

1. Will the Council leader commit to working with me to tackle the problem of parking at Unsworth Pole, including by continuing to lobby Joseph Holt's Brewery to open up their car park for free on a temporary basis?

Nathan Borada

Cllr L Smith to respond:

Thank you for your question.

The area has been on our hotspot list on numerous occasions and is attended regularly. We are not clear on the paying for parking comment - I assume that is in connection with the private land in the area.

Parking on double yellow lines has the same impact on visibility regardless as to whether the vehicle is displaying a blue badge or not. Unfortunately, it is far too common that in many areas where we have a mix of businesses and parking restrictions that drivers decide to take a chance. It is not possible for us to be present on site frequently enough to catch every offender given the size of the borough and the number of civil enforcement officers we have and that makes it difficult to introduce sufficient "fear of being caught" as a deterrent into the motorist's thoughts.

The government removed the ability to use CCTV technology to issue PCNs to vehicles parked in contravention some years ago and this would have been an ideal tool to use in this instance. We will pay another visit but we cannot maintain a constant elevated presence.

2. Following the coronavirus pandemic could Councillor O'Brien please provide me with an update on figures of recycling and waste gone to landfill over the crisis period?

Andy Hay

Cllr A Quinn to respond:

Since April 2020 tonnages of waste collected have increased across all 4 coloured bins.

Grey bin tonnages increased by approx. 9%

Blue bin tonnages increased by approx. 13%

Green bin tonnages increased by approx. 1.5%

Brown bin tonnages increased by approx. 6%

All the waste collected for recycling was actually recycled, with the exception of vehicle loads that were rejected due to contamination. No waste was diverted to landfill as a consequence of the increased tonnages collected.

The vast majority of residual waste was sent to waste to energy, achieving a diversion from landfill rate of approx. 98%.

The 4 bin recycling rate for the period of the pandemic is approx. 56%.