

WELWYN HATFIELD COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING – 20 JULY 2020

COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 15 QUESTIONS – QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Notice of the following questions has been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No 15:-

1. Question to the Leader from Councillor Kieran Thorpe

“In respect of the recent demonstrations in support of “Black Lives Matter” that took place in Welwyn Garden City and Hatfield, does the Leader of the Council agree with me that these and passionate, peaceful and responsibly distanced calls for equality show Welwyn Hatfield at its very best?”

2. Question to the Leader from Councillor Paul Zukowskyj

“National media highlighted the expected outcome of the reopening of pubs on the 4th July, lots of drunken and rowdy crowds not maintaining social distancing. Given the entirely predictable outcome, it seems rather unfortunate that the council’s noise nuisance service, operation reprise, remains suspended. Residents in my ward, disturbed by the actions of the owners, operators and customers of the Hope and Anchor Public House, who are clearly breaching their licence conditions, found there were no agencies willing to do anything at all about their young children being kept awake by loud music and shouted obscenities until very late at night. The owners/operators of the pub, perhaps also aware there is zero enforcement, are continuing to make my residents lives miserable with impunity on a variety of dates since the 4th.

Will the leader apologise to my residents for letting them down like this and commit to reinstating operation reprise with immediate effect?”

3. Question to the Leader from Councillor Glyn Hayes

“On the 16th March this year, the Communities Secretary Robert Jenrick MP told 300 Council leaders that the Government would do “whatever is necessary” to support local councils like Welwyn Hatfield to help the most vulnerable in society and support their local economy. Does the Leader of the Council or the Executive Member for Finance believe Welwyn Hatfield **will** receive whatever assistance is necessary?”

4. Question to the Executive Member, Housing and Community from Councillor Frank Marsh

“Recently there has been a lot of anti-social behaviour across the Borough and in particular in my ward of Sherrards.

Given the circumstances, why is it that the Council’s anti-social behaviour (ASB) unit has no-one who can respond on a Thursday evening for example or indeed

any time outside council office hours, when much of the ASB is being committed outside those hours, ie in the evenings and weekends.

Surely a quick response ASB unit will certainly compliment and assist the Police who reportedly only have 4 officers on duty for the whole Borough at night. Will the Council seek to remedy and address the situation by providing more funds and ensure the welfare of its residents, given the current circumstances.

Will the executive member lobby the Police and Crime Commissioner to provide more officers in Welwyn Hatfield in the evenings and overnight?"

5. Question to the Executive Member, Environment and Planning from Councillor Jane Quinton

"Future travel plans for the county include a strong emphasis on both conventional and electric bikes and recent Covid recovery plans also emphasise the use of bicycles.

However the general public won't adopt cycling if their bikes are likely to be stolen. With the high rate of bicycle theft in Welwyn Hatfield and without secure bike facilities, cyclists are understandably reluctant to leave their bikes chained up in the town centres.

Will the council make it a priority to provide secure and protected cycle parking particularly in Welwyn Garden City town centre, which will encourage greater use of bicycles for shopping trips and commuting?"