

QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLOR MATT HARTLEY

1. To Councillor Anthony Okereke, Leader of the Council

Following his becoming Leader of the Council in May, when can the public expect the Leader to share his plans for the future of the borough?

2. To Councillor Anthony Okereke, Leader of the Council

Does the Leader consider his new administration to be bound by the Greenwich Labour Party's 2022 manifesto?

3. To Councillor Anthony Okereke, Leader of the Council

What consideration did the Leader give to geography, in the process of forming his first Cabinet?

4. To Councillor Anthony Okereke, Leader of the Council

Firstly, which member of his Cabinet has responsibility for Anti-Poverty policy? Secondly, can he confirm which member of Cabinet is responsible for the 'Benefits and welfare rights' brief that was held by the previous Deputy Leader?

5. To Councillor Anthony Okereke, Leader of the Council

Can the Leader provide a list of meetings he has held with the Council's external partner organisations, since becoming Leader on 25th May 2022?

6. To Councillor Anthony Okereke, Leader of the Council

Can the Leader confirm reports that he has promised members of Labour Group that his new administration will set up a new "consultation and communications unit"? How many staff does he propose that this unit will have?

7. To Councillor Anthony Okereke, Leader of the Council

Can the Leader confirm reports that he has promised members of his Group that his new administration will recruit a taxpayer-funded Political Assistant for the Labour Group to "help with policy and political messaging"?

8. To Councillor Anthony Okereke, Leader of the Council

Has the Leader met with Newham Mayor Rohksana Fiaz since his election as Leader, regarding the Silvertown Tunnel? What was the outcome of any meeting held?

9. To Councillor Averil Lekau, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport

What is the new administration's policy on the Silvertown Tunnel?

10. To Councillor Averil Lekau, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport

What is the new administration's policy on Low Traffic Neighbourhoods? Secondly, can the Deputy Leader confirm the timetable for the production, consultation and implementation of the new Transport Strategy?

11. To Councillor Averil Lekau, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport

What contact has the Deputy Leader had with the Mayor of London and/or Transport for London regarding the Mayor's proposed expansion of the ULEZ charging zone to cover all of Greater London? Is the Council aware of how many vehicle owners would be effected in the borough if the ULEZ expansion goes ahead?

12. To Councillor Averil Lekau, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport

Can the Deputy Leader confirm reports that the new administration intends to introduce a "polluter pays" system for parking permits, with owners of vehicles with greater emissions charged more?

13. To Councillor Averil Lekau, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport

Can the Deputy Leader lay out the timetable for the implementation of the Towards Zero Waste Strategy adopted by Cabinet in late 2020? When will the Council's move to fortnightly black bin collections go ahead?

14. To Councillor Averil Lekau, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport

Can the Deputy Leader provide a list of meetings she has held with external stakeholders relevant to her Cabinet brief, since becoming Cabinet Member on 25 May 2022?

15. To Councillor Ivis Williams, Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Social Value

Can the Cabinet Member give an update on the implementation of the Government's Council Tax Rebate scheme? In particular:

- a) How many and what proportion of households eligible for the £150 Council Tax Rebate in Bands A to D have now received this? Can this please be broken down into Direct Debit payers, and non-Direct Debit payers.
- b) From the Discretionary element of the scheme, how many and what proportion of Council Tax Support (CTS) households eligible for the £150 Council Tax Rebate

in Bands E to H have now received this? Can this please be broken down into Direct Debit payers, and non-Direct Debit payers.

- c) From the Discretionary element of the scheme, how many and what proportion of non-CTS households eligible for the £65 Council Tax Rebate in Band E? Can this please be broken down into Direct Debit payers, and non-Direct Debit payers.
- d) In total how many and what proportion of Council Tax Support households (in all Bands) have now received their Rebate?

16. To Councillor Ivis Williams, Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Social Value

The Cabinet Member will remember from her time serving on scrutiny that I and others had urged her predecessor to use the Government's Council Tax Rebate scheme as an incentive to encourage more residents to sign up to pay Council Tax by Direct Debit.

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on whether this has been successful? What specific activity has been undertaken to encourage Direct Debit sign-up using the Rebate as an incentive? How has the proportion of households paying by Direct Debit changed so far in the 2022 calendar year, broken down by month?

17. To Councillor Ivis Williams, Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Social Value

Can the Cabinet Member update on the implementation of the Ward Budget Scheme 2022-26, which was agreed as part of the MTFs by Full Council in February 2022?

18. To Councillor Adel Khairah, Cabinet Member for Equality, Culture and Communities

Why has the 2023-2027 Voluntary Sector Commissioning Round been delayed? Can the Cabinet Member provide an update?

19. To Councillor Adel Khairah, Cabinet Member for Equality, Culture and Communities

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on Woolwich Works? What is his assessment, as the Cabinet Member, of outcomes from the project so far? In his view is Woolwich Works' commercial performance meeting the Council's expectations?

