

APPENDIX A

SUMMARY OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL AND SERVICE COMMITTEES BETWEEN OCTOBER 2008 AND JULY 2009

COMMITTEE	DATE	QUESTION
Full Council	17 December 2008	A written question was submitted by Councillor Ross asking the Moray Council whether it proposes to respond to the fact that the Strategic Transport Projects Review omitted any road projects for Moray in the next 20 years.
	17 June 2009	A written question was submitted by Councillor Ross to ask when final decisions will be reached with respect to appeals on back dated Equal Pay claims, and what action is the council taking to speed up this process.
Policy & Resources Committee	30 June 2009	A written question was submitted from Councillor Ross "Can you tell me the cost to date and the estimated future cost to the Council in defending equal pay appeals and also the total cost broken down by category, i.e. unhappy with settlement offered or unhappy with grading, etc, should the Council lose all cases against it".
Audit & Performance Review Committee		No written questions submitted.
Planning & Regulatory Services		No written questions submitted.

Committee			
Economic Development & Infrastructure Services Committee			No written questions submitted.
Children & Young Peoples Services Committee	28 January 2009		Written question submitted by Councillor Hogg seeking information as to whether there are initiatives in Moray's Secondary Schools to help pupils achieve higher reading and writing standards. Written question by Councillor Ross asking if places at the Moray Council School Nurseries are capped to encourage the use of private providers, and if so, what the criteria was for the capping. Written question by Councillor Ross asking about what is being done to resolve the current shortage of playable football pitches in Elgin
Communities Committee	20 May 2009		No written questions have been submitted.
Health & Social Care Services Committee			No written questions have been submitted.

Since the introduction of the 'Protocol on Questions on Council Minutes and Other Relevant Questions' was approved by the Full Council on 17 September 2008, only two written questions have not been submitted as requested. One submitted by Councillors Jarvis and Leadbitter was ruled not a competent question and one submitted by Councillor Ross was ruled as not being appropriate for the Committee to which it was being directed.

APPENDIX B

**SUMMARY OF QUESTIONS RAISED TO SERVICE COMMITTEES AT QUESTION TIME
BETWEEN OCTOBER 2008 AND JULY 2009**

COMMITTEE	DATE	QUESTION
Policy & Resources Committee	9 December 2008	Councillor Russell asked, that as the consultation period for area committees had ended some months ago, whether funding could be made available for Area Forums.
	10 February 2009	Councillor Jarvis asked effect the cold weather is having on the environmental services budget.
	10 March 2009	Councillor Paul asked whether organisations could claim from more than one budget for homecoming events.
	7 April 2009	Councillor Wright asked whether there should be consideration given to charging a premium for those coming to Moray to be buried and not being residents of Moray as he believed there are other councils which charge such a premium. Councillor Wright asked, in light of recent press reports, for an update from the Director of Community Services on the delivery of Council of carers services from the new provider.
	5 May 2009	Councillor Bell sought an explanation of the TUPE regulations. Councillor Cree sought an update on the position with regard to the flu epidemic.

		<p>Councillor Leadbitter asked for an update as to the progress of a report on "Meals on Wheels".</p>
Audit & Performance Review Committee	11 February 2009	<p>Councillor Ross sought clarification as to what recourse can a Councillor take to continue his line of questioning when ruled by the Chief Legal Officer as being in breach of the Code of Conduct?</p>
Planning & Regulatory Services Committee	18 November 2008	<p>In response to a question from Councillor Coull, what training was going to be provided for Members relative to Planning & Regulatory Services.</p>
	17 March 2009	<p>Councillor Wright asked how many conditions attached to successful Planning Applications have, when subsequently ignored or breached, been enforced by this Council since May 2007.</p>
Economic Development & Infrastructure Services Committee	2 December 2009	<p>Councillor Coull sought an update on the Homecoming Heritage Lottery Funding application, details of events to be held in Moray during 2009 and requested that consideration be given to this being a standard item on the agenda for this Committee.</p> <p>Councillor Divers sought clarification as to when the next meeting of the Elgin South West Group was likely to take place given that, in his opinion, there were a number of serious issues which required to be discussed.</p> <p>Councillor Paul sought clarification in regard to what measures were in place to promote potential funding opportunities for Communities, which wished to organise events as part of the</p>

	<p>3 February 2009</p>	<p>Year of Homecoming.</p> <p>Councillor Paul raised a question in regard to the collection of brown waste bins during the Christmas/New Year Period.</p> <p>Councillor Leadbitter sought an update on the A96/Ashgrove Junction Improvements.</p> <p>Councillor G McDonald's asked for progress on an update report on Buckie Harbour.</p> <p>Councillor Wright asked for an update on the progress of a cycleway/pathway between Lhanbryde and Elgin.</p> <p>In response to the issue raised by Councillor Hamilton sought clarification relating to the wearing and supply of hard hats by Members.</p> <p>Councillor Coull asked whether retrospective 'Homecoming' event applications for events which had already taken place would be considered and if not why not?</p> <p>Councillor Paul raised concern that as the 'Homecoming' event is from 26 January 2009 until November 2009, this will be the first opportunity to consider applications, and stated that she was of the opinion that anything that falls within that timescale should be given an opportunity and should not be disadvantaged by the fact that the application forms etc were not available until this time.</p>
	<p>31 March 2009</p>	
	<p>26 May 2009</p>	

