

## **Cabinet – 10 March 2016**

### **Written Responses to Councillor Questions not Reached at Cabinet**

7.

**Questioner:** Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane

**Asked of:** Councillor Keith Ferry, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Business, Planning and Regeneration

**Question:** “What do you hope to achieve through attending the MIPIM conference in Cannes next week?”

**Written Response:** Like the ten other London Boroughs attending MPIM we see this as a perfect opportunity to put Harrow on the map – and we will work tirelessly to raise our borough’s profile as a prime investment location with opportunities for economic growth, housing, jobs and apprenticeships.

8.

**Questioner:** Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane

**Asked of:** Councillor Keith Ferry, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Business, Planning and Regeneration

**Question:** “Further to a written answer provided last month, do you not think it is both unhelpful and disingenuous for you and the Council to talk about having ‘lined-up’ £1.75 billion of regeneration money, when all you’re doing is quoting the potential value of what you’d like to build – not funding that’s actually been promised, arranged, assembled or made available?”

**Written Response:** The £1.75Bn figure is robust guide to the value of the total public and private investment in our 10 year regeneration programme. ‘Lined up’ is an accurate term, given that most of our major development sites now have developers on board and are either on site, or have been through Planning, or are already in pre-application discussions. Also, the Council is now pressing ahead with the redevelopment of our own major sites, so it is realistic to expect the delivery of the full, planned regeneration programme.

9.

**Questioner:** Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane

**Asked of:** Councillor Keith Ferry, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Business, Planning and Regeneration

**Question:** “Without divulging confidential information, can you explain how the figures for income generation in the Stanmore Business Innovation Centre (SBIC) paper were calculated?”

**Written Response:** The figures for income generation were based on average rent levels, multiplied by lettable space, multiplied by percentage occupancy levels in Building 1 and projected occupancy levels in building 2. Projections were based on demand for space and market conditions in Harrow.

10.

**Questioner:** Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane

**Asked of:** Councillor Keith Ferry, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Business, Planning and Regeneration

**Question:** “How much business rate is expected to be collected from the SBIC at 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% occupancy rates?”

**Written Response:** The total amount payable for Building One based on full occupancy for 2016/17 using small business rate multiplier is £69K. Many of the properties have a RV of under £2600 so if they are empty then once verified they can be fully exempt whilst they remain empty. Any occupied properties where the RV is under £6K potentially would be able to apply for Small Business Rate relief and if they qualify under the current enhanced scheme would be able to get 100% rate relief. Those with an RV between £6001 and £11,999 could get relief on a sliding scale. The total amount of Business Rates payable for Building Two has not been supplied by the Valuation Office.