

COUNCIL MEETING

9th December 2019

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC FOR WRITTEN REPLY

1. From Rohan Selva-Radov to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

Does Bromley plan on becoming a 2020 “Green Town” as part of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day? If not, why?

Reply:

The Council acknowledges that there are many schemes and initiatives which it could sign up to, and whilst we will not be signing up to this specific one the Council recognises that we are already delivering on many of the actions and initiatives suggested by the Earth Day Network. For example,

- **Single-use plastics:** we are implementing schemes to support this (e.g. water bottle refills)
- **Creating a Zero Waste or Circular Economy plan:** we have committed to a zero waste to landfill by 2021/2, and we are currently developing a more robust circular economy approach via our procurement process.
- **Developing a biodiversity protection strategy and establishing green corridors for wildlife in your city:** we will be launching our new five year Biodiversity Plan in 2020.
- **Committing to plant hundreds of thousands of trees:** we are currently reviewing opportunities for planting mini-woodland areas within the borough.
- **Launching a Zero Carbon plan:** in July 2019 the Council committed to a 2029 Net Zero Carbon target for its organisational emissions.
- **Passing stricter clean water and clean air ordinances:** we will be launching a new AQAP and have signed up to LAQN.
- **Setting high building efficiency standards for development projects and building upgrades.** Our Local Plan and the Mayor’s London Plan sets out the sustainable design standards we adhere to for major new developments. Energy and carbon efficiency is reviewed as part of the Planning Application stage.

2. From Luci Nye-Jones to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing

I would like the Council to address the sale of Waitrose Burnt Ash Lane to Lidl's, in regards to the known Asbestos within the Waitrose building. Can a member of the council take responsibility for the health of the Bromley residents living all around that site on Burnt Ash Lane, Miller Close and beyond? There are a lot of families with children; nobody wants to be inhaling asbestos into their lungs. We need solid confirmation that either it is going to be removed correctly with everything sealed off, or never touched. Someone at the Council needs to ensure Lidl's knows about it, and will deal with it correctly, as a matter of urgency.

Reply:

The sale of Waitrose in Burnt Ash was a private transaction, and the Council had no involvement in this. Council officers can be asked to contact Lidl to ensure they are aware of the asbestos, in the same way that you are also at liberty to make Lidl aware if you believe they are not already.

The duty to manage asbestos when buildings are being demolished or constructed is covered by The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015. For all commercial projects, these regulations legally require clients to make suitable arrangements for managing their project, enabling those carrying it out to manage health and safety risks in a proportionate way. The HSE provide full guidance on this here: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/construction/cdm/2015/commercial-clients.htm> .

3. From Luci Nye-Jones to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing

I would also like to ask the Council to ensure the residents of Burnt Ash Lane, the houses behind Waitrose, Miller Close and Roslyn Way receive documentation as a letter or notice on lamp posts; something to detail the plans so those of us affected by the lorry disruption and building noise etc know what is going to happen when, there have already been multiple lorries along Brindley Way going into the Waitrose loading bay, raising the concerns that somebody is ensuring the asbestos is looked into properly.

Reply:

In relation to the proposed residential development, planning notices will be served and published during the consultation period. In relation to the asbestos this is a private matter for Waitrose and Lidl. If they undertake works that require public notice then notice will be given.

(See comments about asbestos removal in the answer above.)