

Street Appearance

- *CLlr Kathy Bance*

High Street Penge was chosen to pilot a voluntary recycling scheme by residents living above its shops. This would reduce landfill rubbish, increase LBBs recycling statistics and would reduce the rubbish on our streets, so improve our local environment and street appearance.

The pilot was unsuccessful because residents refused to store recycling in their homes. Officers would identify other initiatives but we heard nothing. So, we identified alleyways along the High Street where recycling bins could stand alongside refuse bins and officers have now agreed to pilot this.

Fly tipping is a boroughwide problem so Bromley introduced a Fly-tipping Action Plan, but we saw no improvement locally. Our two recycling hubs have particularly high fly tipping statistics. Flyers were affixed warning of fines but were ignored and crews instructed to check the tipped material for identification found nothing.

Bromley, work on statistics so using FixmyStreet we added daily photos from one area then invited environmental officers to a site meeting, resulting in measures to deter fly tippers. We are also working with Housing Associations on other initiatives.

FixmyStreet is a worthwhile tool. Reports are recorded, and preventative action can result. Our environment and street appearance matters and it's so easy to take a photo that can be uploaded for anyone to report environmental issues.

Good news is that a new officer role has been created which will ensure that businesses in the ward have waste contracts which should reduce local fly tipping.

Penge benefits from the regular Community Impact Days, a partnership enterprise which addresses serious crimes but also undertakes enviro crimes such as graffiti removal, and anti-social behaviour issues. This is an intelligence led project, with reports on the outcomes some of which we can share.

Road maintenance is an issue with potholes appearing overnight. No Penge roads are due for repair in the 2023/2024 schedule. So, please report any potholes using FixmyStreet.

We have been unsuccessful working with Bromley Council to stop the Go-Ahead buses from taking a shortcut through Maple Road so have now written to Camden Bus Garage asking that they mandate drivers to use their official route. We will continue working to improve our environment.

FixmyStreet is a worthwhile tool.

www.fixmystreet.com