

FULL COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2016

Written question from Mr. Christopher Quirk of Shanklin to Councillor Charles Chapman, Chairman of the Council

"Will the Council instruct officers to review the situation at Scotscombe with the aim of ensuring that the site remains available as allotments far into the future. The Small Holdings & Allotments Act of 1908 allows the IOW Council to carry out compulsory purchase or compulsory rent of allotment land where sufficient land is not available by other means and there is sufficient local demand? "

RESPONSE

"The council has a lease for the land used as Allotments. The lease does not permit the council to assign or sublet. Negotiations have been ongoing with the Allotment Association and the owner since 2011 to see whether a lease between the owner and the Allotment Association could be agreed, and more recently there have been discussions with the Town council. However, the owner of the land has decided not to extend or grant a further lease. The council is of the view that there are a sufficient number of allotments in the area. The allotment holders have been given 12 months' notice and can join the waiting list for an allotment on another site. The council will not be looking to exercise compulsory purchase powers to retain the use of this land"