

**FULL COUNCIL, Wednesday 8 July 2020**

**MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

**Cost of Disputes with Former Employees**

- 1) **To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Damian White)**  
**From Councillor Ray Morgon**

During his budget speech to Council, the Leader of the Council stated that he wants to make Havering Council to be an employer of choice, a top one hundred UK organization. In light of his statement, would the Leader comment on a recent article in the Romford Recorder in relation to Havering Council spending well over £1 million in the last four years to resolve disputes with former employees

**Wearing of PPE on Public Transport**

- 2) **To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Damian White)**  
**From Councillor David Durant**

The Mayor of London has warned residents not to use public transport unless "absolutely necessary" and made oppressive mask wearing compulsory! Considering Havering residents pay a GLA precept was the Council Leader consulted about this and if so what is his view?

**Disposal of Waste from Highways Maintenance**

- 3) **To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Osman Dervish)**  
**From Councillor Ron Ower**

Could the Cabinet Member advise this Council, as to what happens to removed paving slabs and other waste generated through highways maintenance operations?

**Review of Environmental Policies**

- 4) **To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Osman Dervish)**  
**From Councillor Keith Darvill**

What progress has been made by the Executive to review its policies relating to:-

- a) the impact of Climate Change;
- b) the improvement in Air Quality; and,
- c) the need to improve significantly the recycling of waste products.

In accordance with the motion resolved at Full Council on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019?

**Proposed Immigration Centre**

**5) To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Damian White)  
From Councillor Martin Goode**

Can the Leader of the Council, please provide some clarity around the announcements that have appeared in social media, regarding the Home Office to provide accommodation to 200 Asylum Seekers at the former Palms Hotel site, in Hornchurch and in particular what agreement if any, has now been reached with Havering Council, in respect of the following :

- To provide any front line Services or Assistance to any potential resident or family that are placed in this accommodation?
- What category of Security level will this establishment be given.
- What safeguards will be put in place to ensure the safety and protection of not only the Asylum seekers themselves but more importantly the general public and Residents in the surrounding areas?

**Service Charges to Council Tenants**

**6) To the Cabinet Member for Housing (Councillor Joshua Chapman)  
From Councillor Stephanie Nunn**

Council tenants, together with leaseholders in Council blocks are charged various service charges whether the service is provided or not. Does the Cabinet Member agree this is unethical and unfair?

**River Maintenance near Rainham Village Conservation Area**

**7) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Osman Dervish)  
From Councillor Jeffrey Tucker**

In view of new developments by Dovers Corner and in Rainham Village, please provide an update on any new infrastructure and planned maintenance of river and culverts to protect Rainham Village and Conservation Area from flooding?

**Proposed Immigration Centre**

**8) To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Damian White)  
From Councillor Linda Hawthorn**

The opening of an Immigration Centre at Palms Hotel on the A127 has just been announced with the MP and Leader of the Council making representation for the centre to be relocated outside of the Borough. If the lobbying is unsuccessful, could the Leader of the Council confirm what catering, health and education measures will be in place including clarity on what government funding will be provided?

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## **Delivery of Social Housing**

**9) To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Damian White)**

**From Councillor Paul McGeary**

What progress is being made with the Joint Venture Housing Development Projects and in particular when will the planned social housing properties be available to let to local residents?

## **Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy**

**10) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Osman Dervish)**

**From Councillor Darren Wise**

Following the announcement made by the UK Government's Department for Transport regarding their Cycling and Walking Investment strategy. What safeguards will Havering Council, be considering when they start their review to implement any changes required for our current road layout, to encourage walking and cycling and enable continued social distancing as the lockdown restrictions begin to ease and what measures will be taken to assist the general public? In particular, to the many blind and partially sighted pedestrians, that use our walkways. Both guide dog and cane users rely on kerbs to navigate and it is crucial that a detectable kerb is maintained between vehicles – including bikes – and pedestrians.

## **Disabled Facilities Grant**

**11) To the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care (Councillor**

**Jason Frost)**

**From Councillor Ray Morgon**

In a recent Internal Audit of Disabled Facilities Grant, the audit report included comments such as not supported by documented procedures, cases are not consistently processed, Council open to allegations of discrimination and there is no internal control mechanism in place to identify when properties with a charge applied are being sold. Given these comments, would the Cabinet Member agree that Havering Council are far from being the most productive Council in London?

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## **Independent Review into Racism and Racial Discrimination**

**12) To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Damian White)  
From Councillor David Durant**

Does the Leader of the Council agree that holding a costly and potentially racist review into “institutional racism” in Havering and at Havering Council, in response to a police killing in America, is inflammatory and misplaced and liable to bring the Council into disrepute?

## **Educational Standards at Academies**

**13) To the Cabinet Member for Education, Children & Families (Councillor Robert Benham)  
From Councillor Gillian Ford**

Havering has 7 Academies delivering at an ‘Average’ educational standard, 4 ‘Below Average Education’ and 2 ‘well below average’.  
I assume the Council has made representation to the Regional Commissioner as a consequence of the low and unsatisfactory standard of education and therefore what action is being taken to improve educational standards at the above Academies?

## **The impact on vulnerable children of the Coronavirus Covid 19 Pandemic lockdown**

**14) To the Cabinet Member for Education, Children & Families (Councillor Robert Benham)  
From Councillor Tele Lawal**

In view of the concerns for the well being of children expressed by experts and psychologists what steps are being taken by the Council to work with schools to mitigate the harm caused to pupils by the lockdown and non attendance at schools.

## **Repair of Potholes**

**15) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Osman Dervish)  
From Councillor Gerry O’Sullivan**

In a recent report from the RAC, it stated that many Councils have a “Patch and Dash” approach to the repair of potholes. What steps has the Cabinet Member taken to ensure that this does not happen in Havering?