

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL

QUESTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 10

COUNCIL – 12 JULY 2023

QUESTION I

Councillor Ish Mistry to ask the Leader of the Council, Councillor Poole:

“Protecting green spaces was a campaign pledge for all parties in the May election. Allotment provision meets that objective, provides community assets, improves biodiversity, and contributes to health and wellbeing. Given these benefits and the long waits for allotment plots across Rugby Borough, can the Leader suggest how Councillors can work collaboratively to increase the number of allotments?”

Councillor Poole, Leader of the Council, to reply as follows:

“The Council recognises the value community allotments bring to the Borough and give thanks to the various Allotment Associations who manage them across the borough. In the last 18 months, additional allotments have been created within Eden Park (54 plots) and Houlton where residents have been able to secure allotment space and develop individual plots.

As part of the Centenary Park masterplan on Parkfield Road, Newbold, the creation of further allotment space is outlined for development. I am pleased to say work to progress the site is scheduled to start from September.

Councillors will be aware that Policy HS4 of the local plan sets out specific developer contributions for any development of 10 dwellings or more towards the delivery of allotments within the borough. In addition, Section 5 of the Climate Change and Sustainability Construction Sustainable Construction Supplementary Planning Document adopted in February 2023, sets out minimum garden sizes to provide not only amenity space, but to enable space for growing food within people's own homes.

Therefore the Councillors responsible for making decisions within planning committee will duly consider suitable funding is available for the development of allotment space from future development”