

**Councillor Dominic Beck – Cabinet Member for
Transport and Environment**

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12th December 2022

Councillor Tim Baum-Dixon
Elected Member

Via email: cllrtim.baum-dixon@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Baum-Dixon

Question at Council – Wednesday 30th November 2022

Thank you for submitting a question to the Council Meeting on Wednesday 30th November. I have detailed the question below along with my subsequent response for your information.

The fire at Kiveton Industrial Estate has been burning since 7th September, are the council working effectively with all partners to ensure the fire is put out quickly in the short-term and that action is taken to ensure this doesn't happen again in future?

The Council is working closely with partner organisations, including the Environment Agency, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, the UK Health Security Agency and the Police, amongst others, to ensure the fire is put out as quickly as possible, and the Council is chairing the Local Resilience Forum, where the key partners meet to oversee and drive the response. The Council is also an active member of the Tactical Group, which is developing the detailed plans and the Council is also chairing the Air Quality Cell, which has seen our partners bring in air monitoring equipment and colleagues to analyse data.

Most importantly, the Council has worked with partners to ensure that the fire itself put out and that the risk of a further fire is significantly reduced. This has involved the use of heavy plant machinery, which has been brought in by the Environment Agency, who are working closely with the Fire Service on site to break up the waste in order for the smouldering waste to be fully extinguished. The waste is then being moved into smaller piles which reduce the risk of a further large-scale fire at the site. This has been challenging work to complete but significant progress has been made on the site and the Council has supported on the ground in various ways including removing small amounts of waste that were preventing progress on site, removal of a fence and engagement on all enforcement and regulatory options.

As you know, Partners held the second drop-in event for the local community on the 5th December, which was well attended and hopefully demonstrated the commitment of partner to support the local community and address this issue.

For up-to-date information I would urge members to look at the dedicated incident page on the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue website and in addition, I have requested fortnightly meetings with local ward members, the first of which was held on the 21st November.

I trust the above information is helpful.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Dominic Beck
Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment /Ward Councillor for Wales Ward