

6. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Report By: Members Services Manager and Executive Officer

Wards Affected**Purpose**

1. To receive any questions from members of the public deposited more than six clear working days before the meeting of Council.

Background

2. Standing Order 4.24 of the Constitution states that: A member of the public may ask a Cabinet Member or Chairman of a Committee any question relevant to a matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the County as long as a copy of that question is deposited more than six clear working days before the meeting i.e. by close of business on a Wednesday in the week preceding a Friday meeting. No supplementary questions may be asked.
3. A total of 25 minutes shall be set aside for the answering of questions from members of the public save that the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman, if presiding, shall have absolute discretion to vary the period of time by making it shorter or longer as he/she considers appropriate. Any questions unanswered at the expiry of the time limit shall be dealt with by way of written reply to the questioner.
4. Any question which contains defamatory material or the publication of which is likely to be detrimental to the Council's interests, may be rejected.

Questions

5. One question was received by the deadline. It is attached at Appendix 1.

Questions from Mr. D. Parkhill, Hereford.

- (a) The Environment Agency (EA) has been asked by the council to remove the boats from the river in Hereford. When did this become council policy?
- (b) In 2002 when the EA became Navigation Authority the river in Hereford was navigable and had a daily boat service which provided a much needed and popular tourist attraction for the City. Why has the council not asked the EA to maintain the river to at least this standard?
- (c) When will the council be a significant player in matters relating to the river?