

**COUNCIL – 9 MARCH 2022****QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC****Questions to Portfolio Holders**

(A) Question from Mr Jim Borchers

“It has recently come to my attention that some secondary schools in Hertfordshire may not be recycling their waste paper due to cost.

Please could you let me know if there are any schools within the Stevenage District that Stevenage Borough Council does not currently collect waste paper for recycling from?

If there are any schools that do not recycle their paper with Stevenage Borough Council please could you provide a list of those that do and those that do not.”

***Answer (Cllr John Gardner):***

*SBC currently collects recycling materials, including paper, from 36 schools in Stevenage through our trade waste service.*

*We don't hold paper collection data on other schools within Hertfordshire, and all schools are able to make their own arrangements for this service through us or other trade waste organisations.*

**[The Mayor has accepted the following question, formulated at a Stevenage Bus Users Group Meeting held on 1 March 2022, and hence received after the deadline date for questions.]**

(B) Question from Mr David Martin (Treasurer, Stevenage Bus Users Group)

“With the proposed opening date of Stevenage Interchange now imminent, and decisions still required for the implementation of operational services on the site (e.g. customer information desk, facilities management, open/closure times, mobility centre, etc ) can the Portfolio Holder state at what stage(s) these operational considerations have reached, and when shall contracts for the services be determined?”

***Answer (Cllr Lloyd Briscoe):***

*The Council is really proud to be nearing the physical completion of the new bus interchange, which will provide significantly improved facilities for residents, as well as promote further opportunities for investment in bus services in Stevenage. The Council is grateful for the constructive engagement with stakeholders and the public, including BUGS, through the design process. The facility will deliver indoor passenger waiting facilities away from the cold and rain, real time passenger information, and high quality connections between the station, bus interchange and Town Square. The Council is pleased to report that the physical construction of the*

*building, public realm and bus stands is almost complete. The next stages of the project will include the final road improvements to Lytton Way, likely to take place in April 2022, and testing with the bus operator(s) to ensure a safe opening can be planned for. The process to secure an operator for the facility is underway, and we expect to be able to share more news on this next month. The Council will be inviting stakeholders to visit the facility over the coming weeks and look forward to offering the chance for BUGS members to view the facility again.*