

EXECUTIVE

25th May 2022

Questions from Members of the Public for written reply

1. From Jamie Devine to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

According to the ECS risk register, climate change has a risk rating of 8 - medium risk. It is also deemed to be 'unlikely' but have 'major' impacts, yet ranks lower than loss of parking revenue. Kindly publish the methodology used to assess the identified risks in the ECS register.

Reply:

The methodology used to assess Risks can be found in the March 2022 Risk Register covering report:

[http://cdslbb/documents/s50097176/ECS%20Risk%20Register.pdf?LO\\$=1](http://cdslbb/documents/s50097176/ECS%20Risk%20Register.pdf?LO$=1).

The last page of the report entitled 'RISK REGISTER REPORT (ES18037): RISK ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE SUMMARY' shows how all Council risks are assessed.

2. From Jamie Devine to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

Do climate change impacts like the following not warrant an urgent reassessment of the ECS register? 'Parts of eastern Antarctica have seen temperatures hover 70 degrees (40 Celsius) above normal for three days and counting'. 'In 2003, a major European heatwave across 15 European countries killed over 72,000 people, with the biggest impacts in Italy and France (20,089 and 19,490 deaths respectively).'

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/weather/2022/03/18/antarctica-heat-wave-climate-change>

"Human Cost of Disasters" (from the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction), 2003 European heatwave: see page 11 of the report, first paragraph of section 2.5.

Reply:

The ECS Risk Register is reviewed for each ECS PDS Committee meeting, and activities are scrutinised in a regular and systematic manner. The Council will continue to maintain a close watch on developing climate-related issues/impacts and amend the risk register accordingly.

3. From Sam Small to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

In answer to a question posed to the full Council on 28th Feb, the Council stated that it will work with Govt to “reduce national GHG emissions to net zero as soon as practicable”. The UK Govt has written into law a target date for reducing emissions by 78% over 1990 levels by 2035. Please confirm that the Council will be adhering to this target for its borough-wide emissions?

Reply:

The Carbon Management Team are members of several London Councils steering/working groups who are working hard to develop a collaborative pan-London approach to delivering seven climate priorities for achieving the Mayor of London’s ambitious net zero emissions target.

At a borough level, the Council continues to develop its approach to tackling emissions and is working with a wide range of borough stakeholders to deploy more and more carbon/energy reduction initiatives.

4. From Sam Small to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

Climate change is singled out as the biggest risk to UK food production in the future, according to the first UK Food Security Report. In 2020 the UK’s wheat harvest fell by 40% due to drought and heavy rainfall. What measures are the council taking locally to improve food security?

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1041623/United_Kingdom_Food_Security_Report_2021_16dec2021b.pdf

Reply:

The Carbon Management Team will be presenting a report to the ECS PDS Committee later in the year, specifically about signposting residents, businesses and community groups to various grants, services and other initiatives aimed at energy savings and reducing CO2 emissions. Raising awareness and disseminating information on important topics – such as consumption emissions and sustainable food practices - will help support borough stakeholders to make lifestyle changes.

5. From Dr Stephanie Williamson to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

In answer to a question to the Executive on 12 January 2022, the Council stated that it is part of the Renewables for London Steering Group and is developing a delivery plan which includes supporting decentralised energy systems. Please clarify what energy systems are being considered and when will this plan be available for public scrutiny?

Reply:

The Renewable Power for London Action Plan can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/our-key-themes/climate-change>

6. From Dr Stephanie Williamson to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

In the NZAP (p45) the Council says that as part of its borough-wide net zero plans it will be placing, "...emphasis on partnerships and collaboration between all stakeholders in Bromley and beyond..." What is the Council's view on setting up a Youth Climate Panel, as Faversham Council have done, to engage young people in the decision-making process?

Reply:

The Council actively engages with a wide range of stakeholders and recognises that the views and involvement of young people can play an important role in helping to shape climate change action.

7. From Brayley Small to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

In relation to greenhouse gas emissions I understand that the council is developing a tool to aid decision-making to be in line with the Social Value Act. What specific provisions are there in the Act that facilitate the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions?

Reply:

The Social Value Act requires public sector commissioners in England to consider how they could improve the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of their local area through their procurement activities. Reducing carbon emissions is critical in mitigating the worst effects of climate change. A procurement tool is being developed to help embed further environmental considerations/criteria within the tender process which includes the monitoring of carbon emissions and other greenhouse gases.

8. From Brayley Small to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety

The Govt has committed to making half of all journeys in towns and cities to be cycled or walked by 2030. What plans does the Council have in place to achieve this goal?

<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/2021/02/half-of-all-urban-journeys-must-be-cycled-or-walked-within-ten-years-confirms-u-k-government-forbes/>

Reply:

Town centre users will arrive there by many means, on foot, by bike, car or public transport and will be dependent on many factors, outside the control of the council, including the reason why a person is visiting the centre.

In Bromley and Orpington much of the town centre is already only accessible on foot.

The council has introduced has created ten pedestrian or shared crossings in the last few years and has a comprehensive cycle training programme.