

**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**11 DECEMBER 2018**

**\*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

**TITLE OF REPORT: MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

**(A) APPROACH ROAD TO NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

Councillor Martin Stears-Handscornb asked the following question on 20 March 2018:

“Noting the inconvenience caused to residents and damage caused to public space by the construction traffic servicing the development in Lucas Lane, Hitchin and the potential increased use of unsuitable and sometimes dangerous routes to development sites in the District, which will increase following the adoption of the District Local Plan, will the Scrutiny Community investigate whether an approach to new developments which identifies access problems at an early stage is possible?”

Ian Fullstone, Service Director – Regulatory has advised that meetings with other Local Planning Authorities and the County Council have been held to seek to a Countywide approach, Cllr Stears-Handscornb has been kept up to date, the answer to this question is likely to be available at the next meeting of the Committee.

**(B) LEGAL CHALLENGE REGARDING RAIL SERVICES**

Cllr Sam Collins has asked the following question:

“St. Albans District Council has set aside a 50,000 fighting fund for a potential legal challenge relating to the appalling rail service on the GTR operated lines in our area. It has states that it plans to approach neighbouring local councils to also contribute - has NHDC been approached, and does NHDC plan to contribute to this effort?”

Cllr David Levett, Executive Member for Planning, Enterprise and Transport has provided the following answer:

“NHDC has not been approached by St. Albans for a contribution to fund a potential legal challenge.

Officers understand that this originated from a petition presented to St. Albans Council concerning train service cuts affecting Harpenden. St. Albans officers have been liaised with and it is understood that they will only approach NHDC if the analysis currently being undertaken on train services identifies implications or knock on effects for North Hertfordshire. At which time a decision on whether to contribute can be considered.”