

Questions for Council 30 January 2019

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2.	Seaburn Deep Dive	Cllr Robert Francis
3.	Young People / EU Nationals	Cllr Stephen O'Brien
4.	United Nations Report	Cllr Victoria O'Neil
5.	Workplace Parking Charges	Cllr Peter Wood
6.	Brexit	Cllr Niall Hodson
7.	Loneliness and Social Isolation	Cllr Len Lauchlan
8.	SSTC3	Cllr Peter Wood
9.	Spice Girls Merchandise	Cllr Martin Haswell
10.	Industrial Dispute	Cllr Henry Trueman
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22.	Brexit Risk Assessment	Cllr Martin Haswell
23.	Sunderland's Portrayal Nationally re: Political Extremism	Cllr Michael Dixon
24.	Temporary Uses at Seaburn	Cllr George Howe
25.	Upcoming Spice Girls Concert	Cllr Stephen O'Brien

Memo

My ref SF/SF
 Your ref

From	Cllr Stephen Foster	Date	16.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 30th January 2019		
	Cyber Attack		

To	Leader of the Council
Copied to	The Mayor
	Councillor Stephen Foster
	Chief Officers' Group
	Head of Financial Resources
	Head of Law and Governance
	File

Could the Leader update Council on the recent Cyber Attack on our IT systems in November 2018 which appeared to be part of a sustained attack on some Local Authorities by external forces.

Councillor Stephen Foster

Memo

My ref RF/KH
Your ref

From	Cllr Robert Francis	Date	22.01.19
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 30th January 2019 Seaburn Deep Dive		

To	Leader of the Council
Copied to	The Mayor
	Councillor Robert Francis
	Chief Officers' Group
	Head of Financial Resources
	Head of Law and Governance
	File

At the last full meeting of Council we were promised a deep dive into the redevelopment of the Seaburn seafront. Can the portfolio holder tell us what progress has been made with special reference being made to the works to be undertaken north of Dykelands Road?

Councillor Robert Francis

Memo

My ref SO/KH
 Your ref

From	Councillor Stephen O'Brien	Date	24.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council - Wednesday 30th January 2019 Young People / EU Nationals		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Stephen O'Brien		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Can the Leader confirm how many young people who are EU nationals are currently in our care system or receiving Council support, and what is our strategy for assisting them?

Cllr Stephen O'Brien

Memo

My ref VON/SF
 Your ref

From	Cllr Victoria O'Neil	Date	16.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 30th January 2019		
	United Nations Report		

To	Leader of the Council
Copied to	The Mayor
	Councillor Victoria O'Neil
	Chief Officers' Group
	Head of Financial Resources
	Head of Law and Governance
	File

Would the Leader wish to comment on the recent report by the United Nations which confirmed that the Austerity programme enacted since 2010 by Liberal Democrats and Tory Governments continues to fall disproportionately upon the poor, women, racial and ethnic minorities, children, single parents, and people with disabilities. In addition that deliberate changes to taxes and benefits since 2010 have been highly regressive, and the policies have taken the highest toll on those least able to bear it.

Would he agree with me that the parties responsible should be condemned for deliberately inflicting poverty on around 1/5 of the whole population, many now destitute and unable to afford the very basics for life as evidenced in the report?

Councillor Victoria O'Neil

Memo

My ref PW/KM
 Your ref

From	Councillor Peter Wood	Date	22.01.19
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 30 January 2019 Workplace Parking Charges		

To	Leader of the Council
Copied to	The Mayor
	Councillor Peter Wood
	Chief Officers' Group
	Head of Financial Resources
	Head of Law and Governance
	File

Does the Council have any plans to introduce a workplace parking levy in the city?

Councillor Peter Wood

Memo

My ref NH/KH
Your ref

From	Councillor Niall Hodson	Date	24.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council - Wednesday 30th January 2019		
	Brexit		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Niall Hodson		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

A representative from the North East Chamber of Commerce recently made clear to the a Council committee, and the local media, how damaging a no deal Brexit would be to Sunderland. What representations has the Council leadership made to the government to make clear the impact no deal would have on the economy of the city? And what representations has the Council leadership made to avoid a no deal outcome?

Cllr Niall Hodson

Memo

My ref LL/SF
 Your ref

From	Cllr Len Lauchlan	Date	16.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 30th January 2019		
	Loneliness and Social Isolation		

To	Leader of the Council
Copied to	The Mayor
	Councillor Len Lauchlan
	Chief Officers' Group
	Head of Financial Resources
	Head of Law and Governance
	File

Winter and the festive period can be an especially lonely time for many residents in Sunderland. Could the Leader explain what steps the council has undertaken to tackle loneliness and social isolation?

