

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL
Wednesday, 11 January 2017

1. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR VINT

Re: HoSW Devolution Prospectus/Affordable Housing

May I thank the Leader for supporting my Motion on Affordable Housing at the Council meeting of 8 December and ask how and where the Council proposes that references to the need for affordable housing will be added to the Devolution Prospectus and how this matter will be raised with other members of the Heart of the South West Partnership?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR HART

I can confirm that references to Affordable Housing will be made in the update of the Devolution Prospectus which is the Productivity Plan. The Plan will be a refresh of the Single Economic Plan for the Heart of the South West and Members will have opportunities to influence this Plan as it develops.

As Councillor Vint will of course be aware the Council's decision is in the public domain and available for all to see!

2. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR VINT

Re: Representations to Devon MPs - Health Funding

What requests have the Council made to Devon's MPs in consequence of the resolutions on Cuts to Devon Health Services and on the NHS 'Success Regime' made at the last Council meeting?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR HART

As required, Officers wrote to all Devon MPs, the NHS England Chief Executive and to the Secretary of State conveying the Council's concerns. I am happy to supply Councillor Vint with copies of those letters.

3. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR VINT

Re: Representations to Devon MPs – Fair Funding for Schools

What requests have the Council made to Devon's MPs in consequence of the resolutions on fair funding for schools made at the last Council meeting?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR HART

I can again confirm that, as required, Officers wrote to all Devon MP's before Christmas with a detailed briefing extending an invitation to meet with them in Westminster early in the New Year to discuss the impact of the Government's proposed changes and a number of them have already indicated their desire so to do. I am happy to supply Councillor Vint with copies of that communication as well.

I would also add that Officers have undertaken a considerable amount of work on this issue, working with the Devon Education Forum's specially appointed Task and Finish Group, to co-ordinate a lobbying campaign of County MPs by schools and the professional associations which resulted in separate letters being sent to MPs which has again led to some positive feedback.