

COUNCIL MINUTES

BUDGET COUNCIL MEETING

THURSDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2023



PRESENT

Deputy Mayor – Councillor Daryl Brown

Councillors:

Jose Afonso	Sharon Holder	Patricia Quigley
Paul Alexander	Lisa Homan	Rowan Ree
Adronie Alford	Laura Janes	Ann Rosenberg
Stala Antoniadou	Andrew Jones	Helen Rowbottom
Jackie Borland	Alex Karmel	Alex Sanderson
Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler	Bora Kwon	Max Schmid
Trey Campbell-Simon	Adam Peter Lang	Asif Siddique
Florian Chevoppe-Verdier	Amanda Lloyd-Harris	Nikos Souslous
Ben Coleman	Ross Melton	Dominic Stanton
Liz Collins	Omid Miri	Sally Taylor
Stephen Cowan	Genevieve Nwaogbe	Nicole Trehy
Jacolyn Daly	Adrian Pascu-Tulbure	Frances Umeh
Andrew Dinsmore	Ashok Patel	Mercy Umeh
Wesley Harcourt	Natalia Perez	Rory Vaughan
Rebecca Harvey	Zarar Qayyum	Patrick Walsh

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Apthorp, Afzal-Khan, Richardson, and Morton

Councillors Patel, Quigley, Rosenberg, and Rowbottom joined the meeting remotely. They did not speak or vote on the decision reports.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

7.07pm – The minutes of the Council meeting held on 18 January 2023 were agreed as an accurate record.

4. MAYOR'S/CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bush Theatre “Theatre of the Year” Award and 50th Anniversary

The Deputy Mayor noted that The Bush Theatre had been named “Theatre of the Year” at the recent Stage Awards 2023 held at Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. The awards celebrated excellence in British theatre across the whole of the UK. 2023 also marked the 50th anniversary of the Bush Theatre’s opening. The Deputy Mayor said the Council was proud to support our local cultural industry and congratulated the staff for achieving this prestigious award.

Russia’s Invasion of Ukraine

The Deputy Mayor noted that the 24th of February 2023 marked the one-year anniversary of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. She said the Council supported the people of Ukraine and remembered those who had died, been injured, and displaced by this brutal war.

Speeches marking the anniversary were made by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Cowan, and the Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler.

The Council then observed a minute of silence in their memory.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (20 MINUTES)

The Deputy Mayor thanked the residents who submitted questions. Questions 1, 3, 4, 6, and 8 were addressed in the meeting. The Deputy Mayor explained that any questions not addressed in the meeting would receive written responses. All questions and responses can be found in Appendix 1.

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Revenue Budget and Council Tax Levels 2023/24

7.35pm – The report and recommendations were formally moved for adoption by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Cowan.

In accordance with Council convention, the Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Cowan, and the Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler, were given unlimited time to speak on the Budget report.

Speeches on the report were also made by Councillors Bora Kwon, Rebecca Harvey, and Rowan Ree (for the Administration) – and Councillors Adronie Alford, Amanda Lloyd-Harris, and Jose Afonso (for the Opposition).

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Cowan, then made a speech winding up the debate.

The report and recommendations were put to the vote and a roll call was undertaken, in accordance with Council convention when voting on the budget:

FOR	AGAINST	NOT VOTING
Alexander Antoniades Campbell-Simon Chevoppe-Verdier Coleman Collins Cowan Daly Harcourt Harvey Holder Homan Janes Jones Kwon Lang Melton Miri Nwaogbe Perez Qayyum Ree Sanderson Schmid Siddique Souslous Taylor Trehy Umeh (Frances) Umeh (Mercy) Vaughan Walsh	Afonso Alford Borland Brocklebank-Fowler Dinsmore Karmel Lloyd-Harris Pascu-Tulbure Stanton	Daryl Brown

FOR	32
AGAINST	9
NOT VOTING	1

The recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

9.19pm – RESOLVED:

That Full Council, for the reasons set out in the report and appendices, agreed:

1. To increase the Hammersmith & Fulham element of Council Tax by 2.99% as modelled by the government in its spending power calculations for local government

