

Questions under Procedure Rule 11.2 for Council

Q1. Question from Councillor Ashton to the Leader of the Council

On 18 April Councillor Norman asked the Leader (Q6) for the number of applications made to the Council for Voter ID enabling the holders to exercise their rights to vote. At that time, it was reported that 95 applications had been made.

Can the Leader now provide the total number of such applications made to this Council prior to the cutoff date, together with a list, by polling station, of the number of would-be voters in the Lichfield District who were initially turned away and prevented from voting as a result of their lacking any identification, or identification meeting the requirements of the recent legislation? In addition, can he provide a similar list of the numbers of those who were initially turned away and who subsequently returned with appropriate identification?

Answer provided for the Leader of the Council (to be elected at the meeting)

In total, there were 109 applications made for a Voter Authority Certificates before the deadline of the 25th April 2023.

On polling day 24 electors were initially turned away. Of these 24 individuals, 16 later returned with accepted ID and were subsequently issued with a ballot paper.

The Electoral Commission has advised that while we can provide overall totals, we are not permitted to publish data on individual polling stations.

Q2. Question from Councillor Trent to the Leader of the Council

During the recent election campaign in Lichfield District, I was pleased to see political parties across the spectrum pledge their support to a campaign by Lichfield Foodbank to end the need for the service by 2025. The Leader publicly confirmed that he would "welcome a meeting with the food bank to identify both practical and policy changes that could be made to work towards eliminating food banks". With the election now behind us, will the Leader reaffirm that commitment before this Council, and if so, can he update Councillors on what his next steps will be on this vital issue?

Answer to be provided at the meeting