

# Council Assembly

Wednesday 25 November 2015

7.00 pm

Council Offices, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

## Supplemental Agenda No.1

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5.1.	<b>Members' question time</b> To receive questions from members of the council.	1 - 6

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Date: 17 November 2015

<b>Item No.</b> 5.1	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 25 November 2015	<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 FROM COUNCILLOR BEN JOHNSON**

Can the leader update councillors on progress with building new council homes through the Leathermarket Community Benefit Society?

**2. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR JANE LYONS**

Given the leader of the council is aware of the magnificent work Link Age Southwark (formerly Dulwich Helpline and Southwark Churches Care) does to support more than 500 older people in Southwark every year and that its work is highly valued by Southwark's CCG, please can he therefore set out what support his administration will give to assist the rehousing of the charity Link Age Southwark when its current office space at Dulwich Hospital is no longer available?

**3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR TOM FLYNN**

Can the leader confirm what steps the council is taking to ensure residents in Southwark do not lose their vote under the new individual electoral registration system, pushed through by the last Liberal Democrat/Conservative government?

**4. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI**

Will Southwark be joining the Mental Health Challenge campaign?

**5. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL MITCHELL**

In drawing up the New Southwark Plan, did the leader consider the work of "Create Streets" who are producing practical solutions to the need for increased density of housing without re-course to high rise buildings? If he rejects this way forward, can he say why?

**6. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR HELEN DENNIS**

What impact does the leader believe the government's proposals for housing associations and the sale of high value council properties will have on council housing in Southwark?

**7. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ADELE MORRIS**

Can the leader update us on the situation with the 44 new social rent homes to be provided by Notting Hill Housing Trust that should have been included in The Exchange development at Bermondsey Spa?

**8. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR OCTAVIA LAMB**

The opening of the new Camberwell library is a great achievement for the council and the local area, particularly at a time when many other local authorities are having to consider reducing their library services. Can the leader confirm that the cabinet will continue to invest in Southwark's library services despite the significant budget cuts facing the council?

**9. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES**

Can the leader of the council confirm the expected revenue on a monthly and yearly basis for the new Castle Leisure Centre and what the projected profit or loss is expected to be on running the centre on a yearly basis?

**10. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR VIJAY LUTHRA**

Can the leader give an update on the work the council is doing to crack down on illegal sub-letting of council homes?

**11. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR CLEO SOANES**

Can the leader confirm that the plans for the Peckham multi-storey car park will support the local creative industry and enable the council to deliver on its promise to create new affordable studio and workshop spaces?

**12. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR JOHNSON SITU**

Can the leader give an update on the regeneration projects currently being progressed in Peckham?

**13. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR KIERON WILLIAMS (CAMBERWELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL)**

What are the council's plans to ensure the best quality of further education provision in Southwark, for Camberwell specifically, and how are we working to ensure that the college [Lewisham and Southwark College] does not sell off the Camberwell site ahead of those plans being agreed?

**14. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR MARTIN SEATON (BOROUGH, BANKSIDE AND WALWORTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL)**

The community council notes the likely reduction in policing in Southwark and requests confirmation of what the council will do to mitigate the impact that the reduction in police numbers, particularly police community support officers (PCSOs), will have on this community council area?

**15. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR BILL WILLIAMS (BERMONDSEY AND ROTHERHITHE COMMUNITY COUNCIL)**

Can the cabinet member ensure that community councils have an input in deciding the priority of projects on the community infrastructure project list (CIPL) and that priority is decided by the local community?

**16. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND NEW HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR JOHNSON SITU (PECKHAM AND NUNHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL)**

Will the cabinet member for regeneration and new homes give an update to the Peckham and Nunhead community council on the Peckham Square arch?

**17. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC REALM FROM COUNCILLOR JON HARTLEY (DULWICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL)**

Could the cabinet member for environment and public realm say whether there has been any progress on the consultative work undertaken by the council particularly in light of recent (public realm issues) in the Dulwich community council area and outline whether there are any steps the council could take in improving its consultation?

**18. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, MODERNISATION AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR JAMILLE MOHAMMED**

Can the cabinet member provide an update on the implementation of Universal Credit?

**19. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, MODERNISATION AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR MAISIE ANDERSON**

In expanding the council's digital offer and making more services available on the internet, can the cabinet member tells us what is being done to ensure more vulnerable residents are not left behind?

**20. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, MODERNISATION AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR BILL WILLIAMS**

Opposition councillors recently criticised the council for the new Director of Modernise role – can the cabinet member explain what this role will bring to the council?

**21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, MODERNISATION AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR HAMISH MCCALLUM**

Can the cabinet member update members on the council's 'Modernise' programme?

