

QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR, CABINET MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

To the Leader of the Council:

1. 2025 marks eighty years since the end of the Second World War with Victory in Europe (V E Day) on 8th May 1945 and Victory over Japan (V J Day) on 15th August 1945. Will the Leader of the Council confirm how the Borough Council intends to commemorate these important anniversaries?

Cllr. Richard Gorton

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To the Leader of the Council:

2. We have seen an extreme spell of cold weather affecting residents of the Borough since the New Year. Many of our pensioners are still reeling from the governments cut to the Winter Fuel Allowance, some making a decision about whether to eat or heat.

The Council unanimously passed a Motion at its September meeting asking the Leader & Chief Executive to write to Rachel Reeves, Chancellor of the Exchequer, urging a review of the decision to means-test the Winter Fuel Allowance and asking her to ensure that vulnerable pensioners, particularly those who do not claim Pension Credit, were protected from fuel poverty. Secondly, to write to Adam Jogee MP and the other MPs representing the Borough, calling on them to support the campaign to reverse the Government's decision.

Has the Council received a response from the Chancellor or local MPs?

Mr Jogee told the local newspaper that he would be organising a series of 'roving surgeries' across Newcastle to help pensioners claim Pensions Credit to therefore qualify for the Winter Fuel Allowance.

How many 'roving surgeries' did Mr Jogee hold before the deadline to apply for Pensions Credit to enable pensioners to receive this year's Winter Fuel Allowance?

Councillor Mark Holland

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