

COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 08 September 2021

AGENDA ITEM 12 – WRITTEN QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12

1	<p>Question by Councillor Watson to the Leader of the Council – Councillor Pandor</p> <p>"Does the Leader of the Council hold the opinion that Kirklees Council is providing a good standard of services to the council tax payers of Kirklees?"</p> <p>The Leader of the Council to respond</p>
2	<p>Question by Councillor Watson to the Leader of the Council – Councillor Pandor</p> <p>"On Sunday 25 July 2021 the Council's web site had a banner headline across the middle of it with a red triangle advising: 'Important - Phone lines are busy'</p> <p>Why were the phone lines so busy on a Sunday and who took the decision that it was necessary to advise the council tax payers of Kirklees of this?"</p> <p>The Leader of the Council to respond</p>
3	<p>Question by Councillor Watson to the Leader of the Council – Councillor Pandor</p> <p>"Why was the meeting of the Licensing Committee on 20 July 2021 cancelled?"</p> <p>The Leader of the Council to respond</p>
4	<p>Question by Councillor Watson to the Leader of the Council – Councillor Pandor</p> <p>"Following a decision of the Heavy Woollen planning committee how soon should the decision be posted upon the planning section of the Council's web site?"</p> <p>The Leader of the Council to respond</p>

5	<p>Question by Councillor Watson to the Leader of the Council – Councillor Pandor</p> <p>“I have recently been contacted by a driving instructor who has made a number of complaints regarding road marking in the Kirklees area. I am told it is difficult to teach students to negotiate roundabouts when one issues the instruction "follow the lane markings" - but the lane markings are not visible. Why does Kirklees have roundabouts and junctions where the road markings are not visible?”</p> <p>The Leader of the Council to respond</p>
6	<p>Question by Councillor Watson to the Leader of the Council – Councillor Pandor</p> <p>“When is the pedestrian crossing at Shelley college going to be installed?”</p> <p>The Leader of the Council to respond</p>
7	<p>Question by Councillor J Taylor to the Cabinet Member for Environment - Councillor Mather</p> <p>“What do you think is an acceptable timescale for repairs to fencing on a busy A road which is protecting pedestrians?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
8	<p>Question by Councillor J Taylor to the Cabinet Member for Environment - Councillor Mather</p> <p>“Does the Cabinet Member think that the waste collection service has it's priorities right?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
9	<p>Question by Councillor J Taylor to the Leader of the Council – Councillor Pandor</p> <p>“How many vacancies do we currently have at Kirklees and how long had the earliest vacancy been outstanding for?”.</p> <p>The Leader of the Council to respond</p>
10	<p>Question by Councillor Burke to the Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspiration and Communities - Councillor Pattison</p> <p>“The Government has warned local authorities and schools about a shortage of food for school meals. Does the Cabinet Member know how this will affect our local schools and is the Cabinet doing anything to ameliorate the problem?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>

11	<p>Question by Councillor Munro to the Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspiration and Communities - Councillor Pattison</p> <p>“A further 13 years remain under the PFI contract on the former ACS site in Almondbury. This being the case, substantial plans must be involved, so why is there so much secrecy surrounding these plans?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
12	<p>Question by Councillor Munro to the Cabinet Member for Environment - Councillor Mather</p> <p>“To what extent has the waste collection service been affected by the shortage of HGV drivers?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
13	<p>Question by Councillor Cooper to the Leader of the Council – Councillor Pandor</p> <p>“In evaluating the benefits of attracting Amazon has the Leader assessed the negative economic and environmental impacts of large warehousing and industrial estates on motorway junctions and neighbouring communities been considered and costed? Has the potential of attracting rail related businesses been considered? Have discussions taken place with Highways England about safeguards for the people of Scholes and surrounding areas from traffic impacts arising from Amazon and other developments using Chain Bar?”</p> <p>In light of concerns regarding his expressed support for the Amazon Warehouse proposals has the Leader reflected on the wisdom of having members of his Cabinet on Kirklees Planning Committees potentially voting on these proposals?”</p> <p>The Leader of the Council to respond</p>
14	<p>Question by Councillor Cooper to the Cabinet Member for Culture and Greener Kirklees - Councillor Simpson</p> <p>“Will Councillor Simpson review his proposals to remove 128 mature trees on Edgerton corridor into Huddersfield Town Centre as part of the A629 scheme?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
15	<p>Question by Councillor Cooper to the Cabinet Member for Culture and Greener Kirklees - Councillor Simpson</p> <p>“Is there any evidence that the A629 is experiencing continuous traffic growth?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>