		<p>Councillor Paul sought an update on Speyside Dial-A-Bus and the Car Share Scheme.</p>
<p>Children & Young Peoples Services Committee</p>	<p>8 October 2008</p>	<p>Councillor McConachie sought clarification on what had been done in relation to the budget position and the promotion of the Riverside Out of School Care Club.</p> <p>Councillor Hogg sought assurance that he would be provided with a report at the next meeting of this Committee on the total costs of Community Learning and Development Service, which he had sought at the August Committee.</p> <p>Councillor Hogg asked when the report on Milne's High School Action Plan would be reported to Committee</p> <p>Councillor D Ross sought an answer as to why he had not received a reply from the Director of Educational Services in regard to Deanshaugh Playing Field.</p> <p>As a supplementary question Councillor Ross asked that the Director get back to him immediately with a response and also to the others who asked for this information.</p>
	<p>26 November 2008</p>	<p>Councillor D Ross, in referring to his earlier exchanges with the Head of Educational Resource Services where discussions had ended with the Head of Educational Resource Services stating that staffing numbers were not reduced to encourage people to go to a different or private provider, asked why staff numbers</p>
	<p>28 January 2009</p>	

	<p>were reduced at Milne's Primary Nursery last year, when there was a waiting list of 12.</p> <p>As a supplementary question Councillor Ross asked, if for example someone had checked the figures and found that in January 09, 34 pupils had applied to go to Milne's would that be the numbers allocated this year to Milne's Nursery and would these be capped at 30.</p> <p>Councillor McConachie asked due to the fact that the Speyside School Group and in particular Tomintoul pupils had been unsuccessful in receiving fiddle/violin tuition for this year, would that mean that they would be given priority for next year, or was there no policy in place to ensure that equality is seen to be practised in music tuition in Speyside.</p> <p>As a supplementary question Councillor McConachie requested that Members' be provided with a list of music tuition for the Speyside area, as far back as possible.</p> <p>Councillor Russell sought clarification regarding the standardising of reports submitted to Committee for noting.</p> <p>Councillor M McConachie queried, in regard to the lack of music provision for rural areas, how the Administration proposed to deal with the discrimination in music provision in Speyside.</p> <p>Councillor D Ross asked what the Educational Services Departments reaction was to the Scottish Government's Policy regarding reduced class sizes from Primary 1 to Primary 3 in</p>
	<p>25 March 2009</p>

	<p>terms of the reducing number of teachers in Scotland.</p> <p>As a supplementary question Councillor Ross asked if a decision had been made by the Association of Directors of Education in regard to the reduction in class sizes to 18.</p> <p>Councillor G Coull in regard to the costs of hiring Educational establishments outwith normal hours, asked for a breakdown of how much it costs to open a school during normal hours and how much it costs to open outwith school hours.</p> <p>Councillor A McKay asked whether the synthetic football pitches are used only for practice or are they also used for playing games on.</p> <p>Councillor McGillivray asked whether it is possible to look at the possibility of music instruction being self financed across all Schools as it is for guitar instruction at Lossiemouth.</p> <p>Councillor Ross asked for clarification in regard to the responsibility for the lining of football pitches following an incident where a football pitch had not been lined for a football match.</p>	<p>20 May 2009</p>
<p>Communities Committee</p>	<p>Councillor Russell asked whether there was an incentive for owners of commercial properties in the High Street to convert the upper storeys of their buildings into accommodation to rent, or even for the Council to use as temporary accommodation. He further stated that High Street regeneration through the Elgin Business Improvement District and the Moray Town Partnership is a high priority for the Council and this idea would assist that</p>	<p>24 March 2009</p>

<p>process and asked if there was such an incentive scheme, how was it publicised and would there be likely to be any interest.</p> <p>Councillor Jarvis asked whether Bishopmill House could be used for the homeless.</p> <p>Councillor Russell referred to the death of papers regarding anti-social behaviour, community safety, etc to this Committee whilst the items being submitted to the Safer and Stronger Theme Group appear to be quite 'meaty' on these subjects and asked why this Committee was not receiving more reports on these items.</p> <p>Councillor Cree asked whether there was any information on serial homelessness.</p>	<p>19 May 2009</p>	
<p>Councillor Jarvis raised a question in regard to the deferred benefit payments scheme for care home clients as a result of the down turn in the housing market.</p> <p>Councillor Sharp raised a question regarding the best and worst case timescale scenarios for carrying out a Single Shared Assessment.</p> <p>With regard to Digital Stories Councillor Jarvis sought clarification as to how good progress was defined.</p> <p>Councillor Ross asked a question regarding the availability of Community Service Placements.</p>	<p>12 November 2008</p> <p>14 January 2009</p> <p>1 July 2009</p>	<p>Health & Social Care Services Committee</p>

Councillor Paul raised a question in regard to offenders doing community work.		
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