



Member Questions for Council – 19 March 2025

#	Questioner	Cabinet Member	Question	Response
1	Councillor Gina Blomefield	Councillor Juliet Layton, Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning	<p>Despite increasingly wet weather, this country faces growing water shortages making it essential to better conserve this precious resource. Currently, per capita water consumption is approximately 150 litres per day but could be reduced to 100 litres by using new technology, like Danish Flowloop and Dutch Hydroloop shower systems, as well as rainwater harvesting. In Belgium, where rainwater harvesting is mandatory, the water is used for laundry and toilets.</p> <p>New properties are now fitted with water meters, even better are smart meters which offer live usage tracking and leak detection—particularly important since 30% of leaks occur within properties. Reducing mains water consumption and increasing rainwater harvesting would not only help the environment but also lessen the</p>	<p>A response was issued to Members following the 2023 Motion Member briefing - Greywater Motion, which continues to answer the points raised in this question. Since issuing this response, additional proposals have also been included in the ongoing Local Plan Update on grey water usage in new developments.</p> <p>For context, Policy INF8 of the Council's adopted Local Plan (Water Management Infrastructure) already requires development proposals to 'address sustainable water supply through the implementation of demand management measures, particularly to reduce the use of water and to prevent leakages, and incorporate complementary management initiatives that make efficient use of water, for example, through rainwater harvesting and grey water collection.'</p> <p>The the Local Plan Update proposes to introduce further measures to increase grey water use in developments. These include a requirement for developments to demonstrate that a water efficiency</p>



			<p>load on the sewage system, reducing overflows into rivers and onto streets during heavy rainfall. Given this, can the council provide an update on the progress and actions taken in response to Cllr Judd's motion on Grey Water, approved in September 2023?</p> <p>Additionally, what steps is CDC taking to encourage water-saving plumbing fixtures, smart water meters, and rainwater harvesting systems in all new homes?</p>	<p>standard of 110 litres per person per day can be achieved for new dwellings. Non-residential development will also be required to meet BREEAM water-efficiency credits or their latest equivalent. Improving water efficiency, such as incorporating low flow showers and kitchen taps, provision of water butts and rain/grey water harvesting systems, will also help to reduce the volume of wastewater that the sewer system has to accommodate. The proposed changes are in line with the latest national planning policies and guidance on the issue.</p>
2	Councillor Tom Stowe	Councillor Joe Harris, Leader	<p>Has CDC stopped installing new street signs?</p>	<p>No, there is a rolling programme of replacement, within the annual budget available. Replacement signs are installed by Ubico and therefore there are sometimes delays due to staff resources and availability</p>
3	Councillor Daryl Corps	Councillor Juliet Layton, Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning	<p>Many new, unadopted housing developments in the district are experiencing ongoing and often drawn-out problems with management companies regarding open spaces on new developments.</p>	<p>As some Members will be aware, the District Council ran a project several years ago on the management of open space in new developments, following on from a question raised at Full Council in July 2020, and several reports were prepared for both Members and the Chief Executive.</p>



			<p>These include the quality of the maintenance work carried out and the lack of transparency over charges which can change every year and are unlimited.</p> <p>Stratford-on-Avon District Council have adopted a new "Open Space Supplementary Planning Document" whereby all future Public Open Space as part of new developments will ultimately be adopted by either the local Town/Parish Council or by the District Council.</p> <p>As CDC is planning 1000's of new houses in Moreton and across the district, getting this right now will protect important green spaces across the district while ensuring a more certain future for residents.</p> <p>Is CDC looking to adopt a similar approach?</p>	<p>There is little that the Council can do about developments that have already been built, other than lobbying government to change national policy/legislation, as the ongoing management will be subject to legal agreements between developers, property owners and management agencies.</p> <p>In terms of developments not yet granted planning permission, a draft policy within the new Local Plan Update is set to require developers to provide more details during the planning application process on the long-term management of open spaces. This will ensure that open spaces are offered to Parish Councils (with a commuted sum), if they wish to take them on. The District Council owns very little land and has never adopted open spaces post-development and does not currently have the infrastructure to do so. To set up an open space management system within the Council would require considerable resources.</p> <p>The Council has been in contact with Stratford-on-Avon District Council on their policy position and</p>
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				discussed how that is working; the Council's approach has been to include a policy in the Local Plan Update to ensure that it is as robust as possible.
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