

Item No. 4.1	Classification: Open	Date: 28 March 2012	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Members' Question Time	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

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 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.

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.

1. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR HELEN MORRISSEY

Has he received a reply to his email to Simon Hughes MP asking him if he will vote for the government's NHS Bill?

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

How many Southwark Council homes have been sold off since 2002? How many of these were through right to buy and how many were through void disposals? Please could he provide the answer broken down by year and by the number of bedrooms.

3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR CHRIS BROWN

How many more people aged 18-24 have been on Jobseekers' Allowance for six months or longer since this time last year in a) Southwark as a whole b) each parliamentary constituency within Southwark?

4. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR LISA RAJAN

How much of the discretionary £100,000 for highways will the council spend on Trixi mirrors given its u-turn on improving the borough's cycling infrastructure?

5. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR MARK GLOVER

Can he provide an update on the meeting he and the cabinet member for transport, recycling and the environment held with Southwark cyclists?

6. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ROBIN CROOKSHANK HILTON

Will the leader commit to implementing the recommendations of the 2007 safety audit in order to address the safety issues regularly experienced by pedestrians and cyclists at the junction between East Dulwich Grove, Townley Road and Green Dale in Village ward?

7. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR SUNIL CHOPRA

How many families in Southwark that applied have received a secondary school place?

8. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR GEOFFREY THORNTON

Following the environment themed council assembly meeting held on 25 January 2012, how much new funding has the council committed to increase the uptake of cycling and improve cycling infrastructure in Southwark?

9. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR TIM MCNALLY

Can the leader provide an update on the performance of Southwark's housing contractors?

10. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID HUBBER

Does the leader share the concerns of local Liberal Democrat councillors about the closure of the lifts at both Canada Water and Bermondsey tube stations for the same three month period?

11. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES BARBER

Will the leader sign up to the 'Love London, Go Dutch' Cycling Campaign?

12. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR MARK GETTLESON

Does the leader think that the LGBT community is part of Southwark's heritage?

13. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR DENISE CAPSTICK

What is the council doing regarding dog fouling on the Evelyn Lowe Estate?

14. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN

What is the council doing for damp on the Arnold and Dickens Estates?

15. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR LINDA MANCHESTER

What mechanism does the council use to ensure every council tenant's electricity meter is checked?

16. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL KYRIACOU

Given the level of youth anti-social behaviour caused by alcohol in South Bermondsey ward, how many premises which sell alcohol has been visited in the last 12 months? How many have resulted in prosecutions?

17. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR WILMA NELSON

What is being done to support Southwark employees prepare for redundancy/changes to work environment?

18. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR COLUMBA BLANGO

Would the leader join Tessa Jowell MP and Harriet Harman MP in condemning Unite leader, Len McCluskey, for encouraging his members to engage in all forms of civil disobedience within the law during the Olympics?

19. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR CLAIRE HICKSON (BOROUGH AND BANKSIDE COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

Can the cabinet member provide an update on discussions with Leathermarket joint management board (JMB) to deliver new homes for Borough and Bankside?

20. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR CLEO SOANES (PECKHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

How can businesses in Peckham get involved with the council's community restoration fund and bid to be one of the government's "Portas Pilot" areas to help with the renewal of Peckham town centre?

21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR LINDA MANCHESTER (BERMONDSEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

Following an extremely successful Bermondsey community council meeting which discussed domestic violence, how many incidents of violence from teenagers to parents have been recorded in the borough, what is the council doing to ensure incidents are being reported and addressed?

22. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF HOOK (ROTHERHITHE COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

Given the closure of the job centre by the previous Labour government, the closure of the health care centre and the moving of the library, does the cabinet member for regeneration and corporate strategy welcome the setting up of a charity shop by the community and local churches? Will she join me in calling for more resources and regeneration of Albion Street?

23. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR RENATA HAMVAS

What has the feedback been like from tenants in sheltered housing regarding the council's proposal to reintroduce wardens for this service?

24. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR ROWENNA DAVIS

Does she think the government's NHS reforms will improve patient care and staff morale in Southwark?

25. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR THE RIGHT REVEREND EMMANUEL OYEWOLE

Can she outline in more detail how Southwark's older and disabled residents will benefit from the council's new community support programme

26. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR CATHERINE BOWMAN

At the debate at the budget council assembly, the cabinet member for health and adult social care made a number of commitments regarding the client group of the Castle Day Centre. Please can the cabinet member provide an update of actions taken by her department?

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

Can the cabinet member for health and adult social care confirm that she is happy with the performance of the two new homecare contract providers?

28. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR NICK STANTON

Will the cabinet member for health and adult social care provide an update on the shadow health and wellbeing board? Is she going to be democratic and allow a majority of elected members on the board?

29. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR ROSIE SHIMELL

Will the cabinet member for health and adult social care please provide an update on the future of the Fred Francis Day Centre?

30. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF HOOK

Will the cabinet member for health and adult social care please provide an update on the future of the Southwark Park Day Centre?

31. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL BUKOLA

What does the cabinet member believe the extent and impact of depression on black and minority ethnic (BME) older people will be in the borough if cuts to mental health services are implemented preventing accessibility to crucial social care provision?

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

Please can the cabinet member tell me the current position for the future of each centre for: older people; people with learning and physical difficulties; and people with mental health problems?

33. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR PODDY CLARK

Please can the cabinet member for health and adult social care tell me what adult education is available for pensioners at reasonable costs in our borough?

34. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR DARREN MERRILL

How important will the new Southwark resource centre be in helping disabled residents to live healthy, independent lives?

35. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR DAN GARFIELD

The government's new "affordable rent" model proposes charging rents for affordable homes of up to 80% of market rents. Can the cabinet member outline by postcode what rents for affordable housing in Southwark will increase to should the government's plans go ahead unamended?

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

What is the council doing to engage with and provide support to local shops in Southwark at this time of economic hardship?

37. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR GAVIN EDWARDS

How many older people in Southwark who live in social housing but have a spare room will see their housing benefit cut as a result of the government's Welfare Reform Bill?

38. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR HELEN HAYES

How many families with children in Southwark will see their housing benefit cut as a result of the government's Welfare Reform Bill?

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

Does the cabinet member believe that section 106 for affordable housing should always be spent on new homes, or does she think that in some case it is appropriate to spend the money to top up the council's housing investment programme on its existing stock?

40. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE

Please can the cabinet member for regeneration and corporate strategy provide an update on the relocation of the Christian Community of London Church at the Elephant and Castle?

41. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR ADELE MORRIS

The council recently received a report on options for the future of the Elephant and Castle Trust, which recommended that the trust should receive £30,000 per year of the rental income from a former community centre at 56 Southwark Bridge Road in the Bankside area of Cathedrals ward.

Can the cabinet member for regeneration and corporate strategy say whether she supports the recommendation, and if so:

1. Does she believe that it is appropriate to use rental income from a building in the north of Cathedrals ward, well beyond the Elephant and Castle area boundary, to fund a group that represents the Elephant and Castle when the council is no longer able to provide the £30,000 funding for the nearby Bankside Residents Forum?
2. Where does the money from the rental on 56 Southwark Bridge Road currently go to?

42. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR LEWIS ROBINSON

In light of the new right to buy scheme which comes into effect on 2 April 2012, can he outline steps taken by officers in the housing department to fulfil their obligations in good time to make tenants aware of the opportunities available to them?

43. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR TOBY ECKERSLEY

In the light of the fact that that there are only a few days left for the responsive housing repairs contractor for the south area of the borough to demonstrate contractual compliance, would the cabinet member for housing management set out the timescale for progressing this matter and provide justification for any confidence he may have that the housing repairs service will be maintained to an effective standard in the event that the existing contract is terminated?

44. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL MITCHELL

Is the cabinet member aware that there is a shortage of neighbourhood watch signs and that this has been exacerbated by the council failing to transfer such signs from redundant lamp posts to their replacements? With the Metropolitan Police denying they have resources or responsibility to assist in this, what steps are the council taking to ensure there are sufficient signs to support the demand in neighbourhood watch areas?