

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 1

Question to Councillor Hibbert from Mr Norman Adams

A recent report by Capital Economics states that 'Public expenditure to housing does not take into account the future costs to the welfare system of meeting higher rents in the private rented sector and 'affordable rent' social housing.

And comes to the conclusion 'it is therefore a form of fiscal myopia: saving pennies in the short term only to waste pounds in the future'.

DO you agree?

Response

**Councillor Hibbert
Cabinet Member for Housing**

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 2

Question to Councillor Hibbert from Mr Neil Clarke

Discretionary Housing Payments and any amount awarded is entirely at the discretion of Northampton Borough Council with no right to go to the Tribunal Service on the decision.

Residents can write to the Benefits Manager and ask for a review of the Assessors decision

Q1: How many residents (2014/15) asked for a review?

Q2: How many residents were awarded a better outcome post review?

Response

**Councillor Hibbert
Cabinet Member for Housing**

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 3

Question to Councillor Hadland from Councillor Stone

Work on the new East Stand at Sixfields Stadium has unfortunately stopped.
As a major creditor to NTFC, what leverage are we using to ensure the stadium is finished soon?

Response

Councillor Hadland
Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 4

Question to Councillor Markham from Councillor Stone

Northamptonshire County Council previously had a policy of not paying its staff sick pay for the first three days. This has now been reduced to one. Will the Leader consider learning the lessons from the County Council and perhaps do the same on this Council?

Response

**Councillor Markham
Leader of the Council**

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 5

Question to Councillor Eldred from Councillor Stone

What summer activities/events for young people has the Borough Council planned for this school holiday?

Response

**Councillor Eldred
Cabinet Member for Community Engagement**

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 6

Question to Councillor Hadland from Councillor Ashraf

Can the Cabinet Member provide us with an update on progress in joining up of St. James Mill Road and the road end in St. James Retail Park?

Response

**Councillor Hadland
Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning**

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 7

Question to Councillor Markham from Councillor Ashraf

Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed the Parking Report on Monday 23rd March 2015 and it is now waiting to go to Cabinet. Can the Leader confirm which particular cabinet meeting this report will be discussed and what are her initial thoughts on the conclusions/recommendations (without pre-judging any Cabinet decision)?

Response

**Councillor Markham
Leader of the Council**

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 8

Question to Councillor Hadland from Councillor Davenport

This Council has previously committed to the Richard Butcher Memorial Pitch. Can the Cabinet Member tell us how he intends to take this forward in the coming months?

Response

**Councillor Hadland
Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning**

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 9

Question to Councillor Hallam from Councillor Gowen

The average district council, in 2014/2015, is collecting 97.9% of council tax but for Northampton it is 96.2%. Last year the collection rate in Northampton was 96.3%.

What is the Borough Council doing to meet the average collection rate for district councils? (statistics according to DCLG).

Response

Councillor Hallam
Cabinet Member for Finance

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 10

Question to Councillor Eldred from Councillor Gowen

Can the Cabinet Member confirm that they will not carry out a 'Community Governance' review before May 2019? The last one cost approximately £130,000 only for most communities to reject the idea of a Parish Council.

Response

**Councillor Eldred
Cabinet Member for Community Engagement**

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 11

Question to Councillor Hallam from Councillor Gowen

The Conservative Government in their recent budget announced a range of welfare changes such as a new benefit cap of £20,000. This is likely to have an impact on demand for Borough Council services, how is the Council preparing for this?

Response

**Councillor Hallam
Cabinet Member for Finance**

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 12

Question to Councillor Bottwood from Councillor G Eales

The contractor is now strictly picking up only two green sacks per week. The contract doesn't come to end until 2018 and many residents are angry. Will the Cabinet Member inform me of the Administration's strategy for dealing with situation over the next three years?

In the short-term however, how is the Council proposing to collect black bin bags and fly tipping left on the streets due to the contractor only collecting just two green sacks?

Response

Councillor Bottwood
Cabinet Member for Environment

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 13

Question to Councillor Eldred from Councillor Culbard

Will the Administration, in this next term of office, try and get the arts council accreditation status back for our museums?

Response

**Councillor Eldred
Cabinet Member for Community Engagement**

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 14

Question to Councillor Hadland from Councillor Haque

The Borough Council and County Council said the former Castle House site in Spring Boroughs should be used as a 'Heritage Gateway'. However, the County Council proposal is not keeping with this. Is the Cabinet Member opposed to the County Council plan for 30 houses on the site? If the Cabinet Member is opposed, please can Northampton Borough Council state its opposition in the strongest of terms?

Response

**Councillor Hadland
Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning**

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 15

Question to Councillor Bottwood from Councillor Duffy

If Swanhaven lakes (along Billing Brook road on left before The Tanners pub) are a major flood defence for the area, why haven't the filters been regularly inspected and kept clear? This lack of care has resulted in pollution by oil from neighbouring areas causing deaths and suffering to the lakes' wildlife.

Response

Councillor Bottwood
Cabinet Member for Environment

Question for Full Council Monday 20th July 2015

Question 16

Question to Councillor Hibbert from Mr Adams

Houses in Multiple Occupation when undertaking the checks are you including minimum room sizes?

Response

**Councillor Hibbert
Cabinet Member for Housing**