

Report to Council

26 July 2022

Subject:	Written Questions
Director:	Surjit Tour – Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

The following written questions have been received:-

7(a) From Councillor Moore to the Cabinet Member for Environment Services

When will Highways Services adopt Scafell Way and surrounding streets in Hateley Heath and for what reason matter has not been resolved?

7(b) From Councillor Trumpeter to the Cabinet Member for Communities

Would the cabinet member for communities welcome an approach from West Bromwich Albion supporter groups, to explore granting The Hawthorns an Asset of Community Value (ACV) status?

Under The 2011 Localism Act, The Hawthorns is likely to be identified as an asset of importance to our community's social wellbeing, and thus potentially eligible to be granted ACV status.

Over the last decade, various sporting arenas have been granted ACV status, including Anfield, Old Trafford and neighbouring St Andrews. This gives comfort to supporters knowing there is a layer of protection, and an opportunity to submit a bid should the current, or any future owner(s), wish to dispose of the stadium.



9(c) From Councillor Dunn to the Cabinet Member for Environment Services

Tividale is famous in Sandwell for its rolling hills and spectacular views over the Black Country, Birmingham and farther afield. Unfortunately, however, Tividale is blighted by speeding vehicles which is endangering the lives of our community especially on roads such as Oakham Road, Tower Road and Regent Road. I acknowledge that we are currently directing our concerns to the Neighbourhood Police Team, but with low resource and high demand, the Council should take a more effective approach. So, I ask the Cabinet Member for the Environment if he can work with me to strategise a better working plan to tackle speeding across the Borough, but in particular my ward of Tividale.

9(d) From Councillor Fisher to the Cabinet Member for Communities

Will the cabinet member for communities please use whatever power he has, to help residents and users of Charlemont Community Centre.

Since March 2022, Briarley TRM Company Ltd installed a barrier, preventing vehicular access to the visitor's car park. This has prevented community groups using the community centre, with some groups having to cancel sessions as they are for children with disabilities and special educational needs.

The barrier has also prevented people parking when visiting the play area and has caused additional traffic issues when football matches are being played, as they are having to park in nearby residential streets causing parking issues for residents.

This council has a legal right of access, and the full force of this council needs to be applied so a resolution can be found. After 4 months of being told 'it is with the legal department' is simply no longer acceptable to myself or the Charlemont Community users.



9(e) From Councillor Wilkes to the Cabinet Member for Environment Services

Keep Britain Tidy's Chief Executive recently said: "The eyes of the world will fall on the Midlands as the much-anticipated Commonwealth Games takes place, and we want to make sure the region is looking its best for competitors, residents and visitors."

As we rapidly approach the start of the games and prepare to broadcast our borough to the world, is the Cabinet Member for Environment Services satisfied with the efforts of this council and SERCO in ensuring Sandwell looks its absolute best?

9(f) From Councillor William Gill to the Leader of the Council

Will the leader work with myself and colleagues on both sides of the chamber as well as relevant officers, and Serco staff to introduce unique QR codes onto all communal bins for example those bins on high streets and green spaces in the Borough which would allow and encourage members of the public to report overflowing bins or damaged bins with ease?