2. To apply the Adult Social Care precept levy of 2% as modelled by the government in its spending power calculations for local government.
3. To set the council's own total net expenditure budget for 2023/24 at £132.627m
4. To approve **£10.651m** of new investment on key services for residents.
5. To approve fees and charges, as set out in paragraph 10, including freezing charges in adult social care, children's services, and general fund housing.
6. To note the budget projections to 2026/27 made by the Director of Finance in consultation with the Strategic Leadership Team.
7. To note the statement of the Director of Finance, under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, regarding the adequacy of reserves and robustness of estimates (paragraph 37).
8. To approve the reserves strategy and realignment of reserves as set out in Appendix J and Appendix K.
9. To require all Directors to report on their projected financial position compared to their revenue estimates in accordance with the Corporate Revenue Monitoring Report timetable.
10. To authorise Directors to implement their service spending plans for 2023/24 in accordance with the recommendations within this report, the council's Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, relevant Schemes of Delegation and undertake any further consultation required regarding the Equalities Impact Assessment.
11. Set the council's element of Council Tax for 2023/24 for each category of dwelling, as outlined in the table below and in full in Appendix A and calculated in accordance with Sections 31A to 49B of the Localism Act 2011.

Category of Dwelling	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Ratio	6/9 £	7/9 £	8/9 £	1 £	11/9 £	13/9 £	15/9 £	18/9 £
a) H&F	581.23	678.11	774.98	871.86	1,065.59	1,259.34	1,453.10	1,743.72

12. To note, based on the Mayor of London's draft consolidated budget, the element of Council Tax to be charged by the Greater London Authority in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance

Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwellings as shown in the table below.

Category of Dwelling	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Ratio	6/9 £	7/9 £	8/9 £	1 £	11/9 £	13/9 £	15/9 £	18/9 £
b) GLA	289.43	337.66	385.90	434.14	530.62	627.09	723.57	868.28

13. That the overall Council Tax to be set at £1,306.00 per Band D property as follows:

Category of Dwelling	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Ratio	6/9 £	7/9 £	8/9 £	1 £	11/9 £	13/9 £	15/9 £	18/9 £
a) H&F	581.23	678.11	774.98	871.86	1,065.59	1,259.34	1,453.09	1,743.72
b) GLA	289.43	337.66	385.90	434.14	530.62	627.09	723.57	868.28
c) Total	870.66	1,015.77	1,160.88	1,306.00	1,596.21	1,886.43	2,176.66	2,612.00

14. To authorise the Director of Finance to collect and recover National Non-Domestic Rate and Council Tax in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended), the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the council's Scheme of Delegation.

6.2 Four Year Capital Programme 2023-27 and Capital Strategy 2023/24

9.19pm – The report and recommendations were moved for adoption by the Cabinet Member for Finance and Reform, Councillor Rowan Ree.

Speeches on the report were made by Councillors Andrew Jones, Rowan Ree, Paul Alexander (who made his maiden speech), Florian Chevoppe-Verdier, Frances Umeh, and Max Schmid (for the Administration) – and Councillors Adrian Pascu-Tulbure and Andrew Dinsmore (for the Opposition).

The report and recommendations were then put to the vote:

FOR	32
AGAINST	9
NOT VOTING	0

The recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

9.54pm – RESOLVED:

That Full Council agreed:

1. To approve the four-year General Fund Capital Programme budget at £123.6m for the period 2023/24-2026/27 (presented in Table 2 and Appendix 1).
2. To approve the continuation of rolling programmes for 2023/24 funded from the Council's mainstream resources. For financial modelling purposes, these programmes are assumed to continue at the same level until 2026/27:

	£m
Corporate Planned Maintenance	2.400
Footways and Carriageways	2.030
Column Replacement	0.346
Total	4.776

3. To delegate approval of the detailed programmes for use of the rolling programmes, in recommendation 2, to the relevant SLT Director in consultation with the Director of Finance and relevant Lead Cabinet Member.
4. To approve the four-year Housing (HRA) Capital Programme at £383.2m for the period 2023/24-2026/27 as set out in Table 5 and Appendix 1.
5. To delegate authority to the Director of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Reform to approve the potential use of up to £4.3m of capital receipts under the Government's Flexible Use of Capital Receipts provisions for funding of Invest to Save schemes in 2023/24 and 2024/25 (as identified in Appendix 4) and potential match-funding opportunities.
6. To approve the Capital Strategy 2023/24, as set out in Appendix 3.
7. To approve the annual Minimum Revenue Provision policy statement for 2023/24, as set out in Appendix 5.
8. To note the existing mainstream funded schemes previously approved, but now reprofiled to 2023/24 and future years as detailed in Table 3.

