

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

18th March 2020

MEMBERS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & COMMUNICATION.

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1. <u>PURPOSE OF THE REPORT</u>

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 <u>Council AGM 2019</u>.

2. <u>RECOMMENDATIONS</u>

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.

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 5th March 2020.
- 4.2 Eight questions were received and put forward to the Council Ballot held on the 9th March 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 A S Fox to the Cabinet Member for Enterprise Development and Housing, County Borough Councillor D. R. Bevan:- "Can the Cabinet Member please outline how this Council is supporting business and enterprise across Rhondda Cynon Taf?"
2	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?"
3	Question from County Borough Councillor G Hughes to the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, County Borough Councillor M. Norris:- "Will the Cabinet Member please provide an update on the rollout of the Council's free town centre Wi-Fi scheme?"
4	Question from County Borough Councillor R. K. Turner to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:- "Will the Leader of the Council please provide an update on the progress of the Llanharan Bypass?"
5	Question from County Borough Councillor J. Cullwick to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure and Heritage Services, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:- "Gofynnwyd cwestiwn yng nghyfarfod y Cyngor ym mis Ionawr am amnewid coedenyn Ffordd y Glowyr – coeden bwysig gan ei bod yn un o 66 a blannwyd I gynrychioli y 66 o byllau glo yn yn Rhondda. Beth yw'r cynnydd o ran adnewyddu'r goeden honno?" "A question was asked in the Council meeting in January about the replacement of a tree in Colliers Way – an important tree as it was one of 66 that was planted to represent the 66 closed collieries of the Rhondda. What is the progress in replacing the tree?"

6	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?"
7	Question from County Borough Councillor G. Caple to the Cabinet Member for Communities, Culture and the Welsh Language, County Borough Councillor R. Lewis:- "Can the Cabinet Member please make a statement on the Council's programme of Community Hubs?"
8	Question from County Borough Councillor J. Harries to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure and Heritage Services, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:- "In what ways is this Council seeking to increase visitor numbers to Rhondda Cynon Taf?"

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. <u>CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT</u>

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</u> <u>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

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Item: MEMBERS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Background Papers

Council AGM 2019.

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