

Full Council Public Questions – 24 January 2024

Question 1

From: Philip Jones, Resident

To: Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness

In previous correspondence the Council said that it does not categorise residential units under the category “Luxury”. I would like to find out how the Council measures local demand for affordable social housing and what safeguards has it put in place to ensure a suitable balance of types of homes have been built between 2010-2023, if it doesn't categorise the developments that it authorises to be built through its local planning and housing development plan to ensure local demand for affordable social housing has been met, which I believe ought to be its principle duty and responsibility?

Question 2

From: Richard Cazenove, Resident

To: Cabinet Member for Public Realm

In relation to the CAN, when will the Council release the data from the traffic monitoring camera at the junction of the New Kings Road and Grimston Road? It has been conspicuous by its absence from all Council communication in relation to the scheme including the CAN flyer sent to residents in May 2022. Much has been made of the 1,000+ drop in vehicles using the western end of Hurlingham Road, but a large portion of this reduction is due to traffic having been shifted to Grimston Road (and across to Ranelagh Avenue). This is because vehicles continue to access the Hurlingham Club and the 400 adjacent flats – they just use a different route get there. As such the overall decline in the immediate neighbourhood is much smaller than publicly advertised. I have been told the camera has been vandalised on a number of occasions, but it cannot have been out of action for the entire time since the trial began and there must therefore be some indication of how traffic flows have changed. With proper statistics we can work constructively on potential solutions.

Question 3

From: Natale Giostra, Resident

To: The Cabinet Member for Public Realm

Lots of cars illegally turn right into WBR from NKR blocking the traffic flow. Would it be possible to extend and connect the two existing traffic islands to stop this illegal turn?

Question 4

From: David Henderson, Resident

To: The Cabinet Member for Economy

As a resident in Fulham for more than 35 years we have never complained about requested developments. We have however submitted complaints to the Council for breaches of granted planning permission, for example use of roofs as roof terraces, noise from unapproved plant at commercial premises, and local residential building works. It is our view that action is rarely taken in response to apparent breaches and on occasions incomplete or no feedback was provided. Do planning officers routinely carry out post work checks and if not why not? Or is it left to local residents to inform the Council of these breaches and if so when residents do report them why are we left wondering about any enforcement action taken?

Question 5

From: Liam Downer-Sanderson, Resident
To: The Deputy Leader

The South Fulham camera trial ends in May. When is the council going to conduct a poll of residents views across the borough as it indicated that it would do? And what details can you provide of how the polling will be conducted?

Question 6

From: Vivienne Goldstein, Resident
To: The Leader of the Council

The South Fulham camera trial ends in May. When is the council going to conduct a poll of residents views across the borough as it indicated that it would do?

Question 7

From: Lauren Clark, Resident
To: The Leader of the Council

At a recent meeting that was brokered by a 'lead resident' who is in favour of the South Fulham CAN scheme, the council traffic official John Galsworthy told residents and businesses that some votes will count more than others, indicating that, in the extensive poll to be carried out borough wide, votes from residents living inside the South Fulham CAN trial would be favoured. This was also reported in The Sunday Telegraph. Do you think that this approach will meet approval standards from Mark Harper, Minister for Transport, as he conducts his review into Low Traffic Neighbourhoods across London?

Question 8

From: David Tarsh, Resident
To: The Leader of the Council

Since last July, I have tried via Freedom of Information Act questions to find out from the council how much money it is making from the traffic scheme around Wandsworth Bridge Road and how pollution levels have changed on Wandsworth Bridge Road and New Kings Road, as a consequence of the scheme. To date, I

have been rebuffed with evasion and then admission that the council holds the data but refuses to release it before June 2024, which is after the deadline to decide whether to scrap or retain the scheme has passed.

Residents suspect that the scheme has not improved air quality on Wandsworth Bridge Road or New Kings Road, and it has either raised an obscene level of fines or not enough money to cover the cost of the infrastructure. Will the Leader of the Council allay those legitimate suspicions by revealing the answers to those specific questions now or will he leave residents concluding that the scheme is indeed a failure; and the council is trying to cover it up?"

Question 9

From: Caroline Shuffrey, Resident

To: The Leader of the Council

The Council has recently downgraded the key decision 'Investment in the borough wide Clean Air Neighbourhoods Programme' to no longer a key decision. Does that mean that the Council now recognise that the LTNs in South Fulham are not producing clean air for the borough and therefore will now abandon the Clean Air Neighbourhood trial?

Question 10

From: Caroline Brooman-White, Resident

To: The Leader of the Council

Two years ago Councillor Harcourt wrote to me saying that initial pollution data for Wandsworth Bridge Road has shown it is not significantly different to the side streets. Please could you kindly tell me whether this is still true and how we can see the pollution data on a regular basis.

Question 11

From: Donald Grant, Resident

To: Cabinet Member for Public Realm

The Council reports a reduction in vehicles and pollution in the area now restricted by the traffic camera schemes, but it does not report where the traffic goes to instead, nor the increases in pollution and journey times in those areas. The principles of public life mean you should tell the whole truth, not selected figures to suit your narrative, if in fact the figures promoted are accurate.

Please would you report the before-and-after vehicle and pollution figures in the areas the traffic and pollution has been displaced to, especially in the constituency of Chelsea and Fulham?

Question 12

From: David Morris, Resident

To: The Cabinet Member for Finance and Reform / The Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Ecology

The Council's Green Investment Scheme launched in November 2023 with a target to raise £1 million by mid-February. Has it met its target, and can it tell us what projects will be undertaken with the funds raised?

Question 13

From: Nick Smith, Resident

To: The Cabinet Member for Public Realm

Could Council explain why the quality of pavement on the north and south sides of Harwood Terrace still – after more than 10 years of complaining – presents a danger to all pedestrians? It is unlike any other paved area in the area as it is made of a combination of mixed gravel textured concrete and substandard paving slabs. As a result it is rough, uneven, razor sharp and unsightly.

Question 14

From: Siobhan Cummins, Resident

To: The Cabinet Member for Public Realm

There is already evidence in the public domain from other surveys that residents and businesses strongly support the removal of the LTN's in South Fulham. When the Council conducts its own poll will it make the results public and undertake to remove the LTNs in the event that the poll shows a majority in favour of doing so?