

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2015**

**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 at the Council Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015.
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**

Eight public questions have been submitted as set out below:-

### **6.1 Question from Ms Kathy McTasney:**

Who made the decision to remove personalised disabled bays, and are they aware of the Equality Act and the right of the person with disability to access, especially to their home? I understand from officers that, I quote, "It was the Councillors that made the decision". So who was the person responsible for this?

I have a personal issue that officers were responsible for removing my daughter's bay because I have a front drive. They clearly weren't interested in the adaptations for the car. As officers made clear there were people not using their bays. Then common sense would be to write a letter and if no response at all, remove the bay. Not threaten disabled people that can't speak for themselves.

In conclusion I ask that you withdraw the removal of all personalised disabled bays and send out letters for reply instead of reapplying, as personally there was never an application made as LBTH (Social Services) and the Ambulance service many years ago applied for this to be allocated because of my daughter's disability?

### **6.2 Question from Mr Dean Morrison, representing Leaseholders of Tower Hamlets (LTH):**

Can LBTH offer the Leaseholders of Tower Hamlets (LTH), as sole representative of leaseholders within LBTH properties, a permanent venue in which to conduct their business, and can LBTH provide LTH with any grants or monies taken from the Right to Buy receipts that will enable LTH to fund its activities?

### **6.3 Question from Mr Geoff Juden, Chairman, The East London Garden Society:**

I would like to put a question to full council on the advisability of felling 22 trees along the Mile End Road, by TfL, pursuant to the progress of a cycle highway.

I would request the council insist, noting the health concerns in the borough, that TfL either not fell the said trees, replace the trees, or have a concerted planting programme, with specialist plants and regular maintenance, in order to offset the air pollution created with the felling of the trees. Trees are the most effective method nature has in cleansing the air, therefore with 7,500 Londoners dying this year from air pollution, we should all do what we are able to improve our population's lung quality?

**6.4 Question from Mr Gilbert Lindsell:**

Can Mr Biggs explain how he will address further welfare reform from the Tory Government in particular the cap to 23k which will have an enormous impact on our young people, vulnerable adults and families?

**6.5 Question from Ms Shuily Akthar:**

How many Free School Dinners were served since its introduction and how many children have benefited?

**6.6 Question from Mr Mamonur Rashid:**

The parking transfer scheme has many strings attached with the idea of car free zones and confuses many of the locals. In some cases even the officers from the One Stop parking shop have given misleading advice, perhaps because there are strings attached to the car free zones which creates confusion.

Can the Council make clear if residents who have three bedrooms and over are allowed permits in car free zones. Also to minus any conditions attached to it?

**6.7 Question from Mr John Allison:**

Could Mr Biggs tell me the number of strategic and regeneration developments on site giving the Borough the potential for much needed housing, infrastructure and community benefits?

**6.8 Question from Mr Moynul Hoque:**

Under the previous administration we have seen levels of safety increase in our borough. In 2011 when most of London was in anarchy due to the dreadful riots, Tower Hamlets remained calm and our young people stayed indoors. The level of crime has also fallen substantially as well as our THEOs and Police Officers leading an example for boroughs across London. We are seen to be one of the safest boroughs in London. These are some of the many shining examples left behind by the previous administration.

How can you ensure that safety will still remain a key priority under your mayorship and that the lead member you have appointed will work vigorously like her predecessor?