

Cabinet

Public and Councillor Questions

Date: **Monday 18 July 2022**

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CABINET – MONDAY 18 JULY 2022

AGENDA PART I

PUBLIC QUESTIONS (ITEM 4)

Under Rule 16 of the Executive Procedure Rules members of the public may question the Executive and Portfolio Holders at meetings. There is a time limit of 15 minutes for the asking and answering of public questions.

1.

Questioner: Hugh Brown

Asked of: Councillor Jean Lammiman, Portfolio Holder for Community and Culture.

Question: “My family regularly use the tennis courts in our local park – in fact these are the same courts I used when I was a child. I am concerned that the council’s plans to privatise the courts and introduce fees will be a barrier to many, and will deter casual users especially, when instead the council should be promoting equality of access and striving to increase participation.

Several of the borough’s courts have in fact been refurbished in recent years; they are well-used and well-maintained by their brilliant ‘Friends of’ park groups, demonstrating what is possible without court fees. There seems little benefit to ending the free use of our courts, but there is a huge potential risk.

At the last Cabinet meeting, you considered three options, summarised as follows:

- Option A: secure LTA Funding, introduce fees, outsource to a private company
- Option B: secure LTA Funding, introduce fees, managed by the council
- Option C: do nothing

Your administration is choosing Option A.

While some of our public courts do need renovating, the introduction of fees is not a requirement of the LTA funding, it is the council’s choice. There is also considerable public opposition to introducing fees in our parks.

With this in mind, will you now consider a fourth option:

- Option D: secure LTA Funding, keep our parks free to use”

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AGENDA PART I

COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS (ITEM 5)

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 Krishna Suresh

Asked of: Councillor Jean Lammiman, Portfolio Holder for Community and Culture

Question: “Please could you outline how you will enhance the cultural services offer in the Borough?”

2.

Questioner: Councillor Krishna Suresh

Asked of: Councillor Jean Lammiman, Portfolio Holder for Community and Culture

Question: “Please could you indicate who will be directly invited to consult on the Conservatives Administration’s upcoming Privatisation Plans of our Tennis Courts in Harrow?”

3.

Questioner: Councillor Natasha Proctor

Asked of: Councillor David Ashton, Portfolio Holder for Finance & Human Resources

Question: “How do you plan to manage the reserves in the future?”

4.

Questioner: Councillor Stephen Hickman

Asked of: Councillor Hitesh Karia, Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services

Question: “Harrow schools are very good at supporting students. What additional support will be given to schools to support child refugees from Ukraine and other refugee children in Harrow?”

5.

Questioner: Councillor Stephen Hickman

Asked of: Councillor Hitesh Karia, Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services

Question: “Many schools are over-subscribed and some are under-PAN, how will the council allocate school places?”

6.

Questioner: Councillor Shahania Choudhury

Asked of: Councillor Anjana Patel, Portfolio Holder for Environment & Community Safety

Question: “Numerous residents and businesses have been in contact recently with Labour Councillors regarding the extensive anti-social behaviour taking place by the Clock Tower in Wealdstone High Street. This escalating evening behaviour in recent weeks of large groups of people consuming alcohol and noise on the street is leaving residents, business owners and their customers intimidated. This issue was also raised by a resident during a deputation to TARSAP on Tuesday. What will you do to immediately intervene to alleviate this community safety problem?”

7.

Questioner: Councillor Peymana Assad

Asked of: Councillor Anjana Patel, Portfolio Holder for Environment & Community Safety

Question: “What is the new strategy for fly tipping?”