

# COUNCIL

THURSDAY 4 JULY 2013

PUBLIC AND COUNCILLOR  
QUESTIONS ACCEPTED

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**LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

-

**4 JULY 2013**

**QUESTION WITH NOTICE**

A period of up to 15 minutes is allowed for the asking of written questions by Members of Council or a Member of the Executive or the Chairman of any Committee.

**Questioner: Matthew Lloyd**

**Asked of: Councillor Thaya Idaikkadar (Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Business Transformation & Communications, Finance, Performance, Customer Services & Corporate Services, Property & Major Contracts)**

**Question:** "Harrow is experiencing a housing crisis. The inaction of the previous administration and the lack of infrastructure funding announced in the latest Spending Review has left Harrow's young people with high rents and very limited places to live in their home borough. Given this is the case, will you condemn the previous council administration for their lack of action and call on the government to follow Labour's infrastructure investment programme to provide the vital housing needed for Harrow residents."

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**ITEM 12**

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**QUESTION WITH NOTICE**

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**Questioner:** Councillor Bill Phillips

**Asked of:** Councillor Zarina Khalid (Portfolio Holder for Children, Schools and Families)

**Question 1:** "Following a previous Conservative Administration's decision to abolish the ceremony to celebrate the achievements of looked after Children, the previous Labour Administration reinstated that ceremony. At the Ofsted inspection in 2012, Ofsted Inspectors were pleased with the Labour Administration's decision to reinstate this. Does the PH give her commitment to continue with this ceremony which means so much to vulnerable children in the Borough?"

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**Questioner: Councillor Susan Hall**

**Asked of: Councillor Asad Omar (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 2:** "Can you provide an update on recruitment to the Neighbourhood Champion; is the decline that set in under the previous Portfolio Holder, Cllr. Phil O'Dell, still continuing?"

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**Questioner: Councillor Susan Hall**

**Asked of: Councillor Nizam Ismail (Portfolio Holder for Community and Cultural Services and Housing)**

**Question 3:** "What are the full costs, including a quantification of officer time by total hours and total cost, of organising this summer's UnderOneSky, and how much has income has sponsorship and ticket sales generated?"

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**Questioner: Councillor Simon Williams**

**Asked of: Councillor Asad Omar (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 4:** "Across the borough, give-way lines and markings, yellow lines and other road markings – particularly on the High Street, in my ward of Harrow on the Hill, have virtually worn away leaving motorists with little or no information about parking restrictions or rights of way; can you provide a timescale as to when this backlog of maintenance inherited from the previous Labour administration will be addressed?"

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**Questioner: Barry Macleod-Cullinane**

**Asked of: Councillor Thaya Idaikkadar ( Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Business Transformation & Communications, Finance, Performance, Customer Services & Corporate Services, Property & Major Contracts)**

<p><b>Question 5:</b> “Does the Council’s continued membership of the LGA represent good value for taxpayers’ money and why?”</p>
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**Questioner: Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane**

**Asked of: Councillor Asad Omar (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 6:** "Can you advise me and my residents what they can expect from the new street-sweeping regime across Belmont ward that was introduced by Labour's budget in February 2013, which you voted for, which you are continuing to implement?"

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**Questioner: Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane**

**Asked of: Councillor Asad Omar (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 7:** With the cuts to the public realm budgeted initiated by the previous Labour administration, as part of the Budget you voted for, what measures are being taken to reduce the amount of littering in Centenary Park, on the border of Belmont and Queensbury wards?"

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**Questioner: Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane**

**Asked of: Councillor Asad Omar (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 8:** “Under the previous Labour administration, a number of roads across the borough, such as Ventnor Avenue in Belmont, were “treated” with a new surfacing, leaving lots of loose chippings which are particularly problematic to cyclists, and often were not properly marked – when will they be properly resurfaced and properly lined?”

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**Questioner: Councillor Susan Hall**

**Asked of: Councillor Asad Omar (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

<p><b>Question 9:</b> "What is being done to reverse the drop in recycling figures that began under the Labour administration's Portfolio Holder, Cllr. Phil O'Dell?"</p>
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**Questioner: Councillor Susan Hall**

**Asked of: Councillor Asad Omar (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 10:** "Can you confirm how many SmartWater kits and as a percentage of the total number ordered remain to be distributed to Harrow's households?"

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**Questioner: Councillor Susan Hall**

**Asked of: Councillor Asad Omar (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

**Question 11:**“ How much larger would have been the fall in burglary rates across Harrow if the previous Labour Portfolio Holder, Cllr. Phil O’Dell, had been more robust and proactive in pushing for greater distribution of the SmartWater kits to households across the borough?”

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**Questioner: Councillor Susan Hall**

**Asked of: Councillor Zarina Khalid (Portfolio Holder for Children, Schools and Families)**

**Question 12:** "With the expansion of Vaughan School only being approved in mid/late June, what are the implications for education provision at Vaughan, what has been or is being done to reduce any negative impacts, and are there any wider implications for the provision of primary education places in Harrow?"

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**Questioner: Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane**

**Asked of: Councillor William Stoodley (Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration)**

**Question 13:** "Can you provide an update on the Planning Committee's proposed review of Stanburn School's Travel Plan set as a condition to its expansion?"

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**Questioner: Councillor David Perry**

**Asked of: Councillor Thaya Idaikkadar (Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Business Transformation & Communications, Finance, Performance, Customer Services & Corporate Services, Property & Major Contracts)**

<p><b>Question 14:</b> “Could you indicate how you feel the new Cabinet set-up is progressing?”</p>
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**Questioner: Councillor Philip O'Dell**

**Asked of: Councillor Asad Omar (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

<p><b>Question 15:</b> "What is the final percentage for last year (2012/13) for recycling rates in Harrow?"</p>
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**Questioner: Councillor Sachin Shah**

**Asked of: Councillor Thaya Idaikkadar (Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Business Transformation & Communications, Finance, Performance, Customer Services & Corporate Services, Property & Major Contracts)**

**Question 16:** "In the June cabinet papers, you list around half a million pounds of spend in the carry forward as 'minor projects'. Do you think the council tax payers in Harrow will agree with you that half a million pounds is 'minor'?"

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**Questioner: Councillor Philip O'Dell**

**Asked of: Councillor Asad Omar (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Safety)**

<p><b>Question 17:</b> "Does the PH support the Borough Commander of Harrow Police aim to make Harrow the safest borough in London?"</p>
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**Questioner: Councillor Sachin Shah**

**Asked of: Councillor William Stoodley (Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration)**

**Question 18:** "It is very bold of Barnet Football club to send the Chair of the Planning committee an email showing they are in breach of planning conditions. Do you think they did this because they don't believe the council will act, or because they are truly sorry for the problems they are causing?"

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**Questioner: Councillor Bill Phillips**

**Asked of: Councillor Nizam Ismail (Portfolio Holder for Community and Cultural Services and Housing)**

**Question 19:** "What are the Portfolio Holder's plans and commitments to collect the monies outstanding on commercial properties owned by the HRA and will you ensure that all debtors of the HRA are treated equally."

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**Asked of: Councillor Thaya Idaikkadar (Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Business Transformation & Communications, Finance, Performance, Customer Services & Corporate Services, Property & Major Contracts)**

**Question 20:** "For the months of April, May and June, will the Portfolio Holder please provide the expenditure from the Mayor's budget on:

Staffing costs  
Staff overtime  
Agency costs  
Catering costs"