

Full Council July 24, 2025, Oral Questions

1. Councillor Clough to Cabinet Member for Planning and Transport.

Our local planning committee is quasi-judicial and follows a number of rules designed to ensure that it is not only impartial but seen to be impartial. How does the council reconcile this with having our local planning committee make decisions on applications made by its in-house developer, Cambridge Investment Partnership? Is this not the same as marking one's own homework?

2 Councillor Jean Glasberg to Cabinet Member for Climate Action and Environment.

I refer you to the question previously raised below by Rostrevor Action Respecting the Environment ("RARE") based near the Re-Gen Materials Recycling Facility ("MRF") in Newry, Northern Ireland. In this they quoted a Cambridge City Council press release dated 28 February 2025. This stated that Re-Gen would take over an existing MRF on the UK mainland in the first half of the year and this would negate the need to transport the need to transport the recycling to Northern Ireland.

We are now in July and there are no signs that a new UK mainland MRF has been acquired by Re-Gen or that such an acquisition is due to take place.

Could the Cabinet Member confirm that Cambridge's recycling is still being sent to Newry?

Would the Cabinet Member share what steps have been taken to investigate this apparent failure?

This appears to be a material misrepresentation of facts on which the council relied upon in making its procurement decision. Would the Cabinet Member take steps to reopen the procurement decision and consider terminating the contract?

3 Councillor Blackburn-Horgan to the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transport

Could the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transport update council on the report due by Summer 2025 on Article 4 directives that we requested to ensure a fairer and less exploitative HMO rental market in Cambridge, and explain when this will be published?

n this item at the November 2024 Council meeting. Labour Group amended the motion. Pages 46 to 52 of the minutes.

4. Councillor Illingworth to the Cabinet member for Nature, Open Space and City Services

The Council aims to remove offensive graffiti within one day of receiving a report, and all other graffiti within five days.

Is the Council keeping up with these standards for removing graffiti and offensive graffiti?

5 Councillor Bick to the Leader

Does the Leader agree with Equalities Minister Bridget Phillipson's statement following the recent Supreme Court judgement, that trans women should only use public toilets for their biological sex?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c5y42zzwylvo?app-referrer=search>