

Written questions to the Portfolio Holders from Members:

1) Question from Cllr Alison Stammers

(9 January 2023)

FixMyStreet is a very useful tool indeed. However, it is sometimes frustrating when a report is marked as fixed when it has not been finally fixed. A contractor may have been requested to attend to it and/or a temporary fix may have been affected, but in reality the problem remains. Until a matter has finally been permanently fixed, can FMS reports remain open with an “in progress” status (or similar) with appropriate updates please?

Response to Question 1:

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

FMS reports are updated and closed by the various contractors and officers. While FMS is not intended to manage longer-term works as open reports, teams are advised that short-term works for issues such as potholes etc should be linked to and closed by permanent works. Refresher training for officers is due to be delivered to remind officers of expected process

2) Question from Cllr Chloe-Jane Ross

(11 January 2023)

London was ranked the most congested city in the world earlier this month. Does the Portfolio Holder agree that Government, London Mayor and Councils need to do more to tackle congestion in our capital city, and what plans are there to improve congestion hotspots in Bromley Borough

Response to Question 2:

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

A decade ago the Council constituted a congestion working group to identify priorities for schemes to reduce congestion at pinch-points on the road network. A number of locations were improved, but for many places there was no simple remedy, as the road network was simply not designed for the number of vehicles using it. However, the Council promotes walking and cycling where this is a feasible alternative for residents, with the introduction of physical schemes and also by promoting cycling and sustainable travel to schools. When engineering schemes are introduced care is taken to limit congestion at the location in question or on nearby roads.

3) Question from Cllr Chloe-Jane Ross:

(11 January 2023)

Is Bromley Council challenging the ULEZ expansion and if so what action specifically is it taking?

Response to Question 3:

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

A Pre Action Protocol letter has been sent to the Mayor Of London and TfL seeking further information to demonstrate the lawfulness of the decision to expand the ULEZ zone.

In conjunction with other outer London boroughs we are seeking counsel's advice as to whether to seek a Judicial Review particularly in the light of the recent revelations that attempts appear to have been made to influence the outcome of the consultation and to interfere with the results..

4) Question from Cllr Sam Webber:

(11 January 2023)

Would the Portfolio Holder advise on the average time to complete genuine pothole repairs, from the time they are reported to the Council to when they are fixed by our contractors. I note the high number of potholes across the borough due to the extreme weather conditions recently

Response to Question 4:

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

As London's largest borough with over 500 miles of road and footpaths inevitably the most serious have to be prioritised. When potholes and other defects are identified which meet the Council's investigatory levels, repair works will be ordered for completion within either 2 hours, 10 days or 35 days, based on the risk.

5) Question from Cllr Sam Webber:

(11 January 2023)

Bromley Town Councillors and residents of Bishops Avenue welcome the promise of a 3-month poster campaign in that road to reduce speeding traffic.

Would the Portfolio Holder consider a permanent flashing sign urging drivers to slow down given this road serves at least 2 local schools, and would he also confirm a further sign which was removed from this road, is due to be replaced and has now been ordered?

Response to Question 5:

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

A flashing 20mph sign that illuminates at school arrival and departure times is on order to be installed in Bishops Avenue. Consideration could be given to additional signs, but I'd rather wait to assess the benefits of the new flashing sign and the road safety posters already in the pipeline..

