

# North Tyneside Council

## Report to Council

### 18 January 2024

#### Title: Questions by Members of the Public

Notice has been received of the following question from a member of the public to be put to the Council meeting.

#### 1. Question to the Elected Mayor from Mr Steele of Tynemouth

Hello, I wish to ask the council the following question at the meeting scheduled for 18th January 2024.

In November 2009 the council leased land on which the Rising Sun Farm in Wallsend sits, to the Registered Charity 'The Rising Sun Farm Trading Company' for 25 years on a 'peppercorn' rent.

The last update I can find, dated the 27th March 2023, says that, following the 'Rising Sun Farm Trading Company' filing for insolvency, the farm is now the responsibility of North Tyneside Council and that the authority would be inviting expressions of interest from community-based organisations to take over the running of the farm to ensure the '*Council can work with a new provider who will manage the farm and give it the bright future it deserves*'.

The council also stated that it would be '*continuing to work with both the current and former Board of Trustees to ensure the successful continuation of the lease of the council land, which has an agreement until 2034*' (Chronical Live Oct 2022). I note that, according to Companies House, there is only one active member of the board.

Can the council give an update on the actions being taken to ensure the ecological and financial future of this valuable cultural asset?