6.3 Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2023/24

9.54pm – The report and recommendations were moved for adoption by the Cabinet Member for Finance and Reform, Councillor Rowan Ree.

Speeches on the report were made by Councillor Rowan Ree and Jacolyn Daly (for the Administration) – and Councillor Adrian Pascu-Tulbure (for the Opposition).

The Guillotine fell at 10.03pm and the report and recommendations were put to the vote:

FOR	32
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	9

The recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

10.03pm – RESOLVED:

Full Council agreed that:

1. Approval is given to the future borrowing and investment strategies as outlined in this report.
2. The Director of Finance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Reform, be delegated authority to manage the Council's cash flow, borrowing and investments in 2023/24 in line with this report.
3. In relation to the Council's overall borrowing for the financial year, to approve the Prudential Indicators as set out in this report and the revised Annual Investment Strategy set out in Appendix E.

6.4 Pay Policy Statement 2023/24

10.03pm – The Guillotine had fallen so the report and recommendations were taken as moved and put to the vote:

FOR	32
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	9

The recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

10.03pm – RESOLVED:

1. That Full Council approved the pay policy statement for 2023/24 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.
2. That Full Council noted the benchmarking of the Council's median pay multiple against the average of other Inner London Boroughs contained in section 2.5 of the report.

6.5 Members Allowances Scheme Annual Review 2023/24

10.03pm – The Guillotine had fallen so the report and recommendations were taken as moved and put to the vote:

FOR	32
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	9

The recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

10.03pm – RESOLVED:

1. That the recommendations of the Independent Panel on the remuneration of Councillors in London (January 2022) be noted.
2. That the Members' Allowances Scheme 2023/24 as set out in the report and attached as Appendix 1, be approved.
3. That changes for 2023/24 to Members' Allowances are made in line with any changes to the national local government pay award, be approved.

6.6 Review of the Constitution

10.04pm – The Guillotine had fallen so the report and recommendations were taken as moved and put to the vote:

FOR	UNANIMOUS
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	0

The recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

10.04pm – RESOLVED:

1. That Full Council approved the revisions to the Constitution listed in the report.

Meeting started: 7.03 pm
Meeting ended: 10.05 pm

Mayor

Public Questions and Responses

Question 1

From: Andrew Pendleton, Resident
To: Cabinet Member for Public Realm

Question: I really welcome the new clean air neighbourhoods initiative as air pollution is a massive tax on our health and well-being, but this only deals with curbing out of borough traffic. What plans does the council have for measures to deter local traffic and encourage healthier, cheaper and more climate friendly alternatives to driving in the borough.

Response: Thank you for your comments welcoming the Clean Air Neighbourhoods programme. We will explore all possible steps to ensure that all residents benefit from the Clean Air Neighbourhood programme. Measures under consideration include: introduction of bus priority lanes, widened footpaths, cycling infrastructure, trees and greening, and integrating sustainable drainage and flood mitigation.

Clean air neighbourhoods will therefore be supported with comprehensive public realm and greening initiatives to repurpose road space and make more provision for cycling and walking. Further community-based events will also be introduced such as play streets and street theatre to enable a thriving café style culture and encourage more sustainable living. We will continue to introduce further projects on our main roads across the borough, with the purpose of prioritising walking and cycling.

Question 2

From: Calum Wyllie, Resident
To: Cabinet Member for Public Realm

Question: To thank the council for the successful implementation of the South Fulham Clean Air Neighbourhood project, which has been a great success in terms of reducing rat-running, pollution & noise on quiet residential backstreets, and to ask for further provision to be made to encourage cycling, walking, and alternative modes of transport across the borough.

Response: Clean Air Neighbourhoods will be supported with comprehensive public realm and greening initiatives to repurpose road space and make more provision for cycling and walking. Further community-based events will also be introduced such as play streets and street theatre to enable a thriving café style culture and encourage more sustainable living. We will continue to introduce further projects on our main roads across the borough, with the purpose of prioritising walking and cycling.

