

**LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW**

**COUNCIL MEETING -**

**28 FEBRUARY 2013**

**QUESTION WITH NOTICE**

A period of up to 15 minutes is allowed for the asking of written questions by Members of Council or a Member of the Executive or the Chairman of any Committee.

**Questioner: Councillor Susan Hall**

**Asked of: Councillor Phillip O'Dell (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 1:**

“Could you provide a breakdown of the £273,000 cut to the highways maintenance budget?”

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**Questioner: Councillor Stanley Sheinwald**

**Asked of: Councillor Sachin Shah (Portfolio Holder for Finance)**

**To be responded to by: Councillor Graham Henson (Portfolio Holder for Performance, Customer Services and Corporate Services)**

**Question 2:**

“I see from the council tax budget papers that you propose to reduce the number of formal council committee meetings so can you tell me which ones are you considering and how much money will this save?”

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**Asked of: Councillor Phillip O'Dell (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 3:**

“Could you provide breakdowns of the £490,000 and £273,000 procurement savings in Environment and Enterprise over the next two years?”

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**Questioner: Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane**

**Asked of: Councillor Margaret Davine (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing)**

**Question 4:**

“Could you provide a breakdown of the £350,000 'voluntary sector funding' investment that has been added to the final revenue budget? Additionally, "investment" implies a return; what is the rate of return to that £350k 'investment'?”

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**Asked of: Councillor Margaret Davine (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing)**

**Question 5:**

“At February's Cabinet, you spoke of how Circles of Support (funded by the TPIF) had improved services for users and made savings the council. If all the £2.1m of the s256 money from the Department of Health to support "social care services with health benefits" had actually been invested on social care services with health benefits, like Circles of Support, can you describe the resultant service improvements for users and savings for the Council that would have been achieved?”

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**Asked of: Councillor Sachin Shah (Portfolio Holder for Finance)**

**Question 6:**

“Can you confirm how the hoped for income from Treasury Management investments essentially doubled to £939,000 between December and February's budgets?”

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**Questioner: Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane**

**Asked of: Councillor Sachin Shah (Portfolio Holder for Finance)**

**Question 7:**

“In closing the budget gap between December and February, nearly £1.5 million of 'transformation' savings were found. Can you itemise and detail these savings, and explain why they did not feature in the draft budget?”

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**Questioner: Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane**

**Asked of: Councillor Mitzi Green (Portfolio Holder for Children, Schools and Families)**

**Question 8:**

“Could you provide a breakdown of the £260,000 'Business Support' savings in the Children's Services Budget?”



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**Questioner: Councillor Susan Hall**

**Asked of: Councillor David Perry (Portfolio Holder for Community and Cultural Services)**

**Question 9:**

“Could you itemise and break down the £600,000 over two years saving from the Cultural Strategy Review?”

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**Questioner: Councillor Susan Hall**

**Asked of: Councillor Phillip O'Dell (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 10:**

“Can you confirm what form of service impact assessment was conducted on the PRISM transformation?”

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**Asked of: Councillor Phillip O'Dell (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 11:**

“Earlier this month your administration announced £200,000 extra for fixing potholes, and £70,000 for free parking at Christmas. Can you confirm where this funding is coming from, as it appears to be outside the budget framework?”

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**Questioner: Councillor Susan Hall**

**Asked of: Councillor Phillip O'Dell (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 12:**

“Could you provide a breakdown of the £70,000 free parking figure, and confirm where in the borough this scheme will be implemented?”

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**Questioner: Councillor Susan Hall**

**Asked of: Councillor Phillip O'Dell (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 13:**

“How much does it cost to change the tariff on all the pay-and-display machines in the borough?”

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**Asked of: Councillor Phillip O'Dell (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 14:**

“Are all our pay-and-display machines compatible with providing 20 minutes free parking for a set period of time?”

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**Questioner: Councillor Susan Hall**

**Asked of: Councillor Phillip O'Dell (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 15:**

“Over what time period is this free parking scheme set to run - from when until when - and how much loss of revenue is anticipated to arise from it?”

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**Questioner:** **Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane**

**Asked of:** **Councillor Thaya Idaikkadar (Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Property and Major Contracts)**

**Question 16:**

“Could you provide the page and paragraph references in the Budget papers presented to Cabinet on February 14th 2013 that set out the role profile and list of responsibilities for the new Portfolio Adviser role, newly created at paragraph 56, page 121, of the documentation?”



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**Questioner: Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane**

**Asked of: Councillor Thaya Idaikkadar (Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Property and Major Contracts)**

**Question 17:**

“Could you provide the role profile and list of responsibilities for the Portfolio Adviser role?”

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**Asked of: Councillor Thaya Idaikkadar (Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Property and Major Contracts)**

**Question 18:**

“Could you clarify why you chose to amend the SRA schedule to allow for Portfolio Holders and Portfolio Advisers to split SRAs upon the appointment of the latter?”

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**Questioner: Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane**

**Asked of: Councillor Thaya Idaikkadar (Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Property and Major Contracts)**

**Question 19:**

“Had legal advice been sought on the legality of an arrangement whereby a Portfolio Adviser would be paid personally by their Portfolio Holder, in the absence of suitable bandings on the SRA schedule?”

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**Asked of: Councillor Thaya Idaikkadar (Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Property and Major Contracts)**

**Question 20:**

“Was legal advice sought on whether this arrangement would have established a pecuniary interest for the Portfolio Adviser?”

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**Asked of: Councillor Thaya Idaikkadar (Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Property and Major Contracts)**

**Question 21:**

“And, if this proposed arrangement would have established a pecuniary interest, was legal advice taken as to whether and to what extent that pecuniary interest would have hampered the Portfolio Adviser in the carrying-out of their role?”