

## **Questions under Procedure Rule 11.2 for Council**

### **Q1. Question from Councillor Anketell to the Cabinet Member for Housing, Ecology and Climate Change**

“Motor neurone disease (MND) is a rapidly progressing condition – a third of people die within a year of diagnosis, and half within two years. During that time, symptoms worsen and needs increase, often at an unpredictable rate. To live in a dignified and reasonable way, a person with MND must make urgent adjustments to his/her home. These adjustments are often significant in scale. Such adaptations include increasing the size of doorways, building ramps and wet rooms, and installing hoists and through-floor lifts.

Will Councillor Lax therefore ensure Lichfield District Council improves its MND provision by introducing a fast-track process for delivering home adaptations for people with progressive and terminal conditions such as motor neurone disease by waiving the financial assessment for people with progressive and terminal conditions such as MND for Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) up to at least £5,000 to ensure adaptations can happen in a timely, efficient manner with minimum impact on the people they are supposed to help?

### **Response from the Cabinet Member for Housing, Ecology and Climate Change**

“With regards to residents who might have a fast-progressing condition such as MND or others there is provision within the policy to ‘fast-track’ those applications. All applicants are assessed using the mandatory DFG criteria and we then allocate a discretionary grant of £5000 regardless of means.

Legally we cannot have a disease specific grant for MND sufferers. This is so we do not discriminate against others with similar conditions such as fast progressive Parkinsons and those people who have had a catastrophic injury.

We are increasing our discretionary top-up assistance funding for where works exceed the current mandatory DFG limit due to recent building cost increases which of course will cover those with MND

As members are aware, from the 1 April we are taking DFG provision back in house. In doing so we have designed a framework and revised policy to provide a more comprehensive, and bigger and better support which goes beyond the revised 2022 government Guidance. We will have a personalised approach to helping vulnerable people, we will engage with and visit to ensure we provide the right adaptations. We can do this as our new in-house service enables us to commit more resources to deliver a holistic and client focussed service.”

### **Q2. Question from Councillor Robertson to the Cabinet Member for Community Engagement**

"Will the Cabinet Member for Community Engagement publish all communications that he has had with officers about CCTV on Dimbles Lane during this calendar year?"

### **Response from the Cabinet Member for Engagement**

“Yes I will.”

