

Questions for Council 26 January 2022

No.	Subject	From:-
1	Energy Bills	Cllr P Tye
2	Seaburn Tram Shelter	Cllr J Doyle
3	Street Lighting and Northern Powergrid	Cllr H Fagan
4	Climate Change Fund	Cllr T Dodds
5	Roker Pier	Cllr S Johnson
6	Visitor Parking Permits in CPMS Areas	Cllr A Wood
7	Sunderland School Meals Service	Cllr J Fletcher
8	Road Layout on St Mary's Way	Cllr L Reed
9	Inflation and City Hall	Cllr P Edgeworth

Memo

My ref PT/SF
Your ref

From	Cllr Phil Tye	Date	18.01.22
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 26th January 2022		
	Energy Bills		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Phil Tye		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Assistant Director of Law and Governance		
	File		

The Resolution Foundation currently predicts higher energy bills, stagnant wages and government tax rises will leave households in a cost-of-living crisis with an annual £1,200 hit to their incomes. Could the Leader comment on how, as a council, we have been supporting struggling families and what plans he is considering in the future to support them?

Councillor Phil Tye

Memo

My ref JD/SF
 Your ref

From	Cllr James Doyle	Date	18.01.22
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 26th January 2022		
	Seaburn Tram Shelter		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor James Doyle		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Assistant Director of Law and Governance		
	File		

Can the Portfolio Holder for Dynamic Smart City set out the lessons learned by the Council following its review of the decision to convert Seaburn Tram Shelter?

Councillor James Doyle

Memo

My ref HF/SF
 Your ref

From	Cllr Heather Fagan	Date	18.01.22
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 26th January 2022		
	Street Lighting and Northern Power grid		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Heather Fagan		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Assistant Director of Law and Governance		
	File		

There is an increasing issue across the city with streetlights that are the responsibility of Northern Powergrid rather than Balfour Beatty not working for extended periods of time. There is no way to hold Northern Powergrid to account as there is no service level agreement in place between them and the Council and/or Balfour Beatty.

Could the Council make contact with Northern Powergrid to raise this issue on a citywide basis, discuss expectations and put a service level agreement in place?

Councillor Heather Fagan

Memo

My ref TD/SF
 Your ref

From	Cllr Tracy Dodds	Date	18.01.22
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 26th January 2022 Climate Change Fund		

To	Leader of the Council
Copied to	The Mayor
	Councillor Tracy Dodds
	Chief Officers' Group
	Assistant Director of Law and Governance
	File

As we approach the budget setting process for this Council for 2022/23, I am reminded of the disgraceful attempts last year by the Liberal Democrats to remove our annual £1m climate change fund, specifically set aside to help meet our 2030 plans to become carbon neutral. Could the Leader comment on how we are proceeding with our carbon reduction commitments and give an assurance that he will continue to resist attempts by climate change deniers, of whatever party, should they attempt to sabotage our plans again in the coming months?

Councillor Tracy Dodds

Memo

My ref SJ/SF
Your ref

From	Cllr Sam Johnson	Date	18.01.22
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 26th January 2022		
	Roker Pier		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Sam Johnson		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Assistant Director of Law and Governance		
	File		

On 22nd December 2021, the Council's Facebook page informed residents that Roker Pier was closed while it was assessed for damage following Storm Arwen. Can the Cabinet Secretary provide an update regarding the outcome of this assessment, the cost of any necessary repairs and when residents can expect the Pier to reopen for public use?

Councillor Sam Johnson

Memo

My ref AW/SF
 Your ref

From	Cllr Andrew Wood	Date	18.01.22
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 26th January 2022 Visitor Parking Permits in Community Parking Management Scheme Areas		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Andrew Wood		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Assistant Director of Law and Governance		
	File		

Currently, if you live in a Community Parking Management Scheme area in Sunderland and own a vehicle you are entitled to a free parking permit. However, if you do not own a vehicle but, for example, have a family member who regularly gives you lifts or does your shopping you must pay for a visitor pass. It does not seem right that the Council privileges car owners in this way and penalises residents – many of them elderly or with disabilities – who rely on carers, friends and family.

Will the Leader commit to introducing a free visitor permit for residents of car-less households who request one?

Councillor Andrew Wood

Memo

My ref JF/SF
 Your ref

From	Cllr Jill Fletcher	Date	18.01.22
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 26th January 2022 Sunderland School Meals Service		

To	Leader of the Council
Copied to	The Mayor
	Councillor Jill Fletcher
	Chief Officers' Group
	Assistant Director of Law and Governance
	File

Can the Leader tell us about the awards Sunderland School Meals Service has won in the last 12 months and how these link to a healthier diet for our school children?

Councillor Jill Fletcher

Memo

My ref LR/SF
 Your ref

From	Cllr Lyall Reed	Date	18.01.22
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 26th January 2022		
	Road Layout on St Mary's Way		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Lyall Reed		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Assistant Director of Law and Governance		
	File		

Can the Deputy Leader confirm that the road layout on St Mary's Way is currently not suitable for some with disabilities and set out a timetable for when it will be?

Councillor Lyall Reed

Memo

My ref PE/SF
 Your ref

From	Cllr Paul Edgeworth	Date	18.01.22
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 26th January 2022		
	Inflation and City Hall		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Paul Edgeworth		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Assistant Director of Law and Governance		
	File		

Given that inflation is at the highest it has been for years can the Leader tell us how much is expected to be budgeted for to cover the first year's inflationary increase on the already eye-watering £2,443,200 annual rental payment made to Legal and General who funded and own City Hall?

Councillor Paul Edgeworth