

Item No. 6.1	Classification: Open	Date: 16 July 2014	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Members' Question Time	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

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 any questions from community councils 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.
3. A question from a community council must have been previously considered and noted by the relevant community council (CAPR 2.9.2).

1. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL MITCHELL

One of the main aims of the cross party Dulwich "Lollipops for Life" campaign is to secure the long term funding of all our crossing patrol personnel. With the beginning of a new council term will the leader take the opportunity of a fresh start and consult with his cabinet colleagues and find the £18,000 necessary to ensure all Dulwich's crossing patrol personnel are funded from within the core mainstream budget and not have to rely on surviving an annual competitive bid from the devolved cleaner, greener, safer revenue budget?

2. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR LUCAS GREEN

Can the leader tells us what indication the council has been given from government about the likely budget settlement next year and what implications this will have on the delivery of council services?

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

Would the leader please provide a list of all the scheduled major works on estates, including the specific improvements that will be included in each project and the date by which each will be completed?

4. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR JANE LYONS

Herne Hill and particularly the shopkeepers were hard hit last August by flooding and we were all grateful for the support shown by the council in their prompt response and for providing a £100,000 fund as well as extracting a similar amount from Thames Water. Is the leader aware that the area is about to be blighted again, this time by Network Rail taking seven weeks to refurbish the bridge, and that Network Rail plan to reduce traffic to a single lane for much of that time? This is expected to lead to traffic chaos across a wide area and once more deter people from shopping and eating in the area. What steps has he and the council taken to engage with Network Rail and persuade them to change their plans to minimise the disruption for the local people in Herne Hill?

5. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR BILL WILLIAMS

Can the leader give an update on the progress of the council's plan to bring superfast broadband to Rotherhithe?

6. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR LISA RAJAN

When will residents be able to access the free swimming and gym admission he and his cabinet have promised them? How much will this policy cost to implement? What expansion plans are being proposed to cope with a potentially huge increase in demand at peak times?

7. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR MAISIE ANDERSON

Can the leader give an update on the progress of the delivery of 11,000 new council homes?

8. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN

Is the leader aware of concerns about potential asbestos exposure from the Thames Tunnel site at Chamber's Wharf, which is due to rubble from a demolished cold storage building remaining on-site for more than a year? Will he order Thames Water to clean up the site immediately?

9. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR JASMINE ALI

Can the leader tell me what the council will do to meet demand for primary and secondary school places in the borough?

10. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'BRIEN

In March 2013, the leader announced that his trip to the MIPIM conference in Cannes had been a success because he was able to secure a personal commitment from Boris Johnson for a Bakerloo Line extension to Camberwell and Peckham. At the time, the leader told local media that Boris said "It's a deal", adding that this "wasn't a flippant comment, but a serious end to a conversation". Is the leader now disappointed that the Mayor has reneged on the personal promise he made to him in Cannes?

11. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR KARL EASTHAM

How will the leader ensure that the council continues to operate in an open and transparent way following the significant reduction in the number of opposition councillors?

12. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES

What measure has been made of the productivity lost amongst council workers due to IT problems in the last year? What financial penalties have been imposed on Capita as a result of these problems? What is the council's final deadline for updating its computer network to modern software?

13. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR DAN GARFIELD

Following the recent accusations from the opposition that the council "wasted money" by separating the Mayor Making ceremony and the annual constitutional meeting, can the leader confirm the cost to the council of combining the Mayor Making ceremony with the Annual Civic Awards compared with previous years?

14. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES OKOSUN

Can the leader provide an update on negotiations with BT and other relevant parties in regards to bringing high speed broadband to Rotherhithe?

15. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR CLAIRE MAUGHAM

Can the leader explain how the council is performing on school places planning?

16. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR KIERON WILLIAMS

What plans does the council have to improve public transport provision in the borough?

17. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR TOM FLYNN

How will the council drive up levels of cycling in the borough and improve cycling safety standards?

18. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR STEPHANIE CRYAN

What steps will the council take to improve Canada Water for local residents?

19. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR JOHNSON SITU

How will the council work with local residents to improve Peckham town centre?

20. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR ELEANOR KERSLAKE

How will the council use regeneration schemes to provide local jobs?

21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR ADELE MORRIS

What is the actual cost to the council to date on legal fees and other costs in relation to its appeal against the order to disclose the viability report for the Heygate Estate redevelopment? How much more does the council anticipate it will spend on this case?

22. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES BARBER

Transport for London has decided to stop installing Puffin crossings. The UK is the only western country to have such a signaled crossing design where pedestrians have no signal or display facing them while crossing the road. Research has shown that Puffin crossings are also unpopular with the public. Considering this, will the cabinet member agree to convert and upgrade existing Puffin crossings in Southwark to Pelican crossings with pedestrian countdown displays to enhance and improve the walk-ability of the borough?

23. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR BEN JOHNSON

Bermondsey Street is an important route for cyclists in both directions, and although the contraflow cycle lane was welcome when it was introduced in 2010, in practice the lane is often blocked by parked vehicles and offers no protection from oncoming traffic on a narrow road. Will the cabinet member commit to improving this cycling route?

24. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID HUBBER

In view of the fact that a reversion to two-way working in Lower Road, Rotherhithe, appears still to be a long way off, will the cabinet member consider removing the restriction on vehicles emerging from Plough Way and crossing Lower Road to enter the gyratory system?

25. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR HAMISH McCALLUM

What discussions have been had between Southwark council and Transport for London relating to congestion issues on Jamaica Road and, in particular, relating to the provision of a 'box junction' at the junction with Bevington Street?

26. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR MARIA LINFORTH-HALL

How many complaints have there been about the conduct of vehicles operated by the council and its contractors since 1 January 2011? Please list details of each complaint, including the date and the action taken by the council.

27. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES, EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLOR SUNNY LAMBE

Can the cabinet member tell me what investment is being made in the adult learning service?

28. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES, EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLOR EVELYN AKOTO

Can the cabinet member provide an update on the High Street Challenge?

29. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES, EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLOR ANNE KIRBY

How is the council continuing to support businesses in Herne Hill following the floods last year?

30. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES, EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLOR VIJAY LUTHRA

Can the cabinet member inform council assembly about his plans for the Voluntary Sector Commission?

31. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS FROM COUNCILLOR ROSIE SHIMELL

Further to the council assembly question on 22 January 2014 by former Councillor Blango about children missing from care, can the cabinet member give an update about how many children in care went missing for more than 24 hours in 2013/14?

How many children are currently missing from care, and for how long have they been missing in each case?

32. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING FROM COUNCILLOR SANDRA RHULE

Can the cabinet member tell me what steps are being taken to address a number of issues on estates in Nunhead, including overheating and pest control issues on the Cossall Estate, and reducing anti-social behaviour in communal areas of blocks of flats on the Pomeroy Estate?