

## **CABINET – 12 SEPTEMBER 2013**

### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS (ITEM 5)**

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:** Simon Brown

**Asked of:** Councillor Asad Omar, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety

**Question:** “Has the Portfolio Holder calculated the additional cost to the Council of the consequences of leaving the gates of Harrow Recreation Ground unlocked at night, due to increased vandalism, repair to park equipment and environment, and increased cost to the Metropolitan Police and Council in dealing with additional anti-social behaviour. Would the Portfolio Holder advise this cost, and if it has not yet been calculated, would he not agree that it will be far in excess of the small savings he is anticipating from not locking the gates? This is in addition to the unquantifiable cost of increased disturbance and loss of amenity and security of local residents and park users.”

2.

**Questioner:** Ushma Rathod

**Asked of:** Councillor Asad Omar, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety

**Question:** “A news article in the Daily Mail has recently reported that a travelling community have set up homes in a park, in Sussex, as the Council decided to keep the gates unlocked, meaning powers to evict no longer applies. This has left the local residents to fear for their safety and children not being able to play in the park as it’s unsafe. How will you, as the Portfolio Holder of the Environment and Community Safety, ensure that the residents surrounding the parks, in Harrow, are kept safe and protect their homes from being unlawfully accessed and or vandalised?”

3.

**Questioner:** Eranga Gunawardena

**Asked of:** Councillor Asad Omar, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety

**Question:** “What level of public opinion or consultation have you done to ensure the decisions you are making re not lock the park gates or not cutting the grass in certain parks are accurate?”