

**Notice of Questions Procedure - Standing Order No. 44
Council Meeting - Thursday, 12 June 2008**

Questions to be Posed Following Ballot

	Question Posed by Councillor
<p>(1) As a result of the magnificent work undertaken by the Friends of Cumbernauld Community (Town) Park, North Lanarkshire Council have at last officially accepted that the Craighalbert Quarry part of this Park was completed by Cumbernauld Development Corporation and officially adopted by Cumbernauld and Kilsyth District Council well before Cumbernauld Development Corporation was wound up in 1996.</p> <p>Will North Lanarkshire Council:-</p> <p>(a) ensure that this part of the Park is now properly maintained?</p> <p>(b) have the stones removed that block care access from the Eastfield Cemetery Road?</p> <p>(c) have proper signposting erected and have a small car parking area designated opposite the main entrance?</p>	Murray
<p>(2) What is the official status of the Friends of Cumbernauld Community (Town) Park?</p> <p>They seem to be landed with the major responsibility of developing this magnificent park site with the minimum of technical, clerical or organisational facilities, compounded with a lack of status. This prevents them from applying for major grants from certain national organisations who will not make grants available unless the organisation applying has security of tenure and adequate status.</p> <p>Can their official status now be clarified?</p>	Murray
<p>(3) In Glenboig Main Street and the surrounding vicinity, there are problems associated with vehicle parking. When are funds to be made available for off-street car parking in the centre of Glenboig Village?</p>	McWilliams
<p>(4) How have services for older people in North Lanarkshire improved during the lifetime of the Council?</p>	McElroy
<p>(5) When will sufficient pressure be put on the Redrow Developer to incorporate traffic lights at the railway bridge in Glenboig?</p>	McWilliams
<p>(6) The Council recently responded to the Scottish Government's consultation paper on the Scottish Futures Trust. The consultation paper has been widely criticised from organisations as varied as the CBI and Trade Unions. Also the Minister, John Swinney acknowledged that his proposal will not lead to the end of PFI contracts. Can the Convener of Finance and Customer Services confirm my understanding that the Scottish Futures Trust does not provide any additional government funding to enable the Council to increase investment in key infrastructure projects such as schools and roads both vital to future economic growth?</p>	Shevlin

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(7)	<p>Banton Primary School Extension</p> <p>(a) What was the original completion date for this project, what was the actual completion date and will a penalty be applied against the relevant project manager/contractors? If yes, what will the penalty be?</p> <p>(b) As a direct result of this extension work Banton Primary School is currently not secure and is a Health and Safety hazard with glass, electrical wiring and fencing littering the school grounds. Consequently, the school children are at risk. Who will sort out this unfinished business, and when?</p>	Key
(8)	<p>When will North Lanarkshire Council have a proper approach by car and foot to Eastfield Cemetery, the only operational Cemetery in Cumbernauld?</p> <p>The Village side of the approaches are part of Cumbernauld Community (Town) Park and were selectively planted by Cumbernauld Development Corporation before it ceased to exist as part of the Town Park.</p> <p>In 12 years there has been virtually no significant improvements to the approaches to the Cemetery. When will the Cemetery be brought up to the appropriate standard for a Cemetery of this importance serving a Town of Cumbernauld's size?</p>	Murray
(9)	<p>I would be grateful if the Convener for Environmental Services could provide the full Council with an update following the introduction of the revised weekly cleansing service linked to the Council Recycle for Good Initiative. I believe this new service was introduced on Monday, 2 June?</p>	Shields
(10)	<p>What is the number of elected Members in the Council deficit with Council Tax and deficit, in the past, with Community Charge?</p>	Stewart
(11)	<p>In August 2007 a meeting was convened between representatives of North Lanarkshire Council's Planning Department and a representative from Redrow Homes to discuss a solution to the problem of the sloping gardens within this development. Why has the problem not been resolved yet? Can North Lanarkshire Council's Planning Department take enforcement action against the developer?</p>	McWilliams
(12)	<p>North Lanarkshire Council's Corporate Plan 2008-2012 – Page 8 – “Our Mission, Vision and Values”.</p> <p>North Lanarkshire will be a place where everyone has access to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>good quality housing;</u> • a pleasant, safe environment; • the very best employment, education and training opportunities; • caring and co-ordinated support and health services that meet people's needs, and • attractive and varied leisure and cultural facilities. <p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>serve and involve our communities;??</u> • <u>plan ahead and lead the way in working with our partners;??</u> • <u>promote equal opportunities and inclusion;??</u> 	Murray

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>make the most of opportunities for economic and environmental improvements;??</u> • provide best value services; • <u>work to the highest standards and be open and accountable;??</u> • value people, treat them with dignity, respect and meet their needs, and • be forward thinking and aim to be the best in all we do. <p>Is this a joke?</p> <p>In 2015 will North Lanarkshire Council in Cumbernauld face the largest percentage of houses failing the Government's standard?</p>	
(13) It has been reported in the local newspapers of students dealing in illegal drugs in a North Lanarkshire secondary school. Would the Council consider bringing in a zero tolerance attitude to students who bring this poison into school by automatically expelling the miscreants and so gaining the confidence of worried parents?	Stewart
(14) Another scandal in our schools where students are using camera phones to snap photos of teachers working in their classrooms and posting these images along with sick comments on the internet. Parents are concerned about the poor discipline in this school and the lack of action by the senior management team in tackling this obnoxious problem. Why does the Council not have a zero tolerance to this scourge of students using camera phones to bait hard working teachers?	Stewart
(15) Does the Administration consider that, under Standing Order 44(c), questions from Members may only be posed to Council by the verbatim reading of the question by the Member who has already submitted same to the Chief Executive in writing under the terms of Standing Order 44(a) or does it agree with me that such verbatim reading of the question, following it's publication on the Order Paper circulated to all Members and available to them in time to read in full prior to the meeting, is a total waste of time?	J. Love
(16) I have several questions concerning teachers working in North Lanarkshire schools. I would be pleased if you would provide the information requested. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Are numbers of teachers employed by the Council in primary, secondary and other sectors increasing or decreasing? And what are these numbers? (b) How many probationers are presently employed? (c) How many post probationers are employed? (d) What is the percentage of probationers to post probationers who are given full time contracts? (e) What information is there on reducing class sizes? (f) Has there been any redundancies of teachers? (g) Is there any evidence that class sizes in North Lanarkshire schools is increasing? (h) Can you provide information on efficiencies being made by Learning and Leisure Services, and if so, are these efficiencies being put back into Education? 	Stewart

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(17) I read with interest that following the integration of Council Tax and Housing Benefits, which saved a quarter of a million pounds, performance in processing new claims and benefits changes has further improved for 2007/08. Could you pass on my thanks to all involved in this achievement?	Nolan