

South Ayrshire Council – 26 June 2025

Formal Questions

Received from:	Councillor George Weir
Response to be provided by:	Jane Bradley, Director of Communities and Transformation

	<i>Question</i>	<i>Response</i>
1.	What proportion of the voting-age South Ayrshire population has responded to each of the council's public consultations, in 2025?	<p>The adult population (aged 16-64) in South Ayrshire is approximately 65,100. This includes 31,400 males and 33,700 females.</p> <p>2025 Consultations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor Levy – 502 • Equalities – 113 • Community Councils – 9 • Common Good – 98 • Budget – 703 • Tenant Participation – 6 • Total – 1,431 (2.2% of adult population)
2.	Events such as previous BBC and Scottish Chamber Orchestra concerts and folk events such as Fresh Ayr make good use of the capacity and acoustics of Ayr Town Hall. The town hall is an asset belonging to Ayr Common Good that is rented for use by South Ayrshire Council. Council recently agreed that effort would be made to maximise income to the Common Good in order to maintain its	<p>South Ayrshire Council pays a market rate rental to the Common Good Fund for the Town Hall, which is independently set. This agreement then allows South Ayrshire Council to set its own fees for hall lets and retain the income to cover costs. Annual rent for Ayr Town Hall is £150,000 set by DM Hall in 2019. It will be revalued in 2025 based on the new management agreement which will be on a Full Repairing and Insuring basis.</p>

	Question	Response
	<p>assets and funds. Given that such events in the Town Hall are run on a commercial basis, what does the council charge for use of the building on such occasions and what is the financial benefit to the Ayr Common Good fund?</p>	<p><u>Charges per hour for Ayr Town Hall</u></p> <p>Main Hall - £33.00 Main Hall and Balcony - £42.00 Royal Burgh Suite 3 - £20.00 Chambers - £23.00 Dressing Rooms - £13.00 Cells/Old Court - £16.00 Red Room - £13.00 Kitchen - £13.00</p> <p>F Front of House Staff - £22.00 per staff member per hour</p> <p><u>One-off charges</u></p> <p>Function with alcohol fee - £80.00 Extended stage (Section 89) - £180.00</p>
3.	<p>In a paper presented to Council in August 2024, the Director of Communities and Transformation indicated that full public consultations would take place on proposals for golf development at Belleisle golf course. When is this full public consultation likely to take place and can the director confirm that the public feedback from this consultation will be considered when formulating the golf development plan that is recommended to Council?</p>	<p>Background:</p> <p>Following the initial round of public engagement held in late 2024 regarding the proposed redesign of Belleisle Golf Course, feedback indicated a need for further independent analysis. In response, the Council commissioned a feasibility study, including an options appraisal and business plan, to support informed decision-making.</p> <p>Current Status/</p>

	Question	Response
		<p>Current Status:</p> <p>The feasibility study has now been reviewed by Council Officers. Feedback has been provided to the project team to support the finalisation of the report.</p> <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Members Briefing is scheduled for 27 August 2025 at 3:15pm, following the summer recess.• During this session, the project team will present the findings of the feasibility study.• Feedback from Members will be considered and any agreed changes incorporated before the options are shared with the public.• A further round of public engagement will follow, with community feedback informing the final design proposals.

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Formal Questions

Received from:	Councillor Craig Mackay
Response to be provided by:	Councillor Brian Connolly, Leader of the Council

	<i>Question</i>	<i>Response</i>
1.	<p>Ayr Parking Strategy and General Parking Review</p> <p>Does the Leader of the Council consider that the briefing held on 28th May, although thorough and well presented, fully addressed the request of Cabinet (29th April) “that a Members’ Briefing be held within four weeks to discuss the strategic and political direction of the parking strategy across South Ayrshire, which would inform the requested report.”; and that officers now have sufficient political direction from members to progress the parking strategies?</p>	<p>Whilst the Leader is content with the content of the briefing, he agrees that further work is required to establish a clear strategic and political direction for the Ayr parking strategy.</p> <p>Therefore, a request will be submitted to the Head of Roads to arrange further engagement sessions with the administration.</p>