

MOTIONS

11.1 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR GARELICK (held over from Council meeting on 11 September 2025)

That this Council recognises that the presentation and cleanliness of our residential streets across the whole borough have been in sharp decline this year, clearly indicating that the Council's financial troubles are having a significant impact on our frontline services such as refuse collection, street cleansing, and weed removal.

Therefore, this Council calls on the administration to take action to improve these frontline services, in order to keep our streets clean and restore a sense of pride in our communities.

11.2 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR CURLING

That this Council expresses its concern and disappointment that the Labour Government have u-turned on the issue of mandating developers to install 'Swift bricks' in all new developments. This Council also notes the campaigns by organisations such as the RSPB and other rare bird organisations for the inclusion of swift bricks in all new developments.

As a responsible council and one that believes that we should do all that we can to protect wildlife, rare birds, and generally enhance our biodiversity, this Council calls on the Cabinet to consider ways in which we could either introduce our own local policy on swift bricks or at least encourage developers to include them on future new builds.

11.3 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR PUNJA

That this Council notes the findings of the October/November 2025 Budget Monitoring Report, which confirm the comprehensive financial failure of this Conservative administration, specifically:

- Hillingdon is now dependent on Exceptional Financial Support from the Labour Government simply to remain a going concern.
- The Administration has failed to deliver its £34m in-year savings, resulting in a £36m overspend at Month 6 and rising.
- Reserves have collapsed from +£70m to -£34.5m, a total deterioration of £104.5m under this administration.
- The Council's financial position is now unsafe and unsustainable, with no general fund unearmarked reserves left, depleted general reserves, mismanaged operational overspend, future asset sales with the only option being anticipated Labour government support.
- Repeated failures — from the FMP and GRIP programme to green waste subscription — have further destabilised the Council's finances, placing the burden of Conservative mismanagement squarely on Hillingdon residents.

That this Council also acknowledges that any lawful budget must be:

1. that the budget should be balanced or sustainable in-year
2. that the budget should be supported by adequate reserves to manage financial risk

This Administration's budget meets neither test nor can any longer credibly be defended as lawful.

Therefore, this Council believes the situation is critical and requests the relevant Statutory Officers to urgently consider:

1. Issuing a Section 114 Report, under the Local Government Finance Act 1988, recognising that the Council has an unlawful, unbalanced budget that fails the 2 binary tests and cannot meet its expenditure commitments.
2. At the same time, issuing a Section 5 Report under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, confirming the full legal implications and consequences and advising on direct, indirect and consequential implications for the Council and Councillors on the failures of governance that have led to this position.
3. Requesting a Report in the Public Interest (RIPI), commissioned under the Local Audit and Accountability Act. To be undertaken by the Council's external auditor (EY) with independent oversight from CIPFA, ensuring full objectivity and compliance with the statutory Best Value duty (Section 3, Local Government Act 1999). The RIPI – to be reported publicly to Full Council in January 2026 - must provide an unqualified, independent account of:
 - The collapse of reserves from +£70m to –£34.5m, a deterioration of £104.5m under this administration.
 - The Month 6 overspend, failure to deliver savings, and decisions leading to the Council's effective insolvency.
 - An examination of the past 15 years of “delivered” savings against budgeted savings, including whether the administration's repeated claims of balanced budgets were in fact undelivered savings and overspends covered up by the year-on-year depletion of reserves.
 - The governance, oversight and leadership failures that enabled this financial collapse.
4. Establishing an Emergency Financial Recovery Team, working directly under the control of central government, external inspectors and statutory officers to halt further financial deterioration and stabilise the authority.
5. Producing a Wednesbury Compliance Report. The Monitoring Officer to provide written legal advice to Full Council setting out the personal legal risks to the Administration and all Members who voted for the February 2025 Budget, should their decisions be found to violate the Wednesbury principles of reasonableness, given the escalating negative reserves - including the additional £13.9m deterioration in the last two months alone under this Administration.

11.4 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR EDWARDS

That this Council expresses its deep disappointment at the closure of the Mount Vernon Urgent Care Unit, a service relied upon by thousands of residents. More than 27,000 people signed a petition opposing the decision, yet their views were dismissed, and many believe no meaningful public consultation was undertaken. A recent survey again showed strong public support to retain the Mount Vernon Urgent Care Unit.

The closure has taken place before adequate alternative provision has been secured placing a further burden on the Accident & Emergency Unit at Hillingdon Hospital. The rebuilding of the Hospital has been delayed by the Government and the promised health hubs remain years away with no funding having yet been allocated for their construction in Hillingdon.

This Council therefore calls on the Leader to write to the Secretary of State for Health seeking urgent clarity on when funding will be made available to Hillingdon to develop the promised health hubs to provide urgent and diagnostic health services to Hillingdon residents and, if necessary, to reopen the Mount Vernon Urgent Care Unit until long-term solutions are in place.