

QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR

Question submitted by: Cllr Dylan Tippetts

To Cabinet Member: Cllr John Stephens

Question:

Question is actually for Cllr John Stephens - john.stephens@plymouth.gov.uk In response to a Freedom of Information Act request earlier this year, as reported in the Herald in March, the council confirmed that the conversion of the three shipping containers being used as bus shelters on Royal Parade came to £46,802. It also confirmed an eight-week cleaning and maintenance contract had been entered into, adding £3,267.20, plus an allocation of £1,100 for additional ad hoc cleans. Can the cabinet member confirm (a) whether any of the £1,100 set aside for ad hoc cleans was spent; (b) given that more than eight weeks has now passed since their installation, whether a new cleaning contract has been entered into, and, if so, what the costs and terms of that are; (c) whether there has been any additional expenditure relating to the shelters not otherwise covered in these questions; (d) by what date the council expects the new permanent shelters to be installed and, if you do not, by what date do you expect to know; and (e) what the plan is for the future life of the shelters, and what is the expected cost to the council of their removal and future use?

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

Answer:

Can the cabinet member confirm

- a. whether any of the £1,100 set aside for ad hoc cleans was spent;
 - *No ad hoc cleans were required so the £1,100 was put towards the cost of extending the cleaning and maintenance checks . This involves power washing, cleaning and checking solar panels, carrying out health and safety check on the shelter and ramps and carrying out any repairs.*
- b. given that more than eight weeks has now passed since their installation, whether a new cleaning contract has been entered into, and, if so, what the costs and terms of that are;
 - *£4,367.2 was allocated for cleaning starting 17/03/25. This was all used on weekly cleaning, with no additional (ad hoc) cleaning required (as above).*
 - *The purchase order was increased by £4,618 in June 2025 to continue until maximum date of 1st August 2025.*
 - *The terms are to continue with a weekly clean and maintenance check on three shelters*
- c. whether there has been any additional expenditure relating to the shelters not otherwise covered in these questions;
 - *No additional expenditure incurred*
- d. by what date the council expects the new permanent shelters to be installed and, if you do not, by what date do you expect to know; and
 - *The permanent bus shelters will be installed as part of the Royal Parade Bus Improvement scheme. This scheme is scheduled to be open to the public in April 2026*
- e. what the plan is for the future life of the shelters, and what is the expected cost to the council of their removal and future use?
 - *No decision has been made on the future use of the shelters at this point but suitable options and any associated costs will be considered when they are no longer required for Royal Parade.*

Signed:



Dated: 24th June 2025