

## COUNCIL MEETING – 23 SEPTEMBER 2021

### QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

a **Ernestas Jegorovas to Cllr Ngongo, Executive Member for Children, Young People & Families:**

How many schools (as a percentage) in Islington have CO2 monitors installed, and how is the council supporting schools to increase ventilation in school buildings?

b **Sue Lees to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment & Transport:**

In the absence of sufficient EV charging points, is there any provision for the council to provide a gunnel in the pavement to allow householders in street properties to safely charge an electric car from their home? I've seen people putting out a cable with a plastic protector over it. Wouldn't it be safer for vulnerable pedestrians to replace this with a gunnel, possibly paid for by the householder?

c **Roderik Gonggrijp to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment & Transport:**

It has come to our attention that Islington will soon start to run consultations on its People-Friendly Streets scheme. This consultation is strongly encouraged and the intention is applauded. As you well know there are groups with strong feelings both for and against these improvements in disability access and road safety on Islington's streets; and a robust and inclusive consultation is thus most important.

Can the councillor clarify to the public what form the consultation is taking and how the council is ensuring it hears the views of all people-friendly neighbourhood residents, as well as stakeholder organisations?

**d Natasha Cox to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment & Transport:**

Islington's insect population plays an important part in feeding local bats and birds. Given recent findings on the detrimental affects of LED lighting on insect numbers, does the council have any plans to fit cheap filters on them to screen out blue light, especially in green spaces and areas that have vegetation?

**e Benali Hamdache to Cllr Ngongo, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families:**

What guidance are Islington schools giving to children about attendance, when someone in the household has Covid?

**f Devon Osborne to Cllr Ward, Executive Member for Housing & Development:**

How many people living in council housing have contacted the council in the past four years about mould or damp in their homes; and what action is the council taking to deal with damp/mouldy homes and ensure no one is exposed to damp and mould?

**g Lucy Facer to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment & Transport:**

Tree canopy cover needs to reach a critical mass of 40% to start to mitigate against climate change. Given the appetite residents have shown in supporting Islington Forest for Change, the project run by Islington Clean Air Parents, and the thousands of empty street tree pits, will Islington Council revise its current tree planting ambitions up to 40% by 2030 as part of its net zero carbon target?

**h Rebekah Kelly to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment & Transport:**

The Council has not yet made announcements regarding the first formal consultation of St. Peter's People Friendly Streets scheme. I sent a Freedom of Information request to find out more about consultation and was told we would be told in due course. There is no public awareness that this is the first chance for people to have their opinions recorded and considered on whether the scheme would be adapted or made permanent, although a local cycling group have full knowledge and sharing with those that support the scheme. It seems the council only want to hear the views of those that favour. Online surveys exclude those that are digitally enabled or require communication in different languages and are more likely to be completed by those that are politically engaged. All views should be heard when making major changes to the borough and ultimately the views of residents should be the ones that count.

How will consultation take place and who can take part? The Council should consider sending a survey to every address in the borough for a more inclusive, representative view on what the residents want and how they are affected. Therefore preventing the consultation from being railroaded by London or national campaign groups.

**i Martyn Perks to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment & Transport:**

How is Islington Council faced with a climate crisis, when the UK nation as a whole contributes 1% of carbon emissions globally?

Climate change, as we know is happening. But how is it a crisis or an emergency for us in this borough, even for Londoners? Especially when it is driving many of your policies, including the reduction of transport-related emissions, and to become carbon net neutral by 2030.