

## Meeting of the City Council 6 December 2023

<b>Report title</b>	Written Questions by Councillors	
<b>Referring person</b>	Councillor Harbinder Singh, Councillor Iqra Tahir, Councillor Zee Russell, Councillor Celia Hibbert, Councillor Wendy Dalton, Councillor Wendy Thompson, Councillor Udey Singh	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All Wards	
<b>Cabinet Member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Craig Collingswood, Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change Councillor Bhupinder Gakhal, Cabinet Member for Visitor City Councillor Chris Burden, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People Councillor Jacqui Coogan, Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills Education Councillor Jasbir Jaspal, Cabinet Member for Adults and Wellbeing Councillor Paula Brookfield, Cabinet Member for Governance and Equalities	
<b>Accountable director</b>	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer	
<b>Originating service</b>	Governance	
<b>Accountable employee</b>	David Pattison	Chief Operating Officer
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### Recommendation for decision:

The Council is recommended to:

That the relevant Executive Members respond to the questions received in accordance with 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. Carbon Reduction Activities**

Councillor Harbinder Singh to ask the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change:

*Can the Cabinet Member for City Environment provide us with an update on the Council's carbon reduction activities over the last 12 months?*

### **b. Grand Slam of Darts**

Councillor Iqra Tahir to ask the Cabinet Member for Visitor City:

*Can the Cabinet Member for Visitor City provide us with an update on the Grand Slam of Darts 2023 event which took place at WV Active Aldersley last month?*

### **c. Child Poverty**

Councillor Zee Russell to ask the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People:

*The government had a dedicated Child Poverty Unit (which Labour set up in 1999) until it was scrapped by David Cameron's 2016 Welfare Reform Act.*

*The unit worked across government departments and advised them on how to reduce child poverty. But the Tories shut down the body at the same time as they scrapped their child poverty targets.*

*Can the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People tell us how this has impacted Wolverhampton?*

### **d. Wolverhampton University**

Councillor Celia Hibbert to ask the Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills Education:

*According to statistics from the Home Office, last year half a million student visas were issued - which has led to an eightfold increase of the number of dependants of overseas students seen from 2019. This equates to a 750% increase.*

*Wolverhampton University is popular with international students. Can the Cabinet Member for Education shed light on any collaborative work between the Council and the international admission unit of Wolverhampton University, which involves (but not limited to);*

*A. Establishing the numbers of Wolverhampton University Students Dependants, to ensure adequate planning and resourcing of our local schools.*

*B. Any collaborative strategy to mitigate any potential negative impacts from midterm arrivals.*

**e. Merry Hill Policing Hub**

Councillor Wendy Dalton to ask the Lead Member for the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel:

*Has the Chair of the West Midlands Police Authority been given a clear date as to when a policing hub will return to Merry Hill?*

**f. Youth Activity**

Councillor Wendy Thompson to ask the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People:

*Can the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People inform me of what other youth provisions the City Council are providing with regards to youth activity outside in school time in the outer areas of the city off the back of rising levels of anti-social behaviour in these areas, aside from the operations at leisure centres?*

**g. Councillor Support Unit**

Councillor Udey Singh to ask the Cabinet Member for Governance and Equalities:

*Can the Cabinet Member for Governance and Equalities please advise how many cases have been lodged with the Councillor Support Unit in the current municipal year, as of the 6 December 2023?*

*Can she also advise how many of these cases are currently outstanding, how many have been actioned and closed and how many of the cases initially logged have been reopened for the same time period?*

*Finally, can she also advise the average number of days it takes for a case to be completed from start to finish?*