

**FIFE COUNCIL**  
**16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023**

**ITEM 7 - QUESTION TIME**

**Question 1 from Councillor Dave Dempsey**

At the session of Holyrood's Finance and Public Administration Committee on 24/5/22, the Fife Council officer present said (page 13 of <https://www.parliament.scot/api/sitecore/CustomMedia/OfficialReport?meetingId=13775>)

The accountability question is difficult. It is important that we are accountable to our communities and the public by being clear and honest about what we have and have not achieved. At times in the whole industry of performance reporting and performance frameworks, there is more of an emphasis on reassurance than on challenge.

When reports are taken to committees such as this one—particularly service committees—there is a sense that we are throwing lots of numbers at you and showing that we are measuring things, and if the figures are going down, there may be a good reason for that. However, who is asking the difficult questions about whether we are making a difference and making things better? That is where accountability comes in. There has to be internal challenge as well as external challenge.

Given that Fife Council recognises this issue, what is Fife Council doing to address it?

**Question 2 from Councillor James Calder**

How many flytipping reports were received last year in Fife and how many fixed penalty notices were issued?

**Question 3 from Councillor Dave Dempsey**

In a number of ways, including the newly announced Green Freeport, Fife Council is part of the just transition to net zero emissions. Is the Council aware of transitions to net zero that are not just and, if so, what steps is the Council taking to ensure that its measures are just?

**Question 4 from Councillor Dempsey**

What costs are the Council expecting to incur as a consequence of the introduction of the Scottish Government's Deposit Return Scheme and how are these costs distributed between

- the effect on kerbside collection
- provision of infrastructure such as machines to receive recycled containers

- handling and storage costs
- other costs

**Question 5 from Councillor Browne**

To ask the Labour administration if it will make a statement on the completion of the new industrial units at the Hillend and Donibristle Industrial Estate in Dalgety Bay and their expected contribution to economic development and growth in south and west Fife?

**Question 6 from Councillor Browne**

To ask the Labour administration if it will make a statement about progress in delivering the long awaited £85 million pounds replacement for Inverkeithing High School?

**Question 7 from Councillor Dempsey**

What is the typical cost of filling a single pothole and what is the additional cost of filling a second pothole adjacent to the first?

**Question 8 from Councillor O'Brien**

How many fife council employees have signed up to the Cycle to work scheme since the start of the Scottish government initiative?

**Question 9 from Councillor O'Brien**

How many cycle spaces/lockers has Fife Council provided for employees at workplaces?

**Question 10 from Councillor Goodall**

What is the current waiting time for a Housing Functional Needs Assessment across Fife?

**Question 11 from Councillor Dempsey**

What additional resources have been or will be deployed to deal with the considerable volume of work required in advance of implementing the ban on Pavement Parking?

**Question 12 from Councillor Ballantyne-Wardlaw**

Can officers confirm if Thornton Greyhound Stadium comes under Fife Council regulatory and licencing framework in any way.

**Question 13 from Councillor Lawson**

When will Fife Council start charging traders and hospitality venues for use of pavement and road space in St Andrews? The town is losing income from parking suspension in the "Spaces for People" extensions which were built out during Covid. Establishment of a clear charging structure for use of public spaces, and proper enforcement to

remove unofficial obstructions on pavements is almost 6 months overdue, and would bring in much needed revenue.

**Question 14 from Councillor Lawson**

When will transportation Department respond to repeated requests for an estimate of the costs to make St Andrews town entirely covered by a 20mph limit? A complete townwide 20mph limit is promoted by all four Ward Councillors and has the unanimous support of The Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council. This is an Active Travel issue which will make cycling and walking much safer and more pleasant for residents, students and tourists.

**Question 15 from Councillor Lawson**

What has the cost been of energy, maintenance, and security on the empty Rothesay House over the last 12 months? What plans does the Council have for its future use or disposal?

**Question 16 from Councillor Dempsey**

Does the Council consider trees to be an unmitigated good?

**Question 17 from Councillor Wilson**

What discussions has the Council, both officers and Spokesperson(s) had with Network Rail in relation to the retention of the right-of-way at Doubledykes by Thornton?