Councillor Len Lauchlan

Memo

My ref PW/KM
Your ref

From	Councillor Peter Wood	Date	22.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 30 January 2019		
	SSTC3		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Peter Wood		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Traffic congestion at the roundabout immediately south of the Wearmouth bridge is already a problem. The dual carriageway (SSTC3) linking Northern Spire with St. Mary's Boulevard is due for completion in 2021. What plans are there for the completion of the dual carriageway to the Port and how will congestion at the roundabout be tackled?

Councillor Peter Wood

Memo

My ref MH/KH
 Your ref

From	Councillor Martin Haswell	Date	24.01.19
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Question for Council - Wednesday 30th January 2019 Spice Girls Merchandise		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Martin Haswell		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

In light of the news that people manufacturing Spice Girls merchandise for Comic Relief are earning as little as 35p an hour and working in appalling conditions, will the Leader commit to engaging with the event's organizer for the upcoming concert at the Stadium of Light and ask that they ensure that official merchandise sold at the event has been manufactured ethically?

Cllr Martin Haswell

Memo

My ref HT/SF
 Your ref

From	Cllr Henry Trueman	Date	16.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 30th January 2019		
	Industrial Dispute		

To	Leader of the Council
Copied to	The Mayor
	Councillor Henry Trueman
	Chief Officers' Group
	Head of Financial Resources
	Head of Law and Governance
	File

Would the Leader wish to comment on the current industrial dispute between Arriva Rail North and RMT that has resulted in around 40 days of strike action taking place since March 2017?

Would he agree with me that this dispute is politically motivated by the Governments interference in the commercial business of Arriva Rail North by requiring they introduce Driver Controlled Operation (DCO) on at least 50% of Northern services.

Councillor Henry Trueman

Memo

My ref PW/KM
Your ref

From	Councillor Peter Wood	Date	22.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 30 January 2019		
	IT Security		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Peter Wood		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Reports suggest the Council has been the target of hackers, with 400,000 spam emails received in one week alone last November. What is being done to improve the Council's IT security?

Councillor Peter Wood

Memo

My ref NH/KH
Your ref

From	Councillor Niall Hodson	Date	24.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council - Wednesday 30th January 2019		
	Trip to China		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Niall Hodson		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Can the Leader clarify how his trip to China offered value for money for residents – what was the intention and justification of this trip?

Cllr Niall Hodson

Memo

My ref BC/SF
 Your ref

From	Cllr Barry Curran	Date	16.01.19
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 30th January 2019 Parklife Football Hub Programme		

To	Leader of the Council
Copied to	The Mayor
	Councillor Barry Curran
	Chief Officers' Group
	Head of Financial Resources
	Head of Law and Governance
	File

Firstly can I congratulate all those involved in the successful bid by Sunderland City Council and its strategic partners to secure funding from FA, Premier League and Sport England's national Parklife Football Hub programme.

Would the Leader please update council as to the timeframe for implementation of the 3 proposed Hubs in Sunderland and the impact this will bring to sport in the city.

Councillor Barry Curran

Memo

My ref MD/KH
 Your ref

From	Councillor Michael Dixon	Date	24.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council - Wednesday 30th January 2019		
	City of Culture		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Michael Dixon		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

The narrow failure to become the 2021 City of Culture was of course a great disappointment. Can the Portfolio Holder confirm that the subsequent work being carried out by the Council since that decision in late-2017 is such that the experience gained by all involved in the bid process is being fully utilised to ensure that the rich cultural story of the City will become more widely known?

Cllr Michael Dixon.

Memo

My ref SO/KH
Your ref

From	Councillor Stephen O'Brien	Date	24.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council - Wednesday 30th January 2019 Derelict, Fire-damaged Properties		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Stephen O'Brien		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Can the Leader clarify what steps the council can take to bring derelict, fire-damaged properties, back into use?

Cllr Stephen O'Brien

Memo

My ref DT/SF
Your ref

From	Cllr Doris Turner	Date	16.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 30th January 2019 Men's Shed Project		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Doris Turner		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

SIB funding which has been awarded to organisations in the Hetton Ward to help combat social isolation is being a huge success not only helping socially isolated people but also helping volunteers especially those who have faced loneliness themselves.

One of the most recent project is the Men's Shed entitled 'down the pit' which is taking place at Hetton Lyons Country Park. A future project which has just been awarded funding is the development of a community allotment.

Could the Portfolio holder tell the Council if there is feedback as to how the participants have been helped and how it has made a difference in their lives.

