

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No.11 Councillor Corbin will ask the Leader of the Council the following question:

*“When are we as a council going to engage in the devolution process? Until now we have seen this council reject engagement in the devolution process, including the letter sent in the last council as our consultation response to the devolution and mayoral authority.*

*Now, whether members like the devolution process or not, we can see and know it is happening regardless as it is an upper tier authority matter with elections slated for May 2024.*

*This devolution promises to allow us in Derbyshire and South Derbyshire to take control of funding and finance matters locally. Improve infrastructure and transport and many other areas.*

*There are two seats at the table for borough and district councils that I would hope South Derbyshire would fill one of instead of representation by two other Derbyshire councils.*

*So when are we going to engage in this process, and how, given our reticence previously, are we going to strive to gain one of those two seats at the table in the mayoral authority to be able to represent South Derbyshire as well as we can - given that this devolution process is happening whether we like it or not, and we cannot continue to isolate ourselves from it stubbornly?”*