

Paragraph 12.02 of Part 4 of the Rules of Procedure contained within the City Council's Constitution provides that a Member of the Council may submit a written question to any Cabinet Member.

This document informs Members of Council of written questions put to Cabinet Members and written replies thereto.

Council is recommended to RESOLVE to note the written questions submitted and corresponding responses.

No.	Question from/to	Question
1.	From Councillor Wilson to the Leader of the Council	<p>According to a leaked report, prepared by civil servants at the Department for Exiting the EU, Britain could be hit with shortages of medicine, fuel and food within a fortnight if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.</p> <p>What contingency plans is this council preparing to help struggling communities in the event of such a scenario?</p>
Response:		
<p>Members may be aware that the relevant Act of Parliament that revokes the EU Communities Act of 1972, the Withdrawal Act, has already received Royal Assent. The Prime Minister updated Parliament following the recent Council of Europe meeting on progress of the Withdrawal Agreement with the EU. She noted that that 'with the exception of the Protocol relating to Northern Ireland, we now have agreement or are close to doing so.'</p> <p>The Government is due to publish a White paper on its detailed approach to the future arrangements. This will inform talks on the other part of the next stage of negotiations, the Political Declaration. It is the aim of both sides that this document will be detailed and agreed in the Council meeting in October. It must in any event be agreed before the end of the year, allowing both Parliaments to approve it before we leave the EU at the end of March 2019.</p> <p>There is no reason to believe that there will be no deal, since both sides have made it clear that is vital for there to be one. Scaremongering about the likelihood of a no deal is unhelpful. We will of course plan for reasonable contingencies taking our lead from the Local Government Association, which represents local councils in the Brexit discussions with Government.</p>		
2.	From Councillor Hilton to the Leader of the Council	<p>The government recently announced that it was not going to support the Swansea Bay Tidal Lagoon, a £1.3 billion project that Gloucester based company Tidal Lagoon Power PLC was bidding to build.</p> <p>Will you join me in condemning the government's decision to withdraw its support for such an</p>

innovative renewable energy project?

Response:

The Administration has been very supportive of Tidal Lagoon Power, recognising the potential for additional jobs to be created in the city in the event that the project received the go-ahead from the Government. In addition, we support efforts to encourage the government to find a way to use the power of our tides and waves to generate additional sources of low carbon, domestically produced energy. The City MP, as creator and Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Marine Energy and Tidal Lagoons, has worked hard to encourage government support of the recommendations of the Hendry Review of Tidal Lagoons and the Swansea Bay pilot project, and we share his disappointment that the government rejected the review's conclusions on the basis of financial viability. We recognise that taxpayers' money must be spent wisely and consumers must be protected from excessive increases in their bills, but we believe that Tidal Lagoon Power should have further opportunities to make its case to Government to demonstrate that the project is not only environmentally sound but also financially sustainable. I know that our MP will continue to work on this, supported by others, including Liberal Democrats, and this Administration supports those efforts.