

**Written Questions to the Environment Portfolio Holders from the Public:**

1) Question from Georgina Dayanc:

(30 November 2022):

On the Council's web page 'Sustainability Reports' you have used the Govt statement on climate change, but replaced the phrase "due to human activity" to "influenced by human activity". Please confirm that the Council accepts that human activity is the dominant cause of climate change with more than 95% probability as per the IPCC 5th Assessment Report.

<https://www.bromley.gov.uk/sustainability/sustainability-reports>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/climate-change-explained>

[https://www.democracynow.org/2013/9/27/headlines/ipcc\\_scientists\\_now\\_95\\_certain\\_climate\\_change\\_caused\\_by\\_humans](https://www.democracynow.org/2013/9/27/headlines/ipcc_scientists_now_95_certain_climate_change_caused_by_humans)

Response to Question 1:

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces.

In our recent sustainability report we cited that 'climate change is influenced by human activity'. This statement refers to the fact that a large amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are caused by human activity, thus human activity is a significant factor influencing climate change. The overwhelming scientific consensus, including the study cited by the IPCC, points to there being a high probability that human activity is the dominant driver of climate change.

2) Question from Georgina Dayanc:

(7 December 2022)

I understand that the Committee re-examines their Risk Register before every meeting. Was the issue of extreme heat and the potential of wildfires specifically addressed in the latest review? What was the outcome of the deliberations?

Response to Question 2:

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces.

The Council maintains risk registers at several levels across the organisation. The risks created by the extreme heat that was experienced this summer, including the risk of fire, were raised at a service level where applicable, with our grounds maintenance and arboricultural risk registers, for example, being updated and our contractors reviewing and updating their risk assessments accordingly.

3) Question from Rebecca Farrar:

(9 January 2023)

Cllr Bennett has described himself as a motorist, cyclist and pedestrian. The Council also states road safety is their no.1 priority. How does this correlate with Bromley's consistent opposition to 20mph roads, bollards, traffic calming, LTNs, zebra crossings, or any other measure which hinders or slows motor traffic within the borough?

Response to Question 3:

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety:

Bromley is committed to road safety and invests finite resources where they are most likely to save lives – be that through targeted road safety education programmes or engineering measures at cluster sites. There is no opposition to zebra crossings (many of which have been installed in recent years) or traffic calming where a need is identified..

4) Question from Rebecca Farrar:

(9 January 2023)

Bromley has the highest levels of car ownership in London. Thicket Road, in SE20 endures over 1million vehicles passing through it per annum (3,500 per day). Traffic on this residential road has more than doubled in a decade. Speeding is habitual and cycling and walking is an unpleasant experience. Does the council intend to do anything to address car dominance in the borough?

Response to Question 4

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety:

The Council has a published plan through which it seeks to facilitate safe travel by whichever means is most suitable for our residents. Artificially preventing traffic from using one road simply displaces a problem elsewhere. Where road safety issues are identified they will be addressed on a priority basis. Speeding vehicles is a police responsibility.

5) Question from Ann Garrett--Bromley Friends of the Earth Joint Co-ordinator:

(10 January 2023)

In view of the very serious on - going climate change conditions, what plans do the council have to reduce traffic pollution and car use, and encourage the use of more measures such as car clubs?

Response to Question 5:

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces.

As set out in the Council's Transport Plan, the Council invests in measures to support sustainable transport to give residents as much choice as possible as they travel around the Borough. There have been a number of zebra crossings, refuges and cycle routes introduced in recent years. The popularity and impact of car clubs was severely hampered by Covid (people were much less willing to share cars with strangers) but the Council will continue to support their introduction where viable.

6) Question from Ian Dunn:

(11 January 2023)

When was the lake at Kelsey Park last dredged and what was the cost?

Response to Question 6:

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces.

The Council does not appear to hold records on when the lake was last dredged.

7) Question from Ian Dunn:

(11 January 2023)

Please describe the basis for the calculation of the £2million item for dredging of the lake in Kelsey Park in the Capital Programme Paper discussed at the Executive on Wed 18 January, including what lakes at Kelsey Park are included.

Response to Question 7:

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces.

The cost estimate is based on an early contractor involvement report produced by Land & Water, an environmental civil engineering firm, who undertook an initial assessment of the work required to remove silt from the Upper and Lower Lakes and from the silt trap in Kelsey Park in June 2022.

8) Question from Paul Elliot:

(11 January 2023)

Can the Portfolio Holder provide an update on progress with the installation of a perimeter fence at Hoblingwell Wood Recreation Ground as this was a commitment made when planning permission for the cycle track was approved in 2021?

## **Background**

"The Metropolitan Police Service audit identified potential issues and points for improvement at the recreation ground, such as the provision of a perimeter fence around the sports pitches and/or around the whole recreation ground to deter ongoing unauthorised motorcycle riding, harm to the public and damage to the pitches. As mentioned, the Applicant has omitted the initially proposed perimeter fencing mostly due to budgetary constraints (as the Applicant and the proposal is charity funded) and partly as it is not the object, responsibility or within the gift of this proposal to provide such a feature for the wider use and benefit of the recreation ground. Nonetheless **the Council's Parks Department advises that it intends to provide perimeter fencing to the recreation ground under another project which would address this issue.**"

<https://cds.bromley.gov.uk/documents/s50090232/2002548FULL1%2520-%2520Hoblingwell%2520Wood%2520Recreation%2520Ground%2520Leasons%2520Way%2520Orpington.pdf&ved=2ahUKEwi0mtfPw9j2AhXFiVwKHfGUAJlQFn0ECAQQAQ&usg=AOvVaw3T0HYhY620v1K9QtB8eQ6y>

### Response to Question 8:

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces.

