

QUESTION TO CABINET 17TH NOVEMBER 2014

From: Councillor S Young

To: Councillor Benton

Question

In the Brighouse Echo on 4th September 2014, Cllr S Benton commented on a story about the priority order for introducing 20mph zones. In it, he said....

“Brighouse and Rastrick were bottom of the priorities list....i do not know the reason for this but I'm sure that local people...will be very concerned that the previous Labour Council once again seem to have put Brighouse area at the bottom of the priorities list”.

Now that we have seen that the Conservative administration are keeping to the programme drawn up under Labour, will he firstly admit that the priority order agreed was indeed based on clear evidence about the road safety priorities, and will he secondly apologise for once again making false accusations against the previous Labour administration?

Response

The new Conservative-led administration has been entirely open and honest with all elected members in relation to how the proposals for a blanket 20mph limit will be implemented across the borough. This is in contrast to the previous administration, of which you were a Member, who at no point sought to inform members about the timescale for implementing this policy in the various parts of the borough. Indeed, it was not until I was contacted by a local news reporter in the summer that I became aware of any specific plans for the phased implementation of the policy in the Brighouse area.

It is with regret that your administration did not seek to update opposition members at an earlier stage and made little effort to inform them of the basis upon which the staged implementation of this policy would proceed.