



Environment Portfolio Holder Update

I feel like I say this every update, but it's been a remarkably busy few months in the portfolio, as is the norm during the spring and summer months!

A very warm welcome from me to new members of the committee.

Recycling & Waste and Street Cleaning.

Bromley continues to perform very well in waste and recycling. There was a blip in service at the beginning of June. This was due to a number of factors including staff shortages, bank holidays and hotter weather, however, the service should be back to normal now. If there are issues with specific collections, please report on the Council website, or contact officers.

Our anti-littering campaign with Veolia continues to attract interest and compliments from residents. I joined the team in Penge High Street at the beginning of the month and we had a number of residents stop and ask how they could get involved; if you're contacted by residents, please direct them to our Street Friends page on our website. Veolia even offers children's litter pickers, so families can get their kids involved in the fun!

Trees & Parks

I'm pleased to report that over 1,500 trees were planted during the last tree planting season, of which 1,250 were new trees planted. As part of our contract, G&T, water our new trees with 50 litres of water each week. However, we are encouraging residents to water trees in their neighbourhood too. We have promoted 'how to water the new trees' video I did last year, so please help us by promoting to residents.

Our jubilee grants continue to be very popular with a further 11 applications submitted in April. Overall, this brings the total number of applications received to 40, of which I'm pleased to report that a total of 31 have been approved for funding thus far. As a reminder, Friends and Ward Cllrs are encouraged to seek additional funding through external grants and community fundraising if projects require more investment than £20,000. Shortlands and Park Langley Cllrs have done just that by organising a community fun run in July to help add to the pot of money for the Queensmead regeneration project. There are a number of examples of groups raising additional funding, so if you need help or inspiration from other groups, please contact me or Jane at jubileeparksfund@bromley.gov.uk for some ideas.

A huge well done to our Friends of Parks who have submitted applications so far—now the real work of delivery starts!

Fly-tipping and Enviro-Crime

The team continues to do an excellent job investigating fly tipping across Bromley. The team recently secured 4 prosecutions linked to fly tipping and have seized 3 vehicles. The team have also secured CCTV evidence linking a van registered to an address in Sevenoaks depositing waste in Bromley. Kent Police have agreed to provide support on the 28th June 2023 to seize this vehicle.

There are also a further two cases due to be heard at Bromley Magistrates Court this week. To help us tackle fly-tipping from happening in the first place, we are piloting a new campaign featuring stories of former fly tippers to encourage others not to take part in this destructive crime.