

COUNCIL MEETING – 8 JULY 2021

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

a Helena Farstad to Cllr Comer-Schwartz, Leader of the Council:

Does the Councillor believe that we are headed towards a Sixth Mass extinction, putting the future of humanity at significant risk, because of our inaction to halt biodiversity loss and stop the increase in global temperatures?

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

Toxic air is killing 25 people prematurely every day in London alone. Recent reports show air pollution is damaging male and female fertility and pollution particulates have even been found in foetuses. The largest single source of inner city toxic air (NO₂ and PM) is caused by vehicle movements. Does the councillor think it's time to for Islington to demonstrate it's commitment to its pedestrian priority policy by being the first borough to commit to being an anti-car borough, and leading the way in tackling air pollution issues?

c Ernestas Jegorovas to Cllr Ngongo, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families:

The percentage of 16 & 17 Year old residents who are NEET or 'Not Known' has gone up, what is the council doing to urgently address this?

d Benali Hamdache to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment & Transport:

Mountgrove Road is in poor repair, with incredibly uneven surfacing that makes cycling and driving difficult. What plans does the council have to repair the road?

e **Saiqa Pandor to Cllr Shaikh, Executive Member for Inclusive Economy & Jobs:**

What is the council doing to get local people back into work now that the lockdown is beginning to lift?

f **Ann Bradford to Cllr Lukes, Executive Member for Community Safety:**

Having lived in the borough for many years, recently it appears that there have been quite a few episodes of violence locally. Women need to know they can feel safe when out and about. What is the Council doing to ensure that women are not only safe in our borough, but feel safe too?

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

School Streets are of immense benefit to local communities as they protect children's lives as they make their way to and from school, encourage active travel rather than school runs by car and crucially improve air quality especially at the times most important during the day. Currently 36 of the 47 primary schools have a School Street schemes in place. However only 15 of these were consulted on prior, the remaining 21, like my local one at Tufnell Park Primary and The Bridge School were put in place as part the council's People Friendly Streets Programme with an 18-month Experimental Traffic Order. The School Streets are hugely popular with schools, parents and children.

Can the councillor assure parents that these schemes are not at risk when the 18-month period expires?

h **Jimmy Bell to Cllr Lukes, Executive Member for Community Safety:**

As we are still responding to the pandemic and the infection numbers are rapidly rising nationally I would like to ask, what is Islington Council doing to help engage all parts of our community, both when responding to Covid and also to rolling out the vaccine locally?

It is important every part of our community is contacted and encouraged to participate in order to make sure the response is the best it can be.

i **Vanessa Carson to Cllr Turan, Executive Member for Health and Social Care:**

What support are you giving to Young Minds in their campaign to fund mental health hubs in Islington?

Further information is available from:

<https://youngminds.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us/fund-the-hubs/>

j **John Ackers to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment & Transport:**

Policy 3C of Appendix One of the Islington Transport Strategy (draft) says the phasing out of resident and business parking permits for diesel and petrol vehicles by 2030 is being investigated. I very much welcome this because it would make the Council's zero carbon ambitions and intentions very clear.

Could the Council investigate phasing out new permits for the most polluting vehicles in Band M starting in 2023 and move up to Band A, the smallest vehicles, by 2030? Requests for replacement permits would also be declined but starting two years later (e.g. in 2025 for B and M). This avoids a single dramatic deadline. Exemptions could be considered for blue badge holders, key workers, and/or very low annual mileage vehicles (as declared on MOT entries). Charges for residents parking permits for EVs should be ramped up over the same time frame.