

Public Questions – Full Council 20 September 2021

Questioner 1 Madeleine

Question 1 - To the Teignbridge council leaders, executive officers, councillors, and the executive committee

I presume you are aware of the Corona Virus Act requirement of 3 legal conditions to justify such a serious decision as locking down the Teignbridge local economies and limiting freedom of the local citizens

- Could you explain and justify (with supporting evidence) lockdowns, and lockdown restrictions enforcement decision made by the Teignbridge council during the 2020 and up to the date

Response from the Leader

Under the direction of the Secretary of State Teignbridge Council, along with other local authorities, has worked to support the community, residents and businesses throughout the Coronavirus pandemic. The council has followed the professional safety and public health advice of those qualified and appointed to provide that guidance.

In Devon, on matters of Public Health, we have been advised and supported by the Director of Public Health at Devon County Council and you may feel it is more appropriate to submit your questions to the County Council.

Question 2-

From July 2020 time when Corona Virus Act allowed the local councillors to take full responsibility over the health outbreak decision making. At times of adapting the corona virus act as necessary administrative tool to perform a councillor's duty, have you been aware of the official government Covid 19 status dated March 2020 clearly saying: COVID-19 ("COVID") was no longer considered a high consequence infectious disease ("HCID") in the UK.?

Response from the Leader

See response above.

Question 3-

Please explain how proposed council constitutional changes of excluding and limiting the residents from question the council performance , could be justified under the Councillors 7 principles code of conduct and under the contract law ?

Response from the Leader

The Council was acting under the direction of the Secretary of State and thus Councillors were adhering to the code of conduct.

Questioner 2 – Amanda Rowe

1. Would you enlighten me and provide justifying evidence which caused your decision to order business not to open /

Response from the Leader

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In Devon, on matters of Public Health, we have been advised and supported by the Director of Public Health at Devon County Council and you may feel it is more appropriate to submit your questions to the County Council.

Locally though, I am pleased to report to Council that we have continued to support businesses throughout the lockdown, details of which can be found here: [Agenda item - Impact of Covid 19 on Council Services - Teignbridge District Council](#)

We have also agreed a full Recovery Plan as well: [Agenda item - Recovery Plans - Teignbridge District Council](#) as well as a Recovery Jobs Plan which sets out how the Council can be found here: [Strategies, policies and performance - Teignbridge Jobs Plan 2021 - Covid-19 recovery - Teignbridge District Council](#) .

The Council supported the community with a weekly Covid residents newsletter and regular town and parish and business newsletters containing the latest information and advice from government, Devon Public Health and Teignbridge to keep communities safe.

2. What are your plans for covid recovery for these handicapped businesses to recover and thrive again

Response from the Leader

As above

Questioner 3 – Julie Ann Moran

QUESTION:

The central Government introduced the Coronavirus Act as a TEMPORARY and LIMITED flexible interpretation of existing constitutional regulations .

This TEMPORARY guidance on 'How to deal with a health emergency '(mainly Executive Councillors), to make a decision as to whether a lockdown is necessary and therefore, the only option, to keep residents safe during the outbreak .

This decision could only be supplemented by local and national health and death data obtained by careful assessment with the residents.

MY QUESTIONS:

1.Why was the decision to lockdown Devon not discussed with the public before, as advised by the Transparency Act 2015 and justified with required evidence,(as advised under the Coronavirus Act?)

Response from the Leader

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In Devon, on matters of Public Health, we have been advised and supported by the Director of Public Health at Devon County Council and you may feel it is more appropriate to submit your questions to the County Council.

2.Please explain how the Councillors decision to enforce the lockdown and its restrictions In Teignbridge, could be accepted under the Seven Principle Code of Conduct?

Especially:

1.2 INTEGRITY

1.3 OBJECTIVITY

1.4 ACCOUNTABILITY

Response from the Leader

The Council was acting under the direction of the Secretary of State and thus Councillors were adhering to the code of conduct.

Questioner 4 – Corinne Culley

I would like to put forward a question at your meeting with regard to safeguarding of our children & weather the council are supporting the government despite strong advice from medical professionals not to vaccinate under 18s. Rolling out vaccines to 12 _ 16 year old's despite evidence of huge possibly life threatening reactions for a virus with 99.8% survival rate in the younger generation is nothing short of genocide! Are the council prepared to ignore these risks & push ahead with the roll out of these harmful jabs to our innocent children?

Response from Leader

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In Devon, on matters of Public Health, we have been advised and supported by the Director of Public Health at Devon County Council and you may feel it is more appropriate to submit your questions to the County Council.

Questioner 5 – Kim Angel

1} During the lockdown months in 2020 and 2021 a number of the local services that should be provided by the councils as contracted we the residents haven't been provided and others strictly limited, the residents however have been paying their full council tax as stated in original contract.

Do you consider a refund as part of your Covid Recovery Plan?

Response from the Leader

We have a recovery plan to support local business and residents who have been effected by the pandemic [Agenda item - Recovery Plans - Teignbridge District Council](#)

2} What data /Information do you use to justify advertising Covid Hot Spots in Newton Abbot and the Teignbridge area ?

Response from the Leader

We do not advertise COVID hotspots

3} Who/What Company provides you with above mentioned Data /Information ?

Response from the Leader

Devon County Council provides Coronavirus data through its dash board [Coronavirus dashboard and data in Devon - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

Questioner 6 - Sarah

Did you know adverse reactions could happen and if so why are you not acknowledging it or the Yellowcard scheme?

Response from the Leader

This is not the responsibility of the Council.

Questioner 7 Lisa Goudie

1. Have you accessed reports from the Freedom of Information regarding fatalities from covid?

Response from the Leader

This information is available at [Coronavirus dashboard and data in Devon - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

2. What actions have you taken to verify the conclusions to the public?

Response from the Leader

We understand the information is from a creditable source. However, your question is better directed to the Director of Public Health at Devon County Council.

Questioner 8 - Mia Stalstedt

1 - Are you intending to roll out vaccinations within schools, in spite of head teachers concerns regarding liability?

Response from the Leader

This not the responsibility of Teignbridge District Council

2 - Can you guarantee that no further lockdowns are planned, as this would cause severe financial damage to local businesses.

Response from the Leader

Central Government provides the advice and national instruction on these matters.

3 - Will you accept liability and financially compensate anyone injured by the vaccinations?

Response from the Leader

Vaccine safety and administration is not a responsibility for Teignbridge Council. Consequently, we would not accept liability or be responsible for compensation.