FULL COUNCIL 6 December 2023 QUESTIONS

Questions were received under the following categories:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Questions from members of the public

1. Question from Mick Bratley

Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Housing, Growth and Regeneration

Peterborough has now effectively lost its showground. How will the city provide cultural, sporting and other outdoor activities to residents and visitors on a large scale in the future?

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 Councillor Hussain (2)

Councillor Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Can you please advise the council on how many household support fund vouchers have been paid out and how many are waiting to be processed?

2 Question from Councillor Tyler

Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Housing, Growth and Regeneration

I was pleased to see due to the hard work of the previous administration and officers the Key Theatre has been reopened in time for Panto season. Can the leader or the relevant cabinet member please advise this council as to when the regional is pool is likely to reopen or are you determined to keep it closed for good?

3 Question from Councillor Coles (1)

Councillor John Howard – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance

What is the predicted cost of borrowing currently to fund capital projects and service capital debt and what additional costs are forecast for the next financial year?

4 Question from Councillor S. Allen

Councillor Howard, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance

With the current administration having inherited a sensible initiative regarding the ongoing review of the City Council's community venues and locations; can I ask the current cabinet member whether he will continue to sensibly manage the review and confirm that at this stage no decision has been taken with regard to sales or disposals.

Additionally, will he assure the chamber that all interested parties and incumbent organizations will be included in the necessary negotiations, and acknowledge that this will be a fair, reasonable and transparent process?

Indeed, a process as put in place by the now deposed Conservative Administration, (who of course remain the largest party in the chamber).

5 Question from Councillor J. Allen Councillor Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children's Services In the academic year 2022-2023, our School Admissions Team processed a total of 5,901 applications for school places - that's 2,100 more applications than the previous academic year, this is significant and has clearly had an impact on Home to School Transport costs with the early indication that there is a £1 million pressure on this service. Are there any situations where it is permissible to cross charge or to seek recovery costs for Home to School transport from Local Authorities outside of Peterborough who place their homeless families in our local authority to take advantage of the cheaper rental costs in Peterborough. 6 **Question from Councillor Coles (2)** Councillor John Howard - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate **Governance and Finance** I was pleased to see Cllr Howard announcing the arrival of article 4 powers in the city to enable the council to regulate new Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs). Can Councillor Howard please let us know what work he has done personally to deliver this policy for the city? 7 **Question from Councillor Hussain (1)** Councillor Sagib Farooq, Cabinet Member for Adults and Health Can you inform council how we compare in public health funding terms to similar local authorities? And what are the main challenges we face? 8 **Question from Councillor Sharp** Councillor Howard, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate **Governance and Finance** Can the cabinet member confirm the current status of the Hampton community centres within the Localities Review and whether they are in scope. And specifically, if discussions have been had to date with any stakeholders such as Hampton Parish Council? 9 Question from Councillor Stevenson Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Housing, Growth and Regeneration Thinking of the recent destruction of the city's hydrotherapy pool, will the leader and his cabinet assure the public that they won't destroy any more of the city's assets solely on the basis of a belief that they 'could' become dangerous? 10 **Question from Councillor Stephen Lane**

Councillor Gavin Elsey, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change

Abandoned supermarket trolleys continue to be a problem and annoyance to Peterborough residents, and especially in the neighbourhoods that surround Werrington Centre. We see public green spaces, footpaths, car parks and watercourses blighted by abandoned trolleys.

Can residents expect support from the council by asking it to deal with an issue where supermarkets seem to be ignorant of their role in contributing to the quality and appearance of our local environment? The curse of abandoned trolleys needs to stop, and each respective owner be made to act accordingly.

Questions on notice to:

The Combined Authority Representatives:

There were none.