

Questions under Procedure Rule 11.2 for Council

Q1. Question from Councillor Evans to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Growth and Development

“The members of the Regulatory and Licensing Committee have received an Internal Briefing Paper from an officer regarding the Food Service Delivery Plan, where a number of actions and risks were recorded, and concerns were raised in the report. This included the fact that the departure of Gareth Davies has led to missing key direction and support, plus the Food Safety Health and Safety Manager is also leaving at the end of July, so there will be no Lead Food Officer. This is a requirement of the Food Standards Agency and could lead to worsening hygiene standards and a lowering of compliance levels.

Can Councillor Eadie please comment on this report and explain when and how the problems will be overcome, as food hygiene is obviously crucial and all users have a right to be sure that all food premises are compliant and inspected and re-inspected if necessary?”

Response from the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Growth and Development

“The imminent departure of the senior officers for the service should not impact on the day to day delivery of inspections thanks to the diligence of the outgoing Food Safety Manager ensuring appropriate plans are in place.

As part of the Target Operating Model proposals currently being consulted there is a Regulatory and Enforcement Manager post vacancy identified for this area along with a Food Safety managerial post vacancy.

It is hoped that by the end of August, when the new Assistant Director for this area will be in post, these proposals will have been considered and relevant recommendations confirmed so that suitable recruitments can be made.

In the meantime Leadership Team are commissioning interim support for this key area of work to complement the existing action plans.”

Q2. Question from Councillor Norman to the Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Recycling

“Whilst I am able to manage with one small blue bag for recycling paper, card and cardboard, even though it is only a 57 litre one, I am aware that families with children even those who were lucky enough to receive a correct size 80 litre bag, this may still not be adequate so can she tell me how many residents have requested extra blue bags to date?”

Response from the Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Recycling

“As of Friday 8 July we had received a total of 3,228 additional bag request which is 7% of Lichfield households and we have delivered 2,386 in Lichfield which represents delivery of 74% of the bags requested.

We are continuing to accept requests for additional bags and delivering these as quickly as we are able. They are also now available to collect at the newly re-opened reception area at the District Council Offices on Frog Lane.”