

<b>Item No.</b> 5.1	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 28 November 2018	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Council Assembly
<b>Report title:</b>		Members' Question Time	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		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 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 also be rotated. 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. The rotation is in line with decisions of council assembly in July 2014 and rotations circulated by the proper constitutional officer in April 2015.

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 OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR SARAH KING**

Could the leader of the council tell us what part the council played in securing Dulwich Hamlet's return to their stadium at Champion Hill?

**2. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI**

How much has the council spent on 'Golden Goodbye' loss of office payments to former cabinet members in the past year? Does the leader think this has been a good use of public money? Given that Southwark is the only council in the country to make these payoffs, what external legal advice has been sought to determine whether or not these payments are lawful?

**3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR LEANNE WERNER**

Could the leader of the council update us on the outcome of Southwark's joint bid for funding from the London-wide Strategic Investment Pot?

**4. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR JANE SALMON**

Could the leader specify what youth clubs are currently available in Southwark, what are their opening hours and how much does the council intend to increase spending on each youth club?

**5. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR BILL WILLIAMS**

What are the implications for Southwark of this year's Autumn Budget?

**6. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES**

Can the leader of the council say what additional measures and actions the Council are pursuing in relation to the ongoing serious levels of knife crime and deaths of young people in Southwark?

**7. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR MAGGIE BROWNING**

Could the leader of the council tell us how much funding Southwark was awarded from the Greater London Authority (GLA) through their Building Council Homes programme?

**8. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN**

What steps will the council take to protect residents at Fountain Green Square and Fountain House from the worksite at Chambers Wharf blocking their light for the next four years?

**9. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR NICK DOLEZAL**

Can the leader tell me what the council is doing to encourage cycling and particularly getting young people walking or cycling to school?

**10. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ADELE MORRIS**

Southwark Liberal Democrats welcome the appointment of Kevin Fenton as Strategic Director of Place and Wellbeing to oversee the social regeneration of the borough. Can the Leader say what immediate effects will be felt by residents of the borough, who have been expressing growing dissatisfaction with the way that their communities are being re-shaped through the regeneration process?

**11. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR WILLIAM HOUNGBO**

With the dramatic rise in homelessness in Southwark, many rough sleepers have sought to gain access to council blocks in order to sleep in the corridors, which can be very intimidating to vulnerable residents. Can the Leader outline what strategy the council has in place to stop this happening and to help rough sleepers access more suitable accommodation?

**12. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR HAMISH MCCALLUM**

How many new homes, broken down by tenure type, have been delivered in Southwark in each of the last five years and how many council homes have been lost through sale or demolition over the same period?

**13. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR DORA DIXON-FYLE (CAMBERWELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL)**

In the light of the recent tragic events concerning knife crime, will the Leader please commit to providing knife bins in the centre of Camberwell or within the SE5 area?

**14. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES COLDWELL (BOROUGH, BANKSIDE & WALWORTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL)**

In light of the serious challenges Southwark faces around youth violence, can the cabinet member confirm there will be no further cuts to council-funded youth provision in the borough?

**15. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ANDY SIMMONS (DULWICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL)**

Could the Cabinet Member please provide an update on the council's progress in reducing single use plastic within the council and more widely within the borough?

**16. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND ADULT CARE FROM COUNCILLOR DORA DIXON-FYLE**

Can the cabinet member for children, schools and adult care tell us how we can improve services for children and families with mental health needs?

**17. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND ADULT CARE FROM COUNCILLOR VICTORIA OLISA**

Will the cabinet member for children, schools and adult care tell us what we are doing for unaccompanied asylum seeking children in Southwark?

**18. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND ADULT CARE FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLIE SMITH**

Will the cabinet member for children, schools and families tell how councillors can best fulfil our duties as corporate parent for children in our care?

**19. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND ADULT CARE FROM COUNCILLOR MARIA LINFORTH-HALL**

The winter months typically see a spike in hospital admissions for older people and a corresponding increase in discharges from hospital once treatment is concluded. Can the cabinet member outline what plans are in place to ensure that there is no increase in delays in discharging people from hospital due to this increased demand? Looking further ahead, can she also detail what contingency plans are in place, in the event of a hard Brexit, to deal with any resulting gaps in the social care workforce?

**20. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND ADULT CARE FROM COUNCILLOR RENATA HAMVAS**

Ofsted have recently looked at our special educational needs and disability (SEND) provision and given us positive feedback. What is the cabinet member for children, schools and adult care doing to help children with special educational needs and or disabilities find employment?

