

COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

(ORDINARY MEETING)

17 JULY 2019

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

1. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR IAN WINGFIELD

Two weeks ago I joined with residents at a service to remember those who tragically died in the Lakanal fire. Ten years after the fire, can the Leader tell me what the council has done to improve fire safety and ensure that our residents are safe?

RESPONSE

The Lakanal House fire was a tragedy that we will not allow to be forgotten. It is quite right that all members continue to remember the six residents who lost their lives, the devastating impact this has on their families and all those affected. Our thoughts remain with the community who in different ways continue to be deeply impacted by the terrible consequences of that fire.

It is also right that Southwark Council and others continue to accept responsibility for the situation that allowed such a fire to occur, and that it acted as a watershed moment resulting in decisive action and investment to ensure all our residents are safe.

Southwark has spent £124m on fire safety measures across its entire housing stock to keep our residents safe. We have:

- Built our own highly trained and professional fire safety team, who undertake all type 1 fire risk assessments (FRAs) across the housing portfolio, and support all other areas of housing such as major works, new build, repairs and housing management
- Carried out annual FRAs in all our blocks of 7 storeys and over, as well as sheltered housing and hostels
- Ensure all housing stock has a current FRA
- Begun a programme of the most intrusive type 4 FRAs that investigate and analyse the very fabric of our buildings
- Installed sprinklers in all our sheltered housing and hostels
- Installed state of the art smoke/heat detection in all blocks of 10 storeys and above, and complex low-rise blocks. We will install these in our other housing blocks as part of the major works programme
- Worked towards the recognised PAS 7 fire safety accreditation, overseen by the UK's National Standards Body
- Worked with residents to explain the need to keep communal areas clear, to make it easier for firefighters to access buildings in the event of a fire.
- Reviewed, and continued to review, the external façade of all our blocks over 18m to ensure they meet today's building regulations in relation to fire spread. This includes any window panels and timber cladding.

2. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES

Can the leader of the council detail what representations and support Southwark Council (both cabinet members and officers) have given to XXL club, one of the last LGBT venues left in Southwark, over the last two years, and more specifically what support they are providing now since XXL received a three month eviction notice on Monday 24 June 2019 from the developers?

RESPONSE

The council is committed to provide full assistance to XXL to either remain in their current location or find alternative premises.

The loss of LGBTQ+ venues is a pan-London issue and one which we take very seriously. To this end meetings have been hosted by Councillor Johnson Situ with XXL, the Mayor's Night Czar, Arch Co and Native Land.

Further meetings are planned with Arch Co and XXL, as well as Native Land, in order to see if a solution can be found.

3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR LEANNE WERNER

Can the leader provide an update on the outcome of the first round of the Positive Futures Fund?

RESPONSE

Our Positive Futures Fund will offer inspiring opportunities for young people in Southwark which will be available over the school summer holidays this year and in the following months.

The fund, established in December 2018, is centred on young people and a key requirement of the funding criteria is that all schemes must be co-produced with young people.

Not only are the projects intended to support young people, but young people were also central to the decision making process to determine which schemes were ultimately successful in receiving funding.

Out of 72 prospective applications, 12 schemes were successful which cover a wide range of activities for young people; from internships and work experience placements to sports activities, media, arts and business skills. This round of funding totalled £150,000, with a further £350,000 to be allocated in phase 2.

The successful applicants from the first round:

- **Penificent** is a youth designed comic series on mental health and knife crime.
- **2 to 3 Degrees** will run a range of mentoring and work experience opportunities.
- **SLM Community Leisure** will be providing pool lifeguarding courses and qualifications to young women.
- **InSpire at St Peter's** has a comprehensive free school holiday programme exclusively for older young people - activities include football coaching/

tournaments, youth club (computers, films, pool, music); film night, ice-skating, adventure residential.

- **Business Launch Pad** will host a wellbeing and business skills hub in Bermondsey for entrepreneurs.
- **Motivez**, co-founded by Southwark Scholar George X, will visit schools and offer mentoring and skills workshops.
- **The X Collective** will use creative outlets such as film, music and photography to help young people to improve mental health and employability.
- **Skills Development Training** will set up a community youth group that focuses on music production and performance.
- **Waterloo Sports and Football Club** will be offering a range of sports activities from basketball to tennis, dodgeball to archery.
- **Roadworks Media** are offering ex-young offenders the opportunity to try their hand at film production as well as acting.
- **Restorative Justice for All** is working alongside the Youth Scrutiny Panel to run projects with the aim of diverting children and young people away from gangs and crime. They plan to offer internships, volunteering opportunities as well as training for youth workers.
- **Theatre Peckham** offers an Apprentice-style programme in which two teams of 30 young people aged 13-19 will put on an event at Theatre Peckham.

The schemes will be up and running in time for the summer school holidays.

Southwark Council will also be working with a further applicant to further develop their proposal and to identify funding.

This £500,000 investment is additional to the council's existing investment in youth services, grants to voluntary sector youth providers and the Youth Fund. The Positive Futures Fund complements these existing programmes.

Applications are now open for the second phase of the Positive Futures Fund. £350,000 is available for youth focused schemes to be delivered over 30 months. Schemes can bid for up to £50,000 to fund innovative programmes that benefit young people.

Expressions of interest for the second round of funding must be received before Wednesday 7 August 2019.

4. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI

Was it the crushing defeat at the European elections which prompted Southwark Labour party to finally back a People's Vote, three years too late?

RESPONSE

Unlike the Liberal Democrats who campaigned for a referendum on our membership of the European Union, I have never believed that a referendum was in the best interests of this country. But, if you do have a referendum you have to take steps to deliver the result.

The government has spent three years trying to find a deal that delivers the referendum result. They have failed and so we are now facing a no-deal which would be a disaster for Southwark and a disaster for the UK.

Since the start of the process, the public has lost all confidence in the political process, in our government to deliver and in the referendum result. A new political mandate is needed to move the country and the process forward which is why Labour in Southwark backs a people's vote.

When this was last debated at council assembly in November 2018 the Liberal Democrats voted against a people's vote while Labour voted for "all options remaining on the table in the event that a general election is not called immediately, including formally adding its voice to those calling for a public 'people's vote' on the final Brexit deal."

