Question No. 1

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR EWAN GOODJOHN

TO: THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES (UNDER THE PUBLIC SECTOR HOUSING AND TENANT ENGAGEMENT PORTFOLIO)

HOUSING RETROFIT – EPC A

As it stands, what date is the current target to retrofit all Vale of Glamorgan Council housing to an EPC A standard?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR EWAN GOODJOHN

TO: THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES

COUNCIL TAX REFORM

In May, the Welsh Government's Minister for Finance and Local Government made an announcement regarding the planned implementation of Council Tax reform including regular revaluations, more progressive bandings, and a review of reductions in April 2025. What analysis has been done by the Council on the reform's impact on the Council's finances and on residents of the Vale?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR R.E. GODFREY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

ROAD SIGNS

Signage on the A4232 and Port Road Welcoming people to the Vale of Glamorgan, are so dirty, it is impossible to read them, so therefore what is the point of having the signs if they are not maintained.

When agreement is made to install these signs, is it not part of the sign off to agree a maintenance plan?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR R.E. GODFREY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

POT HOLES

The Vale is like many other areas at crisis point with regards to the amount of pot holes across the VOG. What measures are being put in place to address this issue. I am extremely concerned that the amount of time being taken up of highways officers' time at present, prevents them carrying out their core responsibilities.

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR R.E. GODFREY

TO: THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL BUILDINGS

With a lot of staff now working from home, during the working week, does the Council still require 3 locations for office space?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR J.E. CHARLES

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

COST OF NEW WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLES

What is the total cost incurred to date of the Authority's new waste collection vehicles?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR J.E. CHARLES

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

PLANS FOR OLD WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLES

Will the Cabinet Member please confirm the Authority's future plans for the old waste collection vehicles that have recently been replaced?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR J.E. CHARLES

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON FLY TIPPING

Has the Authority carried out any assessment of the potential impacts of recent waste collection changes may have on fly tipping?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR W.A. HENNESSY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

NEW GARDEN WASTE CHARGES

Will the Cabinet Member please provide assurances that residents will not be subjected to intimidatory enforcement action from the Council when new garden waste charges are implemented?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR G.D.D. CARROLL

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

ROAD SAFETY AT THE JUNCTION A4055 AND B4267

What action is being taken to improve road safety at the junction of the A4055 and B4267 at the Merrie Harrier pub?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR G.D.D. CARROLL

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT

What environmental health assessment has the Council made of the introduction of 3 weekly black bag waste collections?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR G.D.D. CARROLL

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

INVESTMENT TO COMBAT FLY-TIPPING IN THE VALE

Will the Cabinet Member please provide an update on investment the Council is making to combat fly-tipping in the Vale?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR G.D.D. CARROLL

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

BLACK BAG WASTE COLLECTED IN THE EASTERN VALE

Has the amount of black bag waste collected in the Eastern Vale increased since separated recycling collections were introduced?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR G.D.D. CARROLL

TO: THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES

AWARDS OF HONOURS TO FORMER MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Will the Leader join me in congratulating Vincent Bailey and Sarah Sharpe, two former members of the Authority were awarded the OBE and MBE respectively in His Majesty the King's Birthday Honours List?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR G. BRUCE

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

COSTS OF POTENTIAL FLY TIPPING

We have already seen an increase in Fly Tipping. With the new scheduling in place fly-tipping will exponentially increase. Will the cost to the Council outweigh the cost savings anticipated by this Labour Administration on changing from bi-weekly to triweekly collections?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR W.A. HENNESSY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

COUNCIL TENANTS IN FLAT COMPLEXES

Will the Cabinet Member please explain why Council tenants who live in flat complexes pay to have their grass cut, then must pay again to have the grass removed because Council contractors do not collect the grass?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR W.A. HENNESSY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

DOG WASTE AND LITTER BINS IN RHOOSE

Residents want more dog waste bins and litter bins in Rhoose – will the Cabinet Member assure me that more bins will be provided to deal with the waste and litter?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR C.A. CAVE

TO: THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES

CONTACT CENTRE WAITING TIMES

What are the current waiting times for the Council's Contact Centre (C1V)?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR C.A. CAVE

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

RELOCATION OF THE RECYCLING CENTRE IN THE WESTERN VALE

Why is the Council considering relocating the current poorly accessible recycling centre in the Western Vale to a small rural village with inadequate access roads?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR C.A. CAVE

TO: THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

How can we avoid Council minutes being approved when they are clearly incorrect?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR R.R. THOMAS

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, ARTS AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE

