

Public Document Pack

Full Council Wednesday, 21 June 2023 Additional Information Pack

| Agenda Item No. | Supplementary Information | Page Number |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 8 | Questions Report | 3 |

This page is intentionally left blank

FULL COUNCIL 21 JUNE 2023 QUESTIONS

Questions were received under the following categories:

| <u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u> | |
|--|---|
| <u>Questions from members of the public</u> | |
| 1. | <p>Question from Nigel Cracknell</p> <p>Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities</p> <p>In May and June of this year there were five unauthorised encampments in Orton alone, and more elsewhere in the city. It seems that grass bunds are the most effective defence against these, but our ward councillors have been told we cannot have them as they will cost upwards of £20k to install in the green space adjacent to where I live and Aragon will charge even more to maintain them. Is this the case, and if it is, I cannot see how we will ever protect our green spaces? Obviously, we cannot put a price on the distress these encampments cause to residents, but has the council undertaken a cost/benefit analysis to measure whether it makes greater economic sense to spend the money on the installation and upkeep of the bunds or to spend it on court and clean-up costs instead?</p> |

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Questions on notice to:

- a. The Mayor
- b. To the Leader or Member of the Cabinet
- c. To the Chair of any Committee or Sub-committee

1. Question from Cllr Hogg (1)

Councillor Simons, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change

Can the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change please give us an update on the current status of food waste caddy bags provision. Specifically, how many of the bags ordered by residents prior to May have still not been delivered, do Aragon envisage running out of bags before the July stock refresh, and will we be reinstating the 'tie a bag to your bin' method of asking for replacements?

2. Question from Cllr Cole

Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities

According to Peterborough Women's Aid they receive approximately 468 referrals per year for women who are experiencing Domestic Abuse. What funding does the council intend to make to support specialised domestic abuse charities who help rebuild the lives of women and girls who are victims of this horrific crime?

3. Question from Cllr Stevenson (1)

Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities

Pleasure Fair Meadow car park on Oundle Road has recently been sold to Medesham Homes which is a joint venture between the council and Cross Keys Homes. Might space on this large site be found for a new hydrotherapy pool to replace St George's?

4. Question from Cllr Qayyum

Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities

Now that the alternative facility for the Hydrotherapy pool has been in full operation since it was last set up, service user uptake, as per feedback from residents and those who represent disabled hydrotherapy users, that I have spoken to, appears to be poor. Whether this be due to higher rates charged for usage of the pool or difficulties accessing the location via transport, does the Cabinet member feel this operation has been successful?

| | |
|-----------|--|
| <p>5.</p> | <p>Question from Cllr Iqbal</p> <p>Councillor Coles, Cabinet Member for Legal, Finance and Corporate Services</p> <p>On 13th March 2023, Cabinet approved an extension to the Hilton Hotel Loan to 31st December 2023. Why was the extension needed?</p> |
| <p>6.</p> | <p>Question from Cllr Stevenson (2)</p> <p>Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities</p> <p>In respect of both unauthorised encampments and anti-social use of cars (also known as ‘drifting’) in the city, Cambs Police say they can only act when they receive sufficient calls from the public, yet recently they have turned off the police webchat in the evenings (albeit on a trial basis) and many residents report to councillors that call centre operators aren’t interested in calls about these issues. This is putting additional pressure on the council’s enforcement team which is unable to deal with incidents outside normal office hours the way the police can. Would the relevant cabinet member be prepared to write to the Cambs police superintendent about this and ask him to raise the matter with his seniors as clearly the situation is doing nothing to help residents or instil faith in the police or the council.</p> |
| <p>7.</p> | <p>Question from Cllr Hogg (2)</p> <p>Councillor Simons, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>Following the recent trial of the JCB Pothole Pro can the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change please outline how this trial went and how use of this machine would improve our effectiveness in dealing with potholes across our area?</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <p><u>Questions on notice to:</u></p> <p>d. The Combined Authority Representatives</p> |
| | <p>None.</p> |