

Wiltshire Council

Council

13 November 2012

Questions from Councillors

From Cllr Stephen Oldrieve, Trowbridge Paxcroft Division

To

Cllr Jane Scott OBE, Leader of the Council

Question 1

Recent changes in policy at the Wiltshire Probation Service now requires community groups to make a financial contribution to the service for work to be undertaken by people on the community pay-back schemes. Do you support this policy?

Response

It is not for me as the leader of the Council to comment on the policies of other independent public services. We continue to work in partnership with all agencies in Wiltshire and understand that all such organisations have the responsibility to target their resources as effectively as possible following consultation with the community. I understand that the WPT policy of charging beneficiaries can also be waived on a case by case basis in order not to exclude some organisations or charities. There are no plans to introduce the approach into the Wiltshire Youth Offending Service (over which Wiltshire Council has direct influence) which also delivers Reparation Work Projects in the community. Wiltshire Probation Trust is very happy to respond directly to any public enquiries about their policy. Contact details for WPT can be made available for all members.