Councillor Doris Turner

Memo

My ref RO/KH
Your ref

From	Councillor Robert Oliver	Date	24.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council - Wednesday 30th January 2019		
	Heritage Lottery Fund		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Robert Oliver		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Could the Leader of the Council explain the council's next bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the Winter Gardens, Museum and Library in terms of future plans?

Cllr Robert Oliver

Memo

My ref IG/SF
 Your ref

From	Cllr Ian Galbraith	Date	16.01.19
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 30th January 2019		
	Youth Services		

To	Leader of the Council
Copied to	The Mayor
	Councillor Ian Galbraith
	Chief Officers' Group
	Head of Financial Resources
	Head of Law and Governance
	File

Deliberate cuts to local government spending by both Liberal Democrats and Conservatives in Government, funding tax perks for the rich, has resulted in a funding gap for this council of over £290m.

One of the services the council has been forced to cut to meet the government's ideological austerity programme has been our youth services, devastating the lives of young people by damaging community cohesion, making it harder to stay in formal education, and having a negative impact on their health and wellbeing.

Would the Leader agree with me that such a service should now be statutorily funded and will he call on the secretary of state to take such action and to ensure funding is set aside nationally to properly fund this service?

Councillor Ian Galbraith

Memo

My ref RO/KH
 Your ref

From	Councillor Robert Oliver	Date	24.01.19
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Question for Council - Wednesday 30 th January 2019 Tyne and Wear Fire Authority		

To	Leader of the Council
Copied to	The Mayor
	Councillor Robert Oliver
	Chief Officers' Group
	Head of Financial Resources
	Head of Law and Governance
	File

Could the Chair of the Tyne and Wear Fire Authority state how many false alarms there have been from educational establishments in the city in the last year and what is being done to reduce the number of callouts?

Cllr Robert Oliver

Memo

My ref AW/KH
Your ref

From	Councillor Andrew Wood	Date	24.01.19
Title		Ext	
Service			
Subject	Question for Council - Wednesday 30th January 2019 Visit to China / City Ice Rink		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Andrew Wood		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

The Leader's visit to China coincided with the Harbin Snow and Ice Festival. Can he tell us what he learnt from their management of the event, and its benefit to the community? And can he tell us whether there has been any thaw in this Council's stance on replacing the ice rink it closed down in the city centre?

Cllr Andrew Wood

Memo

My ref EB/SF
Your ref

From	Cllr Ellen Ball	Date	16.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council – Wednesday 30th January 2019 Sunderland's Business Improvement District (BID)		

To	Leader of the Council
Copied to	The Mayor
	Councillor Ellen Ball
	Chief Officers' Group
	Head of Financial Resources
	Head of Law and Governance
	File

Would the Leader wish to congratulate Sunderland's Business Improvement District (BID) on its recent success in gaining another five-year term, enabling it to deliver on its plans with local business towards a City Centre that is vibrant, exciting and a safe place visit.

Councillor Ellen Ball

Memo

My ref MH/KH
Your ref

From	Councillor Martin Haswell	Date	24.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council - Wednesday 30th January 2019 Council's Brexit risk assessment		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Martin Haswell		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

When can members expect to see details of the Council's Brexit risk assessment?

Cllr Martin Haswell

Memo

My ref MD/NH
Your ref

From	Councillor Michael Dixon	Date	23.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council - Wednesday 30th January 2019 Sunderland's Portrayal Nationally re Political Extremism		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Michael Dixon		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

While peaceful demonstrations are a given freedom in our democracy, has the time now arrived when the Council leadership needs to play a more active role in countering the growing perception that Sunderland is a hotbed for political extremism? The BBC, both on radio and television, has recently featured programmes going out nationally, the themes of which give a totally misleading view of Sunderland and its people.

Councillor Michael Dixon

Memo

My ref GH/KH
Your ref

From	Councillor George Howe	Date	24.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council - Wednesday 30th January 2019		
	Temporary uses at Seaburn		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor George Howe		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Can the Leader inform members here tonight when the "Meanwhile Plan" for temporary uses at Seaburn be implemented?

Cllr George Howe

Memo

My ref SO/KH
Your ref

From	Councillor Stephen O'Brien	Date	24.01.19
Title	Ext		
Service			
Subject	Question for Council - Wednesday 30th January 2019		
	Upcoming Spice Girls Concert		
To	Leader of the Council		
Copied to	The Mayor		
	Councillor Stephen O'Brien		
	Chief Officers' Group		
	Head of Financial Resources		
	Head of Law and Governance		
	File		

Can the Leader clarify how residents of Sunderland will benefit from the Council's investment in the upcoming Spice Girls Concert?

Cllr Stephen O'Brien