ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING 8 May 2012

Order Paper

Agenda Item

- 8 12 Details relating to appointments attached
- 19(b) Written Questions (Standing Order 16.11.3)
 - 1. By Councillors B Aspinell and J Roberts of the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation

"Would the Cabinet Member inform the Council of any discussions that have taken place between Crossrail and Officers of Essex County Council regarding their proposed works to Shenfield Station in Brentwood?

The undersigned have particular concern as to the lack of arrangements in place for alternative car parking for commuters and for local shoppers during the proposed 18 months' construction period. We would like to know what discussions have taken place, if any, regarding construction traffic routes, together with confirmation that the figure of 120 heavy lorry movements per day in narrow residential roads is the Crossrail proposal. The local Members are concerned over the lack of investment by Crossrail in any improvements to the station and its operation. An alternative entrance to the station from the main station car park in Mount Avenue is urgently needed, either via a foot tunnel to the existing tunnel complex or by way of a bridge to the platforms. Also, no discussions have taken place with the local Councillors regarding proposed decked car parking to be erected on the existing railway car park, which would have significant impact on local residents.

The closure of the car park for the 18-month period would also have significant impact on the local businesses and could threaten their very existence. What, if anything, is being done to allay their fears?"

2. By Councillor M Mackrory of the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation.

"In the light of continuing serious road traffic accidents on the Army and Navy flyover, will the Cabinet Member consider the installation of Lane Control Signs and Traffic Barriers as used in many places worldwide including Sydney Harbour Bridge? These signs comply with the Vienna Convention on Road Signs and Signals, para 11 of Article 23."

3. By Councillor D Kendall of the Cabinet Member for Education and the 2012 Games

"Now that the Connexions Youth Service is no longer operating, would the Cabinet Member please clarify what specific support Essex County Council is giving to the young people of Essex in terms of help and advice to find a job?

Would he also clarify how much is now being spent by the County Council on this area compared with previous years?"

4. By Councillor D Kendall of the Cabinet Member for Children's Services

"I understand that a number of charities in Brentwood were unsuccessful with their recent bids to Essex County Council's Early Intervention Fund. These charities include Home-Start Brentwood, SNAP, Crossroads and Extended Schools Services. This decision could threaten the future viability of these organisations as the money they have received from the County Council in the past has allowed them to obtain additional funding from various trusts, grants, donations and lotteries.

Would the Cabinet Member please confirm the following points:

- [a] Are the above named organisations going to get any funding from the County Council over the next financial year?
- [b] If these organisations are unable to secure funding from elsewhere, is the County Council prepared to listen to new bids to enable them to continue operating?
- [c] Would you please tell me how children's services and early intervention in Brentwood is being funded?
- [d] Has any legal challenge been mounted against the County Council regarding the handling of the Early Intervention Fund?"