

Full Council – 18 September 2023

Amendment submitted by the Labour Group to the Conservative Group Motion

Proposed amendment – To add the wording in red and delete the wording indicated:

Management of Road and Utilities Work across the borough

~~The Brent Conservative Group is concerned about the lack of~~ **The** coordination and management of the many road works, repairs and temporary traffic lights in our borough. ~~continues to be of importance to Brent Council to ensure cohesion for our residents travelling around the borough.~~

~~This~~ **The** Council have ~~listened to~~ had numerous complaints **concerns** from residents who whilst appreciating that these works need to be carried ~~are~~ **apprehensive about the potential disruption this can cause to them** ~~are very unhappy at the way they are managed and the traffic chaos that they cause.~~ **and continues to work with utility companies and meet with officials regularly to ensure disruption to residents during necessary major works is kept to a minimum.**

~~As an example; it has been taking up to an hour to get through the temporary lights on East Lane in Wembley.~~

The Council's Network Management Team hold quarterly coordination meetings with ~~We are also concerned that the utility companies do not~~ **in order to** coordinate works so that they are carried out together and with minimal **and minimize** disruption **however there are times when emergency works are required and this can unfortunately clash with other works near the location.**

~~There are numerous examples of roadworks being started, temporary traffic management put in place but nobody appears to be working for several days or even weeks. Stonebridge has had two sets of temporary lights working against each other for weeks, with no one working there, with disruption at Blackbird Hill, Preston Road, Watford Road near Northwick Park Hospital to give just a few further examples.~~

Council is therefore asked to note **that in relation to** the following concerns:

- Roadworks, though essential, **can** cause major traffic hold ups including in some cases gridlock, can lead to road rage and leads to an increase in pollution, **and**

the Council continues to work with utility companies to prevent major disruption arising from these major works.

- The lack of regular interaction between the various agencies who own services beneath our streets - There is ~~no~~ regular interaction between the various agencies ~~who own the services beneath our streets.~~ with quarterly coordination meetings between the Council and utility companies to discuss major works.
- The coordination of roadworks - There is ~~no~~ coordination to ensure that roadworks are carried out in such a manner so they do not interact to cause further disruption. The Council requires 10 days notice for major works and 3 days notice for minor works. The permitting software used will automatically identify clashes should two sets of works be programmed in close proximity to each other during the same time period.
- Disruption to road users - There ~~'appears' to be no~~ are measures put in place by the Council to ensure that roadworks are timed and coordinated so as to cause the minimum disruption to road users. However, there may be times where emergency and urgent works are required which may clash with other scheduled works.

Therefore, ~~As a result of the concerns highlighted~~ the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Action is asked to ensure:

- (1) That, with the exception of emergencies e.g. burst water mains, when a utility company applies for permission to carry out road works, the Council ~~continues its work with~~ notifies all other utility companies to coordinate their planned works programme to ensure minimal disruption for residents across the borough. ~~see if they need to carry out works so that it can all be done at the same time.~~
- (2) That the Network Management Team continues to hold quarterly coordination meetings with utility representatives to discuss major works and assist in avoiding clashes. ~~That roadworks are planned so that other roadworks are not carried out at the same time within 1/2 mile of the application.~~
- (3) That companies ~~continue to who~~ apply for permission to carry out works and in line with the regulations of their permit if granted must do so within a certain time frame and if not completed on time, should be fined by the local authority in accordance with the current Government legislation, unless an extension is agreed.

Councillor Krupa Sheth
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