

## QUESTION BY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC



**Question submitted by: Gin Farrow-Jones**

**To the Cabinet Member or Chair for:** Leader of the Council Cllr Tudor Evans

**To be asked at the next (Council, Cabinet or Planning Committee) Meeting: Full Council**

**Date: 18/09/23**

**Question (to be no longer than 50 words):**

By vote abstaining on the 'meaningful community engagement', Labour effectively approved of the decision for it to be the response to the petition on the trees. Are you satisfied with how the overwhelming opposition to the Armada Way scheme was dealt within the document?

**Will you be attending the meeting in person to ask your question? Yes**

**Response:** ( for completion by City Council officers and Cabinet Members / Chairs)

Thank you for your question.

Plymouth Labour proposed and passed an amendment during that City Council meeting held on 30 January 2023 to reflect our concerns about the Armada Way scheme. We called for a meaningful community engagement process to take place quickly in February 2023 which prioritised the natural environment and climate resilience. The amendment also called for tree felling to be suspended.

Plymouth Labour and Green councillors were dismayed at the summing up by Councillor Jonathan Drea on the substantive motion in response to the petition and, despite the nature of the debate itself, how he categorised the planned public engagement process.

Labour Councillors therefore showed our frustration by supporting the Labour amendment but not voting in favour of the substantive motion - which was going to pass anyway because of the arithmetic of the City Council at that time.

The way in which the consultation responses were reported on the previous Richard Bingley Armada Way scheme is the subject of on-going legal proceedings. Therefore, it would not be appropriate for me to comment any further on these matters at this time. But what the City Council does know is

that I have committed to undertake an independent review on various aspects of the Armada Way scheme in due course.