

Non-Executive Report of the:  <b>Council</b>  19 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	 <b>TOWER HAMLETS</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Questions submitted by Members of the Council</b>	

<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
<b>Wards affected</b>	All wards

## SUMMARY

1. Set out overleaf are the questions that were submitted by Members of the Council for response by the Mayor, the Speaker or the Chair of a Committee or Sub-Committee at the Council meeting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022
2. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.4, questions relating to Executive functions and decisions taken by the Mayor are put to the Mayor unless he delegates such a decision to another Member, who will therefore be responsible for answering the question. In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor will answer questions directed to the Mayor.
3. Questions are limited to one per Member per meeting, plus one supplementary question unless the Member has indicated that only a written reply is required and in these circumstances a supplementary question is not permitted. Oral responses are time limited to one minute. Supplementary questions and responses are also time limited to one minute each.
4. Council Procedure Rule 10.7 provides for an answer to take the form of a written answer circulated to the questioner, a reference to a published work or a direct oral answer.
5. There is a time limit of thirty minutes at the Council meeting for consideration of Members' questions with no extension of time allowed and any questions not put within this time are dealt with by way of written responses.
6. Members must confine their contributions to questions and answers and not make statements or attempt to debate.

## **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

13 questions have been received from Members of the Council as follows:-

### **11.1 Question from Councillor Amina Ali:**

Given the on-going Omicron wave, can the Lead Member provide an update on what the Council is doing to ensure all residents are provided with the opportunity to receive two doses of the vaccination along with the booster jab?

### **11.2 Question from Councillor Kabir Ahmed:**

The Mayor will have seen reports circulating on social media that in response to an FOI request the Council has revealed that it has spent some £156 million over the last three years via the "AP1" voucher procedures. Will the Mayor please explain to the Council the following:

- a) what the procedures for authorising an AP1 payment are?
- b) whether there are any caps on the sums which may be spent via the AP1 procedure?
- c) whether it is correct that AP1 procedures are used for spending in "exceptional circumstances"?
- d) whether the Mayor was made or became aware of this level of spending using the AP1 procedure before the FOI response was made public?

### **11.3 Question from Councillor Leema Qureshi:**

Victory Day took place on 17th December 2021 which marks the independence of Bangladesh and it is a special day for many residents in the borough. Can the Mayor update us on what the Council did to mark this important occasion?

### **11.4 Question from Councillor Peter Golds:**

What communication has LBTH had with the Royal Borough of Greenwich as regards the non-working lift(s) at Island Gardens and Cutty Sark serving the Greenwich foot tunnel?

### **11.5 Question from Councillor Rajib Ahmed:**

Can the Mayor provide an update on how the Council is supporting the borough's COVID recovery during these continued uncertain times?

### **11.6 Question from Councillor Harun Miah:**

Can the mayor update this chamber to aftermath of the very tragic incident at Nida House, Sutton street on the 11th of December 2021? Which sadly resulted in the death of 11 year old Fatiha Sabrin?

### **11.7 Question from Councillor Zenith Rahman:**

Can the Lead Member please let us know many electric charge points are currently installed in the borough, and how many were installed by this administration since 2018?

### **11.8 Question from Councillor Andrew Wood:**

How much s106, Community Infrastructure Levy and New Homes Bonus money was in the Council bank account at the end of 2021?

### **11.9 Question from Councillor Marc Francis:**

Will the Lead Member for Housing set out the actions that Tower Hamlets Council has taken to support residents of Clare House since Clarion Housing Group announced the evacuation of this tower block for fire safety reasons on 29th September 2021?

### **11.10 Question from Councillor Dan Tomlinson:**

Could the Lead Member provide an update on the URS waste collection issues, detailing how many URS trucks are currently working and how long it will be until the out-of-action vehicles are back in action?

### **11.11 Question from Councillor Shah Ameen:**

Can the Lead Member provide an update on what the Council is doing to improve air quality across the borough and protect the health of its residents?

### **11.12 Question from Councillor Victoria Obaze:**

The vibrancy of our neighbourhoods is just one of the many aspects that makes Tower Hamlets the best borough in London, and the presence of offensive graffiti can have a really negative impact on the community. Can the Lead Member provide an update on what the Council is doing to keep the borough clean and safe from vandalism?

### **11.13 Question from Councillor Rabina Khan:**

Given questions from the Turks Head Save the St George's Pool Steering Committee on the validity of the consultation exercise; how does the Mayor and the administration intend to reach vulnerable people, communities and those with protected characteristics so that they are able take part in the St George's Pool consultation?