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| <b>Item No.</b><br>6               | <b>Classification:</b><br>Open | <b>Date:</b><br>21st July 2004                     | <b>Meeting Name:</b><br>Council Assembly |
| <b>Report title:</b>               |                                | Members Question Time                              |  |
| <b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b> |                                | All  |  |
| <b>From:</b>                       |                                | Chief Executive<br>(Borough Solicitor & Secretary) |  |

### **COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 3.9 : MEMBERS QUESTION TIME**

In accordance with Council Assembly Procedure Rule 3.9 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; The Executive Member for Environment & Transport; the Executive Member for Resources; the Executive Member for Health and Adult Care; Executive Member for Housing & Community Safety; Executive Member for Regeneration & Economic Development; the Executive Member for Communication & Performance Improvement and the Executive Member for Equalities, Culture and Sport. The order of questions is rotated by the Borough Solicitor & Secretary at every meeting (CAPR 3.9 (10) & (11)).

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 3.9 (10) & (11) (Prioritisation and rotation by the political groups) the order in which questions appear in this report may not necessarily be the order in which they are considered at the meeting).

**1. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR KIM HUMPHREYS**

Can he publish the number of complaints by residents who requested a postal vote for the recent London and European Elections but did not receive one in time?

**2. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR TOBY ECKERSLEY**

Bearing in mind the representative duties of each Councillor, with particular regard to their duties as members of Community Councils, would the Leader of the Council, as one of the Council's nominees to the Southwark Alliance, and currently the Chair, please set out the job specification and person specification (or the equivalents thereto) agreed by the Southwark Alliance for appointments to the eight posts (corresponding to the Community Council areas) of "community representatives" on the Alliance Board, together with full particulars of the appointments process agreed by the Alliance?

**3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR KENNY MIZZI**

Will he outline what emergency procedures the Council has in place to deal with a major incident or terrorist attack which may occur in Southwark or London; how the Council communicates these to the people who live and work in Southwark and what meetings he or senior officers have had or attended in the past two years relating to this issue?

**4. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ALISON MOISE**

Can I ask the Deputy Leader to list the number of children and babies in care of Southwark Council Children's Social Services, by number, gender, age, ethnic category and length of stay from 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004.

**5. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR DANNY McARTHUR**

Will the Deputy Leader welcome with me Borough and Bankside Community Council's feasibility study into improvements at Dickens Square and will she look to ensure that any problems are considered in tandem with the Elephant & Castle regeneration scheme?

**6. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR EDUCATION FROM COUNCILLOR LEWIS ROBINSON**

Will he publish a schedule containing the following information regarding mid year applications for secondary school places in Southwark. (a) how many applications have been made since January 2004 to date, (b) how many of these applicants have been offered and accepted a school place and (c) the average period of time it takes to make such an offer?

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

What Environment department budgets were cut and by what amount in order to contain the £1.1 million overspend on the Integrated Cleansing Contract?

**8. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR FIONA COLLEY**

In each of the past four years, how many compensation claims generated by alleged neglect of roads and pavements has been received by the Council?

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

Is the Executive Member satisfied with the present state of Sunray Gardens?

**10. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR VERONICA WARD**

Could we have a break down of what cleaner and greener projects from the round are now complete or nearing completion in each Community Council area?

**11. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN**

Could the Executive Member for Environment & Transport please advise when the Queen Elizabeth road pavements are due to be widened and the hazardous potholes on Fair Street fixed?

**12. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR LISA RAJAN**

Will the Executive Member lend his support for a scheme to introduce a shuttle 'loop' bus on the Rotherhithe peninsula that would serve the 3 tube stations and the shopping centre, but would not be subject to the congestion and delays on the access and egress roads to the peninsula (Lower Road and Jamaica Road) that currently negatively affect existing bus services, and will he support the efforts of local people and Rotherhithe Community Council to lobby Transport for London to this effect?

**13. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR LINDA MANCHESTER**

Does the member believe that Southwark Cleaning, now one year old, to be shown to be a success, especially in light of the glowing commendation for the Environment and Leisure team in the IDEA report?

**14. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR CAROLINE PIDGEON**

How are we progressing with the new Sutherland Home Zone - the first in the Borough - and is it on schedule for completion?

**15. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR MARK PURSEY**

I note that the statement of accounts has again been prepared in good time compared to previous years. Could the executive member indicate how this has been achieved and how this impacts on the Council's performance?

**16. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HEALTH & ADULT CARE FROM COUNCILLOR SARAH WELFARE**

Would the Executive Member for Health and Social Care agree that the care-home sector in Southwark is facing a crisis that is slowly reaching meltdown?

**17. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING & COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR WILLIAM ROWE**

Will he publish an accurate figure indicating how many tenants are currently without the status of "secure tenants" as defined in clause 27 of the tenancy agreement and (a) explain how many of these have lost that status by virtue of having breached the terms of a suspended possession order in respect of rent arrears; (b) state how many within category (a) have paid the arrears in full and been up to date with payments for three months; and (c) state what steps are taken to advise those within category (b) of how they should regain secure tenancy status?

