



COUNCIL MEETING – 2nd June 2026

Questions by Councillors under Council Procedure Rule 19.1

- Each questioner will have 2 minutes in which to ask their question.
- If a questioner who has submitted a question is unable to be present, the Mayor may ask the question on their behalf, or invite another Councillor to do so, or indicate that a written reply will be given and published on the website following the meeting. or decide, in the absence of the questioner, that the question will not be dealt with.
- Please note that following the response given by the Leader, a Cabinet Member or Committee Chair, the questioner may also ask a supplementary question which must arise directly out of the original reply.
- The **total** time allocated for Councillor questions will normally be limited to 40 minutes.
- Written answers will be published to questions submitted (but not supplementary questions) following the meeting.

	From Cllr:
1	Lee
2	Batho
3	Laming
4	Cook
5	Tippett-Cooper
6	Lee
7	Tippett-Cooper



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QUESTION 1

From: Councillor Lee

To: Councillor Porter (Cabinet Member for Place and Local Plan)

Concerns have been raised [1] regarding alleged inadequacies in Southern Water's consultation on the Hampshire Water Transfer & Water Recycling Project, including the 2021 selection of effluent recycling via Havant Thicket Reservoir and the subsequent transfer of water to Otterbourne Water Treatment Works for treatment to drinking-water standards. It is argued that the project may not have been fully assessed or consulted on in relation to the most sustainable and public health-focused alternatives, potentially raising questions about compliance with statutory consultation and alternatives-appraisal requirements.

Given the potential impacts on Winchester residents and the environment, will the Council challenge Southern Water over the apparent inadequacies in consultation and alternatives appraisal before the relevant Development Consent Order/Planning deadline for representations and objections?

Refs:

1. Havant Water Matters- *Inadequacy of Consultation Report - Hampshire Water Transfer Water Recycling Scheme*. Inc in email letter to Leader and Cabinet Member for Place and Local Plan - May 2026.
2. Water for Life Hampshire Consultation Brochure 2021
3. Water for Life - Hampshire Consultation Feedback Report, September 2021
4. [Hampshire Water Transfer and Water Recycling Project - Project information](#)



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QUESTION 2

From: Councillor Batho

To: Councillor Reach (Cabinet Member for Good Homes)

Recent legislation has significantly improved the protections for renters, with Awabs Law and the Renters Rights Bill. These apply to Winchester City Council social housing and Registered Providers affordable housing. Does this protection extend to residents who are in military supplied accommodation, for example at Sir John Moore Barracks or Worthy Down Camp?



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QUESTION 3

From: Councillor Laming

To: Councillor Porter (Cabinet Member for Place and Local Plan)

We are all concerned with Phosphates and Nitrates pollution. It is becoming clear that developers are increasingly looking at on site water treatment units. This discharge clean water but still include the nitrates and Phosphates directly into the aquifers which leads to the Pumping station supplying our drinking water or Chalk Streams. This is highly relevant to our county as for example the Popham Development propose this as well as Bushfield Camp.

What action does the council propose to take to safeguard our drinking water and Chalk streams which are internationally recognised.



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QUESTION 4

From: Councillor Cook

To: Councillor Cutler (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation)

The increasing use of artificial intelligence in local government presents both significant opportunities and important risks — from improved efficiency and service delivery to challenges around cybersecurity, data protection, governance, energy use and carbon emissions.

What steps has the Council taken to adopt AI technologies responsibly, while assessing and mitigating the associated operational, environmental and security risks?



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QUESTION 5

From: Councillor Tippett-Cooper

To: Councillor Tod (Leader and Cabinet Member for Regeneration)

Can the council provide an update on the situation with the electrics at River Park that are required to get the toilets and skatepark lights working again?



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QUESTION 6

From: Councillor Lee

To: Councillor Cramoysan (Cabinet Member for Recycling & Public Protection)

Winchester City Council operates a refuse and food-waste collection fleet largely fuelled by Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO), alongside one electric refuse collection vehicle. Other UK local authorities are already deploying vehicle-mounted ultra-thin solar mat technology to reduce fuel consumption, emissions, onboard power demand and maintenance costs, while improving operational efficiency.

Even with an HVO-fuelled fleet, there appear to be clear benefits. Indicative evidence suggests relatively low installation costs, short payback periods, annual savings of c.£14,000–£33,000, and associated carbon reductions, making early investigation a low-regret opportunity aligned with the Council Plans, 'Go Greener Faster' ambitions, future fleet replacement planning, and Local Government Reorganisation considerations.

Given the operational, financial and carbon-saving benefits already being demonstrated by other UK councils, will the Council undertake an assessment of vehicle-mounted ultra-thin solar mat technology for Winchester's refuse collection fleet, with a view to early implementation if found viable?"



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QUESTION 7

From: Councillor Tippett-Cooper

To: Councillor Becker (Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities)

With record breaking temperatures at the end of May last week, it can be assumed that we will also see a further very hot summer as the impacts of climate change hit, are there measures this council can take to help residents affected by very hot temperatures this summer?

