

CABINET – 22 NOVEMBER 2016**PROCEDURAL MATTERS****Public Questions****Question (1) from Mr Dominik Lemanski:**

Why are there three levels of bureaucracy in local government in Tandridge (1. Surrey in Kingston, 2. Tandridge, 3. Surrey in Tandridge)?

Surely redundancies could be made across the board at points 2 and 3 and residents could just deal with Surrey directly. I see no need for the three tiers of bureaucracy especially given the lack of repairs to the roads etc.

Reply:

Local government is based on the right of residents to elect councillors to represent them for specific duties and functions within a given area. To refer to these as bureaucracy reflects a disappointing misunderstanding of that basic democratic principle.

Within Surrey matters that have a very local implication for places are dealt with by the local District or Borough. Matters that have wider implications for residents and businesses across the whole county are dealt with by Surrey County Council.

The two tiers of government try to work very closely and effectively together.

Mr David Hodge
Leader of the Council
22 November 2016

Question (2) from Mr John Oliver:

Given that the provision of tea, coffee, biscuits and bottled water for meetings across the Council's estate costs thousands of pounds each year, when will the Council be adopting a Council-wide policy of self-provision for meeting attendees, or, at best, provision of tap water, for all meetings (including committee meetings) in which Members or officials are involved?

Reply:

The Council does not provide biscuits at its meetings. Bottled water is provided for some of our decision making meetings, as is tea and coffee if it is appropriate.

Mr David Hodge
Leader of the Council
22 November 2016

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