



QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Thursday 5 December 2019

1. QUESTION FROM MR C KAY
Re: 5G Space Appeal

Could councillors over the Christmas break have a look at the 5G Space Appeal (www.5gspaceappeal.org) that scientists and academics have signed from over 187 countries as this is being presented to the new Government in January?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

I will read it and would encourage my colleagues to do the same.

2. QUESTION FROM MS T WELLS
Re: Local Government Association and the erosion of local powers

According to the website: "The Local Government Association (LGA) Business Plan for 2019-2022 sets out how the LGA will continue to support & be an advocate for Councils in the next 3 years. The core membership of 339 Councils in England includes District & County. The LGA works on behalf of Councils to ensure local government has a strong, credible voice with national government & they aim to influence & set the political agenda on the issues that matter to councils, so are able to deliver local solutions to national problems".

Have DCC already discussed & or debated with fellow members of the LGA concerns regarding the erosion of local power for the County Council of Devon (& other councils) by national government & the negation of Councils' concern regarding the communities that they serve?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR HART

Devon County Council is a member of the Local Government Association which works, on a cross-party basis, to fight Local Government's corner. As Leader of Devon County Council and Chair of South West Councils, I have regular discussions with Members of other local authorities in the County and across the region about the issues and challenges facing councils. Through its membership of the LGA and County Councils Network, I continue to make the case for:

- Fair and sustainable funding which enables all councils to plan and deliver effective local public services for the people and communities they serve;*
- A vibrant local democracy;*
- Sustainable funding and better integration with health services to enable councils to continue to give everyone an equal chance to lead long, happy and health lives.*
- The devolution of more power and resources to local areas, and;*
- The urgent action needed to combat climate change and its impacts and to deliver zero net carbon by 2030.*

3. QUESTION FROM MS R AUGENTHALER
Re: Scrutiny Spotlight Review on 5G

I would like to express my gratitude to all the councillors at Devon County Council who took part in deciding to do a spotlight review on 5G.

Thank you for being the first county in the UK to do so and for leading by example.
Thank you for hearing our concerns that we have expressed during the recent months.
I request that the current time frame to fill in the questionnaire "seeking views on 5G" which is part of the spotlight review is extended until after Christmas,
to provide people with more time to find out about the opportunity of filling in the questionnaire and voicing their opinions and concerns.

People are very busy and 3 weeks to find out about the existence of the questionnaire and to fill it in is a very short period of time. A window of 6 weeks is a lot more realistic.
What is your response please?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

Whilst it is a matter for Scrutiny to conduct its own work programme, I am nonetheless informed that the Scrutiny spotlight review have indeed extended the deadline of the survey. It was launched on the 19th November, and was due to conclude on the 9th December, but will now be extended to the 30th December, thus running for approximately six weeks. To date, approximately five hundred people have completed the survey and both the Scrutiny Committee, and I would encourage anyone who is interested to fill out the survey which is available on the Council's website.