

# RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

#### COUNCIL

#### 4th March 2020

#### **MEMBERS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & COMMUNICATION.

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# 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.

#### 4. MEMBERS QUESTION ON NOTICE

- 4.1 The closing date for receipt of Members Questions on Notice to the Council Business Unit for the March Council meeting was 5pm on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020.
- 4.2 Twelve questions were received and put forward to the Council Ballot held on the 24th February 2020, to determine the running order of the questions at the Council Meeting.
- 4.3 The results of the ballot are outlined below:-

Number	Questions
1	Question from County Borough Councillor J. James to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:-  "Last year Wales celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the creation of the Welsh Assembly. Will the leader of the council outline the impact that devolution has had on the people of RCT?"
2	Question from County Borough Councillor P Jarman to the Cabinet Member for Adult & Children's Services County Borough Councillor T. Leyshon:-  "How many families are living in poverty in Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough"
3	Question from County Borough Councillor J. Brencher to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:- "Can the Leader please comment on the situation with the National Lido of Wales"
4	Question from County Borough Councillor H. Boggis to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:- "Would the leader of the council provide members with an update on the proposed extension of the Aberdare line to Hirwaun/Rhigos?"
5	Question from County Borough Councillor S. Morgans to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A Morgan:- "Will the council leader make a statement on the land slips in the Rhondda Fach caused by Storm Dennis."
6	Question from County Borough Councillor J Bonetto to the Leader of Council, County Borough Councillor A Morgan:  "Can the Leader please outline what support and assistance the Council is giving to residents affected by Storm Dennis."
7	Question from County Borough Councillor S. Pickering to Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure and Heritage Services, Councillor A. Crimmings: -  "This Council has made significant investment in leisure and sports facilities over recent years in support of creating a 'healthy and active RCT'. Can the Cabinet Member please outline what further investments in sports facilities and parks is planned for the forthcoming financial year?"

8	Question from County Borough Councillor G. Thomas to the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, County Borough Councillor M. Norris:-  "Can the relevant Cabinet Member please provide an update on the delivery of the Council's digital transformation strategy?"
9	Question from County Borough Councillor G. Caple to the Leader of the Council County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:-  "Storm Dennis brought levels of destruction and disruption to RCT that have not been witnessed for over 40 years, leaving communities across the County, including many that have never experienced flooding, in complete devastation. Can the Leader please give an overview of the Council's actions in responding to the rapidly escalating situation?"
10	Question from County Borough Councillor H. Fychan to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:-  "Pa gymorth fydd y Cyngor yn ei roi i drigolion a busnesau wedi eu heffeithio gan y llifogydd dros y misoedd nesaf?"  "What support will the Council be providing to residents and businesses affected by the floods over the coming months?"
11	Question from County Borough Councillor G. Davies to the Cabinet Member for Education & Inclusion Services, County Borough Councillor J. Rosser:-  "A wnewch chi datganiad a'r darpariaeth addysg arbennig i blant sy'n ddisgyblion yn ysgolion iaith cymraeg y sir?"  "Will you make a statement about the provision of special education for pupils in Welsh medium schools in the county?"
12	Question from County Borough Councillor E. George to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:-  "To what extent can the recent spate of storms and adverse weather be attributed to climate change?"

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 amendment to the Council Procedure Rule in respect of Members Questions was considered and agreed at the Council AGM 2019, following consultation with the Corporate Governance & 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. <u>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED</u>

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

# 9. <u>LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES.</u>

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 wellbeing 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

# 4<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2020

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Item: MEMBERS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**Background Papers** 

Council AGM 2019.

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