

Wiltshire Council

Council

10 July 2012

Questions From Councillors

From Cllr Chris Caswill, Chippenham Monkton Division

To

**Cllr Toby Sturgis, Cabinet Member For Waste, Property, Environment
And Development Control Services**

Question 1

Are you yet in a position to give a definitive answer to my question at the May meeting about the Council's agreement with ING for the redevelopment of the Bath Road site in Chippenham? Are ING being asked to provide alternative facilities for the services currently housed in the Bridge Centre (such as the youth cafe) or is the Council adopting the more sensible course of asking for cash payments in lieu?

Why has it taken so long to come to this decision?

Response

The Council has requested a cash payment for replacing YPSS, the skate barn and youth storage facility. The amount of such payment is currently the subject of discussions with ING.

The Council is keeping its options open in relation to the replacement youth cafe. Both parties would prefer the Council to take responsibility for securing the facility and in this respect the Youth Service are preparing a specification. This will mean that a cost estimate can then be prepared to enable either party to acquire such premises should a suitable opportunity present itself. Naturally, ING will only release such funds to the Council once the contract has gone unconditional (grant of planning consent, minimum number of pre-lets secured etc). Therefore Member approval would be needed for an acquisition in advance of receiving payment from ING.