

Item No. 19	Classification: Open	Date: 23.7.03	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Questions Submitted In Accordance With Council Assembly Procedure Rule 3.8	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Chief Executive (Borough Solicitor & Secretary)	

COUNCIL ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE RULE 3.8 : MEMBERS QUESTION TIME

In accordance with Council Assembly Procedure Rule 3.8 Members' Question Time shall not exceed 45 minutes. During this time, Members may not question any one Executive Member or Committee Chair for longer than fifteen minutes.

Members are limited to one question at each meeting.

Questions shall be taken in the following order; the Leader, the Deputy Leader, the Executive Member for Education & Culture; the Executive Member for Environment and Transport; the Executive Member for Resources; the Executive Member for Health and Social Care; the Executive Member for Housing; the Executive Member for Regeneration and Economic Development, the Executive Member for Communication & Performance Improvement and the Executive Member Community Safety, Social Inclusion & Youth. The order of questions is rotated by the Borough Solicitor & Secretary at every meeting (CAPR 3.8 (9) & (10)).

Executive Members and Committee Chairs have discretion to refer a question to another Executive Member if this is appropriate.

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 first question was asked. The supplemental question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. Therefore, questions to the Leader or other Executive Members are not free ranging.

No question shall be asked on a matter concerning a Planning or Licensing application.

(NOTE: In accordance with Council Assembly Procedure Rule 3.8 (9) & (10) (Prioritisation and rotation by the political groups) the order in which questions to the Leader and Deputy 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 KIM HUMPHREYS

Would the Leader of the Council agree with Councillor Ian Wingfield that the Liberal Democrats were being very naïve to think that they were going to walk away from this (the WS Atkins Contract) without paying a penny?

2. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR DORA DIXON-FYLE

Does the Leader accept the findings of the Southwark Group of Tenants Organisation survey on the best value options for housing management as presented by the deputation at the last Council Assembly?

3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ANDY SIMMONS

How does the Leader rate the strength of the education service a year on from the publication of the latest Local Education Authority OFSTED report?

4. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR VICKY NAISH

Could the Leader update the Council as to what steps have been taken regarding domestic violence since the Council Motion of 26th March 2003?

5. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR AUBYN GRAHAM

Given that the Caribbean Community is one of the larger Black and Minority Ethnic ('BME') groups in Southwark and Commonwealth Local Government Forum. The Caribbean Partnership is a worthwhile forum representing the Caribbean Community which connects local authorities in the UK and across the Commonwealth. Does the Executive Member agree with me that the Caribbean Community in Southwark, and the wider BME community, will feel let down by the Liberal Democrat Executive's decision to withdraw its support from this valuable forum?

6. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID BRADBURY

Would the Deputy Leader agree with me that it is vital that councillors are properly trained in Licensing functions in order to ensure their full participation in the work of the Community Councils, and given the many demands on the time of councillors it may be necessary to offer members a number of dates to ensure that one suitable to them can be found, and will she state what steps she is taking to ensure that officers make further training dates available to those members who have not yet had a suitable date offered to them?

7. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN FRIARY

Can the Deputy Leader explain why she appeared to deny the responsibility for housing management being transferred to community councils at the last Council Assembly and again in the Southwark News on 3rd July?

8. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR IAN WINGFIELD

Are you confident that Southwark Council's Marketing and Communications publicity meets the law governing communications in local authorities which is enshrined in the Local Government Acts 1986 and 1988? Publicity may be illegal if it is part of a wider campaign which appears to be designed to affect support for a political party.

9. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR VERONICA WARD

Is the Executive Member aware of the serious shortage of nursery and primary school places in the South Camberwell area where three local primary schools are over subscribed?

10. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR NORMA GIBBES

What plans does the council have for the provision of high quality playing fields for the Charter School?

11. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR KENNY MIZZI

Would the Executive Member state whether he is satisfied with the admissions procedures operated by community and primary schools in the Dulwich and Camberwell areas, and would he state whether and when any audits of the procedures of any such schools will take place?

12. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR ROBERT SMEATH

What provision has the council made for the safe transport of pupils attending the temporary Bermondsey Academy based at the old Waverley school site?

13. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR ABDUL MOHAMED

Can the Executive Member please outline the details of the consultation undertaken for the revised SEN policy?

14. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR LISA RAJAN

Can the Executive Member please update Council on the latest position with regards to Southwark education?

15. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR BILLY KAYADA

How does the level of graffiti in the area covered by the Peckham Street wardens compare to a year ago?

16. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR ALUN HAYES

Could the Executive member outline what progress Southwark has made under his stewardship with regards to recycling – particularly in Nunhead ward?

17. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR SARAH WELFARE

What is the performance target for the time taken for the removal of graffiti and what proportion of graffiti is being removed within this time?

18. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR BARRIE HARGROVE

Could the Executive Member provide us with a breakdown of claims and reports of pedestrian accidents and injuries year by year since 2000, arising as a result of defective footpaths and carriageways?

19. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR MICHELLE PEARCE

What are the performance targets for removal of domestic bulk refuse and for removal of fly-tips? What is the actual performance for these services?

20. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR PETER JOHN

Could the Executive Member tell me what plans the Borough has to promote and fund further Home Zones in the Borough?

21. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR TOBY ECKERSLEY

Would the Executive Member state the date on which the first of the badly needed road safety improvements in Red Post Hill near the Charter School will be implemented?

22. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR STEPHEN FLANNERY

Is the Executive Member aware of Westminster Council's 'on-the-spot' fines for those who cycle on the pavement? Can he advise whether this approach could be considered for Southwark?

23. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR DOMINIC THORNCROFT

Will the Executive Member be responding to the Nunhead Community Forum on the issues raised at the NCF Environment Sub-Committee meeting which he addressed on 13th March 2003?

24. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR TAYO SITU

Could the Executive Member please provide a detailed briefing on why the Council overspent by £1.5 million in the last financial year and what steps have been put in place to ensure that this does not happen again?

25. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR LEWIS ROBINSON

Would the Executive Member publish a table detailing the total expenditure by the Council related to the LGA Conference in Harrogate? This should include a breakdown of totals of travel, hotel accommodation, exhibition stand hire, conference passes and any other payments connected to the Conference.

26. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING FROM COUNCILLOR ALFRED BANYA

Can you please provide a breakdown by Housing Neighbourhood, of the number of applications for private housing renewal grant received by the Council in the last 12 months, the numbers of grants awarded, and how many of the properties repaired have been the subject of complaints about the contractors' quality of work?

27. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING FROM COUNCILLOR FIONA COLLEY

Can the Executive Member give details of the consultation on the Best Value report on the future of tenant participation in housing including the number of tenants actively involved at every stage?

28. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL BATES

Now that the details of the tenant survey to be held on the Heygate estate with regards to the Elephant and Castle regeneration have been made slightly clearer, can she confirm that tenants will have the opportunity to refuse all the options she outlined in her response to my question tabled for the June Council Assembly? Will tenants and residents have the opportunity to say no to the proposals, as they did on the Aylesbury estate in December 2001?

29. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR COMMUNICATION & PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR WILLIAM ROWE

Would the Executive Member please provide a brief summary of progress and timetable on the Customer Service Centre Specifying:

- a. The number of expressions of interest received from potential suppliers.
- b. The timetable for the remaining steps towards appointing a contractor.
- c. The scope and timetable of proposed member scrutiny of this process and executive decision making.

30. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY, SOCIAL INCLUSION AND YOUTH FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLIE SMITH

How does the Executive Member rate the customer focus of Southwark Anti Social Behaviour Unit?

31. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY, SOCIAL INCLUSION AND YOUTH FROM COUNCILLOR ALISON MOISE

Could the Executive Member please give a break down by ward of the aim, current status and impact of all schemes funded under the £6 million programme of community safety works?

32. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY, SOCIAL INCLUSION AND YOUTH FROM COUNCILLOR JONATHAN HUNT

Has the Executive Member tried to make contact with the police service in Peckham, either in person at the station or by phoning the crime desk?

If so he will be aware that there is inevitably a long queue, thereby discouraging citizens from informing the police of crime or culprits. Can he give any indication of whether the police will give more resources to help the long-suffering and overworked police officers attempting to provide a proper service?

33. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY, SOCIAL INCLUSION AND YOUTH FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN

Can the Executive Member tell whether steps are being taken to improve the amount of youth provision in the Borough?

Lead Officer: Ian Millichap, Constitutional Support Manager
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Background Papers
Members Questions

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