



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL

29 MARCH 2023

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 29th March 2023 was 5pm on the 16th March 2023.
- 4.2 Thirty-six questions were received and put forward to the Council Ballot held on the 21st March 2023, 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 T. Williams to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>“Will the Council Leader please provide an update on flood prevention schemes in Cwmaman?”</i></p>
2	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor G. Hopkins to the Cabinet Member for Public Health & Communities, County Borough Councillor B. Harris:</p> <p><i>“Could the Cabinet Member please provide an update on the Shared Prosperity Fund Grants scheme for the Third Sector?”</i></p>
3	<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>
4	<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, a’r dioddefaint sydd wedi dod yn sgil y system, 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 gosod eiddo?”</i></p> <p><i>“Following the recent ‘problems’ with the housing letting system in Tonyrefail, and the suffering as a result of the system, and considering the discontent from all parties with this arrangement, does the Council consider it appropriate to organise a session for all Members to discuss the system and policies that guide decisions relating to the housing letting system?”</i></p>
5	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Brencher to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>“Could the Leader please make a statement on the recent Ty Pennant/Catherine Street Car Park in relation to the Council taking over its operation”</i></p>

6	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Morgans to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</p> <p><i>“Could the Cabinet Member please outline what investment is planned to improve Darran Park?”</i></p>
7	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor L. A. Tomkinson to the Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language, County Borough Councillor R. Lewis:</p> <p><i>“Will the Cabinet Member please provide an update on the rollout of free school meals in Rhondda Cynon Taf?”</i></p>
8	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor C. Preedy to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</p> <p><i>“Will the Cabinet Member please give an update on the usage of the National Lido of Wales’ and the forthcoming season?”</i></p>
9	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor W. Hughes to the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Council Business, County Borough Councillor M. Webber:</p> <p><i>“Can the Deputy Leader provide an update on the Council’s apprenticeship and graduate programmes?”</i></p>
10	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor R. Davis to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>“Can the Leader outline how many businesses in RCT will benefit from the Business Rate Relief Scheme, including through the £500 Local Business Rate Reduction Scheme that the Council is providing?”</i></p>
11	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Rees to the Cabinet Member for Development and Prosperity, County Borough Councillor M. A. Norris:</p> <p><i>“How is this Council supporting businesses across the Cynon Valley and throughout Rhondda Cynon Taf?”</i></p>
12	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor W. Lewis to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</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>

13	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor C Lises to the Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care, County Borough Councillor G. Caple:</p> <p><i>“Can the Cabinet Member comment on the current backlog of children and young people requiring assessments via CAMHS and what is being done to alleviate the situation?”</i></p>
14	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Parkin to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</p> <p><i>“Will the Cabinet Member please provide an update on the progress of play area improvements across the County Borough?”</i></p>
15	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor G. O. Jones to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>“We have heard in recent months 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>
16	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor G. E. Williams to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>“How is the Council preparing for further winter weather events following the Weather Warnings over the last few months?”</i></p>
17	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor A Rogers to the Cabinet Member for Environment & Leisure, County Borough Councillor A Crimmings:</p> <p><i>“Can a statement be given to residents who have concerns with the planned 3-weekly refuse collections?”</i></p>
18	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor A. J. Dennis to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>“What support and signposting services are available to residents in regards to the cost of living crisis?”</i></p>
19	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor P Binning to the Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language, County Borough Councillor R. Lewis:</p> <p><i>“What are the Council’s plans to deal with the severe lack of adequate and available Welsh-speaking Teaching Assistants and Support Staff, and could they consider an allowance to help improve the education</i></p>

	<p><i>experience of those pupils who are going through the medium of Welsh Education?"</i></p>
20	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Bonetto to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>"Can the Leader please give an update on the Winter Welcome Centres in RCT and their usage since opening?"</i></p>
21	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor D Wood to the Cabinet Member for Public Health & Communities, County Borough Councillor B Harris:</p> <p><i>"How is RCT helping to reduce anti-social behaviour in Pontypridd Town please?"</i></p>
22	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Bradwick to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>"Can the Leader make a statement on bus services in RCT and the implementation of the free travel pilot across the County?"</i></p>
23	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor M. Maohoub to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>"Can the Council Leader provide an update on the implementation of the Real Living Wage and the Council's progress on becoming an accredited Real Living Wage employer?"</i></p>
24	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Cook B.E.M. to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>"What support is available for food banks and similar local schemes in the coming year?"</i></p>
25	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor R. Williams to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>"In light of the funding shortfall facing councils across Wales for next year, please can the Leader provide an update on discussions with other Council Leaders and Welsh Government?"</i></p>

26	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor M. Powell to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</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>
27	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor V. Dunn to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>“Can the Leader provide Members with an update on the rollout of the Council’s Community Wardens team?”</i></p>
28	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor L. Addiscott to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</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>
29	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor L. Ellis to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</p> <p><i>“Will the Cabinet Member outline the timescales for the delivery of the new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) in the Penygraig ward?”</i></p>
30	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor D. R. Bevan to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>“Can the Leader provide a statement on bids for further flood alleviation schemes to Welsh Government, and in particular the scheme planned for Arfryn Terrace?”</i></p>
31	<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, particularly in the Ystrad area?”</i></p>
32	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Powderhill to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</p> <p><i>“Can the Cabinet Member please provide an update on the works to improve Ynysangharad War Memorial Park?”</i></p>

33	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Emanuel to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</p> <p><i>“Can the Leader please make a statement on capital investment in Rhondda Cynon Taf?”</i></p>
34	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor H Gronow to the Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language, County Borough Councillor R. Lewis:</p> <p><i>“Yn dilyn penderfyniad y Cyngor i gau Ysgol Pont Sion Norton ac i wrthod galwadau i ddatblygu addysg Gymraeg yng Ngogledd Pontypridd. A wnaiff yr aeold o’r cabinet rhoi manylion ar sut mae’r cyngor yn hybu’r iaith Gymraeg yn yr ardal. Diolch”</i></p> <p><i>“Following the Council’s decision to close Ysgol Pont Sion Norton and to reject calls to develop Welsh language education in North Pontypridd. Will the Cabinet Member provide details on how the council promotes the Welsh language in the area.”</i></p>
35	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Smith to the Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language, County Borough Councillor R. Lewis:</p> <p><i>“Following the granting of planning approval, can the Cabinet Member outline the next steps for the development of a brand new school in Ferndale for YGG Llyn-Y-Forwyn?”</i></p>
36	<p>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Williams to the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Corporate Services, County Borough Councillor T. Leyshon:</p> <p><i>“Can the Cabinet Member provide a further update on the progress of EV charging point rollouts in RCT?”</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

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Background Papers

[Council AGM 2019.](#)

[Council AGM 2021](#)