

## **COUNCIL – 23 JUNE 2020**

### **QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

#### **QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR M WYATT TO COUNCILLOR R D BAYLISS**

“A number of council tenants from Greenhill, Broom Leys and Measham contacted me recently expressing their concerns that they were continuing to pay an additional charge which covers other services like grass cutting and cleaning of communal areas. In some cases tenants have seen a reduction or no service at all during the corona virus lockdown.

I light of this can the portfolio holder for housing give an update on my request for a rebate to council tenants who have received a reduced or in some cases no service at all.”

#### **RESPONSE FROM COUNCILLOR R D BAYLISS**

“Thank you for your question Councillor Wyatt.

964 of our 4,250 tenants pay some form of service charge in addition to their basic rent, and as a result of the Corona Virus response we have not been able to provide all the services funded from these charges.

Officers have carefully examined the options available to compensate tenants for this reduced service, and we will be adjusting the weekly amounts due to reflect this in the 2021/22 budget setting process.

Any adjustments made during this financial year would require the recalculation and reduction of Housing Benefit and Universal Credit entitlements for any tenants claiming, making it impractical, particularly given the current position in response to the Corona Virus.

This will be communicated to tenants through the July edition of the tenants' newsletter, InTouch.”