Question 3

From: Clair Gordon, Resident

To: The Leader of the Council

Question: Thanks to the CAN the side roads are beautifully quiet, but WBR remains as busy as ever. What measures are the Council going to take to reduce the volume of vehicles on WBR to provide a less polluted environment on our local high street and surrounding areas, as pollution travels?

Response from the Cabinet Member for Public Realm: Following the trial to the East, traffic fell by 12% on Wandsworth Bridge Road. This is because satnavs started routing drivers other ways, such as around the M25 for longer trips or over Vauxhall Bridge for central London. We anticipate similar results once the trial to the West has bedded in. Already, it has improved traffic flow on Wandsworth Bridge Road. We are also fully aware we need to go further to tackle air pollution and we intend to do so.

We are currently working with residents on a whole new vision for the road which, once implemented, will transform it from a congested and polluted through-route to a welcoming, clean and green place that puts people first and creates a cafe culture. It will make the air cleaner and the street safer, especially if you're walking or cycling. As an initial step in this redesign, we have introduced, safer cycleways, illuminated 20mph signs, better zebra crossings and traffic islands, and will also consider new lighting at crossings.

Lane improvements on Wandsworth Bridge will prioritise safety for cyclists AND will reduce the number of out-of-borough drivers coming from the bridge and causing congestion and air pollution.

We have installed 56 air quality sensors on lamp columns across South Fulham. These form the largest concentrated network of air quality sensors anywhere in Europe. H&F engineers use data from traffic counters and the sensors to highlight trouble-spots and benchmark the success of the Clean Air Neighbourhood projects, including the key aim of reducing air pollution.

The data shows the project to the East has contributed to the removal of at least eight thousand cars and one tonne of CO2 per day from the area. NOx pollution in the area has fallen by 60 per cent.

Question 4

From: Natalie Lindsay, Resident

To: The Leader of the Council

Question: Research last week indicated that 70% of pm2.5 can be traced to wood-burning stoves and traces of arsenic are also increasingly found in our air due to wood-burning. There are unfortunately plenty of houses in the borough with these and households tend to use them on cold still evenings which is precisely the worst time for air pollution. What measures are the Council taking to educate residents on the danger of these and can the council compel households not to use them?

Response from the Cabinet Member for Public Realm: Thank you for your timely question and the great work I know you are doing in your community. Tackling the acute dangers of wood burning is a key element of developing Clean Air Neighbourhoods and reducing air pollution. Informing and educating residents on the dangers is therefore a priority.

The council are currently reviewing their procedures on enforcing the councils current smoke control orders that cover a majority of the borough in accordance with recently published new guidance from central government for enforcement of smoke control area's in Goal 2 of their Environmental Improvement Plan 2023 (see [Environmental Improvement Plan \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)). The council will also in 2023 be applying to the secretary of state for the approval of a boroughwide consolidated smoke control order to comply with new provisions for smoke control area's enacted under the Environment Act 2021.

The council provides information regarding the impact of solid fuel burning on local air quality on the councils website (see <https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/environment/pollution-and-air-quality/air-quality#smoke>)

The council under current legislation cannot prohibit residents or business in the borough burning solid fuels in either open fires or wood burners. The council is proposing to undertake a boroughwide consultation survey in 2023 to ascertain support within Hammersmith & Fulham for a Boroughwide Prohibition of the Burning of solid fuel.

Question 5 – CAN expansion timetable

From: Jonathan Goater, Resident

To: The Leader of the Council (Cabinet Member for Public Realm)

Question: The trial Clean Air Neighbourhood in SW6 is a truly pioneering initiative with great potential that is expandable both across the borough and also elsewhere within London.

Can the council please:

1. Share the intended timetable for expansion of CANs within the borough
2. Identify any other boroughs that are considering the LBHF CAN model for their own improvement?

Response from the Cabinet Member for Public Realm: Thank you for your comments and the contribution that I know you have made, like the previous questioner, to the transformation of South Fulham.

As you know, we have set out an ambitious target of delivering Clean Air Neighbourhoods across the whole borough, if that is what residents want, over the next two years. The timetable will be led by a range of local factors including resident demand, air quality and traffic monitoring.

The below table sets out a high-level outline of a possible timeline for implementation on an area-by-area basis.

