

Item No. 3.	Classification: Open	Date: 14 July 2010	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Members' Question Time	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.8 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.

Questions to the leader will be taken first, 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 if this is appropriate.

Responses to member's 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.

Note: In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.8 (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.

1. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR HELEN MORRISSEY

Is the budget likely to have a disproportionate effect on Southwark residents compared to other parts of London and the country?

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

What was the combined basic allowance and special responsibility allowance of the council leader on:

- a) January 2010
- b) July 2010.

3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR NICK DOLEZAL

Could the leader provide details of how the council intends to carry on delivering for Southwark residents following the cuts announced by the Chancellor in his budget?

4. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR LINDA MANCHESTER

In 'a fairer future for all' – the new administration's mission for Southwark – he says every council home will be made warm, dry and safe. Can he confirm this means he is committed to the previous government's decent homes standard rather than the previous administration's higher standard? Could he outline what discussions he has had with the tenant council who in 2008 agreed this higher standard? And when does he expect all council homes to meet this standard?

5. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ANDY SIMMONS

Could the leader provide an update on the status of plans for joint working with other boroughs?

6. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR PODDY CLARK

Will he list, from the recently completed stock condition survey, the addresses of the council homes that currently are not 'warm, dry and/or safe'?

7. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR GEOFFREY THORNTON

Will meetings between Lewisham, Lambeth and Southwark lead councillors over sharing services between the authorities be open to the press and public?

8. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR TIM MCNALLY

Labour claimed in their election manifesto that £8 million of council tax per year went uncollected. On 10 June he told Southwark News that the real figure for uncollected council tax was £4 million over the last four years. Can he confirm what figure for non-collection of council tax the new administration will finally set as its benchmark?

9. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF HOOK

What actions are the new administration taking to clamp down on council tax and housing benefit fraud?

10. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR DENISE CAPSTICK

What measure of inflation (and for which month) will the council use in calculating future council tax rises?

11. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR COLUMBA BLANGO

Could he confirm the cost of setting up the new strategic housing directorate and the total salary package for the new director?

12. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR MARK GLOVER

Could the cabinet member provide estimates of the extra costs likely to be incurred by Southwark Council as a result of the VAT increase?

13. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR GAVIN EDWARDS

Please provide an update on action taken so far to cut council expenditure on consultants.

14. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR STEPHEN GOVIER

Southwark employees will be concerned that the impact of the emergency budget will mean job losses at the council. What is the cabinet's position on redundancies?

15. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR SUNIL CHOPRA

What effect will the coalition government's budget have on Southwark's funding settlement?

16. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR JONATHAN MITCHELL

What meetings has she had with NHS Southwark, the Department of Health, local MPs and government ministers to make progress on the redevelopment of Dulwich Hospital?

17. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES

When will charges for meals on wheels be halved, will this include both fresh and frozen meals and what is the cost to the authority?

18. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR MARK GETTLESON

What negotiations have taken place between the council and NHS Southwark over funding for healthy free school meals?

19. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN

What proposals does she have to use section 106 money in respect of development permissions in the north of the borough on projects in Camberwell and Peckham?

20. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR LISA RAJAN

In 'a fairer future for all' – the new administration's mission for Southwark – there is no reference to regeneration in Rotherhithe. What is your commitment to completing, stocking and opening Canada Water Library and refurbishing or replacing Seven Islands leisure centre?

21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR CATHERINE BOWMAN

Will the administration give a commitment that there will be no building on any part of Salisbury Row Park or adjacent green spaces?

22. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL NOBLET

Can she confirm that she will safeguard the future of the Canada Water Forum, including stepping in to deal with any funding issues? Will she also pledge to set up a similar forum at the Elephant and Castle?

23. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR ALTHEA SMITH

Please could the cabinet member provide an update on the effect of recently announced central government budget cuts on the planning fund?

24. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LAUDER

Could the cabinet member please update council assembly on the status of financing for the Aylesbury regeneration?

25. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM DARREN MERRILL

Please provide an update on the regeneration of Elephant and Castle.

26. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR NICK STANTON

Given their manifesto was 'the product of three years policy work with the involvement (*sic*) Labour members and people from our community' what was the response from heads, governors and parents to the plan for Lambeth council to take over school support services in Southwark?

27. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR ADELE MORRIS

What steps are the council taking to explain to local voluntary organisations about the scaling back of the previous Labour government's ludicrously bureaucratic and counterproductive vetting and barring scheme?

28. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR ROSIE SHIMELL

Given the controversy over the council's planning application at Spa School, will she encourage officers to look again at some of the aspects of the design such as building materials?

29. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID HUBBER

Does the cabinet member agree that many problems of anti-social behaviour, truancy and youth crime are directly related to the fact that some families struggle with parenting skills in challenging circumstances and has she any proposals for tackling this issue?

30. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR RENATA HAMVAS

Can the cabinet member please provide an update on Southwark's Building Schools for the Future programme?

31. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES BARBER

What was the council's recycling rate on 6 May 2010?

32. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR WILMA NELSON

What plans does the current administration have to increase communal open space, such as communal greens and growing space? And what funding will they make available to community councils and tenants & residents associations for this purpose?

33. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL KYRIACOU

When will the council introduce tetrapak and food recycling?

34. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR ROBIN CROOKSHANK HILTON

When will two air quality monitoring stations be opened? And what will be their locations?

35. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR LEWIS ROBINSON

Following the botched "emergency repairs" to the road surface of Church Approach, can the cabinet member give me a date when the council will complete a full resurfacing of this road?

36. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR TOBY ECKERSLEY

With regard to Network Rail's proposal to terminate the Wimbledon loop service at Blackfriars, would the cabinet member for environment, transport and recycling please state whether he agrees with the decision of the executive on 23 March 2010 instructing officers "to liaise with other affected London boroughs to explore alternative options for the continuation of the current service" to Farringdon, Kings Cross and points north, and, if so, what steps have been taken, or are proposed pursuant to that decision and in support of rail users in the Herne Hill and Elephant and Castle areas?

37. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR MARTIN SEATON

Could the cabinet member please provide an update on progress towards his commitment to safeguard green spaces?

38. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR NORMA GIBBES

Please provide an update on the Lakanal House fire investigation.

39. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE

What progress has been made in agreeing the service funding agreement for the successor to Southwark Human Rights, Race and Equality Board?

40. QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL BUKOLA

Does she think that asking security to remove elderly objectors from the 1 June 2010 planning committee meeting was proportionate, if not will she publicly apologise to them and does she believe the resignation of the vice chair is connected to her conduct at this meeting?