

FALKIRK COUNCIL

QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 32

Standing Order 32 enables councillors to put questions to the Leader of the Council or the relevant portfolio holder on matters relating to business transacted at a meeting of the Executive or the Education Executive during the preceding cycle. Written notice of the questions must be given.

The Provost will determine the order in which questions are asked and answered. In doing so, he will endeavour to ensure a fair allocation of questions among members. Where any question seeks factual information that could reasonably have been obtained from an officer in advance of the meeting, councillors will be expected to have obtained that information and the Provost will take this issue into account when determining the order in which questions will be asked.

Answers will take the form of an oral response unless they cannot conveniently be given in that form in which case a written response will be provided and circulated at the meeting. The questioner may ask one supplementary question arising directly from the answer given.

The time set aside for questions and answers will not exceed one hour unless, in exceptional circumstances, the Provost determines otherwise. Questions not answered within the hour will receive written responses within 7 days.

If the Provost is of the opinion that a question is out of order, it will not be answered.

The following questions have been set out in the order in which they appear in the relevant minute. The Provost will determine the order in which they are answered at the meeting.

QUESTION NUMBER	MINUTE REFERENCE	COMMITTEE	TITLE OF REPORT	QUESTION
1	EX71	Executive – 8 October	Consultation on Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill	To ask the Portfolio Holder what additional powers the Administration wishes to have in improving bus operation throughout the local area. Councillor Stephen Bird

2	EX71	Executive – 8 October	Consultation on Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill	<p>To ask the Portfolio holder what representations have been made to Prof Arthur Midwinter’s review of the “something for nothing” culture.</p> <p>Councillor Stephen Bird</p>
3	EX73	Executive – 8 October	Financial Position 2013/14	<p>Council notes that the Authority, as 31 August, is predicting an underspend this year of almost £1.5m.</p> <p>Can the Resources Portfolio Holder advise what the estimated figure is to the end of October 2013?</p> <p>Councillor David Alexander</p>
4	EE23	Education Executive – 29 October	School/College Partnership	<p>The partnership with Forth Valley College has been a long standing and positive part of the Educational process and Vocational Education is a desirable element of a rounded Educational Service.</p> <p>Another important element in the transition to full adulthood is understanding the issues behind next September’s Referendum and I would ask what efforts will be made to ensure that young adults who may be eligible to vote in the Referendum do not lose out on school based education because they are on vocational courses.</p> <p>Councillor David Alexander</p>

5	EE23	Education Executive – 29 October	School/College Partnership	<p>Falkirk Council Employment and Training Unit testing the core skills in numeracy and literacy of all Scots students:-</p> <p>What skills in relation to Literacies are being tested?</p> <p>Councillor Gordon Hughes</p>
6	EE23	Education Executive – 29 October	School/College Partnership	<p>As potential workers, what benefits are expected by the Training Unit for the learners and employers?</p> <p>Councillor Gordon Hughes</p>
7	EE23	Education Executive – 29 October	School/College Partnership	<p>Has the Falkirk Council Employment and Training Unit developed a Literacy Action Plan appropriate to the needs of the learners?</p> <p>What are the key aspects of this action plan?</p> <p>Councillor Gordon Hughes</p>
8	EE23	Education Executive – 29 October	School/College Partnership	<p>In relation to the wider aspect of Literacy within the partnership, new drivers for the development of Adult Literacies are: – Adult Literacies in Scotland 2020: Strategic Guidance and the Literacy Action Plan</p> <p>What strategic approach has the partnership agreed in developing progress in relation to literacy?</p> <p>Has each school through consultation with parents and partners developed a Literacy Strategy.</p> <p>Councillor Gordon Hughes</p>

9	EE26	Education Executive – 29 October	Children & Young People Bill Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare to 600 Hours per Annum	<p>Falkirk Council has a policy of co-operation and joint working with the 3rd sector; can the portfolio holder please advise of what part the 3rd sector will play in helping to deliver the expansion of early learning and childcare?</p> <p>Councillor Cecil Meiklejohn</p>
10	EX86	Executive – 19 November	Autism Strategy	<p>This Council appears to propose to adopt a social work centred approach to providing a service to people with ASD.</p> <p>I would be much obliged if the portfolio holder would provide the rationale underpinning his approach to this matter?</p> <p>Councillor Tom Coleman</p>