

WEST AREA COMMITTEE
Monday, 29 January 2024 at 7pm

Chair: Cllr Nagus Narenthira
Vice-Chair: Cllr Ernest Ambe

Additional Officer Responses:

Article 3 of the Council's Constitution, Section 3.5, sets out how issues and petitions can be determined by the Chair at Area Committees, including that the Chair can;

Instruct that an appropriate named officer contact the resident within 20 working days to provide an additional response and that this response be published in the meeting documents available on the website.

At the meeting of the West Area Committee on 30 March 2023, for those issues/petitions whereby the Chair requested an additional Officer response, the responses are captured in the table below.

	Issue Raised	ADDITIONAL RESPONSE
1.	<p>Issue: Free bulky waste collection coverage on Council website Resident: Mr Levy Ward: Childs Hill</p> <p>When viewing the Council's bulky waste collection pages, it is easy to overlook the free collection options. The possibility of free collection of items is only mentioned below the price list and booking form link for council collections, and then the wording can give the impression that it only applies to items that are still good-to-use. Only after following a link and scrolling right down does one discover that Clearabee offer free collection of all waste large electrical items from residents.</p> <p>In all the other four north London boroughs that have the same tie-in with Clearabee, either the option of free collection of large waste electrical items is made more prominent on the respective webpages, or (Waltham Forest) collection by Clearabee is the only option given.</p>	<p>(ii) We have contacted them to ask permission to promote their services.</p> <p>Officers have contacted British Heart Foundation and Sue Ryder to ask permission to promote their services. We received a response from British Heart Foundation and added links to their page on the website in relevant places.</p> <p>(iii) We have added links to Barnet Furniture Centre on the "Reuse and Recycle electrical items" web page</p> <p>Furniture recycling and reuse Barnet Council</p>

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<p>About 10 years ago the Council held a research evening with a number of invited residents as to how to improve its website, and one learning point I recall being implemented soon after was to draw attention to options for free collection of items prominently ABOVE the price list for bulky waste collection and booking form link.</p> <p>Additionally the information on other free collection options is incomplete.</p> <p>If residents don't realise they have a free collection option, it is more likely that items will variously be stolen from front gardens, flytipped and raided for parts. With fridges and freezers this results in illegal release of propellants which can be significant greenhouse gases and harm the ozone layer.</p> <p>On social media I have found many residents are unaware of the Clearabee option, and even one who was aware hadn't been able to find the link.</p> <p>What would I like the council to do?</p> <p>(i) On the bulky waste collection homepage, mention that there are free collection options for large electrical items and quality furniture prominently above the price list for bulky waste collection and the link to the booking form.</p> <p>(ii) Include links to British Heart Foundation and Sue Ryder which also collect furniture in a resellable state in the area.</p> <p>(iii) Above the link for Clearabee wherever that appears, mention prominently that where still in working order, some large electrical items</p>	

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<p>are collected for re-use/resale by respective organisations. Barnet Furniture Centre and British Heart Foundation, at least, do.</p> <p>(iv) Correct broken link for The Loop at Grahame Park and note that they may collect from elsewhere in the borough (they have told me this though their webpage is ambiguous).</p> <p>(v) Mention prominently that Barnet Furniture Centre and The Loop take some items that need a little restoration, as well as in a resellable state.</p> <p>(vi) Conduct a promotional exercise for these options such as via Barnet First and a leaflet</p>	
<p>Issue: Recurring road flooding points Resident: Mr Levy Ward: Childs Hill</p> <p>2. The council has been devising a considerable programme of flood alleviation, yet one recurring issue well-known to local residents and road users is the flooding of the A41 especially northbound, at the low point close to Marble Drive. This results especially from upwelling of surface water from the Marble Drive area, I have been advised by Officers. This strongly drives road congestion for miles around when it occurs. There are other flood-prone roads in the Area likely to result in considerable congestion when affected e.g. Mill Hill Broadway, Cricklewood Lane by station. The A41 flooding has largely resulted from development of low-lying land around Marble Drive, so the potential impact of Brent Cross Town on nearby roads is concerning.</p> <p>What would I like the council to do?</p>	<p>London Borough of Barnet will continue to work in collaboration with TFL, Thames Water and key stakeholders in the management of local flood risks from surface water, groundwater, and ordinary watercourses. Further details on the LBB's Flood and Water Management, Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, and work on Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuD's) can be found on our website via the link below.</p> <p>Flood and Water Management Barnet Council</p> <p>Further works are planned for the Brent Cross Town area however, we are currently unable to provide a commencement date.</p> <p>London Borough of Barnet Communications Team advertise planned works and emergency works on our social media channels such as Twitter/X. Advertising of flooding is dependent on the level/severity of flooding and the impact on our network. The A41 and A406 are the responsibility of Transport for London, so it would be their responsibility to advertise such issues.</p>

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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set out what plans and/or funding possibilities there are to remedy the problem of upwelling of surface water onto the A41 from nearby development. 2. Set out what is planned, or already in place if applicable, to prevent Brent Cross Town causing something similar on the A406 or other nearby roads. <p>In advance of anticipated heavy rain events, issue warnings to avoid the road journeys most likely to be impacted, including travelling N or NW via the A41 or nearby routes parallel to the flood-prone point.</p>	
<p>3. Issue: Large recurring storm water pond near Holiday Inn, Brent Cross Resident: Mr Levy Ward: Childs Hill</p> <p>A large storm water pond often growing to around 20-40 m² frequently appears at the junction of Tempelhof Avenue and Tilling Road and seems to be present for much of the year. It even shows in the current Street View from the Give Way mark of Tempelhof Avenue. Presumably 1-2 gullies are getting run-off from a larger than average catchment with nowhere to else to go. It is a nuisance and potential hazard for cycles.</p> <p>What would I like the Council to do?</p> <p>Ensure pooling at this spot occurs far less frequently, whether via more frequent routine gully clearances or whatever is necessary.</p>	<p>The drainage works on Tiling Road were completed week ending the 9 Feb 2024 and initial indications suggest that the works appear to have been successful and the water should no longer pond at the junction.</p>