

Cabinet – 17 September 2015 – Response to Question not reached

8.

Questioner: Councillor Stephen Greek

Asked of: Councillor Simon Brown, Portfolio Holder for Children, Schools and Young People

Question: "Following your decision to expand Weald School (now Weald Rise School) earlier this year, and given the significant and serious concerns raised by local residents and the school itself regarding traffic and parking issues, will you ensure that sufficient support is given to the school to develop an effective travel plan, well in advance of any planning application being made?"

Written Response: We already have a success to report in the travel planning at Weald Rise. This year the school achieved Bronze level in the TfL accredited STARS scheme. This relies on a school proving that it is reducing the number of children coming to school by car, and that it is making further progress to continue that reduction.

Initiatives newly in place at the school include Walk on Wednesday's, free bike training for older students, fuller parent engagement on travel options as well as participation in borough-wide initiatives like Walk to School month and week. Council highways teams have already created a 20mph zone at the school and provides CCTV enforcement.

We realise that Weald Rise has special challenges and our travel planners are working with Weald Rise's new leadership to develop a plan that will take it through to Silver and hopefully Gold STARS standard. This means even more initiatives to come. We understand the EFA are preparing to hold public events about the proposed school rebuilding this winter and our travel planners will be there to talk about their work further.