

## QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

### **9.1 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR SWEETING TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND TRANSFORMATION - COUNCILLOR GODDARD:**

The previous Director of Finance assessed that general reserves of between £32 to £55 million were needed to ensure the Council has financial resilience to address both foreseen and unforeseen risks. The current projected levels of reserves for 2025/26 and beyond as illustrated by the chart 11 on page 38 of the budget report presented to the Children, Families and Education Select Committee of 7 January 2025, show assumed levels of reserves hovering just above £20 million until 2027/28.

How confident is the Cabinet member that, given the Council's significant underestimates of delivering savings in the past, and over inflation as to the level of reserves, that levels of reserves will not need to be supported by Government Intervention as mentioned in paragraph 22 on page 38 of the aforementioned report?

### **9.2 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR DENYS TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE - COUNCILLOR PALMER:**

Can the Cabinet member please give an update on the outcome of the recent Care Quality Commission's inspection of Hillingdon Council's Adult Social Care Services?

### **9.3 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BENNETT TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING, HOUSING & GROWTH - COUNCILLOR TUCKWELL:**

Can the Cabinet member please provide an update to the Council on the anticipated impact of the Labour government's planning reforms announced in December, particularly in terms of how these changes might affect housing delivery, local control over development, and the protection of green spaces in Hillingdon?

### **9.4 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR MARTIN TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE - COUNCILLOR PALMER:**

It has been reported that the savings anticipated by the Labour government accruing from the cancellation of the pensioners' winter fuel payment have failed to be delivered, largely due to the surge in successful applications for Pension Credit.

Can the Cabinet member please advise what action has been taken in Hillingdon to mitigate the loss of the winter fuel payment to our pensioner residents?

### **9.5 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR DAVIES TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT- COUNCILLOR LAVERY:**

Can the Cabinet member please update Council on the positive progress being made to secure an exciting new future for the much-valued Beck Theatre?

**9.6 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR KAUR TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CORPORATE SERVICES AND PROPERTY - COUNCILLOR BIANCO:**

Would the Cabinet member kindly agree to make public the list of any potential assets that are likely to be disposed of or put up for sale to balance the books, so as not to leave Hillingdon residents feeling angry and deeply concerned about the potential lack of transparency and its impact on their community?

**9.7 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR PUNJA TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES & EDUCATION - COUNCILLOR O'BRIEN:**

Will the Cabinet Member for Children and Families offer her congratulations to the Save our Nurseries campaign which successfully overturned the closures resulting in keeping all three Early Years Centres open under new management?

**9.8 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR SMALLWOOD TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES & EDUCATION - COUNCILLOR O'BRIEN:**

Can the Cabinet member provide an update for our residents on the future provision of childcare at the council's early years centres?

**9.9 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR R.MILLS TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CORPORATE SERVICES AND PROPERTY - COUNCILLOR BIANCO:**

In light of much previous negative publicity concerning the future of the Uxbridge library site, can the Cabinet member please update the Council on the current position?