



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**COUNCIL**

**19<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2022**

**MEMBERS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & COMMUNICATION.**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To present the order of questions in respect of the Members Questions on Notice, following the amendment to the process agreed at the [Council AGM 2019](#).

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Receive the Questions and any supplementary questions proposed, as in accordance with the running order advised upon in 4.3 of the report, which should not exceed a 20-minute time period.

**3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 As agreed at the Council AGM on the 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2019, Members agreed to amend Council Procedure Rule 9.2 in respect of Members Questions on Notice. A further amendment was made to Council Procedure Rule 9.2 at the Council AGM on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 in respect of supplementary questions following expiry of the 20 minute time duration. [Council AGM 2021](#)

**4. MEMBERS QUESTION ON NOTICE**

- 4.1 The closing date for receipt of Members Questions on Notice to the Council Business Unit for the Council meeting on the 19th October 2022 was 5pm on the 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022.
- 4.2 Twenty-one questions were received and put forward to the Council Ballot held on the 10th October 2022, to determine the running order of the questions at the Council Meeting.
- 4.3 The results of the ballot are outlined below:-

Number	Corresponding Question
1	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Parkin to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Council Leader provide an update on the implementation of the Real Living Wage to the social care sector in RCT?”</p>
2	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor V. Dunn to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“The U.K. Government are continuing to provide minimal support as millions are starting to feel the true effects of the Cost of Living crisis. With further energy rises forecast for the autumn, can the Leader outline what discussions or measures this Council is taking to help protect residents?”</p>
3	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor L. A. Tomkinson to the Cabinet Member for Public Health &amp; Communities, County Borough Councillor B. Harris:</b></p> <p>“Will the Cabinet Member please make a statement on the Council’s work with Voluntary and Third Sector organisations in Rhondda Cynon Taf?”</p>
4	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor R. Evans to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Council Leader provide an update on what flood alleviation schemes are expected to be carried out this year?”</p>
5	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Grehan to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A Morgan:</b></p> <p>“A all yr aelod priodol o'r cabinet ddweud wrth y Cyngor â oes ganddynt gynlluniau i greu cymunedau hygyrch i bawb trwy lunio rhaglen o osod cyrbau isel. Ar hyn o bryd mae'n anodd iawn i ddefnyddwyr cadeiriau olwyn a sgwteri symudedd, fynd o le i le yn ddiogel mewn nifer fawr o'n pentrefi, gan gynnwys fy ward i yn Nhonyrefail”.</p> <p>“Can the appropriate member of Cabinet inform the Council if there are any plans to create accessible communities for all by implementing a program to install low curbs? At the moment it is very difficult for users of wheelchairs and mobility scooters to travel from one place to another safely in a large number of our villages, including my ward in Tonyrefail”.</p>

6	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor W. Hughes to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</b></p> <p>“Will the Cabinet Member make a statement on the Council’s investment in outdoor leisure facilities?”</p>
7	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor N. H. Morgan to the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Corporate Services, County Borough Councillor C. Leyshon:</b></p> <p>“Will the relevant Cabinet Member please make a statement on the Council’s biodiversity policy?”</p>
8	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Cook to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Community-run buildings and organisations provide invaluable services to our residents, but they are due to suffer immensely from the effects of the Cost of Living crisis with eye-watering rises in their energy bills. What action can be taken to ease the strain on these community assets?”</p>
9	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Edwards to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Leader provide an update on the works to mitigate the risk of flooding at Heath Terrace in Ynyshir?”</p>
10	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor A. Rogers to the Cabinet Member for Development &amp; Prosperity, County Borough Councillor M Norris:</b></p> <p>“Businesses in Hirwaun, Penderyn and Rhigos, as well as others across this county have been massively impacted by the COVID pandemic and now the cost-of-living crisis, how is the Council supporting our businesses at this time?”</p>
11	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Owen-Jones to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Leader please provide an update on the progress of schemes awarded funding under the Levelling Up fund?”</p>

