

North Tyneside Council

Report to Council

Date: 19 January 2017

ITEM 11

Title: Questions by
Members of the Council

Notice has been received of the following questions from Members of the Council to be put to the Council meeting.

1. Question to the Elected Mayor by Councillor K Lee

"Since being elected in May I have been overwhelmed at the number of Cullercoats residents that have contacted me to ask for my support to make our borough cycling friendly and to promote the benefits of cycling and walking to enable a healthy lifestyle. Considering the very high obesity statistics in our borough (presently over 70 %) does the Mayor agree that we should work with our local cycling, sporting, community initiatives and health institutions, in order to reduce obesity in the borough, and to publicise her policies to ensure that North Tyneside is a healthier and cycling friendly borough.

2. Question to the Elected Mayor by Councillor E Hodson

There is damaging disruption to train travel in the South of England resulting from a dispute about train safety and the roles of drivers and guards. It is reported that this dispute is to be expanded into other UK rail networks.

Could the Mayor clarify her view as to the safety of Metro trains under the sole control of drivers and where no guards are employed? Could she also clarify whether her views are those of the Combined Authority, as well?

3. Question to the Elected Mayor by Councillor E Hodson

Some time ago Nexus Director General's personal assistant issued a letter in which it was stated that Messrs Deutsche Bahn's contract for the operation of the Metro was to be terminated and operation returned to Nexus staff. However, it was under instruction from Gordon Brown's Labour government that the Metro operating contract should undergo competitive tendering before £700m was invested in its upgrading. Messrs Deutsche Bahn won that contract.

Could the Mayor clarify the future operating responsibility for the Metro and will any changes affect the upgrade programme, now about half completed?

4. Question to the Elected Mayor by Councillor E Hodson

Could the Mayor and her Combined Authority colleagues clarify progress with the upgrading of the Metro system and how this is resulting in its improved performance and reliability for travellers?

5. Question to the Elected Mayor by Councillor K Barrie

Following a question by Mrs Glynis Barrie at Council on 23rd July 2015 regarding the poor performance of the Tyne and Wear Metro system, she was assured in the reply by Cllr Harrison that a quarterly review would take place. Could full details be given of when the promised reviews took place and the outcomes presented to full Council?

6. Question to the Elected Mayor by Councillor A Austin

Can the Elected Mayor explain why the Freedom of Information disclosure log is no longer available on the Council's website?

7. Question to the Elected Mayor by Councillor L Miller

Could the Elected Mayor arrange that the cameras on Lynn Road would allow taxis to use the road without attracting a penalty, as currently the rerouting required is leading to additional cost and delay for residents?

8. Question to the Elected Mayor by Councillor L Miller

Is the Billy Mill road alteration scheme running to schedule and to budget, and when will it be completed?