STANWELL SCHOOL FINANCES

Will the Cabinet Member outline what oversight Vale of Glamorgan Council has over the finances of Stanwell School?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR R.R. THOMAS

TO: CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, ARTS AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE

ADEQUACY OF WELSH GOVERNMENT'S FUNDING FORMULA FOR SCHOOLS

What assessment has been made of the adequacy of the Welsh Government's funding formula for schools?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR R.R. THOMAS

TO: THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES

COSTS RE NEW HYBRID MEETING SYSTEM PROVIDER

Will the Leader provide an update on the costs associated with finding a new provider for a hybrid meeting system?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

CUTTING ON A4226

The £26m new road (A4226) between Weycock Cross (Barry) and Sycamore Cross (Bonvilston), includes a significant cutting. Where was the spoil from the cutting disposed?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR SUSTAINABLE PLACES

SECURE BICYCLE PARKING FOR EVENTS AND ATTRACTIONS

Fear of bicycle theft is a barrier to cycling to destinations and attractions such as Barry Island. What consideration is being given by the Vale Council to providing secure bicycle parking for events and attractions?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR SUSTAINABLE PLACES

TRANSPORT FOR REACHING BARRY ISLAND

What ideas does the Cabinet have to significantly shift modal share from private cars to public transport and active travel for reaching the attractions of Barry Island?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR SUSTAINABLE PLACES

TRAFFIC CONGESTION AT CULVERHOUSE CROSS AND BARONS COURT INTERSECTIONS

Traffic congestion is a regular feature of the intersections at Culverhouse Cross and Barons Court. What ideas does the Cabinet have for reducing the delays experienced by those traveling by car or driving delivery vehicles?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES (UNDER THE PUBLIC SECTOR HOUSING AND TENANT ENGAGEMENT PORTFOLIO)

APPEAL RE NON-DETERMINATION OF RETROSPECTIVE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Housing Department is waiting for determination of two retrospective planning applications (made in September 2021) following an enforcement action from 2019. At what point will the Vale Council Housing Department go to appeal for non-determination by the Vale of Glamorgan Planning Authority?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, EQUALITIES AND REGULATORY SERVICES

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGY

At a meeting of the Planning Committee, I questioned whether the Vale Council had discharged its Public Sector Equality Duty on an application for affordable housing – specifically in relation to the incorporation of a shared surface. Some concern had been raised in the Health Impact Assessment for the site that stated the "impact can be mitigated by ensuring that contrasting colours are added to the surface to indicate where it is safe for pedestrians" although there is no evidence of this in the final plans. The Planning Committee was told that the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Local Housing Strategy covered this design detail. Following the meeting I asked to see the EIA, only to discover that the two officers responsible for the EIA had left the employment of the Council and that the EIA had been lost. Given there is now no EIA for the Local Housing Strategy, how can the Vale Council contend that it has discharged its Public Sector Equality Duty in its decision-making on housing development?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, ARTS AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE

REPLACEMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL IN ST. NICHOLAS

In 2020, the Vale Council prescribed a replacement primary school for St Nicholas that doubled the size of the school and imposed a one-way system, impassable for larger and agricultural vehicles, on the historic village centre. Residents were frustrated that their responses and input of local knowledge to the various planning documents didn't result in any noticeable considerations or changes – resulting in the Community Council making futile formal complaint of a lack of engagement and invitation to representatives of the Vale Council to attend meetings of the Community Council. The most glaring errors in the proposal resulted in the Planning Committee refusing planning permission – the subsequent planning application removed only the most glaring errors to the disappointment of neighbouring residents. If any lessons were learned from this failed planning application, what were they and when might they be implemented?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

MAINTENANCE OF HIGHWAY GULLIES

There are about 24,000 gullies in the Vale of Glamorgan with only two gully tankers to carry out basic maintenance work (cleaning). Residents are concerned by the number of gullies that are silted and not functioning properly, potentially affecting road safety and exposing neighbouring properties to flood. Is there sufficient support infrastructure and are just two gully tankers sufficient, to properly maintain the highway gullies?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR SUSTAINABLE PLACES

REMOVAL OF HEALTHY MATURE TREES

Many recently planted trees have died due to the periods of heat and lack of rain we have experienced these last two summers – with more extreme weather forecast for coming years. New trees require expensive care to survive dry summer weather for at least three years – hence trees have died throughout the Vale, particularly on new developments and in the grounds of new 21st Century Schools. Mature trees with their deep roots are now more valuable than ever as they can better withstand these weather conditions. Are there any circumstances when healthy, mature trees should be removed if they pose no threat to buildings, the highway or the health and wellbeing of people?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR SUSTAINABLE PLACES

