

## COUNCIL – 13 NOVEMBER 2014

### RESPONSES TO COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS 6, 7, 8 AND 9

6.

**Questioner:** Councillor Susan Hall

**Asked of:** Councillor Varsha Parmar (Portfolio Holder for Environment, Crime and Community Safety)

**Question:** “Can you clarify why the Council recently took action against six Brent and Harrow holiday organisers for Trading Standards breaches in relation to packages for Hajj and Umrah, but have chosen not to name them as is usually the case?”

**Written Response:** As investigations are ongoing against businesses who are found not to be complying with the law so therefore we cannot at this moment provide that information.

We took part in a national project, looking specifically at this area of trade and several problems were found at various businesses that were inspected.

Therefore guidelines were given to residents advising them to make necessary checks before making their bookings to avoid disappointment or potential fraud.

7.

**Questioner:** Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane

**Asked of:** Councillor Graham Henson (Portfolio Holder for Performance, Corporate Resources and Policy Development)

**Question:** “How much facility time and how much staff cover time are being provided to the unions by Harrow Council?”

**Written Response:** Excluding Schools, the costs of corporate facility time are £58,500 including National Insurance and Pensions.

This equates to 6.5 days a week which is allocated to Unison and 2.5 days to GMB.

Corporate Facility Time is being reviewed for next year.

8.

**Questioner:** Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane

**Asked of:** Councillor Graham Henson (Portfolio Holder for Performance, Corporate Resources and Policy Development)

**Question:** "Could you provide a breakdown of monthly payments and annual totals made to Capita under the ITO, since the contract was signed in 2010?"

**Written Response:** The revenue charges for the ITO have been:

FY 2010 £1.5m  
FY 2011 £3.8m  
FY 2012 £6.1m  
FY 2013 £6.2m  
FY 2014 £3.1m

For years 2010 and 2011 those figures relate exclusively to the monthly service charge, changes and the revenue component of projects relating to the ITO.

For years 2012, 2013 and 2014 those figures also include the charges for the Initial Services under the Business Transformation Partnership (such as SAP, Civica workflow and electronic document management, Libraries, Public Realm and Waste) as the accounting structure was changed in those years to consolidate the charges under one cost centre.

To clarify how much is now being spent on ITO, of those total charges, the charge specific to the ITO is currently £406k pcm equating to £4.87m pa.

The capital charges for the ITO were:

FY 2010 £0.4m  
FY 2011 £1.2m  
FY 2012 £0.6m  
FY 2013 £1.0m  
FY 2014 £1.2m

These capital charges related solely to the ITO and are associated with projects under the ITO, mainly the Milestone Payments made on delivery of assets by the ITO Refresh programme.

A full breakdown of both revenue and capital charges by month will be provided in writing.

9.

**Questioner:** Councillor Susan Hall

**Asked of:** Councillor Sue Anderson (Portfolio Holder for Community, Culture and Resident Engagement)

**Question:** “Can you confirm when, to what extent and in which format(s) the results of the ‘Take Part’ consultation will be released?”

**Written Response:** As with previous consultations, once all analysis of responses has been completed, a report detailing the findings will be published;

- On line
- Circulated to those without access to the internet
- Translated into easy read and audio versions
- And if requested translated into community languages.