

Wiltshire Council

Council

25 February 2014

Item 10 - Questions from Councillors

From Councillor Jon Hubbard, Melksham South Division

**To Councillor Toby Sturgis, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning,
Development Management, Strategic Housing, Property, Waste**

Question 2

It was recently reported in the London Evening Standard that Southwark Council has banned new betting shops, payday loans firms and pawnbrokers from opening in its borough. Businesses in Southwark will not be allowed to change the type of business operating on a site without a fresh application to the council. Southwark is believed to be the first local authority to tighten planning rules in this way. Councillors are said to be "concerned with the proliferation" of such businesses. The council hopes to create more "mixed" high streets to help people avoid "debt traps".

Could the cabinet member please inform me if they believe such a policy could, and should, be enforced in Wiltshire and if so what steps they will take to bring this about?

Response

A verbal response will be provided at the meeting.