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

An emergency is a crisis requiring immediate action. This year the world has experienced yet more extreme weather events linked to climate change caused by human activities. Significant changes of approach, practises and project delivery are not evident although there are positive words of intent in various reports. When will we see construction projects delivered that minimise material use, and embodied carbon rather than the can being kicked up the road?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR SUSTAINABLE PLACES

OPPOSING ENVIRONMENTALLY HARMFUL PROJECTS OF NEIGHBOURING AUTHORITIES

Cardiff Council are proposing the demolition of County Hall and moving to a shiny new building despite the environmental crisis (including excessive use of scarce materials) that we all face and the need to reuse and repurpose the buildings we already have. Ignoring embodied carbon in buildings and downcycling building materials is unsustainable. As part of the Cardiff Capital Region, will the Vale of Glamorgan Council oppose the environmentally harmful vanity projects of neighbouring Authorities?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR I.A.N. PERRY

TO: THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR SUSTAINABLE PLACES

SOLAR PARK PROPOSALS FOR THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN

There was a backlash to biofuel production when it was realised that growing fuel in place of food would reduce food security and increase food prices. Now we are inundated with profit hungry companies seeking to exploit the power lines that served the Aberthaw power station – with minimal interest in food security and heritage preservation. Installation of panels compacts soil, channels rainwater and shades the ground beneath the panels and there is no certainty that the private companies installing solar parcs will be any more long-term financially responsible than the likes of Thames Water. What are the concerns of the Cabinet on the nationally significant solar park proposals for the Vale of Glamorgan?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR S.J. HAINES

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, EQUALITIES AND REGULATORY SERVICES

COLLECTION OF GREEN WASTE FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

Disabled people are often some of the most vulnerable members of society, and least able to access services provided by the Vale of Glamorgan. Also the Equality Act 2010 states:

- 1 (1) An authority to which this section applies must, when making decisions of a strategic nature about how to exercise its functions, have due regard to the desirability of exercising them in a way that is designed to reduce the inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage.
- 29 (1) A person (a "service-provider") concerned with the provision of a service to the public or a section of the public (for payment or not) must not discriminate against a person requiring the service by not providing the person with the service.
- 29 (4) A service-provider must not victimise a person requiring the service by not providing the person with the service.

Given that the Council has removed the collection of green waste and some disabled people will be unable to access the disposal service provided at the recycling centres, what provisions have been put in place to mitigate any hardship caused?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR A.M. COLLINS

TO: THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR SUSTAINABLE PLACES

LOSS OF 88 BUS SERVICE

The loss of the 88 service has hit many residents of the Bendricks and surrounding areas in a hard way. These residents relied on the service to attend hospital appointments, meet friends or just to carry out day to day activities like the food shop. The service also catered to those visiting Ty Hafen to see family. What plans does the Council have in place to mitigate the loss of this service?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR DR. I.J. JOHNSON

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

NEW GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE

How many households had signed up to the new garden waste collection service before its implementation on 17th July, and what proportion of Vale households does this represent?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR DR. I.J. JOHNSON

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUILDING SERVICES

FLY-TIPPING INCIDENTS IN THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN

What were the number of reported fly-tipped incidents in the Vale of Glamorgan in the first six months of 2023, and how does this compare to the same period in 2022?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR DR. I.J. JOHNSON

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, ARTS AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE

DEFICIT BUDGETS FOR VALE SCHOOLS

How many schools, and what proportion of the total number of Vale schools, have set a deficit budget for the 2023/24 financial year?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR DR. I.J. JOHNSON

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, ARTS AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE

FREE SCHOOL MEALS DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

What plans does the Vale Council have to provide free school meals for pupils during the Summer holidays, following the Welsh Government's decision to suspend this service?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR G. BRUCE

TO: THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR SUSTAINABLE PLACES

BICYCLE LANES IN RHOOSE

Residents' needs in Rhoose are not being met, especially those with disabilities. Five residents with disabilities are now unable to park their vehicles outside their homes because of the bicycle lane the Welsh Government has put in place.

How will this Administration address this situation?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR J.E. CHARLES

TO: THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH

ARMED FORCES COVENANT

Is military compensation currently included within any Grants, Housing or Council Tax means tests?

QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8:2

FROM: COUNCILLOR J.E. CHARLES

TO: THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES

AGENCY STAFF

How many Agency staff are employed by the Council and where are they based?