


Non-Executive Report of the: Council 20 January 2021	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Janet Fasan, Divisional Director, Legal Services and Monitoring Officer	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 20 January 2021.
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

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

11.1 Question from Councillor Dipa Das

In light of the school closures, can the cabinet member provide an update on how the council is supporting home learning and access to digital technology?

11.2 Question from Councillor Peter Golds

For years residents of Napier Avenue and Blasker Walk in Island Gardens Ward have provided extensive and detailed evidence of drug dealing and ASB taking place on rarely used resident's parking bays on Blasker Walk. They have repeatedly asking for the bays to be removed and the pavement extended. Despite numerous meetings, site visits, letters, requests and questions, the situation continues.

Will this simple action be undertaken to improve the quality of life for these residents?

11.3 Question from Councillor Victoria Obaze

What actions have the Covid Ambassadors undertaken to maintain compliance with Covid restrictions?

11.4 Question from Councillor Andrew Wood

How does the Council intend to respond to the findings of the Isle of Dogs and South Poplar Integrated Water Management Plan which said "The scale of growth planned for the Isle of Dogs & South Poplar to 2041 poses a significant challenge for the delivery of water services infrastructure in the area. Much of the existing infrastructure is close to, or already at capacity; and flood risk and water quality are key concerns in many parts of the area."?

11.5 Question from Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan

Could the Lead member outline whether the Council intend to offer any additional financial compensation to those small businesses that have had a loss of turnover caused as a result of construction associated with the Liveable Streets Programme?

11.6 Question from Councillor Kahar Chowdhury

How are the Covid Champions supporting the community through the pandemic?

11.7 Question from Councillor Bex White

I've had excellent feedback from residents about the improvements to Bartlett Park, and it's certainly well-used. Can the Cabinet Member for Environment please update us on progress on adding in additional Zebra Crossings on Upper North Street to make it safer for children using the park?

11.8 Question from Councillor Abdal Ullah

With the 50th Anniversary of Bangladesh as an Independent nation, and as we have a large British Bangladeshi community in Tower Hamlets, will the Council be planning to celebrate and recognise the significant contributions of the local Bangladeshi communities in the East End?

11.9 Question from Councillor Kyrsten Perry

When will the double yellow lines be painted opposite Arnhem Wharf School?

11.10 Question from Councillor Marc Francis

Will the Lead Member for Finance & Resources set out how many self-employed Council Tax Support claimants have benefitted from the suspension of the use of the Minimum Income Floor so far in 2020/21, and what is the current estimated cost of this concession for the whole financial year?

11.11 Question from Councillor Val Whitehead

How have we supported foster carers during the pandemic?

11.12 Question from Councillor John Pierce

Can the Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Community Safety provide an update on any proposals for the Council's Budget 21/22 that will help tackle crime and ASB in Bethnal Green?

11.13 Question from Councillor James King

How has the council responded to the proposed academisation of Cyril Jackson Primary School in Limehouse?

11.14 Question from Councillor Kevin Brady

Please can the lead member provide an update on the remainder of the construction plans for the Bethnal Green Liveable Streets project?

11.15 Question from Councillor Puru Miah

What is the Council's view as the planning authority on the recent application by the Trumans Brewery?

11.16 Question from Councillor Rabina Khan

The Mayor and the Lead Member for Adult Social Care Cllr Blake repeatedly tell residents that carers, the vulnerable and older people need support - why are they then consulting on closing the three-Day Care Centres for vulnerable adults in the borough instead of ring fencing these services and looking at savings elsewhere?"

11.17 Question from Councillor Harun Miah

Recently there has been an increase in anti-social behaviour and vehicle vandalism in and around the carpark in Bernardo Gardens, Shadwell. Can the Mayor look into the option of installing CCTV in the hotspot, in order to detect and deter crimes, as a matter of urgency?