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**Nottingham
City Council**

Additional / To Follow Agenda Items

This is a supplement to the original agenda and includes reports that are additional to the original agenda or which were marked 'to follow'.

Nottingham City Council City Council

Date: Monday, 11 September 2023

Time: 2.00 pm

Place: Council Chamber - at the Council House

Governance Officer: Jane Garrard, Senior Governance Officer **Direct Dial:** 0115 8764315

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Questions from Citizens

PQ1

A citizen has asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

What is Nottingham City Council's policy on the permanent display of religious symbols on publicly owned land?

PQ2

A citizen has asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Energy, Environment and Waste Services and Parks at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

What is the Council's current spending commitment to maintain, repair, improve and expand the provision of playgrounds in Nottingham? How does this commitment compare to patterns of spending over the past decade?

PQ3

A citizen has asked the following question of the Chair of the Audit Committee at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

The recent Ernst and Young audit report concerning the Council's finances has reportedly not been reviewed by the Leader, Deputy Leader (notably the councillor responsible for finance), or other Council members. Additionally, the public, who have contributed £240,000 in council tax for this consultancy, has not been privy to the findings. Yet, decisions regarding the Council's response to the report were finalised in the Audit Committee meeting on 30th June. Given the Council's previous history of making political decisions without comprehensive information, evident from situations like Robin Hood Energy and the discrepancies in the Housing Revenue Account, two questions arise: a) Is the Chair of the Audit Committee content with the resolutions agreed upon during the 30th June meeting? b) Is it a routine practice for the Committee to make fiscal decisions using taxpayers' money without thorough knowledge of the facts?

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Questions from Councillors

CQ1

Question to be asked by Councillor Sam Harris of the Portfolio Holder for Housing at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

Does the Portfolio Holder for Housing share with me my shock and utter despair at the reports in July that Michael Gove returned nearly £2 billion back to the Treasury? And could the Portfolio Holder tell me how this money would ease the homelessness and housing crisis in Nottingham?

CQ2

Question to be asked by Councillor Liaqat Ali of the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods, Safety and Inclusion at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

Does the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods, Safety and Inclusion agree that the Government's decision to "evict" Afghan refugees from hotels and temporary accommodation is a shameful failure of duty, and yet another example of the Government's callous and uncaring views on refugees to this country?

CQ3

Question to be asked by Councillor Sam Lux of the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

Over 60,000 people have visited the Castle since its reopening, would the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture join me in celebrating this and can he confirm what future events are planned at the Castle for this year?

CQ4

Question to be asked by Councillor AJ Matsiko of the Portfolio Holder for Energy, Environment and Waste Services and Parks at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

Could the Portfolio Holder for Energy, Environment and Waste Services and Parks confirm how polluted the river water is in Nottingham - in the Trent, the Leen and other water courses?

CQ5

Question to be asked by Councillor Michael Edwards of the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Education at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

Could the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Education tell us what is being done to check that schools in Nottingham are not at risk due to the presence of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)?

CQ6

Question to be asked by Councillor Devontay Okure of the Leader of the Council at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

In May, local elections delivered 51 Labour Councillors on the basis of an ambitious manifesto. Can the Leader report on progress on adopting these manifesto commitments as Council policy and on progress to date on the current Council Plan?

CQ7

Question to be asked by Councillor Kevin Clarke of the Portfolio Holder for Energy, Environment and Waste Services and Parks at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

Could the Portfolio Holder explain the thinking of getting members of the public to remove cherished items from on and around their loved one's graves unless they renegotiate the terms of the leases they have?

CQ8

Question to be asked by Councillor Kevin Clarke of the Leader of the Council at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

Could the Leader of the Council provide an update on the future of the Victoria Market and what is being done to finalise compensation arrangements for those traders who already vacated the market in good faith and incurred additional costs as a result?

CQ9

Question to be asked by Councillor Kirsty Jones of the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

Does the Portfolio Holder agree with me that it was a missed opportunity for the Council not to publicly broadcast the Women's World Cup final and bring the

residents of Nottingham together to support the England Lionesses, and that the grounds of the Castle would have been an ideal venue to do so?

CQ10

Question to be asked by Councillor Maria Watson of the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

Can the Portfolio Holder provide further detail on how the concept of community benefit will be applied to mitigate potential rent charges to the City's community centres?

CQ11

Question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Housing at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

Following the well documented unlawful spend from the Housing Revenue Account, the Portfolio Holder's predecessor indicated at the budget meeting that there was a strategy in place to prioritise how monies repaid to it would be prioritised to benefit tenants. Could the Portfolio Holder provide further detail on this and particularly focus on how this will benefit those tenants with properties requiring outstanding repairs?

CQ12

Question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Energy, Environment and Waste Services and Parks at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

In February the Council removed the swings from the Ruddington Lane Recreation Ground. It is now almost six months since they were removed. Can the Portfolio Holder provide a timeframe for when they will be replaced and outline what can be done to ensure that replacing equipment does not take this amount of time in the future?

Questions from Councillors requiring a written response

WQ1

Question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Leader of the Council at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023 requesting a written response

The Leader of the Council will be aware that the Labour run Council in Birmingham is subject to a Section 114 notice and a significant cause of that is a £760million equal pay claim awarded against the Council. With that in mind, can the Leader offer reassurance that claims in a similar judgement upheld in the Supreme Court against Nottingham City Council in 2018 have all been settled; and if not what proportion of claims remain outstanding and what their cumulative value is?

WQ2

Question to be asked by Councillor Kirsty Jones of the Portfolio Holder for Skills, Growth, Economic Development and Property at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

Could the Portfolio Holder provide a breakdown of the proportion of commercial and industrial units in the City owned by Nottingham City Council split out by year since 2019?

WQ3

Question to be asked by Councillor Kevin Clarke of the Portfolio Holder for Finance and HR at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

Could the Portfolio Holder provide the following information in relation to Loxley House:

- Current book value as at 31 March 2023
- Annual utility cost for the last five years
- Annual maintenance cost for the last five years
- Current occupancy rate split out between the Council and non-Council organisations

WQ4

Question to be asked by Councillor Maria Watson of the Portfolio Holder for Finance and HR at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 11 September 2023

Could the Portfolio Holder provide a breakdown of external grants received by the City Council in the last 12 months, together with a breakdown of income earned by the Council for administering those grants?