12	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor R. Williams to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“In advance of the Chancellors Medium Term Fiscal Statement at the end of November, and in light of the funding shortfall facing councils across Wales for next year, please can the Leader provide an update on his discussions with other Council Leaders and Welsh Government?”</p>
13	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Wood to the Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation &amp; Welsh Language, County Borough Councillor R Lewis:</b></p> <p>“Given that Welsh Government has already given a commitment to return supply staff provision to Local Authorities and given that this would return a vast saving, £250 million between 2016-2021, to school budgets in Wales and that we are facing an unprecedented squeeze on education budgets, will RCT commit to employing supply staff directly, going forwards, putting millions of pounds of public money back to those who will most benefit from it?”</p>
14	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor M. D. Ashford to the Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language, County Borough Councillor R. Lewis:</b></p> <p>“What engagement has the Council received from Pontyclun Community Council on the future of Café 50+?”</p>
15	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor G. O. Jones to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“We have heard in recent weeks that the combined impacts of both Brexit and the war in Ukraine are having a profound effect on our construction industry. What does this mean for the Council and how can we mitigate these impacts?”</p>
16	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor K. Morgan to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Given the significant effect on residents health and well-being, post pandemic, and with the looming cost of living crisis will the Cabinet Member confirm whether there will be a freeze on council charges for essential well-being services such as meals on wheels, social care and life-line/telecare services in order to provide as much support as possible to our most vulnerable residents?”</p>

17	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor E. L. Dunning to the Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language, County Borough Councillor R. Lewis:</b></p> <p>“Will the Cabinet Member please make a statement on Youth Service provision in Rhondda Cynon Taf?”</p>
18	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor K. Johnson to the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Corporate Services, County Borough Councillor C Leyshon:</b></p> <p>“Please could the responsible Cabinet Member give an update on the “go live date” for the EV charging points that have been installed and advertised on RCTCBC social media channels?”</p>
19	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Bradwick to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“With the U.K. Government <i>finally</i> introducing the Shared Prosperity Fund, will the Leader outline whether this Council intends to submit any bids for projects under the scheme?”</p>
20	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor W. Lewis to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“How is the Council working with and supporting local food banks through the effects of the Cost of Living crisis?”</p>
21	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor C. Lises to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A Morgan:</b></p> <p>“At the Council meeting on 06Jul2022, Cllr Andrew Morgan gave an update on the post Storm Dennis flood repairs and other upgrades that are in progress. He noted that if we were to face another Storm Dennis type event this coming winter then "we know there would be significant flooding across the County." As it is well known that not all the necessary improvements to culverts and watercourses etc can be made before this coming winter, can the Leader please outline the other ways in which wards will be helped to prepare for the risk of flooding?”</p>

4.4 At the Council meeting a maximum of 20 minutes shall be allowed for Questions on Notice. Any questions that are not dealt with in this time limit shall fall. Any questions on notice not answered will need to be resubmitted to the Proper Officer for the next full Council meeting in accordance with these rules.

## **5. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT**

5.1 The amendments to the Council Procedure Rule in respect of Members Questions was considered and agreed at the Council’s AGM 2019 and AGM 2021, following consultation with the Constitution Committee.

**6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The amendment to the Council procedure rule taken forward at the Council AGM, allows the opportunity for more Members to ask a question at Council

**7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

**8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

- 8.1 The report has been prepared in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9.2.

**9. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES.**

- 9.1 The opportunity for Members to propose questions at Council meetings allows Members to receive information which potentially detail the Council priorities. It also embraces the Future Generations Act as all work and decisions taken by Council seek to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the County Borough.

**10. CONCLUSION**

- 10.1 Detailing the procedure for Members Questions on Notice assists in transparency for both Members and for public engagement.

**Other Information:-**

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee – Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

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COMMUNICATION.**

**Item: MEMBERS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Background Papers**

[Council AGM 2019.](#)

[Council AGM 2021](#)

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