

Cabinet

Public and Councillor Questions

Date: **Thursday 16 February 2023**

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CABINET – THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2023

AGENDA PART I

PUBLIC QUESTIONS (ITEM 4)

Under Rule 16 of the Executive Procedure Rules members of the public may question the Executive and Portfolio Holders at meetings. There is a time limit of 15 minutes for the asking and answering of public questions.

1.

Questioner: Mr Huw Davies

Asked of: Councillor Anjana Patel - Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety

Question: “From the press and social media I have seen that there is a significant increase in the number of residents complaining about sub-standard living conditions in Harrow within properties that are not on your HMO or Selective licencing registers. Many of the complaints are from residents who have been placed in these properties by the Council. As the person responsible for this area, what proactive actions are you taking to deal with the growing number of illegal HMO’s across the borough and ensuring privately rented properties are brought up to standard and registered within the selective licencing schemes?”

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CABINET - THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2023

AGENDA PART I

COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS (ITEM 5)

Fifteen minutes will be allowed for Members of the Council to ask a Portfolio Holder a question on any matter in relation to which the Executive has powers or duties.

1.

Questioner: Councillor Natasha Proctor

Asked of: Councillor David Ashton - Portfolio Holder for Finance & Human Resources

Question: “With just one week’s notice, over £8 million of cuts to services requiring consultation have been announced - at present these announcements by the Conservative Group have little detail in terms of the nature of what will be consulted upon, what each service area will look like or how residents every-day lives will be impacted. When do you expect each of these reports to come back to Cabinet with specific details for a final decision?”

2.

Questioner: Councillor Stephen Hickman

Asked of: Councillor Hitesh Karia - Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services

Question: “The Administration is looking to make £825k savings in Children’s Services. These are substantial savings during a time of growth in demand. What does the administration mean by “increased demand management” in Placement and Accommodation?”

3.

Questioner: Councillor Stephen Hickman

Asked of: Councillor Hitesh Karia - Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services

Question: “The administration is looking to save £445k in service redesign. What is the scope of this service redesign or restructuring?”

4.

Questioner: Councillor Stephen Hickman

Asked of: Councillor Hitesh Karia - Portfolio Holder for Children's Services

Question: "What is the plan to reduce the deficit of the Higher Needs Budget?"

5.

Questioner: Councillor Stephen Hickman

Asked of: Councillor Hitesh Karia - Portfolio Holder for Children's Services

Question: "10% reduction in management costs - what does that mean for Children's Services where the work is complex and often requires smaller teams and closer supervision?"

6.

Questioner: Councillor Simon Brown

Asked of: Councillor Pritesh Patel - Portfolio Holder for Adult Services & Public Health

Question: "Could the Portfolio Holder confirm that your administration intends to close the New Bentley Neighbourhood Resource Centre and use it as a (yet to be defined?) voluntary resource, thus leaving Harrow services to be provided from just two locations, at Kenmore and Vaughan and share the results of any consultations with service users, parents, carers and support organisations that have taken place prior to your announcement of this radical change to provision for some of our most vulnerable Harrow residents so that Council can be assured that their voice has been heard and they are confident in the revised provision going forward?"

7.

Questioner: Councillor Eden Kulig

Asked of: Councillor Stephen Greek - Portfolio Holder for Performance, Communications & Customer Experience

Question: “From which month onwards does the Council intend to reach its goal of responding to 90% of customer complaints within 15 days – can we expect to see this from February 2023 onwards?”

8.

Questioner: Councillor Eden Kulig

Asked of: Councillor David Ashton - Portfolio Holder for Finance & Human Resources

Question: “When will the Council know what sums it can expect from the government for Phase 4 of the Household Support Fund, and is it in contact with the government about this? “

9.

Questioner: Councillor Peymana Assad

Asked of: Councillor Anjana Patel - Portfolio Holder for Environment & Community Safety

Question: “The Corporate Plan promises 15 new mobile cameras and more electric charging points. Who will decide where they go and what evidence base will be used?”

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