

## **Council meeting – 25 November 2020**

### **Rule 23. Questions for Executive Members (Agenda Item 5)**

#### **Question from Councillor Hitchen to the Executive Member for Skills, Culture and Leisure, Councillor Rahman**

Manchester Fayre provides school meals to a number schools across Manchester and has approximately 500 full and part-time staff. The majority of staff who work for Manchester Fayre are working class women who live in our neighbourhoods and who have chosen to work in this field due to childcare and family commitments.

Over the years we have been informed a substantial number of school have decided to opt out of this provision and provide their own in-house school meals catering services.

Unfortunately this has lead to a year on year budget deficit and this year we are informed the budget deficit is approximately £600.00 which as you can all appreciate is not sustainable.

Is it possible to task officers to explore all options, and to see if a GM wide partnership could be sourced within our neighbouring authorities to see if a viable GM school meal service could continue to be provided by local authorities. I am aware this non statutory service provided by Manchester City Council and if a final decision has to be made for the withdrawal of this service that, we as a Council have looked at all possible options.

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#### **Question from Councillor Wilson to the Leader of the Council, Councillor Leese**

What representations have the Council made to Government requesting support for local businesses who haven't been required to close but have lost income because of extra restrictions that have been imposed since last month?

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#### **Question from Councillor Stanton to the Deputy Leader with responsibility for Crime and Community Safety, Councillor Murphy**

What additional powers has Government made available to Council for the closure of business not complying with the spirit of lockdown in order to make it a success?

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#### **Question from Councillor Kilpatrick to the Executive Member for Adult Health and Wellbeing, Councillor Craig**

Has the Executive Member for Adult Health and Wellbeing been contacted by Macmillan Solutions, a greater Manchester based cancer patient support group who face losing funding from June of next year?

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### **Question from Councillor Kilpatrick to the Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport, Councillor Stogia**

During lockdown residents were disappointed that Manchester did not follow the example of neighbouring authorities in the creation of temporary cycle lanes on commuter routes into the city to encourage active travel. Does the Executive member regret the decision and what will they be doing to keep residents engaged in active travel?

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### **Question from Councillor Kilpatrick to the Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport, Councillor Stogia**

How many planning applications were approved under the emergency power arrangements as a result of the COVID-19 lockdown?

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### **Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for Children Services, Councillor Bridges**

According to the Early Years Alliance 1 in 6 childcare providers will not be viable by Christmas, and as many as 1 in 4 in deprived areas. Planned changes to Government funding in January 2021, based on current occupancy levels, rather than pre-pandemic occupancy levels. This could result in even more closures. Is the Executive member satisfied that there will be enough childcare places available from next year?

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### **Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Councillor Akbar**

Since the beginning of the pandemic and the lockdown in March, how many requests have been received by the Council to empty overflowing Council bins?

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### **Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport, Councillor Stogia**

How many requests for trees to be assessed for TPOs have been refused in each of the last 5 years because the Council considered there to be no imminent threat to the trees on the site?

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### **Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration, Councillor Richards**

What assessment has she made of the Law Commission's report on Leasehold reform and will its recommendations result in any changes to the Council's policy on leasehold homes?

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## **Council meeting – 25 November 2020**

### **Question from Councillor Leech to the Leader of Council, Councillor Leese**

When does the Executive Member expect to receive confirmation on Manchester Council's allocation of the additional pothole funding from the Government?

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### **Question from Councillor Midgley to the Leader of the Council, Councillor Leese**

55,000 people in England have now lost their lives to Covid 19 and in Manchester 540 of our residents have died from this awful disease. But these people are not merely statistics on a graph or part of a daily death total. They are parents, grandparents, siblings, much loved family members, friends and work colleagues. Each loss is a personal tragedy. Thousands of people in our city will be mourning a loved one. Many will have been unable to say goodbye or mourn their death in the usual way.

Can we agree that as a council and as a city we will mark and commemorate the deaths of these people in a suitable way when circumstances allow and give recognition to the many key workers who have played such a vital role and have given so much to get us through this pandemic.

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### **Question from Councillor Chris Wills to the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Councillor Akbar**

In Withington, we have had numerous issues in recent months with missed bin collections. What work has been done to address this problem?

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