

**Written replies to questions
under standing order 12
at the Council meeting held on
23 October 2013**



This document sets out the written replies to questions asked at the Council meeting on 23 October 2013.

Q6 Question from Councillor Julie Mayhew-Archer to Councillor Reg Waite:

Supplementary question:

'In order to improve the lives of residents many Councillors deal with casework by coming in to see individual officers. This saves councillor time and allows officers to deal with issues more speedily to the benefit of all. Does the cabinet member feel that meeting an officer face-to-face, if the member wishes, is a proper and useful request?'

Councillor Reg Waite's response:

'Councillors will still be able to see officers face-to-face in Abingdon as at present. An appointment is recommended as is currently the case, and I would further mention councillors will have the opportunity to communicate with and meet officers at other times since all public meetings will continue to be located in the Vale. In other words no change from the present.

If the opposition did not worry solely about the arrangements for councillors they may see the overall ongoing benefits to the public who we are here to serve. Finally, I would add that reference to the councillors signing on register in reception confirms that not many opposition councillors enter Abbey House and hence this invalidates their claim that "**many** councillors deal with casework by coming in to see individual officers".