

Non-Executive Report of the: Council 22 November 2017	
Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance	Classification: Unrestricted
Questions submitted by Members of the Council	

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

SUMMARY

1. Set out overleaf are the questions that were submitted by Members of the Council for response by the Mayor, the Speaker or the Chair of a Committee or Sub-Committee at the Council meeting on Wednesday 22 November 2017
2. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.2 as amended, questions relating to Executive functions and decisions taken by the Mayor are put to the Mayor unless he delegates such a decision to another Member, who will therefore be responsible for answering the question. In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor will answer questions directed to the Mayor.
3. Questions are limited to one per Member per meeting, plus one supplementary question unless the Member has indicated that only a written reply is required and in these circumstances a supplementary question is not permitted. Oral responses are time limited to one minute. Supplementary questions and responses are also time limited to one minute each.
4. Council Procedure Rule 12.5 provides for an answer to take the form of a written answer circulated to the questioner, a reference to a published work or a direct oral answer.
5. There is a time limit of thirty minutes at the Council meeting for consideration of Members' questions with no extension of time allowed and any questions not put within this time are dealt with by way of written responses.
6. Members must confine their contributions to questions and answers and not make statements or attempt to debate.

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

29 questions have been received from Members of the Council as follows:-

8.1 Question from Councillor Helal Uddin

Can the Mayor or cabinet member update Council on ongoing work to tackle the housing crisis?

8.2 Question from Councillor Oliur Rahman

Following the changes to the Council Tax reduction scheme by the Mayor in April 2017, how is the Council supporting self-employed residents – like mini cab drivers and driving instructors etc. – in relation to their council tax rebate and reduction?

8.3 Question from Councillor John Pierce

The Mayor's 2017/18 Budget included nearly £6m additional spending for Mayoral Growth Priorities – what sort of programmes and projects has this £6m provided?

8.4 Question from Councillor Chris Chapman

Will the Mayor explain as to why housing, built on land owned by the taxpayer through the council on Blackwall Reach, is being marketed to speculative investors in Singapore, Hong Kong and the Middle East before the council and partners have even opened a UK sales office?

8.5 Question from Councillor Shiria Khatun

How did the Council respond to the Met Police consultation on police front counter closures?

8.6 Question from Councillor Rabina Khan

Will the Mayor agree to set up a Tower Hamlets' Brexit Task Group to plan for a number of Brexit scenarios in the lead up to Britain's departure from the EU?

8.7 Question from Councillor Ayas Miah

How many meetings of the Best Value Improvement Board have opposition members attended?

8.8 Question from Councillor Ohid Ahmed

How do the figures for all crime categories in Tower Hamlets since June 2016 compare to those for the previous two years?

8.9 Question from Councillor Danny Hassell

Can the Lead Member please update on improvement work undertaken in relation to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub since the Ofsted inspection earlier this year?

8.10 Question from Councillor Andrew Wood

Will the Mayor arrange a meeting between the Councils Planning, Clean and Green, Roads, Public Health and the Environmental Health teams and affected residents on the Isle of Dogs as to how to mitigate the cumulative impact of construction on their health and quality of life?

8.11 Question from Councillor Marc Francis

Will the Lead Member update me on the outcome of the survey of Bow residents about the current parking restrictions that took place over the summer?

8.12 Question from Councillor Abdul Asad

With the changes introduced under the new Council Tax Reduction Scheme does the Mayor believe that it has not affected our most vulnerable members in the community?

8.13 Question from Councillor Khales Uddin Ahmed

Does the Mayor feel his human rights have been impeded by responding to questions at Full Council meetings?

8.14 Question from Councillor Maium Miah

Can the Council provide the record of the number of missed bin collections (household waste, recycling and associated log of complaints) for each electoral ward since 2010 until now?

8.15 Question from Councillor Candida Ronald

The 20mph speed limit on Prestons Road in my ward of Blackwall & Cubitt Town is regularly ignored by drivers and there have been a spate of accidents at the traffic bollard outside Horizons Tower. What measures will the Mayor take to improve road safety in this area?

8.16 Question from Councillor Peter Golds

It has been council policy for the past seventeen years, under both the Labour and Tower Hamlets First administrations, for the provision of a second South Quay Bridge. In view of the population explosion on the Isle of Dogs, will the Mayor outline when the bridge will be delivered? By Contrast the Mayor of London has started a full public consultation on the new Rotherhithe to Canary Wharf bridge one year after announcing he would build it by the year 2020.

8.17 Question from Councillor Dave Chesterton

When does the Mayor anticipate being able to announce the creation of a new riverside public park on the site of the old Millwall Lock Entrance, opposite the Dockland Sailing Centre?

8.18 Question from Councillor Aminur Khan

How many council funded police officers did the Mayor cut following his first two budgets?

8.19 Question from Councillor Clare Harrison

How will the Mayor's £200,000 Air Quality Fund be spent?

8.20 Question from Councillor Mahbub Alam

Following the Grenfell tragedy, will the Mayor commit to publishing all Fire Risk Assessments immediately?

8.21 Question from Councillor Rachael Saunders:

What plan for Old Flo did the Mayor inherit when he was elected?

8.22 Question from Councillor Craig Aston

Will the Mayor indicate what discussions he held with his counterpart in Hackney with regard to sharing the costs of the firework display which was much appreciated by residents of both Tower Hamlets and Hackney but paid for by Tower Hamlets?

8.23 Question from Councillor Shah Alam

Does the Mayor agree that this budget overlooks the needs of the disabled children who use council funded nurseries and abandons the low income families these nurseries currently serve?

8.24 Question from Councillor Suluk Ahmed:

Will the Mayor provide the number of housing units (affordable, private and council) 'approved' since June 2015 until now with their completion schedules?

8.25 Question from Councillor Julia Dockerill

The building of a new secondary school was part of the deal when the London Dock planning application was approved, and the development is now completed in parts. However, there has been very little information about the building and running of the school ever since, beyond two last-minute 'consultation' meetings, the most recent of which was held outside of the ward. Given that the council is meant to hold an open and competitive tendering process for any new provider, will the Mayor update the council on what his administration intends to do?

8.26 Question from Councillor Shafi Ahmed

Does the Mayor think that there has been an increase in knife crime in Tower Hamlets?

8.27 Question from Councillor Harun Miah

Will the Mayor provide details of how many Council staff have been made redundant or left the council since June 2015 including the number who fall under the protected categories of the Public Sector Equality Duty and their final impact assessments?

8.28 Question from Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury

Will the Mayor provide the number of recorded ASB cases (incidents and complaints) in each electoral ward from June 2015 until now?

8.29 Question from Councillor Muhammad Ansar Mustaqim:

Will the Mayor set out the list of youth centres which are no longer in use but which were operational (full or part time) in February 2015?