20. To Councillor Adel Khairah, Cabinet Member for Equality, Culture and Communities

In February 2020 unpopular proposals were published by the Council - as part of cost reduction 'pro-formas' in that year's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) update - to close Glyndon Adventure Play Centre, and relocate Coldharbour

Adventure Play Centre and Library into Coldharbour Leisure Centre. Before the relevant Cabinet decision was taken these proposals were downgraded into a 'Review' of play centres across the government - however with the same budget saving attached, causing concern to residents who petitioned against these proposals that these plans will resurface in the future.

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on any 'Review' that has taken place since that Cabinet decision as taken?

21. To Councillor Adel Khaireh, Cabinet Member for Equality, Culture and Communities

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the very welcome initiative to install 23 memorial benches and trees across the borough to commemorate those who lost their lives during Covid-19? Now the memorials are now in – and being so appreciated by our communities – what measures are in place to ensure their appropriate maintenance?

22. To Councillor Adel Khaireh, Cabinet Member for Equality, Culture and Communities

Can the Cabinet Member provide a list of meetings he has held with external stakeholders relevant to his Cabinet brief, since becoming Cabinet Member on 25 May 2022?

23. To Councillor Matt Morrow, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

The Labour manifesto for the 2022 local elections committed to developing a post-Covid 'Children's Recovery Plan'. Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the production of this Recovery Plan?

24. To Councillor Matt Morrow, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the Council's joining of the Adopt London South (ALS) Regional Adoption Agency in April. What are the intended outcomes of joining this agency, and how and when will success be measured?

25. To Councillor Matt Morrow, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

Can the Cabinet Member provide a list of meetings he has held with external stakeholders relevant to his Cabinet brief, since becoming Cabinet Member on 25 May 2022?

26. To Councillor Pat Slattery, Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Homelessness

What is the new administration's plan to address under-performance in the Repairs Service?

27. To Councillor Pat Slattery, Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Homelessness

It has been reported that the new administration plans to conduct a "Review of estate maintenance". What are the Objectives and Terms of Reference for this Review, which Cabinet Members and Officers will be involved?

28. To Councillor Pat Slattery, Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Homelessness

Can the Cabinet Member provide a list of meetings she has held with external stakeholders relevant to her Cabinet brief, since becoming Cabinet Member on 25 May 2022?

29. To Councillor Denise Hyland, Cabinet Member for Inclusive Economy, Business and Skills

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the Council's use of the Apprenticeships Levy? How much of the Levy has been reclaimed in each of the last three financial years?

30. To Councillor Denise Hyland, Cabinet Member for Inclusive Economy, Business and Skills

It has been reported that the new administration has plans to "reinvigorate" Greenwich Local Labour and Business (GLLaB). How does the administration intend to do this?

31. To Councillor Denise Hyland, Cabinet Member for Inclusive Economy, Business and Skills

Does the Council hold data on how many shops in the borough are currently empty? What assessment has the Cabinet Member made of new powers in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill to give councils the power to hold a 'rent auction' where a town centre shop has been empty for more than a year?

32. To Councillor Denise Hyland, Cabinet Member for Inclusive Economy, Business and Skills

Can the Cabinet Member provide a list of meetings she has held with external stakeholders relevant to her Cabinet brief, since becoming interim Cabinet Member on 25 May 2022?

33. To Councillor Ann-Marie Cousins, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Enforcement

What is the Cabinet Member doing to ensure close co-operation between the Council and the Metropolitan Police, in her role as Cabinet Member for Community Safety?

34. To Councillor Ann-Marie Cousins, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Enforcement

What contact has the Cabinet Member had with the Mayor of London and/or The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), since her appointment, regarding the reported pilot programme under development that would see police officers in Greenwich, Bexley and Lewisham boroughs employ 'alternatives' to arrest when young people under the age of 25 are found in possession of cannabis in the three boroughs?

35. To Councillor Ann-Marie Cousins, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Enforcement

Can the Cabinet Member confirm whether the Council has commenced discussions with the Metropolitan Police about a potential Police Base in Kidbrooke Village? If so, what has been the outcome of those discussions so far?

36. To Councillor Ann-Marie Cousins, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Enforcement

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on HMO Licensing in the borough? How many licenses have now been granted, and how many have been revoked?

What estimate has the Council made of the number of unlikely unlicensed HMOs in the borough? How well used is the 'Report a HMO' page on the Council's website? How many 'reports' overall (via the website and other means) has the Council received over the last year (broken down by month)?

37. To Councillor Ann-Marie Cousins, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Enforcement

Can the Cabinet Member provide a list of meetings she has held with external stakeholders relevant to her Cabinet brief, since becoming Cabinet Member on 25 May 2022?

38. To Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald, Cabinet Member for Health and Adults' Social Care

Can the Cabinet Member give an update on the Public Health team's actions so far in response to the Monkeypox outbreak?

39. To Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald, Cabinet Member for Health and Adults' Social Care

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the launch of the new NHS South East London Integrated Care Board (ICB) on 1st July? What is her assessment of the implications for the council's Health, Adult Social Care and related functions?