I suspect the reason the Liberal Democrats voted against the motion was not opposition to a people's vote, but fear of a general election and the inevitable crushing defeat they would face.

The vast majority of Labour councillors, members and supporters in Southwark voted to remain and continue to believe passionately that we should remain. That is why in any people's vote we will campaign to remain.

5. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR TOM FLYNN

With local Camberwell resident Boris Johnson taking on Jeremy Hunt for number 10, who does the leader think would be best for Southwark?

RESPONSE

I have seen what a Conservative government, whether propped up by their friends the Liberal Democrats or their friends in the Democratic Unionist Party, does to hard working local people in Southwark. I have also seen by contrast what a Labour government can do.

Under the last Labour government people in Southwark and in communities across the country had a fairer future – the national minimum wage, doubling the number of apprenticeships, tripling spending on the NHS, new money for schools, colleges and universities, Sure Start, pensioners lifted out of poverty, action taken on climate change and Britain playing a leading role in Europe and the world.

Labour decreased homelessness by 73%, heart disease deaths down, cancer deaths down, waiting lists down; created more police officers, the Education Maintenance Allowance, free bus passes for the over 60s, free eye tests for the over 60s, devolution to London, and education standards up.

Labour cut long term youth unemployment by 75%, doubled registered childcare places and introduced free fruit and milk in schools

There were record low A&E waiting times, higher numeracy, higher literacy and better health with the public smoking ban.

Under Labour there was a fairer future for all.

Johnson or Hunt? Neither; what is best for Southwark is a Labour government and the sooner the better.

6. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR NICK JOHNSON

Given the recent cancellation of the Rotherhithe Bridge and ever increasing overcrowding at Canada Water tube station, what can the leader do to reassure members that the Canada Water Masterplan is still viable?

RESPONSE

The decision to pause the development of the Rotherhithe Bridge by Transport for London (TfL) is clearly disappointing, and we are continuing to lobby for continued work on the project. However, the Canada Water Master Plan has been developed specifically to not be dependent on the walking and cycling bridge, but rather to acknowledge its potential.

TfL have modelled future transport need which we will embed into the Master Plan. As part of this need, the council has been working with the GLA and British Land to support a £70m funding bid from the Government Housing Investment Fund to upgrade the former East London Line to 20 trains per hour. This initiative would also provide investment to upgrade Surrey Quays Station, including a new entrance on the north side of Lower Road. A government announcement on the bid is expected by the end of July.

We have also recently started our consultation on the Rotherhithe Movement Plan which includes the introducing two-way road movement and segregated cycle lanes on Lower Road, Rotherhithe cycle connections (on Redriff Road and Salter Road), as well as the introduction of parking controls across the peninsular. This consultation closes in early October and can be found at the following link:

<https://consultations.southwark.gov.uk/planning-and-regeneration/lower-road/>

The Master Plan planning application is anticipated to be considered at September's Planning Committee, and the proposed package of transport mitigation measures is part of an ongoing process to improve transport infrastructure in the borough.

7. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES MCASH

What is being done to deliver sustainable transport infrastructure in the south of the borough, in particular cycle hangars and electric charging points?

RESPONSE

Building a sustainable transport system for our residents is a crucial part of our commitment to fight climate change and improve air quality. We're proud of the work we're doing across Southwark, and the south of the borough is no exception.

In the Dulwich wards there are 35 cycle hangars already installed with a further 13 to be installed by the end of the current financial year. As part of our commitment to install 150 lamp post charging points across the borough by 2020, 89 have already been installed with 46 available in the south. We secured funding for this charging programme through the Go Ultra Low City (GULC) fund, and we are currently looking to apply for funding from Transport for London (TfL) and GULG for a further 61 charging points.

We also implemented our first School Street in the south of the borough at Bessemer Grange School. Information has shown that this scheme has worked really well in getting children, parents and teachers alike to move towards more sustainable travel options. This is why we have now implemented more School Streets across the borough (such as at Harris Primary) and we are continually looking to expand the project.

Ongoing consultation with our communities has proven to be a vital tool in improving our sustainable transport, and the Our Healthy Streets project in Dulwich exemplifies this. This project asked residents what they felt were the key obstacles to sustainable transport use and how these could be best addressed. Over the coming months we will be discussing how to tackle these obstacles with a steering group of local volunteers.

Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) are another important way to help drive sustainable transport improvements. We are looking to reallocate kerb space in the borough for better and more sustainable uses such as cycle hangars, visitor's cycle parking and places to stop and rest for less mobile members of the community. All these solutions were requested by residents as part of our recent CPZ consultations. Support is also being offered to school staff to explore solutions such as lift-sharing, which has been adopted by schools in other CPZ areas.

8. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ADELE MORRIS

Following on from our declaration of a Climate Emergency at the last council assembly, can the leader say what steps have been taken to increase the pressure on developers to meet our carbon reduction targets? Can he also tell us when the planning committee will receive the report on how the money paid into the Carbon Offset Fund, collected when developers fail to meet the targets, will be spent?

RESPONSE

On 1 July 2019 we hosted our first Climate Emergency Summit, following our commitment at council assembly in March to become carbon neutral by 2030. The summit was well attended by a broad range of stakeholders, community groups and officers, and was a crucial step towards developing our Carbon Reduction Strategy.

There were valuable suggestions on how to best achieve our carbon neutral target, and it was recognised that the carbon management of ongoing regeneration schemes and our planning regulations were crucial factors. An advisory group is in the process of being set up, and a new overarching strategy is being developed in order to achieve these challenging targets.

We have committed to strengthening planning policy in line with the climate emergency announcement in our New Southwark Plan, with residential proposals expected to achieve zero carbon and commercial proposals expected to achieve a 35% carbon reduction. An Energy Statement and Sustainability Assessment are required from developers which must show how they are minimising energy demand, supplying energy efficiently and maximising the use of low or zero carbon energy. When all of these efforts have been used to the limit, carbon offset is used to cover any shortfall.

The Carbon Offset Fund has the potential to achieve significant savings in CO₂ by retrofitting carbon saving technologies to buildings and infrastructure which is often highly inefficient in this regard.

Officers are working on proposals to bring forward CO₂ saving schemes using the Carbon Offset Fund which will be considered by the planning committee in October, and cabinet will be considering additional planning measures this autumn.

9. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LAUDER

Can the leader tell us how many visits there have been to Southwark libraries in the last year?

RESPONSE

Southwark is home to outstanding libraries that are amongst the most popular to visit in London. There were 1,989,494 visits to Southwark libraries in 2018-19. I am proud that despite government cuts, we continue to invest in our libraries and are keeping them at the heart of our communities.

In 2017-18, total loans for Southwark overall was the highest in London, along with eBooks and eAudio which are now also the highest in London.

The Southwark library service is leading the way in the delivery of modern services and recently has become the first public library service in the country to offer online film streaming for residents. Library users can now stream classic cinema, world cinema, indie film, and top documentaries with our new free film streaming service Kanopy.

The service has also recently launched the Start up in London Libraries project in partnership with the British Library. Southwark has become one of ten local hubs offering one to one business support and training sessions in libraries. Through match funding we have employed a full time business specialist to run the project, giving new local businesses invaluable advice and support to enable them to thrive.

10. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR WILLIAM HOUNGBO

Persistent disruptive behaviours are still the main reason for permanent exclusions from schools in Southwark. Can the leader agree that these educational challenges could also be solved by a public health approach and outline what proactive actions the council has taken on these issues?

RESPONSE

I am very concerned by the number of exclusions in schools. Exclusions should be an absolute last resort, but in schools up and down the country we are seeing a worrying trend to permanently exclude more children. The long term effects on excluded children can be devastating along with the wider impact on society.

Alongside the move on exclusions, we are concerned that schools are increasingly using other mechanisms such as off-rolling to remove children who they do not expect to perform well as a way of boosting their overall performance scores.

We are looking at all children including those excluded, home educated and off-rolled, and would urge the government to take urgent action on this.

Within Southwark, many of our schools are not in local authority control and so we have limited powers, however we are doing what we can to keep children in school where they belong. We are clear with our schools that permanent exclusions should always be a last resort, when all other avenues have been explored and only when keeping the child in the classroom would risk the education of other children.

The public health approach to school exclusions advocates taking a preventative approach to avoid escalation of difficulties, but also recognises services are needed to 'treat' more complex or acute issues.

This council takes a preventative approach, recognising that some children are more at risk of exclusion and need targeted, preventative interventions. Children's behaviours in schools are a response to a number of factors, within and outside the school environment.

The council, through Children's Centres and early work with parents, helps prepare children for school and the Family Early Help offer to primary schools ensures help can be accessed early.

We further take a preventative approach through working with our Education Standards, Education Access and Special Educational Needs (SEN) teams, which focus on finding solutions when cases escalate.

We work with schools, individuals, and colleagues across the council to provide training, advice, guidance and, where necessary, intervention to deal with disruptive behaviour and avoid exclusions. We provide and signpost behaviour support services such as Summerhouse, which provides time limited alternative provision and support schools, staff and children with behaviour issues. This enables children to continue their education in a mainstream setting or find suitable alternatives.

The council's Family Early Help Service works with Academies and Voluntary Aided secondary schools to offer support for children at risk of permanent exclusion. All secondary schools can gain additional support where they have identified additional risk factors within the family that are impacting on the child in school. We are actively engaging with our local Academy leaders to explore the recommendations in the recent Timpson Report, including developing alternatives to exclusion where prevention work has not been successful.

11. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR RICHARD LEEMING

What steps is the council taking to make walking and cycling accessible for all, as per our manifesto pledge?

RESPONSE

We are committed to making walking and cycling more accessible to help people to travel easily while improving health and wellbeing and tackling poor air quality. Since 2014 we have increased the proportion of trips through walking from 31% to 37% and aim to go further. The percentage of trips by bike has remained stable and we aim to increase this too.

In April 2019, the council adopted the Movement Plan. This includes a key commitment to support movement to benefit physical wellbeing including clear actions to increase walking and cycling. We know that six out of ten Southwark residents do at least two and a half hours of physical activity a week with much of this being from their regular daily activity like commuting, walking children to school and shopping.

On cycling, our current Highway Improvement Programme includes developing our Cycle Quietways, integrating the Cycle Spine to TfL's existing Quietways, and road safety education programmes which include pedestrian road safety skills and cycle training. We are also working with TfL on an expansion of Santander Cycle Hire to Rotherhithe and along the Old Kent Road.

We are also making walking and cycling accessible, fun and convenient through initiatives such as the 'Daily Mile', an easy way to get children to be more active every day by making exercise social, fun and inclusive, and social prescribed walking, which can help people get and stay active.

The council has further established a Walking Steering group, which will help develop the borough wide approach to walking initiatives and infrastructures. This complements the Cycling Steering group which has been operating for over six years.

12. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR HAMISH MCCALLUM

For each of the last five years, how many council homes have been (a) sold or demolished in Southwark; and (b) built by the council's own development and rented to families on Southwark's housing waiting list?

RESPONSE

The council has secured the development of 569 council homes in the last five years. This is through direct delivery and in partnership with developers.

During this period we have demolished, or released for demolition, 784 homes across the borough. These have been largely across two major regeneration schemes on the Elmington and the Aylesbury. Across all of these we are building more homes at social rents which will be available for people on our housing list.

Demolitions	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Elmington	-	30	114	-	-
Aylesbury	59	-	376	-	202

A total of 1,160 council homes have been sold during this period, 93% of which were bought by residents through 'right to buy'.

We are currently on track to build 2,500 council homes by 2022, which is a significant step towards our commitment to build 11,000 new homes by 2043 – the largest council house building programme in the country.

13. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR DAN WHITEHEAD

Following the extremely disappointing decision by the Mayor of London to cancel the Rotherhithe Bridge, can the leader outline what steps he is taking to improve transport on the Rotherhithe peninsula?

RESPONSE

Following the decision of the Greater London Authority's (GLA) Programmes and Investment Committee to pause the development of Rotherhithe Bridge, I have written to the Deputy Mayor for Transport with our MP and GLA member to express our disappointment with the decision, seeking assurances on other work and pressing for continued work on the project. Transport for London (TfL) is now looking at the project design and whether it can be restarted in the future. They are also exploring an enhanced ferry service for pedestrians and cyclists and this work is expected to be completed by the autumn.

