

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 15 OCTOBER 2024

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

In accordance with Rule No. 3.3.3 the following question was submitted to the Council from Councillor Roger Jackson:

“In light of the recent disclosure that some food outlets in parts of the country are not displaying the correct food hygiene score for their premises, has Newark & Sherwood District Council come across this problem?”

Reply from Councillor Paul Taylor – Portfolio Holder for Public Protection & Community Relations

“There is currently no legal requirement for food businesses to display their Food Hygiene Rating, unlike in Wales and Northern Ireland. The majority of our premises have a good Food Hygiene Rating of 3 and above and it is in their interest to display their rating. Our Business Compliance Team, who inspect premises across the district, have not found many instances of the businesses displaying the stickers incorrectly. Where an inspection has been undertaken and the score is to be lowered, officers request the sticker to be handed over to be disposed of, to prevent incorrect scores showing, until the new lower score sticker is issued.

When eating out I would urge everyone to consider the food hygiene rating when choosing where to eat. If there is no sticker on display ask the business what their rating is.”

Supplemental Question from Councillor Roger Jackson

“Could you tell me if all our food businesses are having a minimum of one inspection per year, with more for poor performing businesses?”

Reply from Councillor Paul Taylor – Portfolio Holder for Public Protection & Community Relations

“The Food Standards Agency issues rules on frequency of inspections, with those with a poor rating premise having a re-inspection very quickly. A report on inspections is due to be considered by the Cabinet next month.”