

Non-Executive Report of the:  <b>Council</b>  20 July 2016	 <b>TOWER HAMLETS</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Melanie Clay, Corporate Director, Law, Probity and Governance	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Questions Submitted by the Public</b>	

<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	Matthew Mannion, Committee Services Manager, Democratic Services.
<b>Wards affected</b>	All wards

## 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 20 July 2016.
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**

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

### **6.1 Question from Rupia Rahman**

Does the Mayor believe that the council's anti-social behaviour team fit for purpose, especially when it comes to dealing with unacceptable behaviour from neighbours?

### **6.2 Question from Sha Hussain (Note - This question has also been asked by Mohbub Ali)**

Does the Mayor agree with Poplar Harca which has imposed a huge increase in parking charges on the resident? Is it not unfair and unjustifiable increase and what has the Mayor achieved for residents since his promise at the last Council petition to put pressure on Poplar Harca to decrease the charges?

### **6.3 Question from Tareq Talukder**

Does the Mayor believe that it is appropriate to cut funding of a high performing organisation such as NAFAS?

How does he intend to fill the gap that have been created by himself?

### **6.4 Question from Lisa Stepanovic**

Who is the governing body of a school accountable to?

Who monitors the head teachers attendance and how is it scrutinised?

### **6.5 Question from Bethan Lant**

The Refugees Welcome in Tower Hamlets Campaign is looking forward to the day when our borough is able to welcome Syrian refugees – as has happened on a small scale in 5 other London boroughs, including Islington (which is resettling 10 families) and Camden (which is resettling 24 families). We want to thank the Mayor for his continued support on this issue and for meeting with us to discuss it late last year.

Our group also wants to support the council to make refugee resettlement a success in the borough, providing the best welcome possible. So, can the Mayor provide an update on the progress being made towards resettling Syrian refugees in Tower Hamlets under the government's Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme? Is he able to tell us how many families the Council is currently planning to welcome to Tower Hamlets?

### **6.6 Question from Mizan Rashid**

Can the Mayor explain why he is closing an unprecedented, record number of Youth Centres in the Borough?

### **6.7 Question from Eileen Short**

Will the Council follow the example of Camden and Islington Councils and write directly to its tenants and leaseholders to inform them of the Housing and Planning Act, invite them to a forum to discuss this, and ask local housing associations to do the same; and what measures is it taking to work with other Councils in resisting the Act?