

**Addendum to Sutton South Cheam and Belmont Local Committee:  
Public Questions  
19 September 2019**

**Sutton South Cheam and Belmont Local Committee**

*This addendum contains questions from Members of the Public received and answered since the last committee meeting on 13 June 2019*

**1. Question asked by Ian Berry, Chair - Friends of Cheam Park**

How does Sutton Council police the events it approves in the Park and is the approval process providing sufficient challenge and exploration of the details of all aspects of the event itself from organisers?

With reference to the Cheam Celebration of Food event this coming weekend Sunday 15th September, the event runs for 9 hours plus set up and clean up with live music all day - as such it will have a material impact on park users (and local residents in adjacent and surrounding roads). 13,000 free tickets have been taken up at the time of writing with them asking for £3 voluntary contributions on the day to offset IdVerde fees. Whilst we cannot be certain 100% of those taking tickets up on facebook will attend (or contribute financially), if they do and the weather is supposed to be excellent - it is clearly going to be an issue on the roads and in the recreation ground itself in terms of capacity and noise notwithstanding approvals to open Netley Close entrance to vehicles. The organisers are now advertising it as free admission meaning the tickets are not limited in number if 13,000 was the agreed number approved by LBS.

**Reply from Michael Lewis, Emergency Planning Manager**

All public events taking place require the organiser to submit their event plans to the Council's Event Safety Service (further information of the process is available [here](#)). Events are triaged by the service and circulated to members of the Sutton Safety Advisory Group (the SAG is a multi-agency group with membership from Met Police, London Fire Brigade, London Ambulance Service and a number of Council Services including Highways, Parking, Neighbourhood Services, Licensing and Event Safety) for consultation.

Any issues identified by SAG members are communicated to the organiser to address safety concerns with the recommendations and feedback provided. A SAG meeting with the organiser will be convened, at the request of SAG members, if there are sufficient concerns that warrant an in person meeting with the organiser. Should concerns not be addressed, whilst the SAG does not have a legal standing and is only an advisory group, the event will be prevented by retracting required permissions (e.g. road closures, approval to use parks land to hold the event, etc.). We have not needed to pursue this action for an event.

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In terms of policing events in parks, Neighbourhood Services and the Police's Licensing/Events teams are made aware through the SAG consultation process and will attend events where it is deemed necessary to have a presence on site.

**2. Question asked by Ian Berry, Chair - Tudor Close Residents Group**

Following the very significant issues with the Love Theatre Arts - Rock the Park event on 13th July - we received no prior notification of through the normal channels, nor were approvals granted via the normal process -can it be confirmed in writing that this application and verification process has been reviewed at all stages (IdVerde, call centre, alcohol licencing team and the parks teams) to ensure there is a robust process involving local councillors such that the issue cannot recur?

**Reply from Michael Lewis, Emergency Planning Manager and Mark Dalzell Head of Parks and Open Spaces**

Idverde had no involvement in this application or event.

A Temporary Event Notice was applied for and approved, but the organiser did not engage with Neighbourhood Services or Event Safety Services until prompted two days before. We received forms but with limited time the assessment of the event did not go through the Safety Advisory Group membership for scrutiny/review. The review was done solely by the Emergency PLanning Team from a safety perspective and the Neighbourhood Services Parks Team for approval to use the park.

Although ward councillors were made aware of the event they were unable to comment due to the very short notice and the Head of Service made the decision that the event should go ahead to avoid disappointing school children who had prepared for the performance.

**3. Question asked by Ian Berry, Chair - Tudor Close Residents Group**

The noise levels at the above event can only be defined as painfully high and we wish to go on record that we never want this event repeated. It prevented residents hearing a tv inside homes with the windows shut from initial sound testing at 11am throughout the event. To this end, can you please define what the approved noise level in dB is and at what distance/over what time period i.e. at x metres away, peak and average over 15 minutes is the industry standard; how that number is arrived at as appropriate by Sutton Council events and how / by whom is it monitored on the day including the Farmer's markets and related Celebration of Food?