Indicative programme:

	Area	Proposed implementation date of Clean Air Neighbourhood following discussion with residents
1	<input type="checkbox"/> South Fulham (east and west) <input type="checkbox"/> Brackenbury	November 2022
2	<input type="checkbox"/> Barons Court <input type="checkbox"/> Brook Green	April 2023
3	<input type="checkbox"/> Cathnor Park <input type="checkbox"/> Caxton Village <input type="checkbox"/> Hammersmith TC <input type="checkbox"/> North End Road <input type="checkbox"/> Ravenscourt Park <input type="checkbox"/> Riverwalk <input type="checkbox"/> Wendell Park <input type="checkbox"/> White City <input type="checkbox"/> Wormholt Park <input type="checkbox"/> Wormwood Scrubs	June 2023 – July 2024

There is approximately a nine-month process to begin traffic monitoring, develop schemes and implement the experimental phase of a project. Monitoring and engagement with residents and councillors will continue throughout the process.

We will seek to introduce public realm improvements, main road treatments and other neighbourhood enhancements in parallel, but subject to funding.

Our pioneering team of highways engineers are in contact with several other boroughs who are looking at using our smart tech camera approach to tackling out of borough residents cutting through residential streets.

Question 6

From: Gary Fannin, Resident

To: The Deputy Leader

Question: With the introduction of the Clean Air Neighbourhood there are now cameras to the east and west of Wandsworth Bridge Road to prevent commuters cutting through these streets. I understand there are also additional cameras which are currently only monitoring traffic on other streets.

Can you confirm if there are any cameras on Wandsworth Bridge Road itself to monitor not only numbers of vehicles but ANPR cameras to enable better data in assessing the types of journeys of the volume of traffic using Wandsworth Bridge Road?"

Response from the Cabinet Member for Public Realm: Yes there are cameras on Wandsworth Bridge Road that monitor traffic numbers and type. H&F engineers use data from traffic counters and the sensors to highlight trouble-spots and benchmark the success of the Clean Air Neighbourhood projects, including the key aim of reducing air pollution.

The data shows the project has contributed to the removal of at least one tonne of CO2 per day from the area. The air quality has improved significantly since the introduction of the East project and has contributed to NOx pollution falling by 60 per cent.

ANPR cameras for monitoring traffic is used in order to track origin and destination and these have not necessarily been placed on Wandsworth Bridge Road itself. The traffic profile for the whole area is deciphered from a combination of automatic traffic counters, traffic sensors and ANPR traffic monitors.

Question 7

From: Amanda Stocker, Resident (amanda.stocker@icloud.com)
To: The Leader of the Council (Cabinet Member for Public Realm)

Question: "Please could you provide concrete proof of how many voted for the Cleaner Greener Scheme around Wandsworth Bridge Road and could a new questionnaire be sent as people now have experienced the consequences of the scheme."

Response from the Cabinet Member for Public Realm: Voting took place in the May 2022 local elections and this administration was returned with an increased majority to deliver on its manifesto, which pledged the expansion of schemes that improve air quality by reducing traffic, congestion and pollution.

The trial to the West of Wandsworth Bridge Road, like the East, was designed by residents working with the council. It followed a huge programme of consultation and resident engagement. Hundreds of local people took part in dozens of meetings chaired by local ward councillors and resident groups. Residents shaped where the cameras go on a street-by-street basis.

Two information sessions hosted by an independent resident-led group via Zoom were further held in February and March 2022. These were organised by residents

in the area to explain how the project works, the plans for the western extension, and proposed improvements for WBR.

Two newsletters were sent to every home and business in the area prior to the trial to the West and there will be more in the near future. There will also be a detailed questionnaire and opinion polling of residents' views during the six to 18 months of the trial, going far beyond what the government requires.

Question 8

From: Vivienne Goldstein, Resident

To: The Leader of the Council

Question: Due to the South Fulham Camera Scheme, I am seeing great displacement of traffic all around the Fulham area which is causing just as much congestion and pollution if not more than previously. I am sure that if Hammersmith Bridge were open things would be much easier. Is it possible to open Imperial Road to ease traffic flow?

Response from the Cabinet Member for Public Realm: A key component of the South Fulham Clean Air Neighbourhood is tackling toxic air pollution by reducing out-of-borough traffic on Imperial Road and the residential roads to the east. Our engineers have previously made it clear that opening Imperial Road would simply draw more cars into the area and increase traffic, congestion and pollution across Fulham.

