

MDA No.: 1891

Title: Consultation on the Proposed Alternative Venue for People's Question Time – March 2026

1. Executive Summary

1.1 At the GLA Oversight Committee meeting on 27 February 2025, the Committee resolved:

"That authority be delegated to the Chairman of the GLA Oversight Committee, following consultation with the Deputy Chair and Party Group Leads, to respond to further consultations outside this meeting regarding specific future People's Question Time dates, of venues during the period of this Mayoral and Assembly Term".

1.2 Following consultation with the Deputy Chairman and party Group Lead Members, the former Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee agreed the Committee's letter to the Head of Events for London on the proposed alternative venue for the People's Question Time in March 2026, as attached at **Appendix 1.**

2. Decision

2.1 **That the GLA Oversight Committee's letter in response to the proposed alternative venue for the People's Question Time in March 2026 be agreed.**

Assembly Member

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in the proposed decision and take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for elected Members of the Authority.

The above request has my approval.

Signature:



Printed Name: Emma Best AM, Chairman of the GLA Oversight Committee

Date: 29 July 2026

3. Decision by an Assembly Member under Delegated Authority

Background and proposed next steps:

- 3.1 Section 48 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 requires the Mayor of London and the London Assembly to hold a meeting which is open to all members of the public twice in every financial year. This meeting is referred to as People's Question Time. The form of, and procedure for, People's Question Time shall be such as the Mayor may determine after consultation with the Assembly.
- 3.2 The terms of reference for the GLA Oversight Committee requires the Committee to provide a response from the Assembly on consultations for arrangements for People's Question Time.
- 3.3 On 16 February 2026, the former Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee received a request from the Head of Events for London to respond to a proposed alternative venue for the People's Question Time in March 2026. This letter is attached as **Annex 1**.
- 3.4 The exercise of delegated authority approving the letter to the Head of Events for London on the proposed alternative venue for the People's Question Time in March 2026 will be formally noted at the GLA Oversight Committee's next appropriate meeting.

Confirmation that appropriate delegated authority exists for this decision:

Signature (Committee Services): Nikoleta Kemp

Printed Name: Nikoleta Kemp

Date: 22 July 2026

Financial Implications: NOT REQUIRED

Note: Finance comments and signature are required only where there are financial implications arising or the potential for financial implications.

Signature (Finance): Not required

Legal Implications:

The GLA Oversight Committee has the power to make the decision set out in this report.

Signature (Legal): 

Printed Name: Rebecca Arnold, Deputy Monitoring Officer

Date: 29 July 2026

Supporting Detail / List of Consultees:

- Bassam Mahfouz AM (Deputy Chair)
- Hina Bokhari OBE AM
- Caroline Russell AM

- Keith Prince AM

4. Public Access to Information

- 4.1 Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the FoIA, or the EIR and will be made available on the GLA Website, usually within one working day of approval.
- 4.2 If immediate publication risks compromising the implementation of the decision (for example, to complete a procurement process), it can be deferred until a specific date. Deferral periods should be kept to the shortest length strictly necessary.
- 4.3 **Note:** this form (Part 1) will either be published within one working day after it has been approved or on the defer date.

Part 1 - Deferral:

Is the publication of Part 1 of this approval to be deferred? NO

Part 2 – Sensitive Information:

Only the facts or advice that would be exempt from disclosure under FoIA or EIR should be included in the separate Part 2 form, together with the legal rationale for non-publication.

Is there a part 2 form? NO

Lead Officer / Author

Signature: PG

Printed Name: Paul Goodchild

Job Title: Committee Services Manager

Date: 22 July 2026

Countersigned by Executive Director:

Signature: 

Printed Name: Helen Ewen, Executive Director, Assembly Secretariat

Date: 29 July 2026

LONDON ASSEMBLY

City Hall
Kamal Chumchie
Way London
E16 1ZE

Tel: 020 7983 4000
www.london.gov.uk



Bassam Mahfouz AM
Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee

Kim Hobbs
Senior Manager, Events for London
Greater London Authority

(Sent by email)

20 February 2026

Dear Kim,

**Confidential: GLA Oversight Committee – People's Question Time – Consultation –
Proposed Alternative Venue**

Thank you for the letter dated 16 February 2026, consulting the London Assembly – through the GLA Oversight Committee – on the proposed alternative venue for the next People's Question Time (PQT). I can confirm that the Committee is raising no objections to the proposed alternative venue.

However, in future, it would be helpful if the Events for London Team could provide further information about the proposed venue for Members to consider as part of the consultation process. Members remain concerned about the potential impact of the late venue advertisement is having on PQT attendance. We would be grateful for clarification on whether this impact is being evaluated and whether any mitigating measures are under consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Bassam Mahfouz AM
Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee

GREATER **LONDON** AUTHORITY

Kim Hobbs
Senior Manager, Events for London
Email: kim.hobbs@london.gov.uk

Bassam Mahfouz AM
Chairman of the GLA Oversight Committee

16 February 2026

Dear Assembly Member Mahfouz,

Oversight Committee – People’s Question Time (PQT)

Thank you for your response on the consultation for People’s Questions Time (PQT). Unfortunately, there has since been some developments which mean we can no longer use the Broadway Theatre in Catford, Lewisham. The council are starting their pre-election period (PEP) early on Monday 23 March, and therefore, we are unable to use this venue.

We have been seeking alternative suitable venues in East London locations that are available for Tuesday 24 March – the date that has been secured in both the Mayor’s diary, and that of the Chair, Charlene White. As a reminder, PQT must take place within this financial year, before the end of March.

We have identified the **Greenwich Borough Hall, Royal Hill, London SE10 8RE** as an alternative venue for the next PQT and wish to formally consult the Assembly on this.

I would also like to address your comments regarding the feedback received from Members on the last PQT, particularly around lighting issues and sound quality especially for members on the back row. Whilst every venue is different and present specific challenges, with limited time to test in the venue for this event, we have discussed this in detail with our technical production team, so that they can focus on these specific issues. We will also do enhanced testing and soundchecks with people sat in all the Assembly seating to fully assess the impact across the panel.

With apologies for the unavoidable short notice, but as mentioned in my previous correspondence, we need to start advertising PQT one month in advance, and would therefore, welcome any comments or feedback by **12 noon on Monday, 23 February 2026**. Please could these be sent to my colleague samantha.douglas@london.gov.uk as I will be on annual leave 13-23 February.

I would also like to remind members to kindly refrain from sharing the venue details publicly, as this will be shared directly with ticketholders prior to the event.

GREATER**LONDON**AUTHORITY

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kim Hobbs', with a stylized, overlapping 'K' and 'H'.

Kim Hobbs
Senior Manager, Events for London