

Appendix A

EXECUTIVE

30th March 2022

QUESTION - FOR WRITTEN REPLY

1. From Richard Honess to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing

At the full Council meeting on 18th October I asked an oral question of Cllr Morgan the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing, about the condition and lack of upkeep on the Rookery Gardens Estate. I was told by Cllr Morgan that this matter would be discussed and dealt with in Committee. Could the Committee provide an update as to the discussions, decisions and concrete actions taken to improve the Estate please?

Reply:

Thank you for highlighting your observations and concerns regarding the cleanliness of Rookery Gardens Estate. Whilst the Council have an obligation to cleanse elements of the public highway within the estate, the direct management lies with Clarion Housing to ensure bulky waste and any accumulations around household waste containers are cleared. The Council's lead for street cleansing visited the estate on 22nd March and found some sporadic littering issues that will be addressed by the Council's street cleansing service provider, but also some larger bulky waste items that would ordinarily be dealt with by Clarion directly. In this regard, the Council's Neighbourhood Management team will liaise directly with Clarion estate managers to ensure any such issues are addressed.

With regards to the 'playground' area within the estate, after further investigation, whilst there are no historical records, we have determined that the ownership sits with the Council.

The authority have undertaken remedial works to ensure the surface of the playground area is now in a reasonable state of repair and we will continue to inspect and repair the area as required, and discussions with Clarion will take place to determine if a practical solution would be for them to take on the longer term ownership and maintenance of the area given its geographical position within the middle of their estate.