

POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE – 13 DECEMBER 2022

AGENDA ITEM 3 – PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – ORDER IN WHICH THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL WILL INVITE QUESTIONS BELOW RECEIVED IN WRITING IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING

1. From Mr Cosgrove to the Chair of the Policy & Finance Committee, Councillor Gunner
2. From Mr Cosgrove to the Chair of the Policy & Finance Committee, Councillor Gunner
3. From Mr Cosgrove to the Chair of the Policy & Finance Committee, Councillor Gunner

FULL DETAIL OF THE QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED IS DETAILED BELOW

Note, the Chair will:

- invite questions from members of the public who have submitted in writing their questions in line with the Council's Constitution.
- explain that the questions received will be answered by the Chair of the Council
- confirm that Public Question Time allows Members of the public to ask one question at a time and that a maximum of one minute is allowed for each question;
- state that questions will be invited in the order in which they have been received and that if there is time remaining from the 15 minutes allowed for Public Question Time, questioners will be allowed to ask a supplementary question.

QUESTION ONE

Question

Regarding the letter of the Levelling-Up Minister to Nick Gibb MP dated June 2022, of which the Chairman and all Councillors are well aware, which deals with the opportunities of adding private investment to improve the Levelling-Up project for the Regis Centre, I trust the points in the letter have been discussed with senior Officers such as the Chief Executive, the relevant Service Director and the Regeneration Consultant and that consideration has been given to contacting the Departmental civil servant named by the Minister. If not, why not?

Response

We have given consideration to this, however, we see no opportunity for private sector investment. Therefore, we do not see the need to contact the named civil servant.

QUESTION TWO

Question

The Council has already had to find £3.75m in supplementary estimates to add to the £12.2m Levelling-Up funding for the Regis Centre project. The possibility of having to find further funding must be considered - what contingencies has the Council for this eventuality?

Response

The £3.75 m figure is a gross figure rather than a net figure because it ignores any receipts to the council as part of the projects. However, we cannot guarantee that inflation may not run rampant but within the project there is already considerable contingency included.

QUESTION THREE

Question

Regarding the support given by Mrs Latus for the Regis Centre scheme, is that for the 450 seat version and has support from her/the trustees been gained for any later version/have they been consulted?

Response

Yes, I can confirm that they have and that Mrs Latus sits on the Project Board and supports the revised scheme.