**22. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, MODERNISATION AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR NICK DOLEZAL**

What impact does the cabinet member believe the Chancellor's proposals for an additional 30% cut to the Department of Communities and Local Government will have on Southwark's budget and the implications for services?

**23. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, MODERNISATION AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR JASMINE ALI**

Can the cabinet member provide reassurance that protecting the frontline services that residents value will continue to be prioritised in the council's budget despite the significant cuts?

**24. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, MODERNISATION AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL FLEMING**

Can the cabinet member indicate the impact on services of the Conservative government's decision to impose an in year cut to the public health grant?

**25. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PARKS AND LEISURE FROM COUNCILLOR SANDRA RHULE**

Can the cabinet member provide an update on the implementation of the Fairer Future promise to introduce Free Gym and Swim access for all residents in Southwark?

**26. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PARKS AND LEISURE FROM COUNCILLOR LEO POLLAK**

Could the cabinet member update council assembly on consultation with the public and stakeholders in arriving at firm plans for major investment and improvements for Southwark Park?

**27. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PARKS AND LEISURE FROM COUNCILLOR KATH WHITTAM**

Can the cabinet member provide an update on progress towards a brand new track and field facility for Southwark?

**28. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PARKS AND LEISURE FROM COUNCILLOR REBECCA LURY**

Could the cabinet member provide an update on progress towards meeting the commitment to double the number of health checks received by the public?

**29. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PARKS AND LEISURE FROM COUNCILLOR MARTIN SEATON**

Could the cabinet member set out plans for the latest stage of investment in Burgess Park?

**30. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT CARE AND FINANCIAL INCLUSION FROM COUNCILLOR KIERON WILLIAMS**

Following the decision of HC-One to close their Camberwell Green nursing home, can the cabinet member provide assurance that the council is doing everything possible to help the residents and their families to find alternative good quality care?

**31. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT CARE AND FINANCIAL INCLUSION FROM COUNCILLOR MARIA LINFORTH-HALL**

Can the cabinet member set out exactly what targeted consultation took place with mental health service users regarding the council's new adult social care fairer contributions policy?

**32. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES BARBER**

Can the cabinet member report on how many truancy fines are issued each year by each school in the borough, how many are paid/unpaid and how many parents are prosecuted?

**33. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES OKOSUN**

Please set out, broken down by year, the numbers of parents in Southwark who have lodged appeals over their children not being offered a place at their chosen school and the percentage whose appeal was successful over each of the past five years.

**34. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC REALM FROM COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'BRIEN**

Can the cabinet member update councillors on the TfL-funded scheme to stop idling vehicle engines and reduce emissions around Tower Bridge?

**35. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC REALM FROM COUNCILLOR ROSIE SHIMELL**

Can the cabinet member report on progress with proposals to exempt or offer a lower charge to residents on lower incomes from the council's new bulky waste collection fee?

**36. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN**

Please outline any changes to community safety services for residents as part of the council's recent service restructure and what public consultation has taken place either before or during these changes.

**37. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID HUBBER**

Please set out the level of housing right-to-buy receipts to the council over the past five years and how much has been spent within three years locally on new council/affordable homes.

**38. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND NEW HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR LUCAS GREEN**

Could the cabinet member update me on progress on securing 44 social rent units from Notting Hill Housing Trust to replace the units that should have been delivered at The Exchange in Bermondsey Spa?

**39. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND NEW HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR LISA RAJAN**

What benefits have British Land guaranteed the borough in return for the council changing its previous preferred site for the new leisure centre at Canada Water to the wildlife area in summer 2015, including the number of any social housing units?

**COUNCIL ASSEMBLY AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)  
(SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA)  
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015/16**

**NOTE:** Original held by Constitutional Team; all amendments/queries to  
Lesley John Tel: 020 7525 7228/7236

<b>ONE COPY TO ALL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED</b>	Copies	To	Copies
<b>Councillors</b> (1 copy each)	<b>55</b>	<b>Others</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Electronic Versions (No hard copy)</b> Councillor Anood Al-Samerai Councillor Maisie Anderson Councillor Fiona Colley Councillor Karl Eastham Councillor Gavin Edwards Councillor Jon Hartley Councillor Sarah King Councillor Michael Situ		Elizabeth Olive, Audit Commission Ground Floor, Tooley Street	
<b>Libraries (1 each)</b>  Albion / Newington / Local History Library	  <b>3</b>		
<b>Press</b>  Southwark News South London Press	  <b>2</b>		
<b>Other Officers</b>  Doreen Forrester-Brown Wendy Foreman Ian Millichap	  <b>3</b>  <b>1</b> <b>1</b> <b>1</b>		
(Copies to Lesley John, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hub 4, Tooley Street)	<b>10</b>		
		<b>Total:</b>	<b>77</b>
		<b>Last Updated:</b> October 2015	