

Non-Executive Report of the: Council 21 September 2016	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Graham White, Interim Service Head, Legal Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Questions Submitted by the Public	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Committee Services Manager, Democratic Services.
Wards affected	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 21 September 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

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

6.1 Question from Alan Haughton

Following Mayor Johns Biggs public support of a Heathrow Third Runway, can the Mayor confirm if this is a personal view or the view of Tower Hamlets Council? Can the Mayor also confirm that if a Heathrow Third Runway is built, will Tower Hamlets be overflowed more or overflowed less with the additional runway, than it is currently?

6.2 Question from Asik Rahman

I was very impressed with the Mela this year. How many people attended the event – and what other feedback has the Mayor had?

6.3 Question from Kevin Brady

When she became Prime Minister Theresa May said she would tackle “burning injustice” and inequality. Has the Mayor, as leader of one of the most deprived and unequal boroughs in the country, had any word from the Government to suggest they will stop the cuts to our council budgets?

6.4 Question from Adam Allnut

How many families in Tower Hamlets have been placed in temporary accommodation for over six weeks in each of the last five years?

6.5 Question from Charlotte Norton

Can the Mayor tell me whether or not the residents’ data has been recovered after it was illegally acquired from Tower Hamlets Homes and used in the previous mayoral election by the Tower Hamlets First candidates?

6.6 Question from Pete Dickenson

In the light of the Labour Party’s new policy, under its leader Jeremy Corbyn, to prioritise the fight against austerity, will the Mayor and Council reconsider their policy of making massive cuts that hit the most vulnerable members of our community and reverse them? Will you also reverse the recent big rise in allowances for the Mayor, Cabinet members and the Leader of the Tory group, totalling £39,848, and use the money saved to reinstate the incontinence laundry service, which costs only £40,000 p.a.? The cuts already made have been extremely damaging, for example the closure of 18 out of 26 youth centres, Queen Mary Nursery (after promising to keep it open), NAFAS support and the £200K cut to CAMHS.

6.7 Question from Lillian Collins

Why did the current Mayor John Biggs fail to acknowledge the hard work of residents who campaigned hard for the Poplar Baths project, as well as the former Mayor Lutfur Rahman and his Deputy Mayor at the Poplar Baths launch event as without their effort it wouldn't have happened?

6.8 Question from Kyrsten Perry

As a local resident, I saw how the previous mayor's charges for bulk waste collection encouraged more people to fly-tip. How many people have benefited from the introduction of free bulk waste collection since it was introduced last year?