

<b>Item No.</b> 5.1	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 28 January 2020	<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 OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR WILLIAM HOUNGBO**

Residents in many parts of Southwark have expressed concerns about safety because of ongoing issues with drug dealing in residential areas. The perception is that nothing is being done to stop it. Can the leader please outline what steps the council is taking, either unilaterally, or in partnership with the police and others, to address this problem?

**2. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR TOM FLYNN**

Will the leader join me in congratulating Helen Hayes, Harriet Harman and Neil Coyle on their re-election as Labour MPs for the borough?

**3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI**

How many council homes have been sold or demolished since 2010? What is the average time and cost for new council homes which have been built since then (from site identification to letting)?

**4. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ELEANOR KERSLAKE**

Does the leader agree that timely access to GPs is essential for all Southwark residents, and that it is important that a GP practice stays at Maddock Way on the Brandon Estate?

**5. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR NICK JOHNSON**

The Canada Water Master Plan was approved despite clear issues with the overcrowding on the Jubilee Line as acknowledged in the council's own reports. What conversations have occurred between the council and British Land, and the council and Transport for London (TfL) since to ensure that overcrowding at Southwark's Jubilee Line stations is being addressed?

**6. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL SITU**

Can the leader update us on the delivery of new council homes across the borough?

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

Please can the leader tell us how much money has been collected in the Carbon Offset Fund from developments that have failed to meet our Carbon Reduction targets? Can he also tell us what priorities are being used to decide how the money is spent, and when the planning committee can expect to receive the report on it so we can start spending it, as, despite the Leader's assurances at the July 2019 Council Assembly, it was not available to be considered by the planning committee in October 2019?

**8. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR CATHERINE ROSE**

How does Southwark's recycling rate compare to other inner London boroughs?

**9. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR JANE SALMON**

Can the leader confirm how many redeployable cameras there are in the borough, how many there are per ward and whether there are plans to commission any additional cameras?

**10. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR CLEO SOANES**

Following the publication of the Southwark School Standards Report for 2018/19, can the leader tell us how Southwark's schools are performing compared to London and national averages?

**11. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR HAMISH MCCALLUM**

Can the Leader confirm how many households in Southwark have been classed as homeless in each of the past 5 years, broken down by the number of rough sleepers, those in hostels or similar accommodation, and those in temporary accommodation? Can he also confirm, of those in hostels or similar accommodation, and those in temporary accommodation, how many are situated in Southwark and how many are situated outside the borough?

**12. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE**

Can the leader please outline where in Southwark the council has installed Motorcycle Anchors to prevent motorcycle theft? Can he also detail any plans to install more Motorcycle Anchor points, especially on Southwark's housing estates, and set out what additional work is being done by the council and its partners to prevent the theft of motorcycles from delivery drivers, students, workers, and other local residents?

**13. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR MARIA LINFORTH-HALL**

Given Southwark's "Digital by Default" approach, can the leader outline what the council is doing to ensure that people without internet access or with restricted mobility, particularly older people, are not excluded from accessing services and support?

**14. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES**

Can the leader of the council provide an update on the cabinet's commitment made in December 2016 to resettle twenty five Syrian refugee households by 2021, with the ambition to rehouse five Syrian refugee households a year for the next five years between 2017-2021?

**15. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR VICTOR CHAMBERLAIN**

Since the loss of XXL, Southwark's last remaining LGBTQ+ club, can the cabinet member please outline what the council is doing to support and promote LGBTQ+ nightlife in the borough?

**16. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR HUMAIRA ALI**

In July 2019 council assembly passed a cross-party motion on Promoting Equality and Valuing Diversity, in which we called on cabinet to, among other things, actively ensure that activities and events in Southwark acknowledge and reflect the diversity of life and society in our borough, establish a Civic Award honouring those who have made an outstanding contribution to making Southwark a more integrated, plural and tolerant place for us all and launch an updated equality and diversity standard for Southwark Council. Can the cabinet member outline when members can expect to see a plan which translates these ambitions into action? Can she also explain why those members who worked together to draft this motion have not been directly consulted or briefed on plans to amalgamate the role of diversity champions with that of community champions, a move which entirely misses the point of establishing these as key roles in Southwark with their own agreed purpose and objectives?

**17. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR JASON OCHERE**

How successful was the free swimming lessons pilot?

**18. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR ALICE MACDONALD**

Can the cabinet member tell us what progress has been made on promoting diversity and tackling hate crime since the motion on this subject was unanimously passed at the last council assembly meeting?

**19. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR DARREN MERRILL**

Can the cabinet member tell us when the first of Southwark's children will get their free theatre visits?

**20. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN**

Now that the council have recognised the depth of feeling in the community about holding a ceremony at West Lane War Memorial on Armistice Day on 11 November, will the cabinet member make a commitment to continue doing so in future years?

**21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR MARGY NEWENS**

In light of the climate emergency, what is the cabinet member doing to demonstrate Southwark's commitment to biodiversity?

**22. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR JACK BUCK**

Will the cabinet member commit to a) investing in Southwark's existing libraries, and b) opening new libraries in Southwark?

**23. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND BREXIT FROM COUNCILLOR RICHARD LEEMING**

Can the cabinet member tell us how the council is preparing for the UK's exit from the EU on 31 January 2020 and the subsequent transition period?

**24. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND BREXIT FROM COUNCILLOR LEANNE WERNER**

Can the cabinet member provide an update on the outcomes of the multi-agency operation, led by the Metropolitan Police Service, that recently raided a number of nail bars in Southwark?

**25. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND BREXIT FROM COUNCILLOR MAGGIE BROWNING**

Can the cabinet member update us on the latest divestment from fossil fuels in Southwark's pension fund?

**26. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND BREXIT FROM COUNCILLOR PETER BABUDU**

Can the cabinet member provide an update on plans for a borough-wide private rented sector licensing scheme?

**27. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY FROM COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'BRIEN**

In the cabinet member's report to cabinet dated 29 October 2019, paragraph 3, he states "the council will significantly extend coverage of the Santander Cycle Hire scheme in the borough." However, in Appendix C of the same document, the only secured docking stations sites indicated north of Southwark Park Road are funded either by Transport for London (TfL) along the Cycleway 4 corridor or by British Land's S106 agreement to provide 6 docking stations. Secured sites to the south are also marked as being financed by 'developer funding'. Can the cabinet member please therefore explain why there is no indication of any Southwark Council investment in additional docking stations, despite ongoing campaigns from local Liberal Democrats councillors for this much-needed infrastructure? Can he also explain the apparent contradiction between his claim that "the council will significantly extend the ... scheme" and this lack of investment?

**28. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY FROM COUNCILLOR DAN WHITEHEAD**

In July 2019 council assembly passed a motion condemning Transport for London's (TfL) decision to "pause" progress on the delivery of the Rotherhithe to Canary Wharf walking and cycling bridge, and calling on cabinet to continue to lobby TfL and to meet with Heidi Alexander in support of the bridge, and to address other major transport infrastructure commitments affecting Southwark, including the Santander Bicycle Hire

extension and the Silvertown Tunnel. Could the cabinet member please outline what progress has been made in relation to these commitments?

**29. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY FROM COUNCILLOR ANDY SIMMONS**

Could the cabinet member please provide an update on the council's work to reduce the level of missed refuse and recycling collections by Veolia?