

Council – 22 April 2021

Item 17 - General Questions supplement

2. Question from Councillor Lawrence Nichols

The LGA Peer Review took place in November 2020, with the draft report made available in December. The Council issued a press release on 29th January this year in which the Leader is quoted saying *"We fully commit to action the recommendations made in the report and are already putting in place plans to address them which will be regularly reviewed by the Leader and the Cabinet."*

Could the Leader please advise when Members will be informed what these plans and associated actions are and are the Cabinet satisfied with progress to date?

3. Question from Councillor Tom Lagden

Question to Cllr Noble:

At the 'Extraordinary Council Meeting' of 21st January 2021, you made the following comment:

*"...about the Green Belt...I've received some independent calls...about planning issues within Spelthorne,...it's been made clear to me, and I'm talking about not only **developers** but also **councillors** from other authorities. If I were a major developer looking in the south west of London, and I'm looking at planning committees, and I look at chairs of planning committees and their political persuasions...those outside people have commented to me on the nature of the political background of our current chair of planning and I'm not sure that's going to help us attract other developers to come into this borough..".*

Who are the developers and councillors you refer to - who seek to influence planning decisions at Spelthorne Borough Council that have made you biased enough to call for me removal as chair for being a Green Party supporter advocating with officer recommendations in order to protect it?

As chair of the Planning Committee, I note that you have at no stage declared any such lobbying during any of the Planning Committee meetings but have lodged continued with an application to build on Green Belt that officers refused to accept.

In light of this. When will you retract and publicly apologise for this assault against me politically and rightfully step down from the Planning Committee?