

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 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 18th September 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

Eleven questions have been submitted as set out below:-

6.1 Question from Ms Kathy McTasney

As the community begin to feel the full impact of the Tory government's Bedroom Tax. Can the Mayor update this meeting and the community what the Council is doing to support residents who are and will be adversely affected?

6.2 Question from Mr Ahmed Hussain

What steps are being taken to prevent the Canary Riverside underpass being used as a race track?

6.3 Question from Mr Andrew Wood

What is being done with the former NHS Portacabins on 111-113 Mellish Street, Isle of Dogs? I have heard rumours that it is being allocated to a group as a community centre already but have not seen anything publicly announced. What public consultation has taken place and how have local residents in the immediate area being involved in the process. What consideration has been given to the site being used for a primary school or for other purposes?

6.4 Question from Mr Chris Donnelly

What discussions and meetings are held with the Royal Borough of Greenwich with regard to entertainment events on the Greenwich Peninsula which have serious noise implications to residents in Blackwall and on the eastern side of the Isle of Dogs?

6.5 Question from Mr Graham Collins

When will the proposed school to be built on the News International site be open for pupils?

6.6 Question from Ms Sima Begum

Is it true that the Council failed to support a no casino motion to prevent the proliferation of gambling joints in Tower Hamlets?

6.7 Question from Miss Bushra Hussain

Why is the Council spending money on a local newspaper, the East London Advertiser, that promotes exploitation of women and advertises escort services?

6.8 Question from Ms Noorun Nessa

Given the shortage of school places in the borough, what is the Mayor doing to address this concern?

6.9 Question from Mr Saied Ahmed

Can the Mayor tell whether he has ever stopped filming at Council meetings?

6.10 Question from Mr Abu Ahsan

Can the Mayor tell us what his relationship with the union is?

6.11 Question from Mr Len Aldis

A few years ago, on behalf of Tower Hamlets CND I asked the council to consider joining the international organisation Mayors for Peace, that now stands at 5,712 cities in 157 countries.

I am pleased that after the suggestion had been considered it was approved unanimously. Tonight, I ask the council to consider another suggestion that would in our opinion show your concern for Peace. That is to plant a cherry tree as a symbol of peace, in Bethnal Green Gardens.

Each year on 6th August a ceremony is held by the cherry tree planted in August 1967 by the then Mayor of Camden. It is a reminder of the dropping of the Atomic Bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki August 1945.

We feel a cherry tree in Bethnal Green Garden would be a reminder of that event, but also a symbol of bringing people together for peace.