

Meeting of the City Council 2 November 2022

Report title	Written Questions by Councillors	
Referring person	Councillor Adam Collinge, Councillor Andrew McNeil, Councillor Ellis Turrell	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Cabinet Member with lead responsibility	Councillor Obaida Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Resources and Digital City Councillor Stephen Simkins, Deputy Leader: Inclusive City Economy Councillor Steve Evans, Cabinet Member for City Environment and Climate Change	
Accountable director	David Pattison, Director of Governance	
Originating service	Governance	
Accountable employee	David Pattison	Director of Governance
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Recommendation for action:

The Council is recommended to:

That the relevant Executive Members respond to the questions received in accordance with the Council's procedure rules for a maximum of 30 minutes.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 For the Cabinet Members to respond to the questions received:

a. Council Tax (Energy) Rebate

Councillor Adam Collinge to ask the Cabinet Member for Resources and Digital City:

Can the portfolio holder confirm the lessons learned and the actions taken to address the shortcomings in the Council's rollout and distribution of the Government funded £150 Council Tax (Energy) Rebate and the additional Government funded Discretionary Fund, given that:

- i. by the September 2022 deadline, over a fifth of eligible households (around 27,000 households) in Wolverhampton had either not applied for or had not received their direct payment, and*
- ii. applications to the Discretionary Fund were minimal*

b. Black Country Plan

Councillor Andrew McNeil to ask the Deputy Leader: Inclusive City Economy:

Having previously ignored Bushbury North residents' wishes, and sold a Council community asset destroying Broadway Green, can the Cabinet Member confirm that they will be using the opportunity to replace Wolverhampton Council's terribly destructive Black Country Plan submission, with a new local plan that does not destroy highly environmentally valuable countryside, our green belt protection and much-loved walking routes?

c. Recycling

Councillor Ellis Turrell to ask the Cabinet Member for City Environment and Climate Change:

A recent study by the 'Every Can Counts' campaign found that Wolverhampton is the worst city in the UK for recycling at home, with just 28% of residents always recycling at home. How does this align with the Council's pledge to be a 'green city', and what steps have been taken to increase recycling rates in the city?