



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL

23 NOVEMBER 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 15th 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 26th 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 23rd November 2022 was 5pm on the 10th November 2022.
- 4.2 Twenty-seven questions were received and put forward to the Council Ballot held on the 14th November 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>Question from County Borough Councillor L. Addiscott to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“What impact has the U.K. Government’s economic plans had on energy prices, in particular for local authorities?”</i></p>
2	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Parkin to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“What representations are being made to the U.K. Westminster Government regarding the funding crisis that local authorities are facing in the forthcoming financial year?”</i></p>
3	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor K. Morgan to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“What proactive measures are the council undertaking to ensure drains and gullies are clear in order to prevent flooding incidents?”</i></p>
4	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Smith to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“Will the Leader please make a statement on the Council’s budget planning ahead of the forecasted lower settlements for Local Authorities in the next two financial years?”</i></p>
5	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor M. D. Ashford to the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, County Borough Councillor G. Caple:</p> <p><i>“What engagement has the Council received from Pontyclun Community Council on the future of Café 50+?”</i></p>
6	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Rees to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“How will the measures in the recent autumn statement affect Welsh local authorities with regards to the Barnett formula and the block grant?”</i></p>

7	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Grehan to the Cabinet Member for Prosperity and Development, County Borough Councillor M. Norris:</p> <p><i>“Yn dilyn y ‘problemau’ gyda’r system gosod cartrefi yn Nhonyrefail yn ddiweddar, ac o ystyried anniddigrwydd o bob plaid gyda’r drefn, a fyddai’r Cyngor yn teimlo ei bod yn briodol i drefnu sesiwn ar gyfer yr holl aelodau i drafod y system a’r polisiau sy’n arwain y penderfyniadau”.</i></p> <p><i>“Following the ‘problems’ with the property letting system in Tonyrefail recently, and considering the discontent from all parties with this arrangement, would the Council consider it appropriate to organise a session for all Members to discuss the system and the policies that guide the decisions?”</i></p>
8	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Brencher to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“Can the Leader provide an update on the Council’s ongoing programme of investment in the County’s Highways network?”</i></p>
9	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor W. Lewis to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“How is the Council working with and supporting local food banks through the effects of the Cost of Living crisis?”</i></p>
10	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Bradwick to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“Can the Leader provide an update on the progress of any funding bids planned or submitted under the U.K. Government’s Shared Prosperity Fund?”</i></p>
11	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor N. H. Morgan to the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Corporate Services, County Borough Councillor T. Leyshon:</p> <p><i>“Will the relevant Cabinet Member please make a statement on the Council’s biodiversity policy?”</i></p>
12	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor G. E. Williams to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“How is the Council preparing for further winter weather events following the first Weather Warnings of the winter?”</i></p>

13	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Bonetto to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“Can the Leader please make a statement on the Winter Welcome Centres in RCT?”</i></p>
14	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor R. Williams to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“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?”</i></p>
15	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor M. Powell to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“Could the Cabinet portfolio holder for highways say what measures or proposals the RCT Highways department are considering, to alleviate the dire traffic congestion problems that the Pontypridd Town centre has been enduring for many, many years please?”</i></p>
16	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor G. O. Jones to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“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?”</i></p>
17	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor L. A. Tomkinson to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</p> <p><i>“Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the Council’s Leisure for Life service as we continue to move away from the COVID-19 pandemic?”</i></p>
18	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor M. Maohoub to the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, County Borough Councillor G. Caple:</p> <p><i>“Will the Cabinet Member please provide a statement on this year’s Santa Appeal and outline how Members can help to support this fantastic initiative?”</i></p>

19	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor E. L. Dunning to the Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language, County Borough Councillor R. Lewis:</p> <p><i>“Will the Cabinet Member please make a statement on outreach work and detached youth service provision in Rhondda Cynon Taf?”</i></p>
20	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Edwards to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“Can the Leader outline what support is available to help RCT residents with the cost of living crisis as we enter the winter months?”</i></p>
21	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor C. Middle to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</p> <p><i>“Can the Cabinet Member please provide an update on the Council’s programme to improve outdoor play facilities for children?”</i></p>
22	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Owen-Jones to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“Can the Leader please provide an update on the progress of schemes awarded funding under the Levelling Up fund?”</i></p>
23	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Wood to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“With the massive financial and environmental costs involved in clearing drains of “FOG”, why doesn’t RCTCBC require, record and monitor, the use of grease traps in all food outlets in RCT?”</i></p>
24	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Cook to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“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?”</i></p>

25	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Emanuel to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</p> <p>“Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the development of the Council’s 14th 3G pitch facility at the Baglan Field in Treherbert?”</p>
26	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor A. Rogers to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“How has the Council responded to issues that were highlighted regarding management of the COVID pandemic?”</i></p>
27	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Morgans to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</p> <p><i>“Can the Leader outline what measures are being considered to help bridge the funding gap that this Council faces in the next financial year, including whether the use of reserves is necessary?”</i></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

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

23 NOVEMBER 2022

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

Item: MEMBERS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Background Papers

[Council AGM 2019.](#)

[Council AGM 2021](#)

Officer to contact: Emma Wilkins, Council Business Unit