

Council Meeting – 25 February 2025

Questions from Councillors

Questions from Councillor Macgregor

Q1) The land on the corner of Brunswick Street and George Street has now lain empty for over two years behind hoardings. The property on the corner of George Street and Somerset Place, one leased by local and renowned artist Reuben Lenkiewicz has also lain empty for more than two years. Why haven't these properties been utilised to improve income for the council?

Response from the Executive Member for Assets, Economic Development, and Communications

The George Street, Teignmouth site is proposed to be turned into a surface level Car Park, however, it is a complex site with subterranean features and the projects team are working on resolving abnormalities that have been discovered.

Q2) There was recently a consultation on the future of the toilets. That has now finished. What is the outcome of the consultation?

Response from the Executive Member for Assets, Economic Development, and Communications

The feedback from the consultation is being included as part of a detailed review on public toilet provision for consideration at the Full Council meeting on the 29 July 2025. Prior to the meeting there will be an informal briefing held during June open to all Cllrs to attend, which will also include information relating to the consultation feedback.

Q3) There was also a consultation on the future of Teignmouth Lido planned. When is that likely to occur?

Response from the Executive Member for Assets, Economic Development and Communication

The decision was made to open the Lido during 2025, in the meantime a review of its options will be undertaken. Depending on the outcome of an options review a consultation will be undertaken if appropriate.

Q4) Will the Lido open as usual in the summer season as usual until the future has been decided?

Response from the Executive Member for Leisure and Recreation

Yes

Q5) The new council strategy is a much-reduced number of key areas for ease of management and part of the cost saving drive by the council which is commendable for its foresight. Will there also be a reduction in the number of Executive members from 9 to 5 to manage the reduced priorities?

Response from the Leader

Thank you for your support on our new strategy of delivering for the residents of Teignbridge as well as driving down costs. As you are fully aware as a past Executive Member, priorities change and with the Government led Local Government Reorganisation we find additional work being placed on my self and Executive Members. I have recently realigned the Executive with the Senior Management Team and will not be reducing the numbers

Questions from Councillor Lake

Q6) What actual sites/ land have come forward and have begun building for employment?

Response from the Executive Member for Planning and Building Control

Teignbridge Council has granted planning permission for 125,000 square meters of employment buildings across the district since 2014. This is about the size of 12 football pitches. Of these employment permissions, we have recorded 52,000 square meters of buildings as having been commenced or completed on 15 sites.

Q7) Can I ask the Leader of the Lib Dems administration does he intend following the examples set by Lib Dem councils such as Windsor, Eaton & Ascot by maladministration pleading hence poverty and trying to increase their council tax by 25% placing a horrendous burden upon their residents

Response from the Leader

No

Q8) *Will the Lib Dem administration distance itself from their compatriots in Windsor Eaton & Ascot who due to maladministration are burdening their hard-pressed residents with a 25% Council tax increase?*

Response from the Leader

I am concentrating on delivering for the residents of Teignbridge with a sound budget as set out.

Q9) *Can the leader assure the members financially this council under their administration is not in a similar perilous position?*

Response from the Leader

I refer to my previous answer.