


Non-Executive Report of the: Council Wednesday 18 November 2020	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance	Classification: Unrestricted
Questions submitted by Members of the Council	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of 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 18 November 2020.
2. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.4, 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 10.7 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

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

11.1 Question from Councillor Rajib Ahmed

With the disproportionate impact of Covid on Black and Asian communities how is the Council supporting these communities to stay safe?

11.2 Question from Councillor Peter Golds

In light of the proposed closure of Cubitt Town library, a number of residents are proposing a joint venture with the council for the premises to be used for library, communal and educational purposes to be organised by volunteers with assistance from the council. Will the Mayor meet with residents to discuss this proposal?

11.3 Question from Councillor Kyrsten Perry

Can the cabinet member provide an update on the Barkantine Liveable Streets scheme?

11.4 Question from Councillor Andrew Wood

How can the Council help to ensure that Working from Home does not become a direct threat to the economy of Tower Hamlets, what can we do to encourage workers to return to their offices in 2021?

11.5 Question from Councillor Amina Ali

How is the Council tackling loneliness?

11.6 Question from Councillor Bex White

Can the Lead Member please provide an update on the work of the Social Work Academy and progress in ensuring a stable workforce in Children's Social Care?

11.7 Question from Councillor Dipa Das

Will the Cabinet Member set out how the Tower Hamlets Free School Meal scheme is different to the national scheme and what we do to tackle holiday hunger?

11.8 Question from Councillor Marc Francis

Will the Lead Member for Public Realm Services update me on when he expects the barriers in Roman Road market erected to facilitate social distancing at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic to be removed so that market traders can return to their traditional pitches?

11.9 Question from Councillor Victoria Obaze

What has the Council done to prepare for health and wellbeing this winter?

11.10 Question from Councillor Shad Chowdhury

How has the council supported small businesses during the pandemic?

11.11 Question from Councillor Kahar Chowdhury

Can the lead member provide an update on the future of Hackney Road Hostel and the support plans in place for current and future residents?

11.12 Question from Councillor Val Whitehead

Can the Lead Member please update on the work of the council in supporting children with autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) and ensuring services meet their needs?

11.13 Question from Councillor Abdal Ullah

Can the Mayor confirm that Wapping residents with blue badge will have exception from Busgate & clarify when this will start.

11.14 Question from Councillor Rabina Khan

Could the Mayor confirm whether he is planning to close the well-used local swimming facility St George's Pools?