**21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND ADULT CARE FROM COUNCILLOR ELEANOR KERSLAKE**

Adult social care is changing in Southwark. Can the cabinet member for children, schools and adult care tell me how the changes will benefit people who need our services?

**22. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY FROM COUNCILLOR RICHARD LEEMING**

What progress is the council making in providing charging points for electric vehicles?

**23. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY FROM COUNCILLOR VICTOR CHAMBERLAIN**

Passenger numbers on the RV1 bus service have recently risen, yet TfL still intends to scrap the bus route altogether. Can the cabinet member detail what interventions he

has personally made to either the Mayor or to TfL in order to save the RV1 and to reinstate it to six services an hour?

**24. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY FROM COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'BRIEN**

What programme does Southwark have in place or plan to put in place to increase the number of electric vehicle charging points across the borough?

**25. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY FROM COUNCILLOR MARGY NEWENS**

In May, the Labour Party promised to close roads around schools at drop off and collection time. Could the cabinet member update us on how this is progressing?

**26. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES MCASH**

Given TfL's proposed reductions in local bus services, what steps are being taken to work with other boroughs to protect our bus routes?

**27. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY FROM COUNCILLOR JON HARTLEY**

What steps are being taken to create safer cycling routes in Southwark?

**28. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY FROM COUNCILLOR DAN WHITEHEAD**

Earlier this year we were assured by the cabinet that discussions were being had with the Mayor of London regarding the raising of sufficient capital funding to extend the Transport for London (TfL) cycle hire scheme to Bermondsey and Rotherhithe. Could the cabinet member provide us with a progress update and confirm how much funding has so far been allocated to extend the scheme?

**29. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE**

Can the cabinet member explain how the currently high levels of incineration in Southwark align with the ambition to substantially improve air quality, decreased CO2 emissions and increased recycling rates?

**30. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT AND MODERNISATION FROM COUNCILLOR SANDRA RHULE**

Can the cabinet member give an update on the progress being made on the Queens Road 4 site?

**31. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT AND MODERNISATION FROM COUNCILLOR RADHA BURGESS**

How is the shared ICT service with Brent and Lewisham progressing and what are the next steps in the process?

**32. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT AND MODERNISATION FROM COUNCILLOR PETER BABUDU**

How successful has the Digital Futures Month been and what are the next steps for improving use of technology and smarter ways of working across the council?

**33. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT AND MODERNISATION FROM COUNCILLOR ALICE MACDONALD**

Now that the Innovation Fund has been launched what positive differences will this mean for our residents?

**34. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT AND MODERNISATION FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL FLEMING**

Can the cabinet member give an update on the new in-house repairs service?

**35. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING FROM COUNCILLOR NICK JOHNSON**

In response to a question to Councillor Whitehead, during council assembly held on 14 March 2018, the leader of the council stated that no request had been made by Transport for London (TfL) to the council for funding from community infrastructure levy (CIL) developer contributions in respect of the planned Rotherhithe Bridge. Given that TfL have now publicly stated that they expect to receive a contribution to the funding of the bridge from the respective local councils (Tower Hamlets and Southwark), will the cabinet member now publicly commit to a major contribution from the CIL that has been generated from the Canada Water Opportunity Area to help ensure that this much needed and long delayed bridge is built?

**36. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL SITU**

Can the cabinet member update us on what the council is doing to ensure local people are able to contribute to the Old Kent Road Area Action Plan?

**37. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING FROM COUNCILLOR BARRIE HARGROVE**

I was very pleased that the Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts opened its new venue in my ward in September. Could the cabinet member update me on plans for Peckham Palms?

**38. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING FROM COUNCILLOR HELEN DENNIS**

Could the cabinet member update us on the adoption of the New Southwark Plan?

**39. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING FROM COUNCILLOR JACK BUCK**

Can the cabinet member let us know what progress has been made towards delivering more social and affordable housing as a part of the Aylesbury Estate regeneration?

**40. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND BREXIT FROM COUNCILLOR HUMAIRA ALI**

A Freedom of Information request by the human rights organisation Project 17 showed that Southwark Council has employed Home Office immigration officials to sit in on interviews with destitute families who are requesting support. This practice has been widely condemned by human rights lawyers, charities and politicians on the grounds that it serves to intimidate and dissuade people and children who are in dire need from getting the support they are entitled to.

Can the cabinet member confirm how many such interviews these officials have attended in each of the last three years, what role they have played in decision making and whether there any plans to discontinue their participation in these interviews in future, as Haringey and Lewisham councils have done?