

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
8th December 2022

WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Written Question to the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board received from the Sue Sullis, Community Care Protection Group:

Responsibilities of Bromley's Director of Public Health and the Local NHS to Support Deprived Communities Suffering Flooding Events and Aftermaths.

1. (a) Do Bromley's Director and local NHS managers have a 'duty of care' to provide support to vulnerable people, including elderly, sick and disabled, and families with children who are flooded out of their homes and evacuated?

Reply:

Bromley Council have an ongoing duty of care to those vulnerable people who are eligible for support at any time, but particularly at times of emergency. Staff across the Council would liaise, particularly from social care and housing, to ensure that people are appropriately supported, and their housing needs are met. It is important to note that the duty of rehousing may not fall to the council but could be through either the landlord if rented, or insurers. In these instances the Council would still offer assistance and coordination where appropriate to ensure vulnerable people can access those services.

- (b) What are the predictable results of such trauma, and what form should support take?

Reply:

There are various possible results of such trauma, such as social and housing (support has been outlined above) and also clinical/psychological. Depending on the type and severity of the trauma, relevant NHS services are offered after assessment by primary care.

2. (a) What systems exist to report, plan and coordinate support actions required to deprived communities?

Reply:

Each London Borough has a Borough Resilience Forum where local resilience partners regularly meet. Bromley Borough Resilience

Forum has a multi-agency flood plan which details agency response and co-ordination activities.

- (b) Have the organisations involved been activated to provide coordinated support in LBB since 2013?

Reply:

Yes

- (c) If so, on which dates, and in which locations?

Reply:

- 1) 10/06/19, Petts Wood and Orpington - 30 properties affected***
- 2) 20/07/21, Across Bromley Borough - 11 properties affected***
- 3) 21/11/21, St Mary Cray – 60 properties affected***

- (d) What reports have been made, describing such efforts, to which bodies, and when?

Reply:

All flooding incidents are reported to the Borough Resilience Forum and internally, also to the Environment Agency and other partner organisations affected. These reports will be made shortly after the event.