COUNCIL, 26th March 2013

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

1 Measures to actively deter the rise in betting shops, amusement arcades, pay-day loan shops and pawnbrokers.

To The Leader of the Council, Cllr Steven Kelly

By Councillor Cllr John Mylod

Question:

Would the Cabinet Member advise what measures are being taken by this Authority to actively deter the proliferation of betting shops, amusement arcades, pay-day loan shops and pawnbrokers across the borough?

2 Briar Road Estate Developments

To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr Lesley Kelly

By Councillor Paul McGeary

Question:

What arrangements are being made to ensure that contractor's obligations are being complied with during the construction stages of the Briar Road Developments currently taking place and how are those obligations being enforced?

3 Spring Edition of Living

To the Cabinet Member for Transformation, Cllr Michael Armstrong

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker

Question:

The Spring-edition of Living includes a belated article on Page 8 about the merger with Newham that is not clear or accurate.

For example,

It is not clear from the headline 'joined up thinking' that this involves the merger of **all** Havering's back-office administrative services with Newham, particularly when the answer to Q1 only refers to **some** back-office services!

Also the answer to Q5 is wrong too, because it asks, "How much will this really save the council", but the answer only gives a combined forecast saving for both councils! In view of this does the Council Leader regret **not** proof reading the article before publication and does he agree an accurate article informing residents of the Conservative Administration's merger plans should have appeared in Living prior to Members voting on the matter?

4 Air Quality Management

To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr Lesley Kelly

By Councillor Lawrence Webb

Question:

In September 2006 it was declared that the whole of Havering would become an 'Air Quality Management Area' AQMA because of the increasing number of Heath issues arising due to pollution principally from transport. Since that time what if any have been the improvements in the boroughs air quality given that traffic has increased in that time?

5 No of claims submitted to Streetcare due to pavement or road defects

To the Cabinet Member for Client Services, Cllr Barry Tebbutt

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Question:

Would the Cabinet Member confirm the number of claims submitted in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 for:

- a) Damage to vehicles from potholes or other road defects?
- b) Injuries or other claims from residents as a result of pavement or road defects?

6 Infrastructure Improvements

To The Leader of the Council, Cllr Steven Kelly

By Councillor Pat Murray

Question:

What is the projected increase in the population in the Harold Hill area when the residential developments approved in the past 4 years have been completed and fully occupied and what plans are there to use part of the capital receipts from land sales and Section 106 Agreements to improve public services and infrastructure that will be needed as a consequence of the inevitable population increase?

7 Green Belt Policy

To The Leader of the Council, Cllr Steven Kelly

By Councillor David Durant

Question:

On 6th March the planning committee approved P1474.13 by 8 votes to 2 with 1 abstention. This green belt application involved replacing a dilapidated 'shed and skip' by the A127 with a large roofed 3 bedroom bungalow.

The application was recommended for refusal as being contrary to green belt policy, particularly due to size, but was presented to committee for a decision because the applicant is a councillor.

Cllr Steven Kelly, please explain why you think this application was approved and whether this has undermined the Conservative Administration's commitment to defend the Green Belt?

8 Inside Havering

To the Cabinet Member for Transformation, Cllr Michael Armstrong

By Councillor Fred Osborne

Question:

Can the Cabinet Member provide details of the cost and circulation of Havering Council's staff magazine 'Inside Havering'?

9 Mini Golf Course, Upminster

To the Cabinet Member for Towns & Communities, Cllr Andrew Curtin

By Councillor Clarence Barrett

Question:

In respect of the mini-golf course in Hall Lane, Upminster, would the Cabinet Member please advise:

- a) what plans there are for the future management of this facility?
- **b)** when can we expect some investment to improve the facility?
- c) and give an assurance that the facility will always remain as green, open space for recreational purposes?

10 A1306 Heavy Vehicle Movements

To The Leader of the Council, Cllr Steven Kelly

By Councillor Denis Breading

Question:

What are the expected number heavy vehicle movements in the Rainham & Wennington sections of the A1306 as a consequence of the recent and proposed travel extraction activities and subsequent land fill operations?

11 Streetcare compensation paid out

To the Cabinet Member for Client Services, Cllr Barry Tebbutt

By Councillor Linda Hawthorn

Question:

Would the Cabinet Member confirm the total amount of compensation paid out arising from claims against StreetCare in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013?

12 Compromise Agreements

To the Cabinet Member for Transformation, Cllr Michael Armstrong

By Councillor Linda Van den Hende

Question:

Would the Leader confirm for each of the past six years the following information:-

- a) The number of staff who have signed compromise agreements?
- b) The total amount paid out under such agreements?

13 Public Health Grant 2013/14

To The Leader of the Council, Cllr Steven Kelly

By Councillor Nic Dodin

Question:

This Authority received a public health grant of £8.8 million for 2013/14, would the Cabinet Member advise members how much has been spent to date, what is the projected expenditure at year-end and if the agreed priorities are being met?

14 Publishing expenditure data over £500 <u>To the Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Cllr Geoffrey Starns</u>

By Councillor GillianFord

Question:

While the publication of all expenditure items over £500 is up to January 2014 on the council website, October, November and December are currently missing. Would the Cabinet Member explain why there seems to be an on-going problem in publishing this data?

15 Street Cleaning

To the Cabinet Member for Client Services, Cllr Barry Tebbutt

By Councillor John Wood

Question:

Would the Cabinet Member confirm:

- a) What steps are in place to ensure that each road (including any adjacent public alleyways) is swept in accordance with the cleaning schedule, including the removal of dog faeces?
- **b)** Where can members see performance information to see how often targets are met?
- **c)** How street cleaning is monitored by managers?