

Non-Executive Report of the: Council 16 th March 2022	
Report of: Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Questions submitted by Members of the Council	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	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 16th March 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

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

11.1 Question from Councillor Krysten Perry

Can the Mayor please provide us an update on the Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund?

11.2 Question from Councillor Peter Golds

Will the Mayor explain why Tower Hamlets under his leadership, has such a poor reputation in prosecuting fly tippers and issued no fixed penalty notices to fly tippers between 2015 and March 2021 according to DEFRA?

11.3 Question from Councillor Rajib Ahmed

What support and help has been given to local businesses during these difficult times by the council and how are we supporting local people back to employment in particular young people?

11.4 Question from Councillor Kabir Ahmed

There have been recent reports that Tower Hamlets has once again failed to safeguard children, with one child going missing 107 times in two years and was found to be a victim of modern slavery. Can the Mayor explain why such gross negligence has taken place under his watch?

11.5 Question from Councillor Dan Tomlinson

How many School Streets have been implemented across the borough since 2018?

11.6 Question from Councillor Andrew Wood

Why did Tower Hamlets have the worst recycling rates in London in 2020/21 and the 2nd worst in the country?

11.7 Question from Councillor Val Whitehead

Can the Mayor inform us of how many trees were lost in the borough due to Storm Eugene and what are the plans to replace them?

11.8 Question from Councillor Harun Miah

On the council's website it states 'The housing crisis is the greatest challenge facing London today' can the Mayor explain why he has only built 224 new homes in his 7 years? Clearly this does not demonstrate a robust approach to tackling 'The housing crisis is the greatest challenge facing London today'.

11.9 Question from Councillor Kevin Brady

Can the Cabinet Member update me on the continued efforts to address the persistent fly-tipping & waste problems around Middleton Green and the surrounding areas, including Bethnal Green Road?

11.10 Question from Councillor Shah Ameen

Residents in Tower Hamlets see crime and ASB as a priority in the borough. Can the Cabinet Member please provide me with an update on the work the Council has done in partnership with our colleagues in the police to tackle crime and ASB?

11.11 Question from Councillor Faroque Ahmed

When are we going to see any improvements to Whitechapel markets?

11.12 Question from Councillor Victoria Obaze

Can the Mayor or Lead Member update us on the Mayor's High Street Clean Up?

11.13 Question from Councillor Bex White

I have been involved in a handful of cases where people with young children are in temporary accommodation that is completely unsuitable, and the cabinet member has been helpful in dealing with these when I have raised these issues.

However I am concerned that for every case that comes to councillors there might be others who don't realise that there is help available, and are suffering at the hands of unfit landlords. I would like to know what criteria the council uses to assess the suitability of temporary accommodation and how can we be assured that people in crisis are not being forced into accommodation that is unsafe?

11.14 Question from Councillor Tarik Khan

Can the Cabinet Member please give us an update on the two food recycling pilots in the borough?

11.15 Question from Councillor Marc Francis

Will the lead member provide an update on the average waiting time for a housing OT assessment and the action being taken to reduce that to a more acceptable timeframe?

11.16 Question from Councillor Rabina Khan

Will the Mayor commit to taking a Public Health approach in addressing knife and violent crime in the borough?