

<b>Item No.</b> 5.1	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 26 November 2014	<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.

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 CATHERINE DALE**

What feedback have you had from members of the public who attended the first Leader's Public Question Time last month?

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

How many wheelchair-adapted shared ownership properties have been approved as part of planning applications in the borough in each of the last three years and how many of those have subsequently been provided as non-wheelchair-adapted properties?

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

It is now three years since the Holmhurst Day Centre on the corner of Half Moon Lane and Burbage Road was closed. What plans has the council for this valuable community asset other than to house licensed squatters, and when might we see those plans come to fruition?

**4. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR KATH WHITTAM**

Can the leader give an update on the council's ongoing challenge against the Thames Super Sewer?

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

How does he plan to measure his administration's pledge to create a) 5,000 new jobs and b) 2,000 new apprenticeships for Southwark residents over the next four years? Please will the leader provide a list of all the businesses in the borough that offer apprenticeships?

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

Will the leader provide an update on the progress of his plans for free swimming for all Southwark residents, especially having regard to the timeline and the cost to the council's budget?

**7. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLIE SMITH**

Can the leader tell me what the council is doing to support a new secondary school on the Dulwich Hospital site?

**8. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES BARBER**

What discussions has the leader had since May 2014 regarding the introduction of free public wi-fi to Southwark? Will he consider piloting such a scheme in the borough's commercial, tourist and shopping areas such as Lordship Lane in East Dulwich?

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

A Liberal Democrat councillor was quoted in the South London Press saying he was concerned that the new Cycling Strategy didn't include 'a single penny' of funding to make improvements. Can the leader confirm how much money has been allocated for cycling in Southwark?

**10. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'BRIEN**

What specific plans does the council have to install segregated cycle lanes on council-managed roads over the next twelve months?

**11. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR RADHA BURGESS**

The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) has responded to Southwark Council's campaign to increase the number of dedicated local police officers in the borough by denying that the number has decreased. Can the leader reassure me that the council's figures are robust and that he will continue to campaign to restore police numbers in Southwark?

**12. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES OKOSUN**

Will the leader please provide an update on the work of each of his deputy cabinet members, including what activities, including meetings, they have undertaken so far, and what the main priorities are for each in 2014/15?

**13. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR JAMILLE MOHAMMED**

Southwark Works recently celebrated its tenth anniversary of support local people to find work. What impact has this initiative had over the last decade?

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

Camberwell Community Council is worried about the reduction in police officers in Camberwell and Southwark more widely. What is the council doing to ensure that there are adequate police numbers in our borough and Camberwell specifically?

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

What is the council going to do in response to the Thames Tunnel decision [by Government ministers Eric Pickles and Liz Truss] in Chambers Wharf?

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

Are the changes to local NHS services, increased waiting times and access to treatment impacting on the council services, and what is that impact?

**17. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR ELEANOR KERSLAKE**

Can the cabinet members guarantee that the council will continue to protect the most vulnerable in Southwark despite the government's withdrawal of funding for emergency support?

**18. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR LEO POLLAK**

The council's revenues and benefits team recently won a gold award from the Institute of Revenues, Rating and Valuation. Can the cabinet member tell me how this service has improved since it was brought in-house in 2011?

**19. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR JON HARTLEY**

Southwark's budget has been cut by a quarter over the past four years. How much more is the government likely to cut the council's budget and how will the cabinet member ensure that frontline services will be protected in light of the savings that will have to be made?

**20. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR LISA RAJAN**

Will the cabinet member provide an update on the council's plans to refurbish the Seven Islands Leisure Centre which it has allocated around £8 million for over the coming years in its capital budget?

**21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES**

What recent discussions has the council had with contractors regarding paying the London Living Wage to their staff? Which contractors, if any, is the council aware of that are not yet paying London Living Wage to staff?

**22. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR CLEO SOANES**

Can the cabinet member tell me how she will ensure that residents in Southwark are able to have their say on how the council prioritises its spending in light of the ongoing, severe cuts from central government to the council's budget?

**23. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR ROSIE SHIMELL**

Will the cabinet member provide an update on the council's free swimming and gym pledge? Has the cabinet member now calculated the cost to the council purse of fulfilling the pledge and has she determined where this funding will come from?

**24. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID HUBBER**

Will the cabinet member provide a full schedule of occasions when the council's IT systems have failed to work properly since May 2014?

**25. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE FROM COUNCILLOR MARIA LINFORTH-HALL**

How much has the council spent on mental health provision in each of the last three years?

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

Can the cabinet member give an update on the delivery of the council's commitment to make swimming and gym use free for all Southwark residents?

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

How will the council respond to the recommendations put forward in the London Health Commission report, Better Health for London?

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

What is the council doing to advise and reassure local people who have concerns about Ebola?

**29. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT CARE, ARTS AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LAUDER**

Can the cabinet member give an update on the council's plans to become an Age Friendly Borough?

**30. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING FROM COUNCILLOR BEN JOHNSON**

How many complaints have been made to the council's housing unit in each of the past six financial years (2009/10 to 2014/15 inclusive), broken down by category of complaint and respective ward? Please will the cabinet member provide the results of the most recent satisfaction survey issued by the housing department?

**31. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING FROM COUNCILLOR HAMISH McCALLUM**

How many complaints have there been from leaseholders in each of the past three financial years about excessive leaseholder billing? What is the total sum of leaseholder bills in the borough for each of the past five years? What is the average bill per leaseholder in each of these years?

**32. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN**

How many notices seeking possession have been issued by the council in each of the past three years? How many evictions have been carried out by the council over the same period and will the cabinet member commit to a wider review of policy following the recent high court case condemning the council's unlawful eviction?

**33. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT FROM COUNCILLOR GAVIN EDWARDS**

Peckham Rye's Labour councillors want to ensure that cycling in our ward is made as safe and easy as possible. We also want to ensure that improvements to the cycling infrastructure around Peckham Rye Common are sensitive to the needs of park users and protects this much valued community resource from unnecessary development. Could the cabinet member give a reassurance that the suggestion

made by Southwark Cyclists to "Create protected space for cycling on both sides of Peckham Rye Common and at the eastern junction of Peckham Rye/A2214" will be taken forward for investigation and development with TfL at the earliest opportunity, and that this will be done in a way which respects the integrity of Peckham Rye Common?