

ECS PDS: 7th September 2023

Written Question from the Public to the Chairman

1: Question from Ann Garrett from Bromley Friends of the Earth to the Chairman

Bromley Friends of the Earth are appalled to learn that the Council have used £140 k of taxpayers money on the legal challenge to ULEZ expansion when air pollution is such a serious problem leading to increased CO2 emissions. The money could have been used for positive local biodiversity projects.

What is the committee's opinion of this and will they make any recommendations for reparation for such an environmentally damaging decision?

Response to Question 1:

We need to remember that Bromley's air is already amongst the cleanest in London already, 2nd to only Havering, with air quality already improving as well, with our environmental green credentials something we are rightly proud of.

It is a great shame the Mayor of London pressed ahead with this scheme to raise taxes, leaving the Council with little option but to act. When compared with the £thousands that residents will now each need to be pay in additional taxes for years to come, the £140k was a price worth paying to protect residents, with this cost not new news but announced in February's council meeting: [Council 27 February 2023 - Minutes](#).

Furthermore, the Council minimised its costs by sharing costs with coalition councils and given the same circumstances, we would do the same again.