

# Cabinet

**Meeting date: 6 December 2022**

## **Member Questions (2 total)**

### **1. Question from Councillor Wendy Flynn to the Leader of the Council, Councillor Rowena Hay**

Why are only Cabinet and Full Council meetings available to watch on YouTube after the event and not all public meetings of this Council?

#### **Response from the Leader**

Thank you, Councillor Flynn, for raising this. It had been brought to my attention prior our new Monitoring Officer joining us, and following her arrival it is on a future agenda.

In accordance with our webcasting policy at Appendix K in the constitution, all council meetings are streamed live to YouTube. To date, the Democratic Services team has been following advice issued when the council was required to conduct virtual meetings during the Covid pandemic, which recommended removal of the recordings from the public domain immediately after each meeting – with the exception of Cabinet and Council. This practice has resulted in the recordings being deleted from YouTube once the minutes of the meeting have been approved.

The Monitoring Officer is now reviewing this practice and will be recommending updates to the webcasting policy to the next meeting of the Constitution Working Group with a view to the proposed changes coming to Council in 2023

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### **2. Question from Councillor Wendy Flynn to Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Culture, Tourism and Wellbeing, Councillor Max Wilkinson**

In the face of both a Cost of Living Crisis and a Climate Emergency, this winter a number of towns and cities in the UK and Europe (including countries much colder than ours) have ditched seasonal ice rinks in favour of roller rinks. There's an absurdity on councils constructing temporary, energy-guzzling ice rinks outside at a time when global warming means increasingly milder winters. As a roller rink would be cheaper for people to access, have a much, much smaller environmental impact, and yet be just as much fun, will the cabinet member commit to pursuing a festive public roller rink for next year instead of an ice rink?

#### **Response from Cabinet Member**

Thank you to Cllr Flynn for raising this issue. Carbon footprint reduction is an important part of this council's goals and monitoring is part of that work. After

assessing the 2021 winter ice rink, we put in place plans to substantially reduce emissions from future ice rinks, including the initiation of a project to install electricity connections on site. While a roller rink lacks the festive links of an ice rink, we always welcome suggestions and if Cllr Flynn would like to provide more details we will consider this as part of the procurement for the 2023 Christmas festivities and future activities. However, this council's plan remains to host an ice rink next year.