

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed for questions submitted by a member of the public who either lives or works in the area of the authority at each ordinary meeting of the Council.

Every question shall be put and answered without discussion, but the person to whom a question has been put may decline to answer. The person who asked the question may ask one relevant supplementary question, which shall be put and answered without discussion.

The following written questions have been received from members of the public.

**1. QUESTION From: Mark Stack**

I am aware the council has an amount budgeted for discretionary Business Rates relief each year. Can you please advise how much of that budgeted amount was unspent as of the 2nd of October 18, the day before I sent this question for inclusion to the meeting, the day it was announced that the Sticky Mike's Frog Bar music venue was to close at the end of the year?

**Councillor Hamilton, Deputy Chair (Finance) of the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee will reply.**

**2. QUESTION From: Tony Greenstein**

The IHRA 'definition of anti-Semitism', with its 11 examples, 7 of which refer to Israel, comprise over 500 words. The Oxford English Dictionary [definition](#) '*Hostility to or prejudice against Jews*' is just 6 words.

Bearing in mind the searing [criticism](#) of the IHRA from Jewish former Court of Appeal Judge Sir Stephen Sedley, '*not a definition, indefinite*', Hugh Tomlinson QC 'a potential chilling effect on public bodies' and Geoffrey Robertson QC, '[not fit for purpose](#)' perhaps Daniel Yates can spell out the IHRA's advantages over the common-sense definition of antisemitism, '*someone who doesn't like Jews.*'?

**Councillor Yates, Leader of the Council will reply.**

**3. QUESTION From: Diane Montgomery**

For the last 8 years, please can you provide a table with details for each of the housing developments granted planning permission of:

- Number of housing units approved
- Number of "affordable" housing units as a condition of the approval
- How many of the "affordable" units were for rent and at what level of rent?
- How many "affordable" units were for shared ownership
- Any payment contribution made towards providing "affordable" housing
- The date the planning permission was granted

- The date the development was completed
- What if any variance there was between the actual units of housing provided overall and affordable

**Councillor Meadows, Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee will reply.**

**4. QUESTION From: Carrie Hynds**

On 16th August, The Argus reported that new flats at the Davigdor Rd and former City College developments are being changed from "affordable" rent to shared ownership in part "due to lack of interest from the council's preferred social landlords". How many social landlords were approached before this decision was taken?

**Councillor Meadows, Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee will reply.**

**5. QUESTION From: Nigel Furness**

In your proposal for this Council to implement the Trans Inclusion Schools Toolkit, Councillor Daniel, you state that: "A small number of children struggle with gender identity."

Whilst this may be so, does it not imply that the vast majority don't? is this the tyranny of the minority?

**Councillor Daniel, Chair of the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee will reply.**

**6. QUESTION From: Valerie Paynter**

A serious loss of the most frequently specified type of taxi needed by passengers has arisen because of taxi licensing policies that prioritise wheelchair vehicles. To what extent is the Council aware of the damage this has caused to the trade and to disenfranchised people needing saloon car access?

**Councillor O'Quinn, Chair of the Licensing Committee will reply.**

**7. QUESTION From: Rohan Lowe**

What progress has been made on the autism strategy that was in the Fairness Commission report?

**Councillor Barford, Chair of the Health & Wellbeing Board will reply.**