

Item No. 4.1	Classification: Open	Date: 25 January 2012	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Members' Question Time	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Members' question time shall not exceed 30 minutes. During this time, members may not question any one cabinet member or committee chair for longer than fifteen minutes.

Members are limited to one question at each meeting. One councillor from each community council will be able to submit a question on behalf of their community council.

Questions to the leader will be taken first, followed by question from community council councillors followed by questions to other cabinet members. The order in which the different political groups ask questions of the leader will be rotated. Questions to cabinet members will be taken in the order of receipt and portfolio. The order of portfolios will be rotated at each meeting such that the cabinet member answering questions immediately after the leader will be the last cabinet member to answer any questions at the next meeting of council assembly.

Cabinet members and committee chairs have discretion to refer a question to another cabinet member.

Responses to members' questions will be circulated on yellow paper around the council chamber on the evening of the meeting.

The Mayor will ask the member asking the question if they wish to ask one supplemental question to the member to whom the question was asked. The supplemental question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. Therefore, supplemental questions to the leader or other cabinet members are not free ranging.

No question shall be asked on a matter concerning a planning or licensing application.

Notes:

1. The procedures on members' questions are set out in council assembly procedure rule 2.9 in the Southwark Constitution.
2. In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.9 (12) & (13) (prioritisation and rotation by the political groups) the order in which questions to the leader appear in this report may not necessarily be the order in which they are considered at the meeting.

1. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI

In view of the tragic death of Mr Frederick Watts do you have confidence in the cabinet members for housing and health and adult social care?

2. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR PATRICK DIAMOND

What efforts has your administration made to consult with local groups on the council's 2012/13 budget?

3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR CATHERINE BOWMAN

How many post offices were closed in Southwark under the previous Labour government?

4. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR NICK DOLEZAL

Was he surprised by the comments of the previous Liberal Democrat leader of the council, Councillor Nick Stanton, in the Guardian on 30 December regarding The Shard in which he admitted their had been a "failure of imagination" in terms of his inability to link the project like this to local outcomes?

5. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL BUKOLA

Has Southwark signed up to the Armed Forces Community Covenant?

6. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR HELEN MORRISSEY

The council has rightly been praised for its youth fund, one component of which is the Southwark Scholarship Scheme. What is the council doing to secure sponsorship for Southwark scholars from local businesses and charities?

7. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR TIM MCNALLY

When will the council exercise its option to terminate the Vangent contract and bring the customer service centre operation back in house?

8. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR DAN GARFIELD

Can he provide an update on the restructure of the council's top management?

9. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL NOBLET

Will the chief executive be replaced, and if so what are the arrangements?

10. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ALTHEA SMITH

What will be the impact on Southwark of the Mayor's decision to increase fares on public transport above inflation for a third year in a row?

11. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE

How many complaints have been received by Southwark Council over the past year? How many have been responded to within the target timescales? Please provide answers by department.

12. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN

Could the leader of the council table the work done by the deputy cabinet members since their appointment? The deputy cabinet member for heritage led Black History Month– what was his substantial contribution?

13. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES BARBER

With Islington becoming the first London 20mph borough, is the leader minded to follow the lead of his Labour colleague and lead Southwark to become the second 20mph London borough?

14. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID HUBBER

Could you please provide a comparative costing of council assembly meetings prior to the sale of the town hall with the recent nomadic versions? Please provide an itemised breakdown for each school including security guards, public displays, council officer time and transportation.

15. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL KYRIACOU

Did the leader authorise giving gold coins to a former Labour councillor?

16. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR MARK GETTLESON (BERMONDSEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

What is the cabinet member for transport, environment and recycling doing to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety on Tower Bridge Road? Does he think devolving local budgets would help in addressing local residents' concerns?

17. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF HOOK (ROTHERHITHE COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

What progress has been made for improving traffic flows around Rotherhithe gyratory system and Lower Road, and when will it be completed?

18. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR PODDY CLARK (BOROUGH AND BANKSIDE COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

Can the member provide a breakdown of the number of tenants attending the mobile housing office and customer satisfaction figures for each individual venue point? Please provide an itemised breakdown of costs including officer hours and vehicle running costs.

19. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR CLEO SOANES (PECKHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

The residents of Peckham Community Council were absolutely thrilled to learn that a local florist had donated a Christmas tree to Peckham Square in December 2011 to inject some Christmas spirit to the area and Southwark Council agreed to erect it and decorate it – just one shining example of the council working in collaboration with a local trader. What else is Southwark Council doing to encourage and develop a successful sustainable working partnership with the local business community in Peckham?

20. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR MARTIN SEATON (WALWORTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

Can he provide a breakdown by ward of the proportion of households that are on the electoral register in the Walworth Community Council area?

21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR VICTORIA MILLS (NUNHEAD AND PECKHAM RYE COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

Could the cabinet member provide an update on the Nunhead and East Peckham Renewal Area including the latest details of the resources allocated to the project and the agreement of a detailed implementation programme?

22. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR THE RIGHT REVEREND EMMANUEL OYEWOLE

Can she provide an update on the council's preparations for the 2012 Olympic Games?

23. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR CHRIS BROWN

Following the opening of Canada Water library, has there been much interest from local people or voluntary groups?

24. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR CLEO SOANES

Has the council considered linking its three "events" in 2012 to London's Olympic celebrations?

25. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL SITU

What are the current plans for the Livesey Museum building?

26. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR GEOFFREY THORNTON

Will there be enough space at Seven Islands for the replacement squash courts that will be lost from Elephant and Castle? Will this sufficiently service the 9,000 existing uses?

27. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR LINDA MANCHESTER

How will the 50 Olympic tickets that Southwark has bought be allocated?

28. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF HOOK

Due to the fact that Southwark Park athletic track astro turf pitch has been condemned, can arrangements be made to allow Red Lions Boys Club the use of the football pitches in the evening after Southwark Park has officially closed? (If official access is granted pitch lighting could be managed by Fusion staff at Seven Islands Leisure Centre as normal).

29. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR COLUMBA BLANGO

What are the improvement works and what is the timescale for upgrading the Southwark Park athletics track and astro turf pitch? Will these be completed in time for the Olympics?

30. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR MARK GETTLESON

Can the cabinet member please tell me what the implications are for Southwark residents of the Alternative Olympic Route Network which I believe is proposed along parts or all of - Borough High Street, Bricklayers Arms roundabout, Camberwell Road, Elephant & Castle, Lower Road, Newington Butts, New Kent Road, Peckham Road, Southwark Street, Stamford Street, Tooley Street, Tower Bridge Road?

31. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR LISA RAJAN

In light of the fact that nine out of the 10 projects for the capital legacy fund are in the centre and south of the borough, what reassurances can the cabinet member give that residents in Bermondsey, Rotherhithe, Borough and Walworth will have increased access and participation to sport and physical activity?

32. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR ROSIE SHIMELL

Please confirm where in the borough the GLA grant for dressing for the Olympics will be located, how much of the total pot will be spent in each ward and when will it be completed and on view to the public?

33. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR KEVIN AHERN

Is she pleased that after eight years of dither and delay from the previous administration, we are finally seeing some progress on Camberwell Library and can she provide an update?

34. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR NEIL COYLE

What action is the council taking to address complaints regarding the taxicard service?

35. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR MARTIN SEATON

Following the demise of the Aylesbury Resource Centre, what alternative offer is being made to people with disabilities in the Aylesbury area?

36. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR NORMA GIBBES

When will Southwark's health and wellbeing board be established?

37. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR MARK WILLIAMS

The well-publicised demise of Southern Cross is extremely concerning for Southwark's care home residents. What work has she been doing with care home providers in Southwark to ensure care home residents have certainty about their accommodation for the future?

38. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR VICTORIA MILLS

The council's wardens service is vitally important to Southwark residents who live in sheltered accommodation, some of whom are extremely vulnerable. What is she doing to improve the council's warden service in light of the fact it was cut back by the previous administration?

39. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES

Can the cabinet member for health and adult care confirm whether she supports having a majority of elected councillors on the health and wellbeing board to address the longstanding "democratic deficit" in health?

40. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR DENISE CAPSTICK

Can the cabinet member for health and adult social care confirm how many quality alerts there have been for the financial years 2008/09 to date broken down for 1) homecare and 2) day centres/services?

41. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR JONATHAN MITCHELL

In light of the fact that the cabinet member for health and adult social care was removed from the Kings College Board of Governors for non-attendance, can she provide her attendance record (meetings attended out of total number of meetings held) for all meetings of the Supporting People Commissioning Body; South London and Maudsley Members' Council; and Guy's and St Thomas' Council of Governors since May 2010?

42. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR PODDY CLARK

Can the cabinet member confirm the current number of eligible service users who currently hold a personal budget and will this meet the target of 60% by the end of March 2012?

43. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION & CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL MITCHELL

Would the cabinet member for regeneration and corporate strategy please advise the average compensation paid, in each of the years ended 31 December 2009, 31 December 2010 and 31 December 2011, for surrender of leases on the Heygate estate, in categories by size of accommodation, either square footage or number of bedrooms, whichever is the more practicable, for each of the years?

44. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR NICK STANTON

What was the start and finish date of the road improvements in Grange Road and Southwark Park Road, what was the cost, and why did remedial works to the junction with Dunton Road have to be undertaken?

45. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR ADELE MORRIS

How many pot holes have been fixed in Borough and Bankside over the past year?

46. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR WILMA NELSON

What has the council done about rat running through Cherry Gardens Estate and Millpond Estate to Cathy Street and Jamaica Road?

47. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR ROBIN CROOKSHANK HILTON

The Energy Savings Trust have recently produced a study about using LED lighting in 35 social housing sites where they concluded LED lighting is smaller, cheaper to run and brighter than current lighting. Residents on the Lytcott Grove Estate have been requesting the lights be changed to LED and motion detectors be installed in their community garden and on the street properties. What plans does the deputy leader and cabinet member for housing management have to

exploit this technology across Southwark housing, reducing CO2 emissions and saving tenants money?

48. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR LEWIS ROBINSON

In light of the increase in major works administrative charges to the legal maximum of 10%, which in effect has more than doubled the administrative charges for leaseholders at Crystal Court, can he outline under what circumstances he might exercise his delegated powers to vary the charges?

49. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR TOBY ECKERSLEY

Noting that the government announced on 5 January 2012 as follows:

"The government is consulting on new draft statutory guidance on social housing allocations for local authorities in England. The new guidance is intended to assist authorities to take advantage of the provisions in the Localism Act 2011 which give back to local authorities the freedom to manage their own waiting lists, and make it easier for them to move existing social tenants to more suitable accommodation. It also encourages authorities to make use of the existing flexibilities within the allocation legislation to ensure that social homes go to people who need and deserve them the most."

Would the deputy leader and cabinet member for housing management please confirm that the forthcoming new flexibilities are welcomed by the council and indicate the steps he is considering for implementation once the final guidance is issued?