We constantly monitor traffic data and behaviour across Fulham and there is no evidence of any significant displacement of traffic. During the trial to the East of Wandsworth Bridge Road, traffic fell by 12% on the road from launch of the trial in July 2020 to it being made permanent in Dec 2021. This is because satnavs started routing drivers other ways, such as around the M25 for longer trips or over Vauxhall Bridge for central London. We anticipate similar results from the current trial to the West.

Question 9

From: Janet Bolton, Business Owner

To: The Leader of the Council

Question: I run a shop on Wandsworth Bridge Road and since the traffic camera scheme to improve the affluent streets to the West went live, my takings have plummeted, similar to many neighbouring businesses on the Wandsworth Bridge Road. Thousands of out of borough members of the private Hurlingham Club now have an exemption to drive through a camera to use the shortest, least polluting route. Given his recent interest in local businesses, when will the Leader extend this and other help to the hundreds of traders who are suffering a loss from the new camera scheme?

Response from the Cabinet Member for Public Realm: We are fully committed to supporting H&F businesses and our Clean Air Neighbourhood team has been going door to door to businesses, talking to owners and managers to resolve any outstanding issues.

During the trial to the East of Wandsworth Bridge Road, traffic fell by 12% on the main road from launch of the trial in July 2020 to it being made permanent in Dec 2021. This is because satnavs started routing drivers other ways, such as around the M25 for longer trips or over Vauxhall Bridge for central London.

Research shows that making high streets more attractive for pedestrians increases footfall and revenue for shops.

To arrange a one-on-one meeting with the Clean Air Neighbourhood support team to discuss how we can help your business, please complete the Clean air neighbourhood business support request form:

https://lbhf-self.achieveservice.com/service/Clean_air_neighbourhood_business_support

The council has a long-standing commitment to helping local businesses and we have designed this trial to support them in numerous ways:

- Visitors, shoppers, deliveries and tradespeople can still access every street without going through the cameras. All H&F residents can drive freely everywhere including through the cameras.
- If a company or private vehicle is registered by the DVLA at an address anywhere in the borough, owners automatically get free access and can go through the cameras without penalty.
- Or, if it is a leased company vehicle and registered elsewhere, drivers can [apply for a free borough access permit](#) which will also give them free access:
- Alternatively, people can pay for up to two business parking permits, which will again give them free access. For full details see [business or market trader permits](#).

Question 10

From: Katerina Tanti, Resident

To: Cabinet Member for Public Realm

Question: The recent extension to the cycle lane on Wandsworth Bridge Road pushes displaced traffic from the new camera scheme onto the main road from Wandsworth. The extended cycle lane makes it scary to cross over because cars turning left are now in a different lane to the right of cyclists, and the extra traffic jams have caused me and my family severe delays of over an hour and extra costs from taxis. How are Hammersmith & Fulham Council monitoring the increase in danger, journey time and pollution from their traffic scheme to the main road over Wandsworth Bridge before deciding if this disruption to many is worth it to improve the affluent streets for a few?

Response: The new vision will shift this road from a congested and polluted through-route to a welcoming, clean and green place that puts people first. It will

make the air cleaner and the street safer, especially if you're walking or cycling. As the first part of this redesign of the road, we have introduced, safer cycleways, illuminated 20mph signs, better zebra crossings and traffic islands, and will also consider new lighting at crossings.

H&F engineers use data from traffic counters and the sensors to highlight trouble-spots and benchmark the success of the Clean Air Neighbourhood projects, including the key aim of reducing air pollution.

The data shows the project has contributed to the removal of at least one tonne of CO2 per day from the area. The air quality has improved significantly since the introduction of the East project and has contributed to a fall in NOx pollution of 60 per cent.

Question 11

From: Caroline Brooman-White, Resident

To: The Leader of the Council

I have received more pollution text alerts than usual this year from Hammersmith and Fulham but I see that the monitoring stations in the borough are in Hammersmith Town Centre and Shepherds Bush Green. The Traffic Officers' prediction is that traffic would be displaced to Wandsworth Bridge Road when the experimental West camera scheme started. The Road does not have DEFRA approved pollution monitors along it. What are the Councillors plans to allow residents and businesses to get accurate and daily and historic readings of pollution on the Wandsworth Bridge Road.

