

Appendix E(i)

Highway Services
North London Business Park
Oakleigh Road South N11 1NP

17th April 2017

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Broken and wrongly laid paving stones in Falkland Road, Stafford Road
causing trip hazards
Paving stones causing a tripping hazard outside the entrance to 'The Spires'
(pedestrian crossing)
Freedom of Information request**

Yesterday I tripped and fell on a paving stone which is not laid flush with other paving stones on Falkland Road. Today I have bruised and cut hands and a bruised, cut and swollen knee, plus pain in my shoulder and hip. (I have photographs). This latest 'accident' will also affect my working. I do a lot of work on the computer at home and typing this letter is now causing me pain in my arm and shoulder, both of which were 'jolted' when I fell.

There are numerous broken paving stones, and paving stones causing a trip hazard on this road. The same is true of Stafford Road. Because of the state of the pavements there are not only numerous trip hazards, but when it rains there are enormous puddles on the pavements.

About six months ago I also tripped and fell on 'The Spires' entrance side of the pedestrian crossing between Sainsburys and 'The Spires'. This was because the smaller red paving stones (with the raised circles on the surface) are not laid correctly and are sticking up and not flush with the rest of the paving stones. This area also floods when it rains because of the poor workmanship and so the area is made even more dangerous.

I injured my right side and hip and had pain for eight weeks. I had to see my GP twice and also had to have an X Ray at Barnet hospital (so I have evidence of these injuries). It was very lucky that I did not have a broken hip.

So the lack of adequate pavements has caused me distress, weeks of pain due to my injuries and has also cost the NHS in time and money.

Although I am not young I still work and travel into and around central London regularly. I also travel into and walk around Islington regularly and in neither of these places do I have to walk looking at the pavements to make sure I don't trip. For eg I can walk the length of Upper Street N1 and the pavements are in perfect condition.

Appendix E(i)

I did not make a report about tripping and falling outside 'The Spires' because my experience of Barnet Council is that it has absolutely no concern for the safety and convenience of its ratepayers and residents. Also complaints are rarely answered.

However I would now like the Council's response to the following.

- a. The state of the pavements in Falkland Road and Trafford Road are a safety hazard and the Council should inspect and relay the paving..
When will this be done?
- b. The traffic crossing outside 'The Spires' and the paving slabs which are sticking up are a safety hazard and should be relaid. **When will this be done?**
- c. **I am making a Freedom of Information request.** Could you send me the following statistics:
 - i. **How many complaints from residents about the state of pavements** in Barnet have the Council received in the last year?
 - ii. **Who is responsible for pavements in Barnet?** Has the work been outsourced to a private company and if so, what is the name of the company?
 - iii. **What work has been done to repair pavements in Barnet in the last year?** That is,
Which pavements have been repaired in the last year. (i.e. names of streets and extent and cost of work done.)

Yours faithfully,

c.c.
Councillors Perry, Longstaff, and Prentice.