

County Council – 19th March 2024

Public Question Time

No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question:
1.	Fenland District Councillor, Mrs Lucie Foice-Beard	Councillor Lorna Dupré, Chair of Environment and Green Investment Committee	Fenland District Council (FDC) approached Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) asking for them to co-operate in the investigation of a possible judicial review of the decision regarding the energy from waste. However, CCC refused to do so. CCC has also failed to respond to FDC in a request to share any costs of a judicial review. Why has the county council gone back on its resolution to do everything in its power to oppose the incinerator?
	Response from:	Response to:	Response:
	Councillor Lorna Dupré, Chair of Environment and Green Investment Committee	Fenland District Councillor, Mrs Lucie Foice-Beard	To be provided at the meeting.
	Question from:	Response from:	Response:
2.	Ms Annabel Sykes	Councillor Alex Beckett, Chair of Highways and Transport Committee	<p>East West Rail says on its website "we're passionate about hearing what local representatives and their communities think about East West Rail". It also says it is supported by every local authority between Oxford and Cambridge.</p> <p>In late May 2023 East West Rail published its voluminous Route Update documents. At a 14 June meeting of the East West Mainline Partnership, of which the county council is a member, the Chair asked how EWR Co would be handling representations made between then and the beginning of the public consultation (due to start in June 2024). The CEO of EWR Co replied that she would revert on this. EWR Co held a series of drop-ins to give residents an opportunity to ask questions. Four were held in Cambridgeshire.</p>

			<p>Residents of a number of villages in South Cambridgeshire will be severely adversely impacted by EWR and will derive no benefit from it.</p> <p>It has emerged through a freedom of information request that EWR Co did not keep notes of the questions asked at any of these drop-in meetings. Would the county council please raise this formally with EWRCo directly and at tomorrow's meeting of the Strategic Board of the East West Mainline Partnership and take such other action as it sees fit?</p> <p>Please would the county council also write to EWRCo in relation to the forthcoming statutory consultation and ask them to include comprehensive supporting material (the long section engineering drawings used in the 2021 consultation were very difficult to interpret). So, for example they should include photomontages along with elevation maps and land use maps (both permanent and temporary) and detail of (a) all rerouting of roads, public footpaths, bridleway, highways and waterways including land drainage, (b) anticipated disruption to all existing rail services and (c) location and approximate size of construction compounds, along with details of proposed road closures and diversions during the construction phase.</p>
	Response from:	Response to:	Response:
	Councillor Alex Beckett, Chair of Highways and Transport Committee	Ms Annabel Sykes	To be provided at the meeting.