Response from the Cabinet Member for Public Realm: The Council has installed 10 air quality monitors (AQMs) called Vortex along Wandsworth Bridge Road. Each monitor measures air pollution across NO2 (nitrogen dioxide from exhaust emissions), ozone, and PM2.5 and PM10.0 (air borne particulates from tyres and brakes). The AQMs are measuring and reporting levels of pollution during the trial period to our traffic engineers in order to measure the effect of the trial.

We have installed 56 air quality sensors on lamp columns across South Fulham. These form the largest concentrated network of air quality sensors anywhere in Europe:

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/articles/news/2021/11/hf-air-quality-monitoring-scheme-wins-national-award>

These sensors are much smaller than the DEFRA monitoring stations which are larger and fewer in number. We have co-located sensors with our DEFRA monitoring stations and have also increased the number of these.

H&F engineers use data from traffic counters and the sensors to highlight trouble-spots and benchmark the success of the South Fulham Clean Air Neighbourhood, including the key aim of reducing air pollution.

The data shows that the project has contributed to the removal of at least one tonne of CO2 per day from the area. The air quality has improved significantly since the introduction of the East project and has contributed to a fall in NOx pollution of 60 per cent in the area.

Question 12

From: Carol Lawson, Resident

To: The Leader of the Council

Question: The council has stated that residents wanted cameras to operate in the western LTN every day of the year for 24 hours a day. Which residents wanted this?

Response from the Cabinet Member for Public Realm: The Clean Air Neighbourhood trial has been designed following extensive engagement over the last two years with residents and residents' associations.

Hundreds of local people took part in dozens of meetings chaired by local ward councillors and resident groups. Residents shaped where the cameras go on a street-by-street basis.

Two information sessions hosted by an independent resident-led group via Zoom were further held in February and March 2022. These were organised by residents in the area to explain how the project works, the plans for the western extension, and proposed improvements for WBR.

Two newsletters were sent to every home and business in the area prior to the trial to the West and there will be more in the near future. There will also be a detailed questionnaire and opinion polling of residents' views during the six to 18 months of the trial, going far beyond what the government requires.

The trial will last for between six and 18 months and residents will be fully consulted during that period.

Question 13

From: Zornitsa Marinova, Resident (zornitsa.d.marinova@gmail.com)

To: The Leader of the Council

"Could you please let me know why the Council has informed the LGSCO on case with their ref 22006363 that The Andover Arms pub (57 Aldensley Road, W6 0DL) had a Pavement Licence in 2021? It's clear from the public records on the Licencing section of the H&F website that it didn't, this is falsifying information."

Response from the Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Social

Inclusion: We can confirm that a Pavement Licence Reference 4510561 was granted. This gave permission for tables and chairs in 2 parking bays, and 4 stools at the window bays permitted to occupy outside the premises of The Andover Arms,

57 Aldensley Road, London W6 0DL from 25/06/2021 to 25/12/2021. The online version of this record has a numbers error stating 26 rather than the correct number of 57. Please note that the Council's highways inspector regularly checks pavement notices across the borough.

Question 14

From: Jonathan Lawson, Resident
To: The Leader of the Council

Question: The council have promised a poll on the clean air zone to the west of Wandsworth Bridge Road. Will this poll cover the whole of Fulham?

Response from the Cabinet Member for Public Realm:

We will be conducting opinion polling and carrying out survey questionnaires across the Clean Air Neighbourhood area and the wider borough, including Fulham.

Question 15

From: Anna Maynard, Resident
To: Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Ecology

Question: Given the climate emergency and Hammersmith and Fulham Borough Council's stated aim to reduce their emissions, will the Council consider committing to serving fully plant-based fare at any future catered meetings and events as other Councils have done? This will be a positive and forward-thinking step, bringing its food policy into line with other climate-aware policies. Thank you."

Response: The council is developing and will shortly adopt targets to reduce emissions from the food it procures and offers on-site, offering menus that are both healthy and planet-friendly. These targets are based on expert environmental and nutritional guidance to ensure our meals are compatible with under 1.5°C warming. The policy will require our food providers to provide menus associated with emissions below a maximum amount of CO₂e per meal. We're also continuing to support sustainable and health diets through our local Food Plan and supporting initiatives like the Nourish Hub to provide plant-based community meals based on surplus ingredients.