Irrespective of this decision we remain committed to improving transport on the Rotherhithe peninsula, and have taken several extensive steps to help our residents get around in a safe, easy, and sustainable way. We recently started our consultation on the Rotherhithe Movement Plan which includes introducing two-way road movement and segregated cycle lanes on Lower Road, Rotherhithe cycle connections (on Redriff Road and Salter Road), as well as the introduction of parking controls across the peninsula. This consultation closes in early October and can be found at the following link:

<https://consultations.southwark.gov.uk/planning-and-regeneration/lower-road/>

We are also working with TfL on a programme to expand the Santander cycle hire scheme from London Bridge to the peninsula, and this will be part of the cycle hire action plan presented to cabinet in the autumn.

The council has also been working with the GLA and British Land to support a £70m funding bid from the Government Housing Investment Fund to upgrade the former East London Line to 20 trains per hour. This initiative would also provide investment to upgrade Surrey Quay's Station, including a new entrance on the north side of Lower Road. A government announcement on the bid is expected by the end of July.

14. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE

How many scrutiny commission meetings were held in 2018/2019, broken down by commission area?

RESPONSE

Community safety scrutiny commission: 4
Healthy communities scrutiny commission: 3
Local economy and lifelong learning scrutiny commission: 3
Housing and environment scrutiny commission: 3

Proactive scrutiny included reviews on violence against women and girls, community energy schemes, the council's implementation of its skills strategy, and health inequalities. In terms of holding cabinet members to account, all cabinet members were interviewed formally against their portfolios.

The scrutiny model for 2018/19 was designed to include 3 meetings per commission. Community safety held an additional meeting in order to finalise a complex report.

15. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN

Parents have raised concerns about diesel powered ice cream vans polluting the air around schools and parks. Does the council have any plans to work with ice cream sellers to help them switch to electric vehicles and refrigeration systems, particularly for use around schools and parks?

RESPONSE

On 27 March 2019, council assembly called on cabinet to declare a climate emergency, and do all it can to make the borough carbon neutral by 2030. Part of this ambitious and important goal is to reduce harmful air pollutants across our borough - in particular limiting vehicle idling and making the switch to electric vehicles as easy and accessible as possible for our residents.

In June, the Ice Cream Alliance launched a campaign asking local authorities to provide electrical charging points in suitable busy places so that ice cream vans could trade with their engines off. We are already ahead of the game on this, providing electrical charging points for ice cream vans in some of our parks.

In addition, the cabinet member for culture, leisure, equalities and communities is due to take a decision to agree our new outdoor events policy this month which focusses significantly on the impact of idling. The policy states that event organisers shall ensure that all stationary vehicles on site have their engines turned off, and drivers of vehicles connected with the production of the event must not sit with their engines idling. If the event provides a car park no driver should be sat with their engine idling. All of our event stewards will be briefed to enforce this once the policy is in place.

On Southwark roads, civil enforcement officers are authorised to address both illegal parking and, since January 2018, vehicle idling. Vehicles that are refrigerated for the storage of food such as mobile ice cream vans are exempt but required to move from any one location after 15 minutes and if they loiter for an extended period of time without authorisation, formal action could result as a breach of street trading legislation. If there are schools where this is a particular problem, I would encourage the school or concerned parents to contact the council's street trading team who can take action - StreetTrading@southwark.gov.uk.

16. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR JANE SALMON

At the last Council Budget, Liberal Democrats demonstrated that making better use of office space in Tooley Street would provide the council with £392,000 in savings. Given there are working spaces in the Tooley Street office which lie empty all day, can the Leader outline what steps the administration is taking to capture these efficiency savings?

RESPONSE

Identifying innovative ways to make best use of our office space has been a key element of our modernisation programme. We are successfully implementing our workplace strategy, which focussed on how we could maximise use office accommodation and diversify the way we work.

In 2018, a review of the estate was undertaken to identify how we could fully utilise office space in Tooley Street. 56 staff were relocated from Frensham Street to the Tooley Street site and in September this year 50 staff from the newly formed regional adoption agency will be based at Tooley Street. Work is further being undertaken to move 170 contact centre staff from the Queens Road 3 site to Tooley Street. As part of our smart working programme, this will improve the desk to staff ratio across the council.

A study to establish current desk usage was undertaken in May 2019 and we are now working to finalise arrangements to lease underutilised desks and generate additional revenue.

17. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR JOBS, BUSINESS AND INNOVATION FROM COUNCILLOR PETER BABUDU

What are the next steps for the Pioneers Fund following its launch on 18 June 2019?

RESPONSE

The Southwark Pioneers Fund will provide wide ranging support to both small enterprises and entrepreneurs starting up, enabling them to thrive in the borough. Support will be through grants and loans, networks, business support and access to affordable workspaces. We want to broaden the diversity of those who own, start up and grow small enterprises, enhancing inclusive growth in the borough.

We understand and are responding to local needs. We commissioned the Young Foundation to undertake a needs analysis to hear the views of local enterprises and entrepreneurs, as well as undertaking public consultation on the fund's support offer.

The Southwark Pioneers Fund Advisory Group (comprised of nearly 20 organisations with relevant skills and expertise in supporting entrepreneurs and enterprises) met over six months to develop the fund's strategy and policy.

We expect the first phase will be implemented through the grants programme, which we expect to formally launch in October 2019. Business support and loans/blended loans will be available from 2020.

Next steps include developing a more detailed delivery plan, establishing the fund's grants programme, establishing a governance framework and commissioning business support. This is in addition to loan management for 2020.

18. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR JOBS, BUSINESS AND INNOVATION FROM COUNCILLOR KATH WHITTAM

What has the cabinet member done to ensure that Rotherhithe residents have high speed broadband?

RESPONSE

In March 2018, we finalised a wayleave agreement with two internet providers (Hyperoptic and Community Fibre) to install high speed broadband on our council estates. This means connection speeds of up to 1Gbps for our residents, providing access to reliable internet quickly and efficiently. Nearly 30,000 properties in the borough are now fibre enabled, including 1,595 properties on the following estates in Rotherhithe:

- Adams Gardens
- Ainsty
- Albion
- Canada
- Haddonfield
- Hawkstone
- Howlands
- Irwell
- Osprey
- Silwood
- St Mary's
- Swan Road

It is anticipated that all our fibre installations will be completed by March 2020.

