Questions to Council Under Rule 11 of the Constitution – Council 14 December 2022

1. Councillor Ros Jackson to Councillor Craig Leyland, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Affairs and Leader of the Council.

Over the past 10 years, how many cases of voter fraud have been identified in East Lindsey, and how many of these have involved impersonation at the ballot box?

Does our elections department have an accurate figure for how many electors in East Lindsey have none of the required forms of photo ID to vote in 2023 elections, and what is this number?

A No issues of fraud/impersonation have been brought to light. The elections section does not have an accurate figure for those without ID.

However, it has been muted that the younger generation will not necessarily have the required ID. It is possible that out of the 110,000 electorate 6% will not have ID.

This is why we are pleased to extensively promote the voter ID awareness campaign during 2023

2. Councillor Jill Makinson-Sanders to Councillor Martin Foster, Portfolio Holder for Operational Services.

How many air quality testing locations do we have in the district and where are they sited? What are the readings over the last four years and does this show any trends?

A. East Lindsey District Council have 3 air quality monitoring locations in the district :-

Church Street Louth Bull Ring/South Street/A158 Junction - Horncastle Berry Way one way System – Skegness

These sites monitor nitrous oxides (NOx) predominantly from road traffic. The locations have been chosen to measure where air quality is likely to be poor due to high buildings reducing dispersion or stationary road traffic.

Over the last 5 years there has been no data recorded that exceeds the health-based air quality objectives set in legislation and the levels at all sites are stable.

Monitoring data is available at:-

<u> Air Quality - East Lindsey District Council (e-lindsey.gov.uk)</u>

Then Download the document Air Quality Status Report

3. Councillor Jill Makinson-Sanders to Councillor Adam Grist, Portfolio Holder for Market Towns and the Rural Economy.

Following two very vocal public meetings in Louth, what progress has been made working in partnership with LCC over the Louth Active Travel Scheme? How is this impacting on our Vital and Viable initiative?

A. We await an update from Lincolnshire County Council in regards to the Active Travel Fund Scheme. Our officers have attended the LCC transport meetings and bearing in mind the feedback expressed at the public consultation event, we support a seasonal pedestrian zone in the Cornmarket, with a focus on events and activities.

The vitality of our town centres remains a priority for us and our place team continue to work on initiatives to support Louth. Events and culture are key elements of town centre recovery post pandemic. We believe the Cornmarket offers a fantastic event space and we are currently delivering Festive Fabuloso – a mini touring festival of creativity, lights and sounds across our inland market towns in their market places. We were very heartened to see many businesses in Louth chose to stay open for Late Night Shopping to showcase the town centre during the festival's visit.

We have offered match funding to a Louth based art project, which will use the Cornmarket to unveil their work in summer 2023.

Our Place Team are also working on a food and drink campaign with businesses in the town. This project includes a dedicated digital map, marketing campaign with Destination Lincolnshire, a food festival (again, using the Cornmarket) and support with business networking.

Finally, we are bringing the Teenage Market back to Louth in the Spring, as a way to encourage the next generation of market traders and retailers, while offering a boost to our regular market.

4. Councillor George Horton to Councillor Graham Marsh, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, Leisure and Culture, and Carbon Reduction and Councillor Fry, Portfolio Holder for Finance

Are there any plans to reduce the temperature of our public swimming pools given the continuing rising utility costs? Is this council liable, under the terms of the present contract, for any of these increased costs?

A Over the last 12 months we have been reviewing temperatures and chemical usage at our public swimming pools, ensuring these still fall in line with industry guidance, albeit at the lower end, factoring in the varied activities within our pools. This position is under constant review by both the Trust and the Council as we continue to work in partnership at this difficult time. Under the terms of the contract, whilst the Trust is responsible for the tariff cost of utilities in relation to the facilities and is responsible for all consumption costs, the Council also has a responsibility to collaborate with the Trust to actively monitor and manage energy consumption.

Questions to Council under Rule 11

5. Councillor George Horton to Councillor Craig Leyland, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Affairs and Leader of the Council.

How many staff and officers have left East Lindsey and our backroom service provider PS2 in the last financial year? How does this turnover compare with previous years?

A. The table below sets out the number of leavers in ELDC and PSPS for 21/22 and 22/23 (to December). Leavers include those who have come to the end of a fixed term contract, dismissals, retirements, and resignations.

ELDC				
Year		Leavers	Turnover	
21/22		57	15%	
22/23	(to	30	7.7%	
Dec)	•			

PSPS				
Year		Leavers	Turnover	
21/22		85	30%	
22/23	(to	38	13.5%	
Dec)	-			

NB: PSPS data is across the whole of PSPS.

6. Councillor George Horton to Councillor Richard Fry, Portfolio Holder for Finance

How much has this authority spent in the last financial year on consultants compared with the previous year. Where did this spend fall?

A In line with Council Procedure Rule 11.5 – Responses to Questions to Council, as a reply cannot be provided at this point, a written answer will be circulated when this information is available.