

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

5.1 QUESTION FROM ANAND PUNJA OF ELMBRIDGE AVENUE, RUISLIP, ON BEHALF OF THE RUISLIP WOODS TRUST TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT - COUNCILLOR LAVERY:

At the July 2024 Council Meeting the Cabinet member advised, and I quote from the minutes, that *"the document was now in the final stages of drafting so would be published shortly"*. Ruislip Woods Trust, along with many of our members are now getting impatient with the Council and we further believe that the Council are currently in breach of their statutory duty, due to a lack of a 5-year management plan as the management authority for the Ruislip Woods NNR and SSI.

Will the Cabinet member please provide a more specific timeline as to when an updated management plan will be consulted on and published, and, also, commit to a follow up meeting within six weeks, with the relevant council officers to provide a more specific update on the overall management of Ruislip Woods as a follow up?

5.2 QUESTION FROM STEVE GARELICK OF STOWE CRESCENT, RUISLIP TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT - COUNCILLOR LAVERY:

Hillingdon Council has failed in its handling of flood mitigation issues, particularly in relation to the recent flooding events in Ruislip and West Drayton as well as other parts of the borough.

Residents have expressed concerns about the Council's slow response to flooding emergencies, inadequate drainage systems, and lack of long-term planning to address the increasing risk of flooding due to climate change.

Why has the Council's allocation of resources to flood mitigation projects funding not kept pace with the growing need for flood protection measures. Surely with the claimed sound financial management on countless occasions more could have been done.

Given the fact that only now Hillingdon is asking for evidence on how September 2024 flooding has affected residents it seems there has been a past failure to take this matter seriously.

What is the Council prepared to do to protect residents and help environmental groups reach their goals especially as more needs to be done to protect communities from the devastating effects of flooding?