to avoid the need for extensive police enforcement, as 20mph speed limits will not routinely be enforced, unless it is necessary and in the interest of casualty reduction. The only exception to this is the enforcement of 20mph speed limits outside schools, which takes place on a regular basis."*

- On how many occasions in 2020 has the CAT monitored the 20mph speed limits outside schools?
- What steps will the CAT Strategic Oversight Group take to ensure this level of enforcement is maintained and enhanced?
- Can details of future speed checks outside schools be included on CAT reports to give parents confidence that enforcement of the 20mph speed limit outside schools is being taken seriously?

Note: happy for the answers to all three points to be given in the same response.

Question from Councillor Robson

To the Leader

Can I be advised when and in what way the Staff Directories in @Work are to be updated?

Question from Councillor Ramage

To Executive Member for Adult Wellbeing

When will the Teviot Day Centre reopen in Hawick?

Question from Councillor Bell

To Executive Member for Adult Wellbeing

Councillors recently had an informative and reassuring private briefing from officers on how the management of Covid-19 outbreaks in council run care homes and associated care facilities has developed as a consequence of responding to recent events.

I think it is in the public interest that the general learnings we heard about are made public.

Whilst clearly there should be no publicity about specific individuals or specific situations; could the general learnings be made public through the usual channels?