**Reply from David Trew, Lead Officer Pollution Control**

Where there are events which require a licence, the Pollution Control Team is asked to make comment on the noise implications. In this way, we aim to work with the organisers to prevent noise nuisance from occurring and we will give advice regarding mitigation

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measures. For events not requiring a licence and residential parties, etc, we are not notified in advance. Currently, there are provisions where an officer is on duty all day every day who will respond where noise complaints are received from several residents. The number to contact is 020 8770 5000.

**4. Question asked by Andrew Behan, Resident**

The current situation is that the the 12'00" Headroom sign attached to the bridge has been recovered, but no new illuminated 11'3" height restriction sign has been affixed to replace it. There are two other railway bridges in the wards covered by this committee, i.e. the ones over Langley Park Road, Sutton and Station Way, Cheam, which were drawn to the attention of Mervyn Bartlett, Group Manager, Highways & Transport, Kingston & Sutton Shared Environment Committee on 18 February 2019, where the existing height restriction signs are not illuminated.

So my question to each of the council members is, are you happy to accept what appears to be an indefinite timescale to rectify what is potentially life saving work to prevent a 'bridge strike'?

If not, what are you going to do to ensure these jobs, which have now been outstanding for SEVEN months, are completed by your council officers and a firm completion date obtained?

**Reply from Olga Gilevska, Highways Contracts and Delivery Team Leader**

Unfortunately, funding for this project was not available seven months ago. Every site requires careful planning and consideration, including road closures and associated traffic management orders, checks on electrical connections and rectifications, liaison with Network Rail. Each of these tasks have their own leading in times, therefore at the moment the officers are not in the position to provide specific dates. This project is of a very high priority, and progress is being made to deliver it.

**5) Question asked by Andrew Behan, Resident**

b) Additionally, at the last meeting I asked why the sign I had advised as being defective using the 'Report it' website had not been repaired and the answer given was a follows:- CAS-1502990-V4J9H0. Reported 21/2/2019. Translucent Mini Roundabout sign, Asset No.S737 is not illuminated at Cedar Road, Sutton at the south-east corn of the junction with Langley Park Road.

*Reported to contractor 21/2/19 – contractor attended 25/2/19 and changed lamp. Another job request was issued to the contractor today - 12/6/19 - to re-attend within next three working day to investigate and rectify fault.*

This Mini Roundabout sign is still not illuminated, so what is the ongoing problem here and when will your council officers rectify it?

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**Reply from Olga Gilevska, Highways Contracts and Delivery Team Leader**

The existing box sign is beyond economic repair. A replacement reflective sign plate and lighting unit are on order with our contractor. Work anticipated to be completed within the next 7 working days.

**6) Question asked by Andrew Behan, Resident**

c) Further 'Report it' reports that have still not been resolved are:-

a. CAS-1541844-L3R7B8. Reported 29/03/2019. Bollard (no Asset Number displayed) on the central island at the entrance to Sutton Railway Station Car park, The Quadrant, Sutton. The bollard was lying on its side and not illuminated. The bollard was re-affixed in the upright position but is still not illuminated.

**Reply from Olga Gilevska, Highways Contracts and Delivery Team Leader**

Unit beyond economic repair. A replacement Solar Powered bollard is on order with our contractor. Work anticipated to be completed within 7 working days.

b. CAS-1586078-Y5C5V7. Reported 09/05/2019. The 40 m.p.h. sign, Asset Number S859, on the west side of Brighton Road, Belmont, between the junctions of the 'Banstead Downs' A217 roundabout and Downs Road, Belmont, is not illuminated.

**Reply from Olga Gilevska, Highways Contracts and Delivery Team Leader**

Lamps replaced after initial report. Reissued to contractor for investigation and repair within the next three working days

c. CAS-1586106-Q9M9Y5. Reported 09/05/19. Both the 30 m.p.h. and the 40 m.p.h. signs, Asset Numbers S862 & S861 on the east side of Brighton Road, Belmont, between the junctions of the 'Banstead Downs' A217 roundabout and Downs Road, Belmont, are not illuminated.

**Reply from Olga Gilevska, Highways Contracts and Delivery Team Leader**

Problems with foundation and access door of signpost supporting the signs. Order issued to contractor to investigate and resolve within the next 7 working days.

**What can be done to effect a prompt repair on these matters?**

Responses as per above