Additionally, the roll-out will provide our tenants and residents (TRA) halls with a lifetime, free connection. Connections have already been installed in Canada Estate TRA hall and Canada Water Library in Rotherhithe, and other TRA hall connections are on target to be set up before estate fibre connections are completed.

On top of this roll-out, and in collaboration with the Greater London Authority and other local authorities, we have secured £8 million funding to install fibre around London from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. We are concentrating our portion of this funding on the Rotherhithe area, widening the network to attract other providers who currently find the cost of installation too high. Transport for London will be delivering the programme on the council's behalf and are currently completing the procurement process. Completion of the project is due in March 2021.

19. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR JOBS, BUSINESS AND INNOVATION FROM COUNCILLOR CATHERINE ROSE

Can the cabinet member tell us what plans there are for creating affordable workspaces for the creative and technological industries?

RESPONSE

To protect the creative and technological industries in our borough, we are determined to deliver truly affordable workspace in Southwark. As part of this, we have already made significant progress on our commitment to deliver 500 new affordable business units within the borough.

In the New Southwark Plan we require new developments with over 500sqm of employment space to include 10% affordable workspace on site or where not possible to make an in lieu payment. There are currently over 20 development schemes in the pipeline which will be offering affordable workspace in this way, including the Rich Industrial Estate, Peckham Palms, the Mountview Theatre School, and the Ruby Triangle.

A large proportion of the industrial and creative businesses in the borough is focused around the Old Kent Road. Planning applications are already coming forward in the area that deliver 10% affordable workspace on-site, including light industrial workspaces and artists' studio workspace at discount market rents.

We are also partnering with a range of workspace providers to help start-ups access new workspace through the Pioneers Fund. These local providers (such as Sustainable Ventures and Hatch) will support cutting edge businesses and will use their expertise to promote these industries.

We have secured a share of £8 million to support the development of the South London Innovation Corridor, which brings together Southwark, Lambeth, Lewisham, and Wandsworth. This will fund workspace in Camberwell and Peckham for the creative digital industries as well as entrepreneurship and talent development programmes to support under-represented communities.

20. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR JOBS, BUSINESS AND INNOVATION FROM COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'BRIEN

How does the cabinet member think jobs and business will be impacted by the recent decisions by the Labour Mayor of London to terminate the RV1 service, reject Southwark residents' calls for a tube station at the Bricklayers Arms and break his promise to build the Rotherhithe to Canary Wharf bridge?

RESPONSE

I am very disappointed by these decisions by the Transport for London (TfL) Board. We have been standing alongside residents to campaign for the RV1 and the bridge and will continue to back residents to get the transport improvements that they need and deserve. I think it is important to recognise that these decisions have been made by the Board of TfL, who have faced significant budget cuts from central government in recent years.

TfL are making these decisions against a backdrop of relentless cuts from the government, firstly the Liberal Democrats and Conservatives in coalition and now the Conservatives alone. It is clear that neither the Conservatives nor the Liberal Democrats can be trusted to do what is best for London.

In contrast it was this Labour Council that won a commitment for a Bakerloo Line extension down the Old Kent Road which will open up the opportunity of thousands of new much needed homes in the borough.

The failure of the Liberal Democrats and Conservatives in government to properly fund Southwark or London means that some very difficult decisions have had to be made. However, we will continue to press for the improvements that our area needs.

We are determined to ensure that jobs and businesses in the borough are minimally affected by any disruption that may occur from these decisions, or any future decisions beyond our control.

Since April 2014, the council has supported over 7,700 residents into jobs and created over 2,600 apprenticeships, changing over 10,000 lives. The most significant contributor to delivering a full employment borough is Southwark Works, which has in place a network of specialist providers who provide tailored employment support to Southwark residents, particularly those with more complex barriers to work.

As part of the delivery of the council's commitment to create 2,500 apprenticeships, we continue to promote the Southwark Apprenticeship Standard to employers across the borough, using it as a tool to engage employers large and small, linking them to

advice and support to create new apprenticeships and increase the quality of apprenticeships.

Support for residents from all backgrounds to access apprenticeships is being built into the new Southwark Works offer. This service will mean the Southwark Works becomes a one-stop shop for all residents requiring support to access either jobs or apprenticeships.

We will also be supporting young people from low income backgrounds into high quality paid internships, addressing some of the inequalities that still exist with unpaid or low paid internships, and help them to get a 'foot on the ladder' with high calibre employers.

A range of business support is available to businesses in Southwark through programmes like Start-ups in London Libraries (SiLL) and the Pioneers Fund. These programmes ensure our start up businesses have access to the finance, business support and managed workspace that they need.

The Southwark Business Forum helps to align the corporate social responsibility activities of some of the major businesses based in or operating in the borough with the council's own priorities. The agenda is shaped by the businesses and discussions have focused on skills provision and careers advice. The forum has been crucial in helping to shape policy, engaging in dialogue on key issues such as Brexit, apprenticeships and skills.

21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR JOBS, BUSINESS AND INNOVATION FROM COUNCILLOR VICTOR CHAMBERLAIN

What is the cabinet member doing to protect and promote LGBTQ+ businesses in the borough?

RESPONSE

A range of business support is available to businesses of all backgrounds in Southwark. Southwark places great value in its diverse communities and businesses and through programmes like Start-ups in London Libraries (SiLL) and the Pioneers Fund we are deliberately pushing for greater social value in terms of the type and range of people who are able to set themselves up in business and who those businesses then employ.

The SiLL initiative is a three-year project to support local entrepreneurs from all walks of life to get their business ideas off the ground. Delivered through the borough's libraries, SiLL provides a comprehensive programme of fully-funded two-day workshops and events, confidential business information sessions and tailored face-to-face advice.

The Southwark Pioneers Fund will provide a suite of support (grants and loans, networks, business support and access to affordable workspace) to small enterprises and entrepreneurs in Southwark to help them start up and grow. One of the Southwark Pioneers Fund's main aims is to widen the diversity of those who own, start up and grow small enterprises in Southwark, and enhance inclusive growth across the borough.

All support available to Southwark businesses is promoted on the Southwark Council's business pages on its website.

