

APPENDIX D - SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR MACDONALD - WRITTEN RESPONSE

8.1 SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR MACDONALD TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, HEALTH AND HOUSING – COUNCILLOR CORTHORNE

Councillor MacDonald, by way of a supplementary question, stated that the response figures quoted were incorrect and asked if the Cabinet Member could look into this matter further. Councillor Corthorne advised that he would investigate the matter and respond to Councillor MacDonald in writing.

Response:

Councillor Corthorne thanked Councillor MacDonald for her supplementary question which referred to a figure of 36 leaseholders and, on that basis, queried the arithmetic that was used. Officers had confirmed that there were 42 leasehold flats within the roofing project, which would make the arithmetic correct. Six of the leasehold flats were occupied by tenants of other landlords (mainly social housing).

Councillor Corthorne had received updates and was happy that officers were proceeding with the project as he would expect, and in accordance with the strategy agreed with leaseholders, to which he had referred at the Council meeting. Officers had correctly engaged leaseholders in advance of starting the formal statutory consultation and shared the evidence of the need for re-roofing.

Councillor Corthorne understood that Councillor MacDonald also attended a briefing, with representatives from the leasehold association and officers, to go over the issues arising from the public meeting, and at which the responses from the initial consultation were also shared. Councillor Corthorne fully appreciated that leaseholders had concerns about the cost of the work and their ability to pay. Councillor Corthorne assured Councillor MacDonald that this would be managed within the new policy that he had recently approved for payment options.

Officers were now starting the formal Section 20 consultation and would consider the responses from leaseholders before a final decision was made on the project. Councillor Corthorne was happy to meet with Councillor MacDonald to discuss the matter further.