

**18 October 2017**

**Ordinary Council**

**Public Questions**

**Report of:** Philip Ruck – Chief Executive

**Wards Affected:** All Wards

**This report is:** Public

## **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, a member of the public resident within the Borough may ask a maximum of two questions relating to the business of the Council providing notice has been received by 10.00am two working days before the relevant meeting.
- 1.2 If the person wishing to ask the question is not present at the meeting when the item is called the question(s) will be deleted from the list of questions to be asked.
- 1.3 Every question asked pursuant to rule 11.1 of the Constitution shall be put and answered without discussion but the Member to whom the question has been put may decline to answer. An answer may take the form of a direct oral answer at the Council meeting or where there has been insufficient time to research an answer, a written answer will be sent to the questioner.
- 1.4 At the time of publication of the agenda one question had been received.
- 1.5 Mrs Gearon-Simm submitted the following question:

*'Newham Council in east London, who, in 2013, introduced a compulsory borough-wide licensing scheme for landlords, has shared their names and addresses with HM Revenue and customs.*

*Newham Council has estimated that unpaid tax by landlords is costing the public purse nearly £200m in London and far more nationally.*

*What happened to the 'Essex Landlords Accreditation Scheme' introduced into Brentwood a few years ago?'*

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