

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT**Full Council – 26th January 2009****Items Selected by Non-Executive Members under Standing Order 39**

(a) From Councillor Joseph

Improvements to public sewers

A number of properties in Brent are at risk of flooding on a regular basis because our antiquated public sewerage pipes have not been renewed for many years and cannot cope with the capacity of rainfall received. This was patently clear following the torrential storms of July 2006 when many areas in Brent, including Palermo Road were flooded. As climate change suggests heavy rainfall will become more frequent, this needs to be addressed. Public sewers are the responsibility of Thames Water and this Council needs to exert pressure on them to ensure our sewers have an adequate capacity to cope.

(b) From Councillor Castle

Waste transfer facility, Cricklewood – traffic impact

A consultants report for Dollis Hill ward councillors has expressed concern over the possible traffic impact of the proposed Waste Transfer Facility in Cricklewood, confirming residents' fears over increased traffic congestion. The nature of the facility and potential environmental damage is still unclear, despite requests to Barnet for clarification.

People's quality of life is already affected by pollution and congestion from build-ups at Cricklewood Lane and the North Circular. Now residential roads and three local schools could be severely affected.

Will the Executive respond to the consultation on behalf of residents, expressing concern about increased congestion?

(c) From Councillor Green

Doorstep Loans

The current economic climate has made it especially difficult for those with a poor credit rating to get loans. This has led to many families using the services of so called "doorstep loans".

These loans are often charged at extortionate interest rates – anything up to 10,000% - and companies often target the most vulnerable members of our society.

Will the Executive consider how it can inform Brent's residents about how to take impartial, helpful financial advice and consider banning such organisations from council property and encouraging housing associations to do the same?