

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT DECISIONS

Tuesday, 14 September 2021

ITEM 2A – MEMBER QUESTIONS

Questions from Luke Bennett

Thank you for the written response (on Sept 6, 2021) to this resident petition, affirming (i) that the drainage system will be cleansed along with (ii) the CM Environment recommendation for finance to be apportioned to an engineered solution to the flooding problem on Chipstead Valley Road (opposite Chipstead Valley Primary School).

It is material and important to confirm also that the residents of Chipstead Valley Road (and the pupils and staff of the school opposite) have endured severe flooding at this location for years, not months, i.e., the problem originated long before the June / July heavy rain events mentioned in the response of 06.09.21.

1. What date will the drainage / soakaway system be cleansed? (Please note it was due to be done in the summer school holidays, but disappointingly, I was advised at the very last minute by the Highways maintenance team that it would not be done as planned, due to other temp traffic signals in place within a 4 mile radius in Bonsor Drive Kingswood). Clearly this essential maintenance must be prioritised to mitigate this acute flooding problem ASAP.
2. What does 'next financial year' mean in terms of the earliest and latest date that capital finance will be apportioned / guaranteed?
3. When will the engineering solution be designed – costed – installed? Earliest and latest dates please.
4. Comms / member & resident liaison hereon: Can the divisional member (Cllr Luke Bennett) be invited to all meetings, discussions and site visits relating to the soakaway / drainage cleansing and the subsequent (definitive) engineered solution?

Cabinet Member Response:

1. The deep entry maintenance programme has been arranged for the October half term break to minimise impact of the work on access and egress from the school.
2. "Next Financial Year" means the financial year starting in April 2022. No allocation is guaranteed.
3. This is an indicative allocation of funding based on the scoring system in place at the moment. New drainage engineers are being recruited to Highways to manage this workstream, they will be able to update once in post.
4. No.

This page is intentionally left blank