

<b>Item No.</b> 5.1	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 27 March 2013	<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 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.
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 HELEN HAYES**

Can he provide an update on the council's discussion with the Metropolitan Police Service regarding funding for alternative police front counters in Southwark?

**2. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID HUBBER**

Is the leader aware that the broadband speeds in the Surrey Docks area are abysmally poor and well below the average in England? Given the growing population in Rotherhithe - including many people working from home - and the hoped for increase in business activity, will he make strong representations to BT and other relevant organisations to urge them to remedy this problem as soon as possible?

**3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR PATRICK DIAMOND**

I welcome the news that the council is investing £1.4 million in CCTV on council estates at a time when the government is cutting the Metropolitan Police Service's budget. Can he confirm when residents on the Brandon Estate will see new CCTV cameras installed?

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

How much of the discretionary housing payments budget has been spent in the current financial year 2012/13? What are the council's spending plans for the 2013/14 budget, broken down by fulfilment need type?

**5. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR REBECCA LURY**

After the opposition spokesperson for resources and housing investment poured scorn on the idea that parents in Southwark are using money saved from Labour's free, healthy school meals to pay for dancing classes, is the leader aware that Liberal Democrat run Sutton Council paid for children to have ballroom dancing classes because it helped "to engage those who might not enjoy more traditional school sports like football or rounders to get fit and stay healthy"?

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

What proportion of residential units in new developments does the council estimate will be sold to foreign investors? How will the council ensure that those homes will not be bought up as asset investments and left long-term empty?

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

How many signatures has the leader collected for his online petition to extend the Bakerloo line to Camberwell and Peckham? How does he plan to advance the campaign?

**8. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ROBIN CROOKSHANK HILTON**

Can the leader provide an update on discussions with the Metropolitan Police Service about establishing a Dulwich safer neighbourhood team patrol base at the gatehouse of the Dulwich Hospital site on East Dulwich Grove?

**9. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR MARK WILLIAMS**

Can the leader provide information on resident satisfaction with street cleanliness?  
How does this compare with the last five years?

**10. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR LISA RAJAN**

What would be the cost of replacing all the black tarmac repairs to the red brick paving in the streets around Greenland and South Docks in Surrey Docks ward with original style red bricks, so as to restore the character of the area? Would he give consideration to undertaking this work?

**11. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ROSIE SHIMELL**

What consideration has the leader given to using the Mandela Way car pound as a site for a new school? Does he agree that any council land being considered for disposal should also be considered for new school sites?

**12. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR JONATHAN MITCHELL**

How many people on the electoral roll have chosen to opt out of having their data used for commercial purposes? How many times has the council sold the edited register to third parties in each of the past three financial years (2010/11 to 2012/13), and what was the total sum received for this information by the council in each of these years?

**13. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR NICK STANTON (BERMONDSEY AND ROTHERHITHE COMMUNITY COUNCIL)**

What can the council do to help Southwark police with their front counter provision, in light of the proposed closure of Rotherhithe police station?

**14. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ROBIN CROOKSHANK HILTON (DULWICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL)**

Would the leader of the council please provide the evidence, broken down by the original eight community council designations and contrasted to the record of main planning committee, for his statement in a letter of 21 December 2012 (responding to a letter from the chairs of the Dulwich Society and the Turney Road Residents Association of 4 December 2012) that the council were "the unsuccessful respondents in a disproportionate number of planning appeals in respect of matters determined at community council planning committees" and the cost of the cases by community council designation?

**15. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR NORMA GIBBES (CAMBERWELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL)**

Please update Camberwell community council on the council's work to lobby Transport for London to bring the Bakerloo line to Camberwell and onto Peckham.

**16. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR CLEO SOANES (PECKHAM AND NUNHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL)**

As a result of the government's welfare reform changes, will families be forced to leave homes which have been expensively adapted for the needs of disabled and

vulnerable people and how many residents of the Peckham and Nunhead community council will it affect?

**17. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR PODDY CLARK**

What is the council doing to tackle anti-social behaviour on estates in Chaucer ward? How will the new complaints procedure ensure that council officers respond properly to anti-social behaviour complaints by residents?

**18. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL KYRIACOU**

What consultation was carried out regarding the planned relocation of the hostel for offenders to the Old Kent Road?

**19. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR COUNCILLOR PAUL NOBLET**

How many complaints have been received by the council relating to rogue landlords in each of the past three financial years (2010/11 to 2012/13)? How many successful prosecutions were recorded in each of these years?

