

# Uttlesford District Council Meeting

## 14 July 2026

### Written Questions to Members of the Executive and Committee Chairs

#### Answers to be published on 13 July 2026

**1. By Councillor Barker to Councillor Coote – Portfolio Holder for Housing:**

“At the end of May there were at least 110 Council properties vacant, all of which required works to be completed before re-letting.

Can you please update the Council on how many of these properties have now had necessary works carried out and what the plans and timelines are to bring the remainder up to the necessary standards and provide much needed accommodation for residents and rental income to the Council.”

**2. By Councillor Gregory to Councillor Sutton – Portfolio Holder for Communities:**

“Given the above inflation increases in the policing precept over the past two years, what meetings has Cllr Sutton had in the last year with the staff of the PFCC and/or senior police officers at Force HQ to address resources for local policing in Uttlesford, specifically the loss of a PCSO in Stansted?”

**3. By Councillor Gregory to Councillor Sutton – Portfolio Holder for Communities:**

“What actions is Cllr Sutton taking to assist our hard working neighbourhood policing teams by addressing their need for extra resources, given Uttlesford residents pay some £10.5m per year through council tax for policing?”

**4. By Councillor Criscione to Councillor Evans – Portfolio Holder for Planning:**

“It is nearing the ten year anniversary of the Council’s *Buildings at Risk Register*, a report on the heritage sites under threat in the Uttlesford District. Can the Cabinet Member for Planning confirm the Council’s intentions to review the register and carry out inspections of the District’s heritage assets with a view to their preservation, conservation and enhancement?”

**5. By Councillor Criscione to Councillor Hargreaves – Portfolio Holder for Finance and the Economy:**

“The nationwide youth unemployment rate has increased significantly, now at a staggering 16.2% and with 39.8% of 16-24 year olds economically inactive. Where the government is failing to get a grip of this crucial issue, which threatens to wipe out the life chances of a whole generation, what steps is the Council taking / can we take to support youth employment in the District?”

**6. By Councillor Fiddy to Councillor Hargreaves – Portfolio Holder for Finance and the Economy:**

“I am aware that at least two parishes within Uttlesford have substantial sums of 106 money being held by UDC.

UDC has a practice of retaining the interest earned on the withheld 106 money; and the parishes lose both the foregone interest and purchasing power through inflation. I estimate that Saffron Walden Town Council has lost tens of thousands of pounds, and Elsenham Parish Council hundreds of thousands in interest and through inflations impact on purchasing power.

This is not in line with two of the headlines in our Corporate Plan 2023-2027 which are ‘Building Strong Communities’ and ‘Putting Residents First’.

The 106 agreements often state that if the money is unspent, it must be returned to the developer with interest. Therefore, UDC must a) know where the money is and b) how much interest it is earning.”

My questions are:

- 1) How much interest has UDC earned on all 106 funds held since 2021?
- 2) While there is nothing in our policies which says that we must pay interest to parishes, there is also nothing in our policies which says we must not. Therefore,

we could choose to do either. How do you justify, in the light of our ethos as a council and as an administration that says it puts residents and communities first, choosing not to?"