

2 Question from Ms Nicola Goodwin, Hereford

Since the closure of the pool teachers and coaches have found it impossible to give children the standard of swimming coaching that they deserve, the number of badges completed by children has almost halved since the pool was closed (from 212 to 108) and the health and the safety of children using the St Martin's pool has been compromised on numerous occasions. The amount of time available for the Hereford public to swim has been dramatically cut and both Hereford Triathlon Club and Hereford Swimming Club have seen members leave the county due to the lack of pool time available. I would like cabinet to ask to view CCTV of the St Martin's pool between 0930 and 1000 on Friday January 23 when you will see almost 60 pupils from the Kielder Unit forced into half the main pool with no space to improve their swimming, up to 5 fast swimmers unable to swim at their regular speed as the lane they were pushed into had no space for overtaking and the remaining 16 plus recreational swimmers packed into the remaining lane like sardines. The safety of all of those swimmers was at risk and this is at a time advertised on Halo's website and in their promotional material as 'public swimming.

2 *Will the council please consider reopening the LEA pool in Hinton with immediate effect to ensure the safety of Herefordshire's schoolchildren and the general public?*