

Asked	Answered	Asker	Responder	Question	Response
30/11/2022	01/12/2022	Lee Scordis	Cllr Lesley Wagland	Does the Cabinet Member have an update on the Cultural Quarter/Old bus station in Colchester?	The Council is working with Colchester City Council for the transfer of the site to ECC. Meanwhile the masterplanning work being undertaken jointly by ECC and CCC is progressing
0/11/2022	09/12/2022	Lee Scordis	Cllr Tony Ball	Every school my division faces further cuts from government this year. What action is the cabinet member taking to make sure our schools are protected from funding cuts?	<p>The current overall provisional schools' budget for Essex in 2023/24 is £1.077 billion, which is an £20.8 million (2.0%) increase on 2022/23. The final allocation, based on the October 2022 Census, is due mid-December. In the Autumn Statement, the Chancellor announced a further £2.3bn for schools for the next two years.</p> <p>Whilst I do not yet have confirmation of how this funding will be allocated, the DfE has announced some further details of this new money. £1.6bn will go to the Schools Block and £400 million to the High Needs Block. Mainstream schools and special schools will be guaranteed a funding boost. Early analysis suggests that a typical primary school with 200 pupils will get £28,000 and secondary schools with 900 pupils £170,000. There is nothing as yet to say what a special school may get.</p> <p>Moreover, the DfE has also announced schools and colleges will get a share of £500 million to spend on energy efficiency upgrades. Whilst I do not yet have specifics from Government, on average primary schools could potentially receive £16,000 and secondary schools £42,000.</p> <p>I do acknowledge that schools are facing significant financial pressures at this time relating to increased</p>

					<p>salary costs, energy bills and other inflationary pressures, however some of these costs will be alleviated by the announcement of the additional funding. My team will be monitoring those schools whose budgets will still be extremely pressured even with the additional funding that has been announced. Indeed, prior to the funding being announced, I did commit to lobbying the Secretary of State on the matter of school funding, I will keep this commitment under review.</p>
3/11/2022	12/12/2022	Ivan Henderson	Cllr Chris Whitbread	<p>Can you provide the figures on damage to vehicles and personal accident injury claims made against ECC Highways with reference to roads and footpaths, broken down on a yearly basis over the last 7 years.</p> <p>Can you also provide the total cost to the council with reference to successful damage to vehicles and personal accident injury claims awarded against ECC Highways with reference to roads and footpaths, broken down on a yearly basis over the last 7 years.</p>	<p>Thank you for your query regarding insurance claims against ECC. There will be a separate email containing the information requested because the format of the written questions does not allow for the inclusion of a table.</p>

30/11/2022	12/12/2022	Lee Scordis	Cllr Lee Scott	<p>The traffic lights on Queen Street by the old bus station have been turned off for years and mean elderly residents can not cross safely to get to a bus stop. I was told these would be turned on when the Alumno development was complete. This development is no longer happening. Can the lights be switched back on?</p>	<p>Thank you for your email regarding the traffic lights on Queens Street. It is not possible for the traffic lights in question to simply be switched back on, it would require extensive work and substantial budget to fund the project. An assessment of the condition of the traffic lights was undertaken and the survey identified that all the street furniture (heads, above ground detectors, push button units, the traffic signal controller etc) would require replacing due to water ingress into the heads and other components.</p> <p>The intention is for future development of the site to be informed by the City Centre master plan, which is currently being developed. The exact form of any development is not yet known, but when it is redeveloped, it would provide a good opportunity to deliver appropriate improvements to the highways in that location, and would potentially secure a contribution from the development in order to fund these improvement works.</p> <p>Whilst not the exact location in question, I can however confirm that the signals at the Queen St/Osborne St junction (which you previously raised through the Colchester Active Travel Fund Steering Group) have been repaired and brought back into operation in November this year.</p>
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