

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL

QUESTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 10

COUNCIL – 23 NOVEMBER 2022

QUESTION O

Councillor Ms Livesey to ask the Communities, Homes, Digital and Communications Portfolio Holder, Councillor Mrs Crane:

“What discussions have taken place with Open Reach and/or City Fibre to lever social benefit for digitally excluded residents of Rugby, through the provision of free sim-enabled tablets and free basic IT skills training?”

Councillor Mrs Crane, Communities, Homes, Digital and Communications Portfolio Holder, to reply as follows:

“The fibre infrastructure providers have been involved in conversations to provide signposting information to appropriate agencies and organisations who can assist residents who are digitally excluded.

Information gathered is provided to our frontline service staff, members and publicly to work towards closing the digital gap. Digital exclusion schemes from BT, Sky, EE, Talk Talk, Vodafone and the Good Things Foundation are examples of how digital inclusion and connectivity can be increased, alongside assistance scheme such as social tariffs, all of which are included within the information gathered.

This information is provided, updated and distributed through our trusted and appropriate channels to ensure our local residents are informed.”