

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL

QUESTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 10

COUNCIL – 12 JULY 2023

QUESTION F

Councillor Slinger to ask the Leader of the Council, Councillor Poole:

“Will the Leader of the Council write to Warwickshire County Council for an update on its preparations for the forthcoming amendments by the Government to the Statutory Duty Guidance under Section 507b of the Education Act, relating to provision of youth services, further to the Government from 2010 having hollowed out these regulations resulting in substantial cuts to youth services provision; further to provide an update to Rugby Borough Council on how they will, under the forthcoming statutory duty guidance, consult young people and the voluntary sector, carry out workforce planning for youth services, conduct a needs assessment, take forward monitoring and evaluation of impact; and to indicate an outline plan for their plans for how Rugby Borough Council will be involved in delivering much needed youth services under this new statutory guidance?”

Councillor Poole, Leader of the Council, to reply as follows:

“This Council recognises the vital role youth services play in supporting the physical and mental wellbeing of young people within our borough.

As alluded to by the Councillor, the government through the DCMS issued a call for evidence on the statutory guidance on providing youth services in October 2019. The call for evidence sought feedback on addressing the guidance with regards leadership roles of local authorities in convening key stakeholders and the role of the voluntary and civil society sectors.

I propose, therefore, that, with the agreement of the Chair of Scrutiny Committee, relevant colleagues from Warwickshire County Council, as the upper tier authority, be invited to attend one of its meetings to discuss and present its plans for a clear strategy and plan for how it will secure a local youth offer including meaningful engagement with young people in its co-production.”