

Subject: People's Question Time – Enfield

Report to: GLA Oversight Committee

Report of: Executive Director, Communities and Intelligence

Date: 3 September 2019

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report updates and consults the Committee on the proposals for the 2019 People's Question Time ("PQT") in the London Borough of Enfield.
- 1.2 There were a number of challenges in identifying a suitable venue in Enfield for PQT. However, after an extensive venue search, the Meridian Grand proved to be the most suitable location.

2. Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 **Note the proposals for People's Question Time, at the Meridian Grand, on Thursday 21 November 2019 contained in this report.**
- 2.2 **Provide any views, ideas or suggestions on further ways to improve People's Question Time as a consultative event.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The purpose of this report is to update and consult the Assembly on plans for PQT in the **London Borough of Enfield on Thursday 21 November 2019**. This will be the 39th PQT the GLA has held.
- 3.2 PQT is one of the statutory requirements under the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (as amended). It is a joint event between the Mayor and the London Assembly. PQTs are organised and funded by the Events for London team within the External Relations Unit, who work closely with the External Relations marketing and creative teams, the London Assembly External Relations team, the Assembly Secretariat and the Mayor's Office.

4. Issues for Consideration

Chair, time and date

- 4.1 The proposed chair of this PQT event will be Joanne McCartney, Assembly Member for Enfield and Haringey. The meeting will be held from **7pm – 9pm on Thursday 21 November 2019**.

PQT venue

- 4.2 The Events for London team has identified the **Meridian Grand**, Advent Way, London N18 3AF in the **London Borough of Enfield** as the preferred and only viable venue in the borough. The venue has a total capacity of up to 600 people. PQT will be the only booking on this evening. There will be a dedicated entrance to the venue for the PQT audience, and a second entry point for the Mayor and Assembly. Security measures will take this into account.
- 4.3 Access to the venue from the transport hubs may present some challenges, as it is sited within an industrial site complex, just off the north circular, however, careful consideration will be made by the events team in planning around wayfinding from transport hubs to venue.

Agenda

- 4.4 The proposed agenda for this event:
1. Transport
 2. Safety
 3. Air quality and environment
 4. Housing
 5. Growing London's economy
 6. Other issues

Public Engagement

- 4.5 The Events for London team will work with the London Borough of Enfield to target specific community groups within the area to enable the GLA to further leverage their established consultation networks.
- 4.6 Use of such local networks and a number of other marketing and promotional initiatives, using both traditional marketing techniques (such as posters, leaflets and local press) and digital marketing techniques (listed below) will ensure that PQT continues to reach out to potential new audiences, whilst continuing to ensure audiences reflect the host boroughs and London's diversity.
- 4.7 We will continue to use digital marketing to attract audiences including:
- Using social media tools, including Twitter and Facebook, to engage with Londoners to have their say prior to, during and post event including the use of a tweet wall at the event.
 - Opportunities for Londoners who are unable to attend in person to view/access the event online via Facebook live and post event having the transcript and highlight video available.
 - Enabling people to request and receive e-tickets via online registration.

Assembly Consultation

- 4.8 Assembly Member Joanne McCartney as chair of the event has been consulted and is content on the choice of date and venue.

Accessibility

- 4.9 The Meridian Grand venue is accessible via public transport. The venue is serviced by buses 34 and 444. Meridian Water station, a new train station which opened in June this year, has good links from Stratford and London Liverpool Street, and is a 10 minute walk to the venue. The Events team will consider wayfinding from transport hubs to the venue given its location within an industrial site complex.
- 4.10 As with all PQT events, there will be access facilities such as British Sign Language and palantypist translation and a hearing loop in place.
- 4.11 The Events for London team will undertake a detailed accessibility audit as part of the event planning process, to ensure that the event is accessible to all.

Security

- 4.12 The event security will be managed by City Hall’s security teams who will also work in collaboration with the local police. As in previous years, an admissions policy will be advertised during ticket sales and at the venue on the night.

Feedback

- 4.13 The Events for London team encourage people to complete feedback forms at the end of the event, with the resulting data compiled as an evaluation report. The final detailed Enfield PQT feedback report will be available to Assembly Members and the Mayor’s Office during the week commencing 9 December 2019.

Strategy Implications

- 4.14 PQT is an important part of the consultation calendar providing an excellent forum for Londoners to communicate with the organisation on the issues that are important to them. The consistency of delivering this event twice a year means that it contributes to establishing the GLA as an organisation that is listening to Londoners. As already indicated, PQT is a corporate and joint statutory responsibility for the Mayor and London Assembly.

Future Dates

4.15

Borough	Date	Assembly Member Chair
Greenwich	Mar-20	Len Duvall

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 Twice in every financial year, the Mayor and the Assembly must hold and attend a meeting that will be open to all members of the public, called “the People’s Question Time” (“PQT”). The purpose of PQT is to afford an opportunity to members of the public to put questions to the Mayor and Assembly members, and to enable them to respond. Section 48 of the GLA Act 1999 sets out various requirements for the meeting:

- The Mayor approves the form of the PQT meeting and can make formal procedures about how it is to be held, following consultation with the Assembly about them. These procedures can regulate how the public can put questions and could include provisions for suppressing or preventing disorderly conduct or other misbehaviour at the meeting, including a power of exclusion.

- Members of the public who attend or speak at PQT do so subject to, and in accordance with, those procedures.
- The Mayor decides the date of PQT meetings, following consultation with the Assembly, the date of which must not be less than one month before or one month after the State of London Debate.
- The Mayor must decide the venue for the meeting not later than one month prior to the date on which the PQT is to take place.
- The Mayor must give adequate notice of the date and place of the meetings to members of the public at least one month prior to it taking place.
- Following consultation with the Assembly the Mayor may appoint any person to preside at the PQT meeting, whether or not that person has a connection with the GLA.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 For November 2019 it is envisaged that that the costs for the event will be up to £35,000 which can be met from the existing PQT budget, which is managed by the Events for London team. This estimate is based on previous PQT venues.

List of appendices to this report:

None

<h3>Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985</h3> <p>List of Background Papers:</p> <p>None</p>
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