



Council

Monday 14 December 2020

Agenda Item 9 (a), Written Questions

Question From: Councillor Ian Middleton

Question To: Leader of the Council, Councillor Barry Wood

Topic: Castle Quay Shopping Centre

Question

“ In your response to Councillor Copeland's written question about financial risks associated with the Castle Quay Shopping Centre posed during the full council meeting of July, you said :

"Commercially sensitive risk assessments on the vulnerabilities both financially and market sectors of tenants are reviewed on a regular basis and reported back to the cross-party Castle Quay Advisory Group"

I can find no reference to this group anywhere other than in your reply. No reference to it ever having met. No minutes of any such meetings and no reports on vulnerabilities. After doing a word search for the group on the website I can find no reference to it at all.

Furthermore, If it's a cross party group, the Progressive Oxfordshire group does not appear to be represented.

Could you confirm that this group actually exists and provide a list of members involved, their terms of reference, and records of past meetings.

In particular I would be grateful for sight of the risk assessments you said in July had been carried out on market sectors and tenants of the centre.

Given the recent collapse of two major retailers with stores in the centre, this information is now even more important to show that the interests of the council and council tax payers are being protected.”