

Public Questions for Council Wednesday 21 November 2018

No.	Subject	From:-
1	Letter to the Foreign Secretary Refugees from War Torn Countries	Mary Boddy
2		Katherine Hay
3.	Special Responsibility Allowances	Alan Wright
4.	Special Responsibility Allowances	Nathan Davison
5.	Standards Committee	Rod Hepplewhite
6.	Transparent Spending	Carlton West
7.	Assistance for Waspi Women	Linda Wood
8.	Town Council for Washington	Dom Armstrong
9.	Improving Rates of Recycling	Richard Bradley
10.	Gagging Orders	Rachel Featherstone
11.	Carbon Cost of Strategic Plan	Rachel Lowe

Memo

My ref GK
 Your ref

From	Head of Law and Governance	Date	18.09.18
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Public Question for Council – Wednesday 21 November 2018 – Letter to the Foreign Secretary and Refugees from War Torn Countries		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Mary Boddy, a resident of Sunderland, has submitted the following question to be put to the Council meeting on 21 November 2018.

“Can the people of Sunderland see the letter sent to the Foreign Secretary on behalf of Sunderland City Council? And can he ensure the people of this welcoming city that his administration supports taking in people who are fleeing their own country for safe passages in Sunderland?”

In addition, Katherine Hay has submitted the following question:

“What is the council’s current stance on the compassionate and human act of accepting refugees from the most horrendous situations in war torn countries? Is sitting back and letting these people suffer acceptable? And what exactly are the ‘issues’ in the city of Sunderland? What about the rest of Sunderland, outside of the city?”

Head of Law and Governance

Memo

My ref GK
Your ref

From	Head of Law and Governance	Date	25.09.18
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Public Question for Council – Wednesday 21 November 2018 – Special Responsibility Allowances		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Alan Wright, a resident of Sunderland, has submitted the following question to be put to the Council meeting on 21 November 2018.

“Can you clear up some confusion and confirm that Lib Dem Councillor Stephen O'Brien accepted an additional responsibility allowance as Deputy Group Leader despite the Lib Dems only having a Group of two Councillors at that time.”

In addition, Nathan Davison has submitted the following question:

“Following Cllr O'Brien stepping down from the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee, the Liberal Democrats and Others Group refused to nominate a member of their group or allow another opposition councillor to take the vacant seat. Can you advise whether Cllr Hodson and Cllr O'Brien are still taking their SRA for leader and deputy leader of a minority opposition party, despite refusing to take part in this important scrutiny and so failing to carry out their duties as councillors?”

Head of Law and Governance

Memo

My ref GK
 Your ref

From	Head of Law and Governance	Date	06.11.18
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Public Question for Council – Wednesday 21 November 2018 – Standards Committee		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Rod Hepplewhite, a resident of Sunderland, has submitted the following question to be put to the Council meeting on 21 November 2018.

“There has been a great deal of speculation recently regarding the Leader of the Council and a company called Ashcore Homes Ltd. Now that the Standards Committee has concluded their review of any relationship, could the Leader please provide an update on the outcome?”

Head of Law and Governance

Memo

My ref GK
Your ref

From	Head of Law and Governance	Date	11.11.18
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Public Question for Council – Wednesday 21 November 2018 – Transparent Spending		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Carlton West, a resident of Sunderland, has submitted the following question to be put to the Council meeting on 21 November 2018.

“We are aware that Sunderland Council does not track spend geographically but the people of Washington want to know how much is spent in Washington. Now that the council is aware that Washington residents want transparency and to know where their tax money is spent, what does the council plan to do to collate and share this information.”

Head of Law and Governance

Memo

My ref GK
 Your ref

From	Head of Law and Governance	Date	13.11.18
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Public Question for Council – Wednesday 21 November 2018 – Assistance for Waspi Women		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Linda Wood, a resident of Sunderland, has submitted the following question to be put to the Council meeting on 21 November 2018.

“The Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, pledged to help women affected by the sudden state pension changes in 2011, these women are sometimes known as Waspi or 1950s women. He has done this by granting concessionary bus passes to those most affected, women born between 6/10/53 and 5/11/54. Would Sunderland Council consider doing something similar to help, in a small way, the stress, upset and worry caused by these changes which were introduced so rapidly.”

Head of Law and Governance

Memo

My ref GK
 Your ref

From	Head of Law and Governance	Date	13.11.18
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Public Question for Council – Wednesday 21 November 2018 – Town Council for Washington		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Dom Armstrong, a resident of Sunderland, has submitted the following question to be put to the Council meeting on 21 November 2018.

“Over 1100 people responded to a straw poll on Facebook regarding Wexit, and they were overwhelmingly in favour of a Town Council for Washington. Will the council take the lead and bring forward the Community Governance Review they are expected to perform every 10 – 15 years as per paragraph 26 of the local government guidance paper, or will it take a petition by residents to force them to act?”

Head of Law and Governance

Memo

My ref GK
Your ref

From	Head of Law and Governance	Date	13.11.18
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Public Question for Council – Wednesday 21 November 2018 – Improving Rates of Recycling		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Richard Bradley, a resident of Sunderland, has submitted the following question to be put to the Council meeting on 21 November 2018.

“It’s disappointing that Cllr Wilson is not committed to making Sunderland the best council in the North East at reducing, reusing and recycling waste especially as this council is rubbish at rubbish. The latest government figures show that we have the most waste per household in the area and are amongst the worst for recycling. Will she at least commit to being average and bring recycling up to the regional average of 36%?”

Head of Law and Governance

Memo

My ref GK
Your ref

From	Head of Law and Governance	Date	13.11.18
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Public Question for Council – Wednesday 21 November 2018 – Gagging Orders		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
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Rachel Featherstone, a resident of Sunderland, has submitted the following question to be put to the Council meeting on 21 November 2018.

“Why have the council gagging orders to local frontline services, threatening to cut off funding if people involved in running those services are critical of the council?”

Head of Law and Governance

Memo

My ref GK
Your ref

From	Head of Law and Governance	Date	15.11.18
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Public Question for Council – Wednesday 21 November 2018 – Carbon Cost of Strategic Plan		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Rachel Lowe, a resident of Sunderland, has submitted the following question to be put to the Council meeting on 21 November 2018.

“In view of the IPCC report giving the world only 12 years to take the action necessary to avoid a climate disaster will Sunderland council revisit their strategic plan and evaluate the carbon cost of each element, in particular the unpopular green belt housing plans which encourage car use even if just to get a pint of milk.”

Head of Law and Governance