

Cabinet – 18 September 2014

Councillor Parmar's written response to a supplemental question from Davis Searles, public questioner 3.

Dear Mr Searles,

Thank you for your questions at Cabinet.

These cuts are being imposed on Harrow Council and our residents by the Tory Government. The Labour administration have always tried to make these cuts as fairly as possible; over the past 2 years we have reduced management by 40%.

However the sheer scale of making £75m of cuts over four years means that we cannot make these savings by cutting only back-office management.

The Labour administration is also clear that we can only make £75m of savings fairly by consulting with others and listening to others views. This is why we have started the 'Take Part' budget consultation to have a discussion with residents about what services should be prioritised. This is a substantially new and transparent process, which has not been undertaken by Harrow Council before.

In an ideal world we would not be having to make these cuts, however the reality of the Tory cuts is that we can't always protect both frontline services and the poorest residents in our Borough. This is why we want to work with residents over the next four years to make these Tory cuts as fair as possible.

Kind Regards

Councillor Varsha Parmar
Portfolio Holder for Environment, Crime and Community Safety