Other programmes where we push for increased diversity with our businesses includes our employment support offer delivered through Southwark Works, and our soon to be launched internships programme, which is again about providing a channel of opportunity to those who might not otherwise have access. These will build on our programmes that have supported over 6,000 people into work and created over 2,700 apprenticeships in the last 5 years.

22. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR JOBS, BUSINESS AND INNOVATION FROM COUNCILLOR DARREN MERRILL

Many Elephant and Castle traders feel concerned about the uncertainty of their future given the upcoming judicial review. What is the cabinet member doing to support traders and secure them a long term sustainable future?

RESPONSE

The regeneration of Elephant and Castle shopping centre is a crucial part of the ongoing development of the wider Elephant and Castle area, which will create a new and vibrant town centre for Southwark. As part of this development, we are looking to ensure that our traders feel adequately supported during this time of transition.

One example of this is the traders' panel. Chaired by local councillors, the panel meets monthly to discuss trader concerns and oversee the delivery of the relocation strategy. This strategy includes a relocation fund of £634,000, additional space for traders during the construction period, and priority return to the new shopping centre for displaced traders.

10% of the retail space in the new shopping centre will be offered in the first instance to traders at affordable rates (a 40% discount for 5 years).

Extra space has been provided in the local area for independent traders from the shopping centre site at Perronet House, Castle Square, and Elephant One. These locations offer additional space on top of that available on local high streets. An application process for these units was run in early 2019 and offers have been made to shopping centre businesses.

Lendlease is also offering affordable retail space at Elephant Park and centre traders will have the first option to apply for these spaces and any further opportunities that come forward.

In addition, there's a regularly updated database of properties available for nearby locations such as Walworth Road and East Street. Traders are also free to relocate outside of these areas, and this will not affect their access to business planning support or the relocation fund.

Tree Shepherd has been offering business support to traders in the shopping centre for over 18 months and will continue to work with all affected businesses for one year after the closure of the shopping centre to ensure they receive advice and support over what will be an uncertain period. The support package includes general business planning and advice, specific planning for relocation, access to professional support, and some post relocation follow-up support.

23. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR JOBS, BUSINESS AND INNOVATION FROM COUNCILLOR RADHA BURGESS

In our manifesto, we promised that we would help 500 young people from low income backgrounds get paid internships with London's best employers. Can the cabinet member tell us when our paid internship scheme will launch?

RESPONSE

We believe that paid internships give young people invaluable real life work experience and have the ability to open doors. Access to high quality internships in prestigious business and institutions should be open to all residents, regardless of their background or personal connections.

We are proud to have committed to help 500 young people from low income backgrounds into internships paid at the London Living Wage, 100 of which will be within the council.

This will address some of the inequalities that still exist with unpaid or low paid internships; a lack of paid internships continues to be a barrier for those who are less well off. Providing paid internships will improve the social mobility for those who may not have the family or social networks to help them to get a 'foot on the ladder'.

Eligibility criteria are for individuals who have:

- been educated at state school; and,
- been eligible for free school meals at any point;
- OR been looked after by the local authority;
- OR previous generations in their family haven't attended university in the UK.

The internship programme was approved by cabinet in July 2019 and is being launched in phases via three main schemes:

- Through schools
- Graduates
- Within the council.

The first two schemes are to be commissioned over the summer 2019 and we are currently recruiting a dedicated officer to support the delivery of the council internships scheme.

24. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL REGENERATION, GREAT ESTATES AND NEW COUNCIL HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR JASON OCHERE

Can the cabinet member update us on the rooftop principles and best practice guide, and explain the rationale for it?

RESPONSE

Southwark council is looking to expand its council homes programme as part of its commitment to building 11,000 new council homes. However, with land in short supply one potential route to new council homes supply is in building new homes on top of existing blocks.

Given that rooftop development can be invasive we are currently developing a set of starting principles for rooftop development, learning key lessons from existing rooftop schemes and establishing a new best practice approach we will take to future rooftop development, both to minimise the impacts on and maximise the benefits to residents.

Some benefits of rooftop development include:

- **Less nuisance and inconvenience.** The use of off-site modular manufacturing makes it more technically feasible to minimise the on-site 'installation' time (often weeks rather than months) comparing favourably with conventional construction projects built on new foundations.
- **The quality of the buildings.** Being manufactured in controlled and 'sterile' conditions, the output of the product can exceed the standard of construction being delivered in all weather conditions.
- **More sustainable.** Building on top retains the embodied carbon and embodied energy of an existing building. Thermal efficiencies can also be enhanced, likely reducing heating costs.
- **Communal improvements.** Under the new estate improvement plan approach we are looking to capture **a wider range of improvements to existing blocks** and to the wider estate to accompany new council homes. We will seek to tie in rooftop works with other communal works that help enhance the quality of the building, making it a better place to live.
- **Protecting community space.** Another advantage with rooftop sites is they can allow retention of green spaces and parking spaces which are under pressure in the context of our housing targets.
- **What do residents get out of it?** Desperately needed larger homes for overcrowded families, new homes for existing households, additional investment in existing blocks and creating enhanced shared spaces on our estates.

Commitments we are considering include:

- We will minimise disruption for existing residents by drastically reducing works periods by carrying out most construction off-site. Any structural works will be organised to minimise the impact of noise dust and vibrations to ensure as brief an on-site 'installation' period as is possible.
- Existing residents in a block will be prioritised when the brand new rooftop homes are allocated within a block, with the vacated homes then allocated to people on our housing register.
- Additional estate improvements to the wider area will be offered as part of the estate improvement plan approach in our Great Estates programme and may include community spaces, children's play areas and landscaping as examples.
- As many upgrades to the block (e.g. roof repairs, lifts) will be incorporated into the new homes scheme as is practical and in doing so reduce additional site works visits and leaseholder bills.
- We will work closely and flexibly with residents to achieve design excellence with additional storeys complementing the existing block.
- Detailed and relevant design and structural information will be shared with all residents to maximise confidence that access amenity and the integrity of the block is fully respected, and the works are structurally sound.
- Where applicable we will provide new lift access.

Additionally, for leaseholders who we know are often concerned about service charge bills for major works, we would also offer:

- No charge for the works and benefits associated with the additional floor (e.g. a new roof and possibly a new lift for free)
- Future charges spread across a larger pool of residents
- The option to swap their flat for an equivalent new one, subject to availability.

25. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL REGENERATION, GREAT ESTATES AND NEW COUNCIL HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR DORA DIXON-FYLE

Does the cabinet member agree that Southwark Council should adopt a construction charter, and if so, what steps will he take to ensure the council signs up to one like the one suggested by Unite the Union?

RESPONSE

Yes. Southwark council at present has a number of initiatives and social value requirements of contractors building council projects, including:

- requiring contractors and their suppliers to pay all trades a minimum **London Living Wage** on our sites.
- a prohibition on blacklisting contractors requiring any contractor involved in our council homes delivery to 'own up, clean up, and pay up' for any historic victims of trade union blacklisting of construction workers that had been involved with.
- The nationally-leading **Southwark Construction Skills Centre** on Heygate Street that since its opening in 2016 has supported over 1,200 Southwark residents into training, created over 250 apprenticeships, engaged over 1,500 school children on the local building trade, etc.
- Contractors required to support a **new apprenticeship for every £1 million value** of the contract
- **Health and safety practices** following full implementation of the Construction and Design Management regulations, including a detailed induction training and inspection regime with named officers and routes to recourse covering: welfare arrangements, risks to health, safety and welfare, emergency procedures, fire plan and fire fighting arrangements, hot works procedure, signing in procedure, permit to work systems, accident reporting, controlled work areas, security arrangements, vehicle movement and control, etc.
- Requiring for the use of **Sustainable construction materials** according the BES 6001.

With a view to consolidating these social value commitments into one charter and one single point of reference for builders bidding for council projects, we have been developing our own construction charter, while also incorporating items included in the Unite the Union's proposed Construction Charter, including promoting the fuller range of employment protections and rights that come with PAYE contracts, and rooting out practices of compelled self-employment.

To this end the updated Fairer Future Procurement Strategy, adopted by cabinet on 18 June 2019 - setting out an ethical framework for all council procurement contracts with obligations covering Real Living Wage employment, apprenticeships, skills development and blacklisting prohibition – published a draft construction charter, containing stringent obligations that would contractually bind all employers in the

construction supply chain to minimum standards of fair pay, welfare, health and safety, employee rights and trade union access.

Southwark Council has over the past few months held constructive talks with Unite the Union on the possible wording of a charter that incorporates the substance of the Unite construction charter, existing commitments, and additional commitments on prompt payment terms and registration with the Considerate constructors scheme. Southwark Council and Unite the Union are committed to agreeing a robust charter that will make a material difference to all people working in the construction supply chain, particularly in the area of bogus self-employed status that deprives many workers of protection, pension contributions, holiday and sick pay, and ensuring all taxes and national insurance are paid as due.

26. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL REGENERATION, GREAT ESTATES AND NEW COUNCIL HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR ELEANOR KERSLAKE

The Great Estates programme has the potential to change the lives of many of my constituents who live on our estates. How many groups have applied since its launch in May?

RESPONSE

The Council Plan 2018 to 2022 included a commitment to launch a Great Estates Guarantee so that every estate is clean, safe and cared for and to empower residents with the tools to improve their estate. In December 2018 cabinet approved the vision for the Great Estates Programme, establishing the 'expand and enrich' approach to future of Southwark's council estates, and in March 2019 agreed the principles of the new Estate Improvement Plans to improve the look, feel and lived experience of Southwark estates. This included approving plans to run a series of pilot improvement projects across the borough. The Estate Improvement Plan pilots will trial a new way of empowering residents to drive improvements on their estates. More information is available at <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/housing/great-estates-programme>

The council launched an open Call for Ideas on 20 May 2019, and this closed on 1 July 2019, asking after both ideas for estate improvement projects and general observations on what makes and what prevents our estates from being great places to live. The council received 388 responses, from 131 different estates and 87 other locations (individual blocks, street addresses etc). The responses came from all parts of the borough, estates with and without active tenants' and residents' associations (TRAs), and brought forward ideas ranging from gardening and food growing projects, new waste management solutions, new estate painting and lighting, new signage and wayfinding, to public art, biodiversity projects, and much else. The council is currently analysing these responses, grouping these by themes, and combining this with other information, to ensure a suitable geographic and thematic mix of estates and projects are selected for the pilots. This will include factors such as age, size, location, and those with and without existing active resident associations. Priority will also be given to projects which support the council's renewed focus on tackling anti-social behaviours and gang violence.

I will make the final decision on which estates will be selected for the pilots, in consultation with the strategic director of housing and modernisation. The pilots should begin to roll out in the autumn following further engagement with residents on those estates.

In the longer term, the results of these pilots will inform any further roll out of the Estate Improvement Plans to other estates across the borough. The council will retain all the ideas gathered through the recent engagement as a starting point for any further roll out, and will continue the Great Estates Guide that showcases the best of such projects on estates throughout Southwark and beyond.

27. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL REGENERATION, GREAT ESTATES AND NEW COUNCIL HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR MARIA LINFORTH-HALL

Can the cabinet member tell us the time frame and consultation methods for the Social Regeneration Charters in each area, and can he also give us details on what process is going to be used to define each geographical area?

RESPONSE

The council is currently working on a number of social regeneration charters across the borough, prioritising areas with significant development activity. This includes Canada Water, where a charter was agreed in December 2018, and St Thomas Street, where an initial stage of social research is currently ongoing which will be shared with community stakeholders with a view to reporting to cabinet in October 2019. The Old Kent Road charter is due to report to Cabinet in September 2019.

Future charters are proposed for Walworth which incorporates the Aylesbury estate, the Elephant and Castle, and Camberwell town centre incorporating Parkhouse Street. These charters are at initial research stages with a view to reporting in 2020. Any further future geographical areas will be prioritised subject to council resources, a clear concentration of development impact, and corresponding planning frameworks.

The method for developing each charter will include a substantial research phase to collect all existing baseline information, and commission any further social research that may be identified.

The charters will also summarise the substantial combined findings of consultation exercises in a given area to date, including from the Southwark Conversation in 2017 which reached over 3,000 people.

The research will guide the development of a set of themes and initiatives which will be developed with local stakeholders to create a set of projects. The ambition is that social regeneration charters are concise, action-orientated documents which lead to set of deliverable projects which can have a lasting impact in each area.

28. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL REGENERATION, GREAT ESTATES AND NEW COUNCIL HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR MARTIN SEATON

What is the cabinet member doing to campaign for land law reform?

RESPONSE

The council is committed to increasing the quantity of affordable homes to rent in the borough including providing 1,000 new council homes by 2022 and 11,000 by 2043. However, in order to achieve this we not only need to expand and accelerate delivery of the existing pipeline of new council homes, but also lobby effectively for the powers and resources that will match our long-term ambitions. To this end council assembly on 27 March 2019 passed unanimously a motion 'Reforming our broken housing

economy' including a call on cabinet to campaign to advance further our 'Affordable Land for Affordable Housing' campaign.

Specifically, we have been calling for a reform of the 1961 Land Compensation Act, to remove the requirement for land valuations and compensations to include the 'hope value' (i.e. the speculative premium gained off the back of changes in public policy and investment). This aspect of the Land Compensation Code creates a land trading system with grossly overinflated values and deadweight transactions that crowd out financial space for higher affordable housing and infrastructure contributions from development to benefit communities. This makes coherent land assembly more difficult, placing additional density pressures on development and limiting the council's ability to acquire new sites for affordable housing.

To this end, we have been systematically building an evidence base collecting real-world data showing discrepancies between existing use values and real asking prices and sales transactions on development land in Southwark, to share with government and partners to help build the case for land compensation reform. I have been writing numerous articles and speaking on the subject at housing and tenant events and conferences. We have to date had positive stories in The Sun newspaper as well as a front page and editorial in the Southwark News.

I have also been working closely with Helen Hayes MP, who has been spearheading the campaign in Parliament, including presenting a Ten Minute Rule Bill on her proposed Planning (Affordable Housing and Land Compensation) Bill.

As part of our 'Affordable Land for Affordable Housing' campaign we also hosted on the launch at Tooley St on 17 June 2019 of Shelter's new 'Grounds for Change' report (found here:

https://omghcontent.affino.com/AcuCustom/Sitename/DAM/122/Grounds_for_Change_1.pdf), a collection of essays making the case for land compensation reform from many perspectives (including our own).

See more details here:

https://england.shelter.org.uk/professional_resources/policy_and_research/policy_library/policy_library_folder/report_grounds_for_change

29. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL REGENERATION, GREAT ESTATES AND NEW COUNCIL HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL SITU

Can the cabinet member update us on what work has been done to ensure the integration of existing and new residents on sites with new housing?

RESPONSE

A key aspect of the social regeneration agenda is to ensure that new and existing residents within and between housing developments have multiple opportunities to come together and integrate.

An important part of this commitment was captured in the amendments to the New Southwark Plan submission version, which committed to achieving a tenure blind borough where new and existing housing of different tenures maintained 'equity of esteem' and where any perception of tenure segregation in the designs of new housing schemes is resisted.

In practice this concerns elevations, entrances and common access to shared amenities - particularly those used by young people - such as play areas and sports facilities.

This also includes an opportunity for estate improvement projects and plans to be supported through Social Regeneration Charters and Community Investment Plans that will define how local development monies are spent.

Further to this, the resident engagement approach for the council's New Homes projects are now pursued as part of a wider 'estate improvement plan' approach, to ensure that new and existing housing are well integrated, and that residents have an opportunity to shape improvement to shared spaces on their estates. It also requires as much alignment as is practical of programmed repairs to existing blocks with neighbouring new build development to ensure everyone sees an uplift in their living environment.

The approach to resident engagement for new build homes is also being reviewed and as part of this, new ways of working with residents are being tried, including open days for prospective tenants; welcoming launch events (as are scheduled for Sumner Rd and Odessa St council homes schemes); newsletters detailing local services (e.g. local health services, schools, local clubs etc.); and notice boards providing details of upcoming events.

As part of the Great Estate programme, we will be running a number of estate improvement pilots. As part of this work we will focus on how we better engage with communities and residents of all tenures on an estate.

30. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND ADULT CARE FROM COUNCILLOR GAVIN EDWARDS

Does the cabinet member agree that sleep-in shifts carried out by care workers on behalf of Southwark should be treated as "working time" for the purpose of calculating compliance with national minimum wage and, if so, could the cabinet member provide assurances that this is the practice being followed by all relevant providers?

RESPONSE

Sleep-in workers are currently paid a flat fee for a sleep-in shift. This is in line with current legislation and case law. Our residential care workers are doing incredibly important work, supporting some of the most vulnerable people in our borough. That is why all care workers should be paid fairly for the work that they do.

The issue of a fair rate of pay for workers on sleep-in shifts has been subject to recent court proceedings. Unison have been given leave to appeal in the Supreme Court on this matter and we expect hearings to take place later this year. The council will watch these proceedings carefully.

Next year we will be introducing a Residential Care Charter as we believe that we need to raise standards in our residential homes for residents and staff. This is a key commitment in our council plan and as with our ethical care charter for home care workers, we hope to again be at the front of driving up standards in the sector. The issue of pay for sleep-in workers will be considered as part of this charter along with any judgment from the Supreme Court.

31. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY FROM COUNCILLOR HUMAIRA ALI

Has an environmental and traffic impact assessment been performed for the CS4 works on Tooley Street? As traffic is already filtering down side-streets, thereby increasing poor air quality, what measures will the cabinet member be investing in to reduce the impact on residents along Jamaica Road and Tooley Street?

RESPONSE

Transport for London (TfL) are responsible for both Tooley Street and Jamaica Road and are taking the lead on any works that they have agreed with us. Therefore, any responsibility to carry out environmental assessments of these road works would lie with TfL.

Our approach to works of this kind is to ensure that traffic impact is minimised and that our road users are safe. We are continually monitoring the impact of the works and ensuring co-ordination between different contractors along this corridor.

To ensure the community is properly engaged, TfL's contractor Kier has appointed two dedicated full-time Public Liaison Officers who will liaise with local residents and businesses during construction. The engagement methods they propose include letter drops, liaison officer visits and drop-in sessions. Information will be provided in stages as the construction continues and resident's views will be taken on-board.

Network Management Inspectors will also be inspecting the work as it progresses to ensure it meets the required standards. Where adverse traffic impacts are identified, the council, TfL and Kier will work to address these to minimise disruption.