**20. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR TIM MCNALLY**

How much surplus cash is there in the housing revenue account? What is the predicted surplus for 2013/14?

**21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE**

How much has the council spent dealing with illegal fly-tipping in each of the past three years? How many successful prosecutions has the council made for illegal fly-tipping in each of the past three years?

**22. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR DAN GARFIELD**

What work is being done to provide community safety reassurance for residents living on the Aylesbury Estate?

**23. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR NEIL COYLE**

Can he outline the council's preparations for implementing the government's poorly analysed welfare cuts, including plans to make monthly payments into individuals' bank accounts?

**24. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR NICK DOLEZAL**

Can the cabinet member outline how the council is responding to the Mayor of London's police and crime plan?

**25. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES**

Can the leader confirm the budget, staffing levels and operating hours for Southwark's anti-social behaviour unit (SASBU) and the noise team for each year from 2009-10 until the present year?

**26. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR GEOFFREY THORNTON**

How many complaints were received by the noise team in the past year? How many complaints were received outside operational hours? What percentage of rapid requests received outside operational hours were responded to within the target timeframe?

**27. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN**

When will the CCTV on the Arnold estate be fixed? Will the cabinet member commit to reviewing and improving CCTV across the whole estate?

**28. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR WILMA NELSON**

How much has been spent on a) the purchase of mousetraps and b) other pest control measures at council offices in the past two years?

**29. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES BARBER**

What breaches of confidential council-owned data have occurred since 1 January 2011? What measures are put in place to encrypt confidential data? What process is in place to deal with incidents of sensitive data loss?

**30. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR LINDA MANCHESTER**

Can the cabinet member please provide details of all grants which Southwark has applied for in the current financial year, including the funding organisation, amount involved and whether the application was successful or not?

**31. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR CATHERINE BOWMAN**

What is the average resolution time for a) members' enquiries b) resident complaints in the last 12 months from the point the enquiry is made to when it is finally resolved, broken down by department?

**32. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, SPORT AND OLYMPIC LEGACY FROM COUNCILLOR ABDUL MOHAMED**

How will the council ensure that the aims and objectives of the Olympic Legacy Board are sustained?

**33. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, SPORT AND OLYMPIC LEGACY FROM COUNCILLOR THE RIGHT REVEREND EMMANUEL OYEWOLE**

With comparable London boroughs making reductions in spending on Black History Month, what is the council doing to maintain its appeal and innovative themes with all ages?

**34. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, SPORT AND OLYMPIC LEGACY FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL SITU**

What is the council doing to bring Southwark Park track back into use so the youth of the borough have a track to utilise and build upon the great performances of recent years in the London Youth Games?

**35. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR DENISE CAPSTICK**

Will Southwark consider introducing a short extension to parking before enforcement for residents only, as has been introduced in other London boroughs, to allow local residents extra time to park without the need for a full permit?

**36. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR MARK GETTLESON**

Following the council's recent decision to sign up to the London cycling campaign 'safer lorries, safer cycling' pledge, what changes will be made, and when?

**37. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF HOOK**

How many parking penalty charge notices (PCNs) have been issued in each of the last three years in the borough for illegal or improper use of disabled parking bays? What is the council doing to ensure disabled parking bays are not used improperly?

**38. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL MITCHELL**

How many residential council properties are overcrowded? Please provide the information by ward.

**39. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR NICK STANTON**

What is the most recent estimate of the number of empty homes in the borough? How much has the council paid to secure empty residential council properties in each of the past three years?

**40. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR COLUMBA BLANGO**

How many evictions of squatters has the council been involved with in the current financial year, and how much has the council spent on such evictions? How many properties have been squatted in on more than one occasion?

**41. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL BUKOLA**

How much does it cost on average to replace a communal fluorescent light bulb in residential property blocks? What is the total amount of money spent on replacing communal light bulbs in each of the past two financial years (2011/12 and 2012/13 to date)?

**42. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR TOBY ECKERSLEY**

Noting that Southwark Life, Spring 2013, states that "by 2025 £3 billion will have been invested in the Elephant", please would the cabinet member for regeneration and corporate strategy provide a breakdown of that forecast expenditure indicating purpose and date of the expenditure and agency which is expected to incur it, together in each case with an indication of the date on which the agency is expected to commit to the expenditure?