

Better Together Community Meeting

Greenwich and Blackheath

The Forum at Greenwich, 26 October 2019, 12-2pm

Panel:

Cllr David Gardner – chair

Cllr Stephen Brain

Cllr Leo Fletcher

Cllr Aiden Smith

Cllr Mariam Lolavar

Services in attendance:

Business Engagement Team

Community Safety

Greenwich Local Labour and Business

Housing

Leisure services

Library services

Metropolitan Police

Neighbourhood Growth Fund Team

NHS Greenwich CCG

Public Health

Universal Credit

Waste and Street Services

Attendees: 14

Meeting notes

Item	
1	The chair welcomed attendees to the meeting and introduced the ward councillors. Questions were then invited from the audience.
2	<p>The first question was regarding:</p> <p>Why doesn't the Brent Road, Westcome Park area get cleaned as much as neighbouring roads?</p> <p>The Council responded:</p> <p>The bins are emptied every week and the roads are swept once a week. Roads are swept on the same day of bin collections. Cleaning is done on a weekly schedule and monitored over a period of time. Residents are advised to contact the Waste and Street services department with their concerns. Information on bin collection and sweep services can be found on the Council's street cleaning page.</p> <p>The question asked:</p> <p>There are different cleaning services on different roads – for example Coleraine Road - is there a reason for this?</p> <p>The Council responded:</p> <p>Waste and Street services should be the same. The estates sweeping is done by a contracting team and the main roads are done by Cleansweep. During leaf falling season sweeping is done more regularly.</p>
3	<p>The question asked:</p> <p>Is anything going to be done about the rat-running in the West Greenwich area?</p> <p>The Council responded:</p> <p>There are two alternative options, there is an option to pick one of the appraisals for a period of six months. There is no formal consultation, but the option which has the majority of support from residents will be chosen. This should happen by the end of Jan – Feb (date tbc).</p> <p>The question asked:</p> <p>What happens if the majority of rat run offenders are not caught?</p> <p>The Council responded:</p>

	<p>There will be a consultation at the end of the trial period for the chosen option.</p>
4	<p>The question asked:</p> <p>Epping Forest District Council are putting banners up asking people to switch their engines off when cars have stopped or are waiting. Can RBG do the same?</p> <p>The Council responded:</p> <p>The Council uses various methods to control vehicle speed and reduce emissions. There will also be an impact assessment done for the whole borough.</p>
5	<p>The question asked:</p> <p>Is there a view to increase the air quality monitoring process? There are no notices for idling particularly on Foyle Road.</p> <p>The Council responded:</p> <p>There are new powers to impose for traffic idling of engines. Enforcing idling penalties is difficult due to legislation. There has been experimental blocking in Woodlands Crescent, which residents were pleased with.</p>
6	<p>The question asked:</p> <p>What is the outcome in regard to the air quality around Ikea with the increase in traffic?</p> <p>The Council responded:</p> <p>There hasn't been any apparent change due to the new Ikea store, neither has there been an increase in queues or limited parking spaces.</p>
7	<p>The question asked:</p> <p>Within Charlton Retail Park there are bus stops close to ASDA and McDonalds – but the stops are further away for Sainsbury's. Why can't new bus routes serve different areas?</p> <p>The Council responded:</p> <p>A bus stop by Sainsbury's was removed due to development which took longer than expected. The Council has looked into extending bus routes – in particular the 202 bus route, however the cost to do this is expensive.</p>

9	<p>Comment from resident: I am worried about the antisocial issues on Eastney Street – the community garden has been vandalised.</p> <p>The Council responded:</p> <p>Reduced numbers of policing mean that police are unable to patrol the whole area, as well as the police you can also speak to your neighbourhood watch co-ordinator in your area.</p> <p>Met police response:</p> <p>We are aware of incidents relating to the community garden and know that residents have suggested a form of community resolution working within the Gardens may be appropriate. We know that the young people who use the gardens are really invested in it, however the issues seem to be from those visiting the area. Concerns have been passed to Greenwich West Ward officer to follow up.</p>
10	<p>The question asked:</p> <p>During half term there is a spike in crime and people fly tipping, can anything be done about this?</p> <p>The Council responded:</p> <p>Information about how to report anti-social behaviour can be found on the Council website where you can also report fly tipping. If you witness a fly-tipping incident in progress, you can help by giving us details. Please email us at envirocrime@royalgreenwich.gov.uk</p> <p>The Community Safety Team works with the police to identify areas of concern.</p> <p>Met police response:</p> <p>The Basic Command Unit (BCU) in Greenwich Neighbourhoods has provided one sergeant and six police constables in a mini bus patrolling known Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) hotspots and responding to ASB/ Firework related calls for service. This has been referred to as AUTUMN NIGHTS and has been rolled out over the three weeks covering all festivities and half term during the evenings between 1600 and Midnight. On key evenings a second bus has been on duty.</p>
12	The question asked:

	<p>Will the children’s play area in Greenwich Park be closed or removed during Euro 2020?</p> <p>The Council responded:</p> <p>The Children’s playground will remain open and visible, the play area will also remain open, but the gate will be closed during matches. The Council will ensure that children’s needs are not lost in the Euro 2020 plans.</p>
13	<p>The question asked: Why are there no facilities for children in the area – playgrounds only cater for children between the ages of 3-5-year olds.</p> <p>The Council responded: Youth services have faced significant cuts. There is £1.1 million spent on youth services including – Charlton Athletic Trust, Ahoy Centre and Meridian playground. We are committed to doubling the budget to just over £2 million for youth services through start well Greenwich.</p>
14	<p>The question asked: Does RBG monitor how many people are employed locally?</p> <p>The Council responded: Speak to GLLAB about this they can provide in-depth information.</p>
15	<p>The Q and A session ends, the Chair thanked people for their questions and invited attendees to visit stalls.</p>