

**Maida Vale Area Forum**  
Westminster City Council  
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04 January 2010

Resident Address  
Resident Address  
Resident Address  
Resident Address

Dear <insert resident first name>

Thank you to all who were able to attend the recent Maida Vale Area Forum and help us make decisions that affect your local area. Your views are important to us, so I'd like to take this opportunity to let you know what we are planning to do in response to your feedback.

If you would like more detail on the workshop discussions and ward budget spending, visit [www.westminster.gov.uk/neighbourhoods](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/neighbourhoods) or call us on the number above.

### **Thames Water: Addressing flooding concerns in the area**

Thames Water gave an update on the recent flooding, along with an operational overview of the actions Thames Water take following a burst water main or a flood. They also told us what they're doing to reduce the likelihood of further failures and the progress of the Victorian Mains Replacement project. They clarified that Thames Water does not have any defined flood alleviation schemes included in Asset Management Period 5 (AMP5) which covers a five year period from 2010 to 2015.

Investigation work is now underway to identify the root cause of the flooding, in particular the flooding that has affected some 150 properties detailed on the company's Sewer Flooding History Database. Once the investigations are concluded in 2010, Thames Water will be able to determine the potential for incorporating the scheme within its AMP5 sewer flooding programme. It is essential that Thames Water is notified in writing or via the Sewer Flooding Questionnaire of sewer flooding incidents. The questionnaire is available from Thames Water's website [www.thameswater.co.uk/cps/rde/xchg/corp/hs.xsl/9783.htm](http://www.thameswater.co.uk/cps/rde/xchg/corp/hs.xsl/9783.htm) or by telephoning 0845 9200 800.

A meeting will be arranged between the Maida Flood Action Group and Thames Water to discuss questionnaires completed by residents and ensure that the information was transferred to Thames Water's Sewer Flooding History Database.

### **Introduction to the new Westminster website**

Alastair Gilchrist, Westminster City Council's Strategic Director of Resources, gave a presentation on the council's new website, which was launched in June, outlining improvements such as a prominent search function and asking for your feedback on

how you have found using the site. You commented that the map function was very useful, and suggested ways this could be further improved, such as maps to show waste collection times and locations. You also felt that links to minutes of public meetings should be more accessible and the link to the car club scheme should be more prominent (this can be found at [www.westminster.gov.uk/carclub](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/carclub)).

We are continuing to update the website, including a calendar of events and making the search engine more effective. If you have any suggestions for the website, please let us know. You can either email the area forums team at [areaforums@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:areaforums@westminster.gov.uk) or you can comment about a specific page on the website by using the 'was this useful' box at the foot of the webpage.

### **£100,000 for your Area – Ward Budget Updates**

**Harrow Road** councillors are funding computer instruction for older residents at Queen's Park Library, complementary therapies for older residents and the continuation of a joint community gardening project. The councillors have requested residents' 'Bright Ideas' and are currently deciding which to support.

**Little Venice** councillors have funded a range of projects including complementary therapies for older residents, boxercise sessions for younger people at Little Venice Sports Centre and Christmas lights on Clifton Road. Other ideas being considered include joint funding a police patrol car for the area.

**Maida Vale** councillors have funded Christmas lights on Elgin Parade. Other ideas being considered are streetscape improvements at Elgin Parade, joint funding for a police patrol car for the area and improvements at Dibdin House.

**Queen's Park** councillors are continuing to fund the community gardening project, welfare benefits advice and the apprenticeships programme. They are also funding dog socialising classes and a dog show, educational trips for local primary schools and a contribution to the Interfaith event, which took place in June.

To find out which electoral ward you are in, visit [www.westminster.gov.uk/wardfinder](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/wardfinder) or contact the team.

### **Your next Maida Vale Area Forum**

I look forward to welcoming you to the next forum on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March, from 6.30-8.30pm at the Paddington Academy on Marylands Road. If you would like to raise a topic at the next forum, or for further information, please contact the Area Forums team using the contact details at the top of this letter.



Cllr Ian Adams  
Chairman of the Maida Vale Area Forum

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