40. To Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald, Cabinet Member for Health and Adults' Social Care

The Labour manifesto for the 2022 local elections commits to work with NHS partners to "develop apprenticeship opportunities". Can the Cabinet Member elaborate on the Council's plans for this?

41. To Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald, Cabinet Member for Health and Adults' Social Care

Can the Cabinet Member provide a list of meetings she has held with external stakeholders relevant to her Cabinet brief, since becoming Cabinet Member on 25 May 2022?

42. To Councillor Aidan Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration

Can the Cabinet Member give an update on the forthcoming Community Infrastructure Levy? What work has been undertaken on the Review already, and what actions has he taken since his appointment in relation to the Review?

43. To Councillor Aidan Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update, with timings, on Phase 2 of the Greenwich Builds programme?

44. To Councillor Aidan Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration

Can the Cabinet Member provide a list of meetings he has held with external stakeholders relevant to his Cabinet brief, since becoming Cabinet Member on 25 May 2022?

QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLOR PAT GREENWELL

1. To Councillor Aidan Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the Avery Hill Winter Garden?

2. To Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald, Cabinet Member for Health and Adults' Social Care

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the Council's implementation of the Homes for Ukrainians scheme in Greenwich? What overall support are we offering to refugees from Ukraine who are settling in Greenwich and how does that compare to neighbouring boroughs?

3. To Councillor Ivis Williams, Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Social Value

I have been approached by a resident to ask why it is only 'In House' Foster Carers who receive the 100% discount on Council Tax that was recently introduced? The resident in question fosters using an outside agency but the children she looks after are all our children from the Royal Borough of Greenwich.

4. To Councillor Adel Khaireh, Cabinet Member for Equality, Culture and Communities

Can we please have an update on the present facilities available in the Eltham Centre? The promised new Cafe is at present being used for storage and the main customer services area is often totally unmanned leaving residents at a loss as to where to go for help.

5. To Councillor Adel Khaireh, Cabinet Member for Equality, Culture and Communities

Residents in my ward have asked why, as a Royal Borough, Greenwich Council did not decorate Eltham High Street in celebration of Her Majesty's jubilee?

6. To Councillor Ann-Marie Cousins, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Enforcement

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the promised 'Beat Stop' programme to provide facilities for local police officers. What is the full list of facilities and how will the programme operate in practice? Will she ensure that this programme includes the ability for local police officers to use the Eltham Centre?

7. To Councillor Ann-Marie Cousins, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Enforcement

As the Cabinet Member will be aware, Nitrous Oxide is a colourless gas sold in cannisters, and when in the wrong hands it is used to inhale using balloons. If inhaled directly from the cannisters too much can make you faint, lose consciousness or can cause sudden death through lack of oxygen. We all come across these cannisters littering our streets on a regular basis. What are we doing as a Council to help stamp out the use of these dangerous drugs?

8. To Councillor Matt Morrow, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

What is the present situation with the uptake of the Covid Vaccine in our schools?

9. To Councillor Matt Morrow, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

Has there been any progress on the use of the former Wide Horizons site on Bexley Road?

10. To Councillor Averil Lekau, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport

Residents are concerned about the various utility companies digging up Eltham High Street and replacing with tarmac. What happens to the expensive paving stones they dig up, and what can the Council do to influence the schedules and frequency of this activity?

QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN HILLS

1. To Councillor Anthony Okereke, Leader of the Council

Who in the Cabinet is responsible for the Armed Forces Covenant?

2. To Councillor Anthony Okereke, Leader of the Council

In July 2019 we unanimously passed an Opposition Group motion at Full Council called 'Improving support for Armed Forces member and veterans'. This asked the Council to take the following steps, in line with the Royal British Legion's recommendations at the time:

1. Complement the existing role of an elected member acting as the Council's Armed Forces Champion by formally appointing, and making partner organisations and the public aware of, 1) an overall Armed Forces Officer Champion, and 2) an Armed Forces Directorate Champion working in each directorate, with all relevant details made available on a dedicated page on the Council's website
2. Provide support to all Council staff to raise awareness of the specific support available to Armed Forces members and veterans from the Council and other agencies – including exploring the delivery of appropriate training to Council staff
3. Pledge to gather more data about the Armed Forces community in Greenwich, to improve targeted support interventions in the future
4. Take steps to raise awareness of the Service Pupil Premium in local schools to ensure that more families who are eligible for this scheme, but may not currently be accessing it, are able to benefit
5. Continue to support Remembrance activities and show the borough's appreciation for our Armed Forces members and veterans at every opportunity

What has the Council done since that motion was passed? Can we please have an update on each of the 5 steps above?

3. To Councillor Averil Lekau, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport

Can we please have an update on the roll-out of LED lighting across the borough? How many street installations are complete and how many are remaining?

4. To Councillor Averil Lekau, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport

Can we have an update on the roll out of replacement road signs across the borough? How many street signs have been replaced since the Royal Borough street signs roll out began, in each ward?

5. To Councillor Ann-Marie Cousins, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Enforcement

What is the Council doing about the problem of scrap metal dealers operating their businesses from residential properties in the borough?