

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 13th JULY 2011

**QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE HEAD,
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

SUMMARY

1. Set out overleaf are the questions submitted by members of the public, for response by the appropriate Cabinet Member or committee chair at the Council Meeting on 13th July 2011.
2. The Council's Constitution sets a maximum time limit of twenty minutes for this item.
3. A questioner who has put a question in person may also put one brief supplementary question without notice to the Member who has replied to his or her original question. A supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. Supplementary questions and Members' responses to written and supplementary questions are each limited to two minutes.
4. Any question which cannot be dealt with during the twenty minutes allocated for public questions, either because of lack of time or because of non-attendance of the questioner or the Member to whom it was put, will be dealt with by way of a written answer.
5. Unless the Chair of Council decides otherwise, no discussion will take place on any question, but any Member of the Council may move, without discussion, that the matter raised by a question be referred for consideration by the Cabinet or the appropriate Committee or Sub-Committee.

QUESTIONS

Five questions have been submitted as set out below:-

6.1 Question from Mr Sheikh Raquib to Mayor Lutfur Rahman:

“Is the Mayor aware that housing associations in the borough are undertaking major works and charging disproportionately and unfairly to leaseholders who are suffering, without consideration of the current cut backs and recession. Will the Mayor use his influence to promote more transparency for the leaseholder residents of Tower Hamlets regarding the payment plan being applied flexibly and fairly to all and with caps on some housing associations where necessary?”

6.2 Question from Ms Myra Garrett to Mayor Lutfur Rahman:

“Is it true that the Council paid £70,000 in housing benefit to one family alone?”

6.3 Question from Mr Saif Uddin to Mayor Lutfur Rahman:

“Is it true that the Council paid £70,000 in housing benefit to one family alone? If so how does the Council justify itself?”

6.4 Question from Ms Sultana Ali to Mayor Lutfur Rahman:

“Can the Mayor update us on what he has done to date to save King Edward Memorial Park from Thames Water’s super sewer?”

6.5 Question from Ms Kerstyn Comley of The Wapping and Shadwell Secondary Education Trust to Mayor Lutfur Rahman:

“The borough projects an increasing shortfall of secondary school places from 2013 onwards. There already exists a recognised lack of provision of co-educational secondary schools for families in Wapping and Shadwell. The Wapping and Shadwell Secondary Education Trust have submitted an application for a comprehensive, inclusive free school to the Department for Education. The application is supported by nearly 500 families and has cross party support both at a local and national level.

Will the Mayor direct the council and its officers to work with the Trust to take advantage of this opportunity for the benefit of the whole borough and to ensure that the council retains a stake in this venture?”