

'Corporate failure by the Local Authority'

Safeguarding and Children's Services

Bromley's children's and safeguarding services have been labelled 'inadequate' by Ofsted inspectors, who said the service had 'serious and widespread' failures leaving children vulnerable. The report says there has been a 'corporate failure by the local authority that leaves too many children in neglectful and abusive situations for too long'. Inspectors wrote: 'The response to children missing or at risk of sexual exploitation is underdeveloped, inconsistent and uncoordinated'.

The report comes just months after a damning report by the Probation Service on Bromley's Youth Offending Service.

The Tories can't blame lack of money, last year the budget for care services was under spent by £4.3m. When the Director responsible for Care Services left in 2015, he wasn't replaced, to save money, other staff were expected to take on his responsibilities on top of their own jobs.

The Tories running Bromley Council need to remember what they were elected to do, to provide services to the residents of Bromley. It seems saving money and boosting a £132m investment fund, are more important than delivering the services residents have paid for.



Waste4Fuel



It's now 4 years since Bromley Tories voted to do nothing about the Waste4Fuel dump in the Crays, 2 years since it was closed down and 2 years since local Tory and UKIP Councillors were elected on the back of promises to sort the problem out. In 2014 there was a brief flurry of activity to remove a small amount of waste, leaving behind tens of thousands of tonnes of rotting garbage. Since that time the only regular visitors to the site are Rats and the Fire Brigade extinguishing the frequent fires which break out.

In June The Environment Agency said 'a plan has been agreed between ourselves and the London Borough of

Bromley to remove the waste and the funding secured'. Well excuse us from being cynical, but we have been told the same story for 4 years and nothing has happened, so instead tell us: What the plan is? When is it going to be implemented? When is it going to be completed? and how much is this all costing?

It's hard to not come to the conclusion that had the Waste4Fuel site not been in the Crays, then the problem would have been resolved years ago.

Children at Risk

The footpath through the woods connecting Rusland Avenue and Tile Farm is used as a short cut by pupils from Newstead Woods, Darrick Wood and Tubbenden schools. The path is unlit and concerns over safety have been raised. A petition calling for lighting on the path has been signed by over 1,200 residents and other users, but ignored by the council. The councillor designated to go and look at the problem refused, saying 'it wasn't safe to go up there in the dark'.

Citing cost and budgetary constraints Bromley Council do not see the need for lighting. If nothing else, it seems Bromley Council is good at letting down our children.



Snippets.....



Boaty McBoatface.

The public voted in their thousands, when asked to name the new Environment Council research vessel, and they picked Boaty McBoatface. Despite a landslide victory in the public poll the Universities and Science Minister, Orpington MP Jo Johnson said Boaty McBoatface would "not be suitable", and blocked it.



Playing Monopoly with your Money

Have you noticed litter not cleared, grass verges not being cut? In case you didn't know, Bromley Tories are cutting services so as to use the underspend to boost their property investment fund, and we know how well these funds are doing post Brexit.



That Vote.....

Of course everyone is aware of the outcome of the referendum, some people may not be aware that despite the best efforts of Bromley Council, Bromley voted to Remain.






Pay and Dismay.....

Small businesses have suffered like the rest of us in recent years, none more so than the shops in the High Street. It seems Bromley Tories are intent on making life as difficult as they can for independent traders in Carlton Parade, by the recent introduction of parking charges.

Living in Orpington

We'd like to hear about the issues which are important to you – from Schools and the NHS to Street cleaning, Waste collection and the state of our High Street. You can email us on enquiries@orpingtonlabour.org.uk and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

How to get in touch

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