

COUNCIL MEETING – 26<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019

QUESTIONS FROM ELECTED MEMBERS UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 10

2-19 TO COUNCILLOR SWINDLEHURST, LEAD MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR WRIGHT (RECEIVED 17.07.19)

“The Conservative offered a cross party motion on Inclusive Education in regards equality. Will he commit his cooperation?”

Reply

As I explained verbally at July 23<sup>rd</sup> Full Council meeting decisions on joint working need to be taken by the full Labour Group.

The correct process would be for the Conservative Group Leader to raise an issue where he would like a shared motion, or some form of joint working at our regular Leader’s meeting which I can then take to Labour Group for an ‘in-principle’ agreement.

Unfortunately, again as explained, the Conservative Group Leader did not raise this or any other area of potential joint working at our last leaders meeting, which would have meant it could have been considered by the June or July Labour Group meetings.

I am sympathetic on this topic but I cannot commit until I have spoken with my Group and I will take the request to our next Labour Group meeting in September and be in further contact after that meeting once I have put the request to my colleagues.

3-19 TO COUNCILLOR SWINDLEHURST, LEAD MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR WRIGHT (RECEIVED 12.09.19)

“Given his statements at the last full Council about not needing any help or advice on holding himself or his Group to Account regarding Antisemitism, Racism and bigotry matters can he please let me know what actions he is taking as to the very Antisemitic remark quote by Cllr Satpal Parmar from The Merchant of Venice and Cllr. Mohammed Nazir when he openly called “All Conservatives Islamophobic?”

Reply

As members of the Conservative Group have submitted complaints to the Council’s Monitoring Officer regarding these councillor’s points made in the debate on the motion and regarding my own statements, it would be entirely inappropriate to comment in public about a live complaint being dealt with by Monitoring Officer. So I do not intend to do so.

4-19 TO COUNCILLOR SWINDLEHURST, LEAD MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR STRUTTON (RECEIVED 12.09.19)

Given his opposition to our amendment to their motion on Climate Changes and our suggestion that Slough needs to address putting local targets and better monitoring in place and his groups refusal to accept and do so. Could he confirm the receipt of the Letter this month from ClientEarth and their demands for a better local plan with targets?

Reply

I have received the standard letter from ClientEarth sent out to numerous English Councils and will take into account their suggestions when we review our local plan, once a decision on Heathrow Expansion has taken place. As you will be aware, due to the significance and scale of the Heathrow Airport expansion project the Government has asked Slough Council to delay our review of our local plan until the planning inspectorate has taken its decision on the airport expansion DCO applications. As result we are not reviewing our local plan on the same timetable as other councils, so the ClientEarth letter is a little premature in relation to Slough.