16	<p>Question by Councillor Cooper to the Cabinet Member for Culture and Greener Kirklees - Councillor Simpson</p> <p>“Is there any evidence that the design for widening at the A629 Blacker Road junction will significantly benefit traffic capacity or journey times?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
17	<p>Question by Councillor Cooper to the Cabinet Member for Culture and Greener Kirklees - Councillor Simpson</p> <p>“How long will it take for the carbon impacts of planting small trees be realised to mitigate the loss of mature trees in the A629 scheme?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
18	<p>Question by Councillor Cooper to the Cabinet Member for Culture and Greener Kirklees - Councillor Simpson</p> <p>“Does the A629 scheme deliver benefits for walking or cycling in accordance with “Gear Change, A bold vision for cycling and walking?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
19	<p>Question by Councillor Cooper to the Cabinet Member for Culture and Greener Kirklees - Councillor Simpson</p> <p>“Will the A629 scheme improve air quality?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
20	<p>Question by Councillor Cooper to the Cabinet Member for Culture and Greener Kirklees - Councillor Simpson</p> <p>“Can Councillor Simpson provide details of the proposal for a Passivhaus Pilot project in Kirklees?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
21	<p>Question by Councillor Cooper to the Leader of the Council – Councillor Pandor</p> <p>“In the 2021 Local Elections across West Yorkshire the Green Party achieved 10% of the popular vote compared to the Lib Dems 9% of the vote. The Green Party has been allocated no seats on West Yorkshire Combined Authority and the Lib Dems 1. On the WYCA Scrutiny Panels the Lib Dems have 6 seats and the Green Party has just 1 seat.</p> <p>In light of this lack of representation for 61.101 West Yorkshire Green Party Voters, will the Leader of the Council lobby for an extra seat on WYCA so they are properly represented and also ask for changes to Scrutiny Panel allocations to reflect the relative support for each of the parties represented on Councils in West Yorkshire?”</p> <p>The Leader of the Council to respond</p>

22	<p>Question by Councillor Lawson to the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services – Councillor P Davies</p> <p>“It is anticipated that the £20 Universal Credit uplift will be cut soon. What assessment has been made of the impact of such a decision in Kirklees?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
23	<p>Question by Councillor D Hall to the Cabinet Member for Culture and Greener Kirklees - Councillor Simpson</p> <p>“Recently a resident put out her brown bin out for collection as normal but did not get her bin emptied because of contamination from other people who had placed dog-waste bags in her bin.</p> <p>On contacting the council, the advice was for her to check through her bin immediately prior to collection. This can be very early in the morning, however. Can Kirklees be more helpful please?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
24	<p>Question by Councillor D Hall to the Cabinet Member for Environment - Councillor Mather</p> <p>“When will the borough-wide report into traffic speeds be published?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
25	<p>Question by Councillor D Hall to the Cabinet Member for Environment - Councillor Mather</p> <p>“It is obvious that either the frequency or the method in which the council tackles roadside weeds is insufficient. What do you plan to do about this growing issue?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
26	<p>Question by Councillor Warner to the Cabinet Member for Culture and Greener Kirklees - Councillor Simpson</p> <p>“Given that Kirklees has declared a Climate Emergency how does the proposed plan to widen the A629 and remove up to 120 mature trees fit in with this commitment, given that it will taken an average of 30-40 years for the trees to fully mature? Surely every tree really does matter as the Climate Emergency is happening now?”</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
27	<p>Question by Councillor Warner to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration - Councillor McBride</p> <p>“Does the Council not agree that a much better use of the monies from WYCA would be too invest in sustainable transport such as bikes lanes and a better subsidised bus service especially in rural areas?</p> <p>Would this not be an ideal opportunity for Kirklees to show National Leadership by</p>

	<p>turning down monies for a road building scheme to protect our trees and our natural environment as we will never keep pace with the growth of the car?"</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
28	<p>Question by Councillor Gregg to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration - Councillor McBride</p> <p>"Please could the Cabinet Member provide an update on the progress of the proposed governance changes at the John Smiths Stadium?"</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
29	<p>Question by Councillor Lukic to the Cabinet Member for Town Centres - Councillor E Firth</p> <p>"Do you accept that the parking charges in Dewsbury Town Centre have a significant negative effect on trade?"</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
30	<p>Question by Councillor Lukic to the Cabinet Member for Town Centres - Councillor E Firth</p> <p>"Why do you consider parking charges necessary to maintain availability of parking spaces in Dewsbury, when many towns including within Kirklees don't charge visitors to park?"</p> <p>The Cabinet Member to respond</p>
31	<p>Question by Councillor D Hall to the Leader of the Council - Councillor Pandor</p> <p>"Does the Leader of the Council still hold the opinion that Kirklees Council is providing a good standard of services to the council tax payers of Kirklees?"</p> <p>The Leader of the Council to respond</p>