

## **MOTIONS**

### **10.1 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR MATHERS**

That this Council deeply regrets the entirely avoidable closure of the Beck Theatre in January 2025 and the significant negative impact this will have on the arts and culture provision within our borough and calls on the Cabinet to:

- a) reopen the theatre with an appropriate operator at the earliest opportunity in 2025, that maintains the quality of programming and community engagement historically delivered at this wonderful venue and
- b) immediately conduct an independent review to investigate the delays and communications that occurred between the council and existing operator resulting in the forthcoming closure of the theatre. This review will determine what lessons can be learnt and will be conducted independently of the council and operator.

The scope of the review should investigate:

- negotiations between the Council and the operator including offers made informally or formally over recent years, their correspondence, negotiations and preparations for agreements.
- the Council's and Cabinet's decision making over recent years regarding this tenure.
- the use of Council's external and internal communications including social media channels.
- any other relevant aspects as determined by the independent investigator.

The review to then be presented to the relevant Select committee within the next six months.

### **10.2 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR KAUR**

That this Council recognises that Assets of Community Value (ACVs) such as theatres, community centres, libraries, pubs, and other spaces, provide vital services and activities for residents. This Council believes that it has a pivotal role in supporting and encouraging local communities to nominate ACVs, ensuring that valuable assets are protected for future generations. Therefore, this Council resolves to:

- publicly identify and list ACVs
- actively promote the ACV nomination process and provide necessary support
- launch a targeted communication campaign to raise awareness of the ACV process among residents and community groups

### **10.3 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR EDWARDS**

That this Council is greatly concerned that the government's increase in the Employer's National Insurance Contributions and the reduction in the threshold for payment will add further pressure on Council budgets and on our residents.

Whilst the government have said, but not yet confirmed, that Councils will be fully reimbursed for their direct cost arising from this change, financial assistance will not be given to our care service and early year providers and charities upon which this Council relies to support our residents. The additional taxation these providers will now have to pay will most likely cause them to increase their charges and ultimately it is the hard-working families and residents of this borough that will have to pay as that cost is passported on to them.

Therefore, to mitigate this new pressure, this Council will reaffirm its commitment to sound financial management and good business practices that has enabled Hillingdon Council to deal with underfunding to date.