

Council
21 March 2013
Written Questions to Cabinet Members

No.	Question from/to	Question	Response
1.	From Councillor Field to the Leader of the Council	With the venue for the June Mystery play festival and Rick Wakeman concert now definitely not Kingsholm Stadium, and with increasing doubt about whether the events will go ahead, can the Leader assure members that the funding committed to by this council for the Festival in the events budget will be returned to the council if the event does not go ahead, or if it takes place in Cheltenham Racecourse which is one rumour I have heard? If this is the case, Gloucester city council should not be contributing.	Response from Councillor Paul James: The organisers of the Mystery Play Festival have recently advised us that the Street Theatre event will not be taking place in June this year, although there is the possibility of an event in 2014. This is disappointing as Council Officers and I had spent a good deal of time working with the organisers, but we understand this is due to matters beyond their control. As Councillor Field suggests, the Rick Wakeman concerts will now be held at the Centaur at Cheltenham Racecourse. It is possible that one or two smaller events may take place at Blackfriars Priory. The Council had earmarked £20,000 for the street theatre in the draft events budget for 2013/4. None of this money has been paid out. A further £5,000 was set aside to support the Mystery Plays being performed in Gloucester Cathedral and these are still going ahead as planned. Because of the packed programme of events planned for 2013-14, the events budget has many demands on it and the Council will not be looking to take on any additional funding commitments as a result of the street theatre event not taking place this year.