**18. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING & COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR DOMINIC THORNCROFT**

According to local Metropolitan police officers, there are at least five addresses within the Nunhead area where residents have received a 'final warning', the last stage before implementation of an ASBO. These 'final warnings' have been in place for more than a year but the anti-social residents concerned have continued to cause disruption to those living around them.

Will the Executive member explain:

- If a 'final warning' is breached, what timetable does SASBU have in place to bring these matters to court – is one year an acceptable delay?
- How can the criteria on which SASBU takes a decision to proceed with an ASBO be made more clear to all concerned, particularly local residents?
- Does he agree that SASBU should, as a matter of course, provide more information to ward councillors on local ASB cases and progress towards an ASBO?

**19. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING & COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR ALFRED BANYA**

Can the Executive Member confirm whether, as a result of the recent fire in Perronet House at Elephant & Castle, residents - including those with children, long-term illness, disability and care needs - were without electricity for up to 30 hours, and could he outline what the Council's emergency plans for such an occurrence are and how these plans were implemented on this occasion?

**20. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING & COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL BATES**

Can the Executive Member provide information on the delays that have occurred to the playground that was planned for Comus House and provide a commitment that the playground will go ahead?

**21. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING & COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR ANDY SIMMONS**

Many leaseholders are aggrieved that they are paying higher service charges than tenants for the same services. Could the Executive Member for Housing please explain clearly why this is happening in Southwark ?

**22. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING & COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR CATRIONA MOORE**

Would it be possible for the area covered by the Bankside community wardens to be extended to include the west side of Blackfriars Road as far as the borough boundary?

**23. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING & COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF HOOK**

Could the Executive member indicate the latest with regard to the campaign to bring back the 24-hour police station on Lower Road?

**24. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING & COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR JANE SALMON**

Could the Executive member please indicate the steps that Housing Offices are taking in order to cope with the fluctuating and failing service that the Post Office is providing in South London so that delivery persons are able to gain access to building in order to complete deliveries?

**25. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FROM COUNCILLOR TAYO SITU**

Does the Executive Member believe that it is acceptable for residents who have been living in the new developments in Kelly Avenue to wait for nearly a year before the Council adopts their part of the road?

**26. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FROM COUNCILLOR BILLY KAYADA**

Does the Executive Member know who in the case of an unadopted road sets cleaning and ground maintenance schedules, and who monitors the compliance with these schedules?

**27. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FROM COUNCILLOR BARRIE HARGROVE**

Will the Executive Member support the award of a council tax rebate for the residents of Kelly Avenue for the non-delivery of cleaning and grounds maintenance services dating back to at least September / October last year?

**28. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLIE SMITH**

Could the Executive Member tell us if his department has performance targets for the adoption of roads, and if so what are they?

**29. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FROM COUNCILLOR ABDUL MOHAMED**

Could the executive member for regeneration state whether he is satisfied that the Aylesbury New Deal for Communities is achieving its core aim of reducing social exclusion and increasing residents satisfaction with the scheme in its current state?

**30. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FROM COUNCILLOR STEPHEN FLANNERY**

Will the Executive Member welcome with me the large proportion (in excess of 50%) of affordable housing at the Bermondsey Site D development and does this demonstrate that the Council is striving to achieve affordable housing beyond its own minimum target, contained in the UDP, of 35%?

**31. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE**

Has there been any progress on the Wood Dene redevelopment scheme?

**32. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FROM COUNCILLOR JONATHAN HUNT**

Can the Executive Member tell us what plans the council has for the site adjoining the Queen's Road railway station, Queen's road and Astbury Road, given the vast increase in potential with the likely go-ahead for the East London Line, and will the council continue to work with Network Rail, given the effect on ethnic business there, in Camberwell and in Deptford?

**33. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR COMMUNICATION & PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID BRADBURY**

Will he publish a table of performance indicators for each of the call centres operated by the Council and/or its contractors, specifying the period to which the information relates?

**34. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR EQUALITIES CULTURE & SPORT FROM COUNCILLOR AUBYN GRAHAM**

Would the executive member please update me on what the Council is doing in response to the calls from members of the local community for a performance venue on the site of Peckham Wharf?

**35. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR EQUALITIES CULTURE & SPORT FROM COUNCILLOR ALUN HAYES**

Athenlay FC last year achieved FA Charter Standard, the only children/young people's football club in Southwark borough to reach this level. It is much valued by those children and young people in Nunhead who use it. Will the Executive member:

- Support efforts to enable the club to have cost effective access to pitches on Peckham Rye during the refurbishment of their Homestall Road ground (target date: June 2005)?
- Ask officers to assist with promoting the club more widely?
- Visit the club to see how well it is doing?

**36. QUESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR EQUALITIES CULTURE & SPORT FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID HUBBER**

Could the Executive Member comment on the council's progress on equalities and diversity, in particular the council's quality impact assessment which I understand are being used by both the commission for Racial Equality and the government as examples of best practice

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

| <b>Background Papers</b> | <b>Held At</b>                                | <b>Contact</b>               |
|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Members Questions File   | Town Hall,<br>Peckham Road,<br>London SE5 8UB | Lesley John<br>020 7525 7228 |

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| <b>Lead Officer</b>  | Ian Millichap, Constitutional Team Manager |
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