

## Questions from Councillors Requiring a Written Response

WQ1

### **WRITTEN QUESTION ASKED BY COUNCILLOR ANDREW RULE OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ADULT CARE AND LOCAL TRANSPORT AT THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON 13 JANUARY 2020**

Could the Portfolio Holder confirm how much the Council paid for acquiring the controlling stake in Thomas Bow Limited; and confirm how long it will be before a return is generated to the benefit of the council tax payer?

#### **Response from Councillor Adele Williams:**

The response is exempt from publication under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of the Council and Thomas Bow Limited and having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because disclosure at this time could prejudice the finalisation of the completion accounts with Thomas Bow Limited.

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WQ2

### **WRITTEN QUESTION 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 13 JANUARY 2020**

Could the Portfolio Holder provide a breakdown of the following:

- The total lending to all wholly and majority owned Council companies split out by individual loan;
- The total interest generated on that lending over the last year;
- The estimated date at which each loan provided will be paid back;
- Where applicable, any dividends that have been received from wholly and majority owned companies?

#### **Response from Councillor Sam Webster:**

In 2018/19 £1.375million dividend was accounted for and is reflected in the draft statement of accounts.

The remainder of the response is exempt from publication under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of the Council and its wholly and majority owned companies and, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because the information may reveal commercially sensitive information about the companies which could be detrimental to the companies if known by competitors in their respective markets.

**WRITTEN QUESTION 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 13 JANUARY 2020**

Could the Portfolio Holder provide a breakdown since 2010 of the amount of business rates revenue the Council has lost from vacant business units in the City Centre?

**Response from Councillor Sam Webster:**

The figures below represent lost income from vacant lettings. This value is based on the amount of empty property relief granted.

	<u>CITY CENTRE - COUNCIL IMPACT</u>
2019/20	
2018/19	1,547,412
2017/18	1,473,956
2016/17	1,345,122
2015/16	1,326,455
2014/15	1,386,812
2013/14	1,254,877
2012/13	1,240,372
2011/12	1,042,589
2010/11	1,251,406
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,869,000</b>

In 2017/18 there was a national revaluation of businesses; the empty property relief grant equates to the loss in income with 51% of the gross loss being returned back to Central Government.

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**WQ4**

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO BE ASKED BY COUNCILLOR KEVIN CLARKE OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR FINANCE, GROWTH AND THE CITY CENTRE AT THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON 13 JANUARY 2020**

Could the Portfolio Holder provide us with the outstanding amount on all loans currently provided to Robin Hood Energy, and outline to us how the repayment plan is currently arranged?

**Response from Councillor Sam Webster:**

The response is exempt from publication under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of the Council and Robin Hood Energy and, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because the information may reveal commercially sensitive information about Robin Hood Energy which could be detrimental to the Company if known by competitors in their respective market.

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