

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY 2013**

**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 Mayor or appropriate Cabinet Member or committee chair at the Council Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2013.
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 Speaker 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**

Nine questions have been submitted as set out below:-

### **6.1 Question from Mr Brian Nicholson**

Can the Mayor tell us how the council is progressing with the recruitment of the CEO?

### **6.2 Question from Mr Victor William, Weavers Adventure Playground**

First of all I would like to thank the Mayor for supporting the Weavers Adventure Playground with the MSG grants.

We provide an exciting and stimulating environment for children and young people to play, learn, develop and increase their health and wellbeing. We would obviously like to continue our work given the safe, secure and multi-cultural environment that we offer.

It is precisely because of the current climate that our provision is of increasing importance. The impact to families and the community if Weavers has to reduce their opening hours will be enormous. We provide training opportunities for volunteers, many of whom have moved on to full time employment and we encourage participation from parents at all times.

Indeed, it is not simply a Playground but a vibrant community resource.

In these times of austerity, how can the council support our project to ensure that we continue to provide these services to the local community?

### **6.3 Question from Ms Kathy McTasney**

Can the Mayor explain what has been the Council's financial settlement from Central Government for this year?

### **6.4 Question from Ms Claire Harrison**

There has been lots of press coverage about the disputed ownership of the Old Flo Henry Moore sculpture and the Mayor's attempts to sell it. What steps were taken by the Council to ensure 100% that the sculpture actually belonged to Tower Hamlets?

### **6.5 Question from Mr Junel Uddin**

Housing is the single most important issue affecting residents in this borough. Figures released by the Department for Communities and Local Government show that Tower Hamlets is building the highest number of homes in the country. Is that true?

### **6.6 Question from Mr Muhammad Shafique Islam**

Can the Mayor tell us what he is doing to fight the offensive attempt by the Conservative group to erase Banglatown & Lansbury from the borough's ward map.?

### **6.7 Question from Mr Mohammed Mufti Miah**

As we begin to feel the full impact of the Government housing benefit cap, can the Mayor update in this meeting what the Council is doing to inform residents and mitigate against the adverse impact?

### **6.8 Question from Ms Lil Collins**

We are very pleased with the announcement made by the Mayor about the plans to bring back Poplar Baths into community use.

Can the Mayor outline the next steps and possible timescales to complete the restoration of the Baths?

### **6.9 Question from Mr Muhammad Haque**

Will Tower Hamlets Council support in principle the Tower Hamlets Peoples Education Life and History Archive that is a move to record and chronicle for present and future generations the lives of all the people who make up this community?