

COUNCIL MEETING – 28 JULY 2021

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 28 - 33

| QUESTION NO. | QUESTION FROM | QUESTION TO | QUESTION |
|--------------|---------------------|-------------------|---|
| 1/21 | Councillor Branson | The Mayor | The creation of a Freeport at Teesport is likely to mean that businesses from Middlesbrough relocate there and this could lead to a reduction in our Council Tax Revenue. Does the Executive believe this is a potential problem, and if so what steps do they intend to take to safeguard the financial position of the town? |
| 2/21 | Councillor Cooke | Councillor Cooper | When will the crater be fixed on The Crescent/Meath Street junction and can we have a full audit of wards carried out to ensure ones like this are never missed again? |
| 3/21 | Councillor Hellaoui | The Mayor | <p>Children living in poverty in Middlesbrough</p> <p>According to a recent report published by Loughborough University it is very clear that significant numbers of children are living in poverty particularly in the North East Middlesbrough.</p> <p>In Middlesbrough L.A. 39.4% of children are living in poverty which means living in households where the income is less than 60% of the median income, once housing costs have been taken into account. These data refer to figures pre-pandemic when more people still had jobs.</p> <p>This report also compares the increased numbers of children in poverty between 2014/15 and 2019/2020.</p> <p>A particularly striking aspect of this, is a further large increase in child poverty in the North East. Overall where the child poverty rate has risen by over a third - from 26% to 37% - second highest region.</p> <p>Of the 20 local authorities with highest increase in child poverty rates, Middlesbrough is 5th from top with and increase of 10.3% when the average</p> |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | <p>increase in the UK is 2% of children living in poverty between 2014 and 2020.</p> <p>Of all constituencies between 2014/15 to 2020, Middlesbrough has the highest increase 13.6% when again the UK average increase is 2%.</p> <p>Here, in Middlesbrough, around four in ten children live in households in poverty after housing costs – yes, four out of ten!</p> <p>I would like to ask:</p> <p>1. What current action is taking place and which future policies are envisaged in Middlesbrough related to this issue and what can we do as a Council to monitor improvements?</p> |
|--|--|--|--|