

## **CABINET - 10 APRIL 2014**

### **AGENDA PART I**

#### **COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS (ITEM 6)**

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 William Stoodley

**Asked of:** Councillor Manji Kara, Portfolio Holder for Community and Culture

**Question:** “Do you believe that the use of the word "Purdah" in the run-up to the local elections is appropriate, bearing in mind the actual meaning of the word and the fact that both the current Leader of the Council and the current Mayor are female?”

2.

**Questioner:** Councillor William Stoodley

**Asked of:** Councillor Stephen Greek, Portfolio Holder for Planning, Development and Regeneration

**Question:** “Please would you inform me of the cost, or of the estimated cost, to Harrow Council of the Public Inquiry into the refusal of planning permission for The Hive football club lights and stadium?”

3.

**Questioner:** Councillor William Stoodley

**Asked of:** Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Adults and Housing

**Question:** “I have been approached for help on two separate occasions by Harrow citizens who ended up homeless because they had court injunctions forbidding them access to their properties, but were told by this Council that they did not qualify for Council accommodation because they co-owned their own properties. Bearing in mind your comments at the February Cabinet meeting with respect to helping the homeless in any way possible, what assurances, if any, can you give me that your administration will

take the necessary steps to place the victims of such circumstances into temporary accommodation at the very least?"

4.

**Questioner:** Councillor William Stoodley

**Asked of:** Councillor Paul Osborn, Portfolio Holder for Communications, Performance and Resources

**Question:** "The staff working at the public counter on the ground floor right opposite the main front door to this Civic Centre have informed me that as of last month they have been instructed not to accept documents delivered by hand from members of the public.

How do you justify depriving members of the public the facility to hand in important mail and documents by hand and obtaining a stamped compliments slip by way of receipt, forcing them instead to pay for recorded delivery in these times of austerity when according to your Coalition government we're all supposed to be tightening our belts?"

5.

**Questioner:** Councillor Keith Ferry

**Asked of:** Councillor Susan Hall, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Environment

**Question:** "How many complaints have the Council received from residents since August 2013 in respect of Barnet Football Clubs' first team matches being played at the Hive.

What are the main subjects of these complaints and in which months were they received."

6.

**Questioner:** Councillor Keith Ferry

**Asked of:** Councillor Susan Hall, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Environment

**Question:** "As a Wealdstone Councillor I am immensely proud of the performance of our football club, Wealdstone FC over the past season. They now look certain to be crowned champions of the Ryman Premier League by a huge margin of points and will win promotion to the Conference South League.

Will you and the rest of your party join the Labour group in sending a letter of congratulations to the Club?"

7.

**Questioner:** Councillor William Stoodley

**Asked of:** Councillor Paul Osborn, Portfolio Holder for Communications, Performance and Resources

**Question:** "Aside from the Electoral Commission, is there any internal or Council-orientated monitoring system for the conduct and behaviour of political groups and/or parties running in Harrow in the forthcoming local elections on the 22nd of May?"

8.

**Questioner:** Councillor James Bond

**Asked of:** Councillor Susan Hall, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Environment

**Question:** "I would like the Leader of the Council to investigate why a senior employee with responsibilities for parking and sustainable transport, who took a severance payment when his employment with the council came to an end on Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> May last year, was then rehired as a consultant, working in the same department and doing the same job three days later from Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

If the gentleman's job with the council was so vital to the authority why was he not retained and paid in the normal way under the PAYE system, thus saving the taxpayers of Harrow an unnecessary severance payment at that time which was then followed by ten months worth of consultancy fees up to the 28<sup>th</sup> March of this year?"

9.

**Questioner:** Councillor Mano Dharmarajah

**Asked of:** Councillor Susan Hall, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Environment

**Question:** "Are you aware of the problems the CPZ in Wellbeck Road may cause to the residents of Rayners Lane Estate?"