

QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR, CABINET MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

To Portfolio Holder for Planning and Growth:

1. Given that the timetable for the Joint Local Plan is delayed until Autumn 2019 please can the Portfolio Holder confirm that background work will still be carried out in the meantime to enable a robust submission from Newcastle Borough Council when the time comes?

Cllr Helena Maxfield
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To the Leader of the Council:

2. Can the Leader of the Council provide an update on his work with the Business Improvement District (BID) over the past year as the Council's representative on the BID board.

Cllr Andy Fear
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To the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Efficiency:

3. When was the decision made to withdraw the contract from the borough's churches for servicing/maintenance?

Who made the decision?

How were councillors involved?

How many churches are affected?

How were the churches notified?

Cllr Amelia Rout
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To the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Efficiency:

4. "In response to a question I asked previously at full council about the potential costs of demolishing the Civic Centre (if this becomes necessary), members received the following written response:

The Council is in the process of commissioning specialist consultancy support to determine the most appropriate approach and likely cost of demolishing the building.

Can members be given an update on the progress of this commissioning process, the cost of this consultancy support and (if it is available) their advice on the approach, timescale and cost of demolishing the building safely. If the advice, and the likely cost of demolishing the building, is not yet available, when will it be available?"

Cllr Tony Kearon

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To the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Wellbeing:

(...to be answered by the Leader of the Council)

5. Local authorities have been warned to prepare for up to three months of disruption in the event of a no-deal Brexit. Despite limited information from government many councils up and down the country have produced plans to ensure that they are as well prepared as possible to deal with a no-deal Brexit situation, and are stepping up their work with local businesses. In addition some councils have warned employees that holiday arrangements may have to be suspended for up to eight weeks, including over Easter. Our local communities need reassurance, especially with the current uncertainties over any deal, therefore what plan does the administration have for a no-deal Brexit and when will this be made public?

Cllr Elizabeth Shenton

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To the Leader of the Council:

6. Can the Leader of the Council please explain why the recent appointment of Head of Human Resources was not an internal appointment?

Cllr Kyle Robinson

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To the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Wellbeing:

7. Will the portfolio holder responsible for homelessness please explain what plans are being put in place to reduce the increasing amount of rough sleepers on our streets this winter?

Cllr Kyle Robinson

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