The Council was hoping to fund a perimeter fence at Hoblingwell Recreation Ground, however when costs for this fence were refreshed in summer 2022, prices were in excess of £50k, with an upper estimate for a full metal fence near to £190k.

These costs are considered prohibitive within available budgets and therefore alternative options for increasing safety and reducing anti-social behaviour are being considered, including funding potential repairs to the floodlighting.

Security arrangements at the site are kept under review, with action being taken within the available budget. We will also continue to look at opportunities to raise the necessary funds to install a perimeter fence.

9) Question from Sue Sulis: Secretary Community Care Protection Group.

(19 January 2023)

Risk Register title : Climate Change, (ID Ref. 22) Existing Controls in Place to Mitigate Risk of Flooding.

The Register relies on 2 documents as Existing Flood Mitigation Controls (3) : - Bromley's Surface Water Management Plan, and Local Flood Risk Strategy. Updated copies, are currently unavailable on the Council's website, and written requests to officers, including the Director of Corporate Governance on 9/12/22 have not been productive.

Do these documents exist?

Response to Question 9:

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces.

Original versions of these documents do exist, and I'll ensure that you are provided with copies.

Question 10 from Richard Gibbons:

(19/01/2023)

**Re. Agenda item 11**

Given the ECS Performance Overview indicates that 82 schools currently have Travel Plans, would the Portfolio Holder kindly provide a list of those schools with details of issues that each school has included in its Travel Plan, for example the parking and road safety issues outside Warren Road Primary School -

<https://warrenroadprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/STARSTravelPlan18062019-1.pdf>

Response to Question 10

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety:

Please see the below list of schools with an approved travel plan:

Each school travel plan is the property of the individual school and can only be provided by the school itself.

1. Alexandra Infants School
2. Alexandra Junior School
3. Babington House School
4. Balgowan Primary School
5. Bickley Primary School
6. Biggin Hill Primary School
7. Bishop Justus School
8. Blenheim Primary School
9. Breaside School

10. Bromley High School
11. Bullers Wood Boys School
12. Bullers Wood School
13. Burnt Ash Primary School
14. Charles Darwin
15. Chelsfield Primary School
16. Clare House Primary School
17. Coopers Technology College
18. Crofton Infant School
19. Crofton Junior School
20. Darrick Wood Infant School
21. Darrick Wood Junior School
22. Darrick Wood School
23. Downe Primary School
24. Eden Park High
25. Elmstead Wood Primary School
26. Farnborough Primary School
27. Glebe School
28. Gray's Farm Primary School
29. Green Street Green Primary
30. Harris Academy Orpington
31. Harris Girls Academy Bromley
32. Harris Primary Academy Beckenham
33. Harris Primary Academy Beckenham Green
34. Harris Primary Academy Kent House
35. Harris Primary Academy Shortlands
36. Hawes Down Primary
37. Hayes Primary School
38. Highfield Infant School
39. Highfield Junior School

40. Holy Innocents RC Primary School
41. Keston CE Primary School
42. La Fontaine Academy
43. Langley Park Boys School
44. Langley Park Girls School
45. Langley Park Primary School
46. Leeson's Primary School
47. Mead Road Infant School
48. Midfield Primary School
49. Oak Lodge Primary School
50. Parish CE Primary School
51. Perry Hall Primary School
52. Pickhurst Junior School
53. Poverest Primary School
54. Pratts Bottom Primary School
55. Raglan Primary School
56. Ravens Wood School
57. Red Hill Primary School
58. Riverside School
59. Scotts Park Primary School
60. Southborough Primary School
61. St Christopher's School
62. St David's College
63. St George's CE Primary School
64. St James' RC Primary School
65. St John's CE Primary School
66. St Joseph's RC Primary School
67. St Mark's CE Primary School
68. St Mary Cray Primary School
69. St Mary's RC Primary School

70. St Olave's School
71. St Paul's Cray CE Primary School
72. St Peter & St Paul RC Primary School
73. St Philomena's RC Primary School
74. St Vincent's RC Primary School
75. Stewart Fleming Primary School
76. The Ravensbourne School
77. Trinity CE Primary School
78. Tubbenden Primary School
79. Unicorn Primary School
80. Valley Primary School
81. Warren Road Primary School
82. Wickham Common Primary School

Question 11 from Richard Gibbons:

19/01/2023

**Re Agenda item 12a**

I note from the Parking Services Review documents that APCOA has deployed 'wearable compact environmental pollution monitor trackers' on CEOs at a number of local authorities. Given concerns about air quality amongst Bromley borough residents would the Portfolio Holder kindly ask APCOA to deploy air quality sensors in our borough?

Response to Question 11:

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety:

Bromley considered the use of wearable air quality monitors but decided that this was not the most useful way of collecting air quality data.



