



Item 6 – Question number 1  
Received on 4 October 2019

After the publication of the agenda for the 14 October 2019 Council meeting, but before the deadline for submission of questions, a question was received from a member of the public.

The question will be asked under agenda item 6.

*“QUESTION ABOUT LYTHAM INSTITUTE AND THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS*

*Lytham Institute's 'User Rights Agreement' stipulated "twelve months notice in writing".*

*And on 19 July, LCC gave written notice to end it on 19 September.*

*Without a decision by councillors, officers had used delegated powers to decide just two, not twelve months notice was needed, forfeiting income in the region of £15,000.*

*At the Assembly Rooms, the lease required ground floor rooms to be available for public hire, at fees subsidised by commercial income from the rest of the building.*

*But using delegated powers, officers decided the Town Trust could sublet exclusive use of the Dicconson Room, and a commercial bank be granted exclusive use of another ground floor room and rear parking spaces.*

*This adversely impacted public parking, particularly for mobility-disabled users.*

*These decisions reduced the areas available for public use and hire, and significantly increased income to the Town Trust.*

*But officers appear not to have asked the District Valuer about negotiating increased payments with the lessee on the Council's behalf.*

*Furthermore, it is not clear which of Fylde's delegated powers has been relied on for each of the officer decisions for both the actual uses, and for the income payable to, or forgone by, the Council.*

*So my question is:*

***Which specific paragraph numbers in Fylde's Constitution gave an officer delegated authority to decide each of the actions and inactions I have set out above?”***