

Questions from Councillors

CQ1

Question to be asked by Councillor Kevin Clarke of the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Schools and Communications at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 9 November 2020

As we watch with some concern the rapidly growing pandemic numbers and the implementation of a second lockdown we also note that, unlike with the first lockdown, schools are to remain open at least for the immediate future. While we do not underestimate the risks associated with Covid-19, we believe it is imperative that schools remain open, with a September report by the National Foundation for Educational Research stating that disadvantaged pupils were disproportionately negatively affected by not being in school. With the National Education Union now vocally calling for schools to be included in the lockdown plans, can the Portfolio Holder outline where Nottingham City Council currently falls on the debate?

CQ2

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 9 November 2020

No one here, or indeed likely anywhere in the country, will be unaware of the scale or severity of the challenge this country is currently facing. It is therefore with some sadness that we viewed the large numbers of young people partying long passed the 10pm pub closing time and failing to social distance, before the Tier 3 restrictions came into place. Since then, we've also seen frankly disgraceful house parties forcing the police to waste their time and resources in breaking them up. I will stress that I believe the vast majority of young people are adhering to the rules and contributing to helping the rest of our community to remain safe. However, will the Leader of the Council join us in condemning such irresponsible behaviour, and appeal to the people of Nottingham to put others first and stick to the rules when it comes to protecting the lives of our citizens?

CQ3

Question to be asked by Councillor Angharad Roberts of the Leader of the Council at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 9 November 2020

Given reports SAGE recommended a circuit breaker as early as September, how concerned is the Leader that the Government is dithering on important decisions and failing to properly listen to scientific advice? How does he think the delays in decision making by Government have affected people in Nottingham?

CQ4

Question to be asked by Councillor Dinnall of the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Schools and Communications at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 9 November 2020

What reassurances can the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Schools and Communications give Nottingham parents, teachers and pupils who may feel anxious about schools remaining open during the second lockdown?

CQ5

Question to be asked by Councillor Angela Kandola of the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Growth and the City Centre at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 9 November 2020

Does the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Growth and the City Centre feel Nottingham businesses have been let down by the Government's inconsistent and last minute approach to Covid?

CQ6

Question to be asked by Councillor Leslie Ayoola of the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Housing and Heritage at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 9 November 2020

What winter measures has the Council got in place for rough sleepers over the coming winter months?

CQ7

Question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Growth and the City Centre at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 9 November 2020

Given that the Draft Annual Governance Statement, presented at the last Audit Committee meeting, describes the 'deteriorating district heating infrastructure' that includes Enviroenergy as requiring 'significant investment' indicated at £300million within the next 10 years, how is it anticipated that this investment will be financed and will it be provided on the same interest free basis as the Company's existing borrowing?

CQ8

Question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Housing and Heritage at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 9 November 2020

Does the Portfolio Holder believe that it is fair that Nottingham City Homes' Housing Allocation Policy differentiates between court sanctioned custody agreements and informal custody agreements amicably agreed between separated parents for their children and, as far as housing allocation is concerned, favouring the former and completely disregarding the latter?

CQ9

Question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Deputy Leader of the Council at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 9 November 2020

The Portfolio Holder will appreciate that following the return of students to university, in light of the pandemic, that the proximity of the campuses of the City's universities to local communities in the City, particularly in Clifton, has caused concern and anxiety for residents in light of prevalence of Covid amongst the 18-23 age bracket. Could the Portfolio Holder, in her position as Chair of the Outbreak Control Engagement Board, confirm whether she is satisfied with the level of engagement from universities with local communities to alleviate these concerns?

CQ10

Question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Communities the meeting of the City Council to be held on 9 November 2020

The Portfolio Holder will be aware that many of the City's community centres have remained closed from the start of the first lockdown in March to date. Will she outline what support is being provided to community centres to ensure that they are able to re-open as soon as local Covid restrictions permit?

Questions from Councillors requiring a written response

WQ1

Written question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Growth and the City Centre at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 9 November 2020

Following my last Council question regarding a breakdown by service line of how the Council's COVID overspend is budgeted, could the Portfolio Holder now provide a breakdown of how actual spend by service line compares against the budgetary information provided previously?

WQ2

Written question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Growth and the City Centre at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 9 November 2020

Could the Portfolio Holder define what is meant by non-essential spend and provide examples, in his view of the top 10 (by value), of non-essential spend incurred by the Council in the financial year 2019/20?