1

Notice of Intention to Sell Green Belt Land (Updated)

Land and Buildings at Crayford Manor House, Mayplace Road East, Bexleyheath DA1 4HB Notice is hereby given that The Mayor and Burgesses of the London Borough of Bexley are proposing to apply to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for consent to dispose, by way of a long leasehold and/or freehold sale, the following property by virtue of the provisions of the Green Belt (London and Home Counties) Act 1938:

Land and buildings known as Crayford Manor House, Mayplace Road East, Bexleyheath DA1 4HB

The intended purpose of the disposal is to secure the long-term future and refurbishment of the locally-listed Manor House as well as the Coach House for residential use together with some enabling residential development within the land edged in red on the site plan. Any development will be subject to planning approval following due consultation and will have regard to the site's Metropolitan Open Land status and all other relevant planning designations.

Details of the property, including a site plan indicating its boundaries, have been deposited for public inspection at:

Civic Offices, 2 Watling Street, Bexleyheath DA6 7AT between the hours of 9am and 5pm Mondays to Fridays

or by telephoning 020 3045 4944 or 020 3045 4830 or emailing <u>propertyservices@bexley.gov.uk</u>

Any objection to the proposed disposal should be sent in writing to Property Services, Civic Offices, 2 Watling Street, Bexleyheath DA6 7AT before Wednesday 7 September 2022 and should state the reasons for such objection.

Patricia Narebor

Deputy Director Legal and Democratic Services Dated this 10 day of August 2022

2

853

DARRYL CHAMBERLAIN 22/6/2021

Public interest news for Greenwich and SE London, funded by you

Lead from petrol remains in London's air 23 years after it was banned, <u>researchers from Imperial College have found</u>.

Tetraethyl lead was added to petrol to improve cars' performance, but it was phased out in the 1980s and 1990s after studies found that it could cause brain damage in children – with those living near motorways more vulnerable – as well as heart, kidney and reproductive problems for adults.

Levels of lead in London's air have dropped dramatically since it was banned in 1999, but academics found that 40 per cent of lead in airborne particles today comes from the legacy of leaded petrol.

Lead from leaded petrol which has settled in the environment circulates in the air through wind and vehicle movement, providing a constant background level of the pollutant. There is no safe level of lead in air, despite air quality targets.

The findings from the research team – who studied the air on Marylebone Road in central London as well as at Imperial's campus in South Kensington – will cause concern for those who live near historically congested areas such as the Blackwall Tunnel approaches, the A₂ – including its former route along Rochester Way in Eltham – and the South Circular Road.

Dr Eléonore Resongles, who led the team carrying out the study, said: "Long-term low-level exposure to lead can adversely affect health and, while we don't yet know the health implications of our findings, they suggest that leaded petrol might still be providing low level exposure which can have detrimental effects on health."

In the 1980s, annual average airborne lead concentrations in central London dropped from 500-600 ng/m3 of air to around 300 ng/m3, before dropping further to about 20 ng/m3 in 2000. The researchers

in this study measured lead concentrations of 8 ng/m3 of air on average during the summer of 2018 at Marylebone Road.

Senior author Professor Dominik Weiss said: "We used to have a lot of lead circulating in the air, but it dropped dramatically when leaded petrol was phased out at the turn of the millennium. However, the evolution of isotope composition since then suggests that lead in the air, soil and dust persists at background levels, and this could turn out to be a concern for health."

The researchers said that if the levels of lead prove to be harmful, then measures should be taken such as covering contaminated soil with fresh soil, which has been effective in reducing children's blood lead levels in New Orleans.

Dr Resongles said: "Atmospheric lead has reached a baseline in London which is difficult to push down further with present policy measures. More research is needed to identify the effect of present air concentrations – even if they meet data air quality targets – on human health, and to find the best way to rid London of lead's legacy for good." The research is published in <u>the *PNAS* academic journal</u>.



3 Local road in Slade Green

4 Map of local area With London City airport top left and Dartford Tunnel lower left.



Key to Map

- 1 Blackwall Tunnel and Silvertown Tunnel
- 2 Sainsburys Distribution Centre SE7 7SW
- 3 Incinerator DA17 6JY
- 4 Asda Distribution Centre DA17 6JY
- 5 Amazon Logistics Centre DA17 6JS
- 6 Separate Ocado and Tesco Distribution Centres DA8 1DE
- 7 Eden Valley meat processing plant DA8 2AD
- 8 UPS Hub DA1 5BS, Fed Ex DA1 5XA, TNT International Road Hub DA1 5LY
- 9 Sainsburys Distribution Centre DA1 5FD

10 Amazon Fulfilment Centre DA1 5PZ

11 EMR Erith Scrap Metal Recycling unit DA8 2AD

12 Veolia Recycling Thames Rd

13 Banana Ripening Facility DA2 6QL

RSPB Rainham Marshes RM19 1SZ

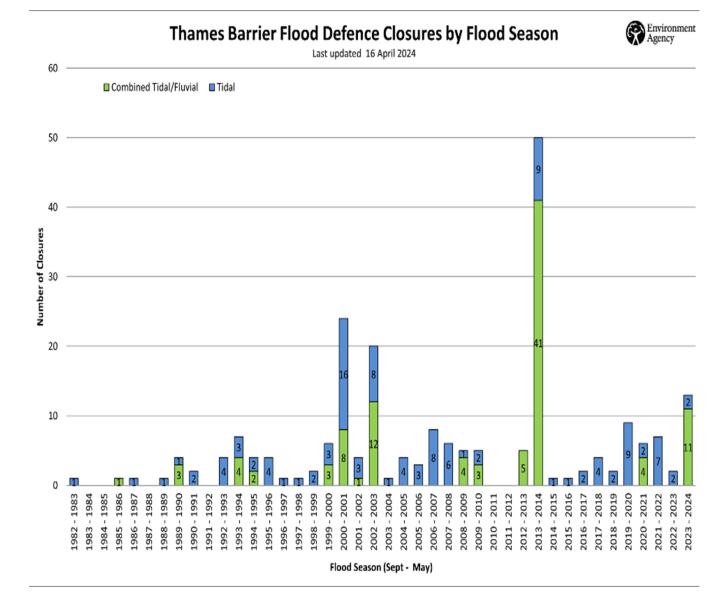
.....

Reference 5

Thames Barrier closures

The Thames Barrier has been closed 221 times for flood defence purposes, since it became operational in 1982 - correct as at 16 April 2024. Of these closures:

- 119 were to protect against tidal flooding
- 102 were to protect against combined tidal/fluvial flooding
- thamesbarrierenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk.



End of document

Summary

Worldwide there are no working or completed projects for carbon capture from variable feed stock incinerators that I know of. Yet, Cory proposes not one, but 2 carbon capture chimneys at their Belvedere incinerator site. A test project in a remote area, would give some indication as to chemical and other hazards that may occur in the chimney output. Over time new chemical hazards are discovered. We cannot predict accurately how these variables will impact on the proposed works, so careful studies are required. How can the current project be justified as suitable for completion in a heavily populated area with existing hazards adding yet more variables to any calculations made.

Cory has proposed using part of the riverside Nature reserve as land for 2 Chimney stacks for the extraction of Carbon. However, it is not proposing adequate replacement land. Improving paths on the Norman Road field is not enhancing the area in any way, whereas increasing land areas with shrubs and trees, acts as natural pollution reduction. There is also a concern about the effect on the Thames path which passes the site. I would object to any diversions or tunnels within the path, which would discourage users. (There is very little open river frontage in the area with much high rise development.) In Bexley borough, much open space has already been lost, such as Erith Quarry, now many homes. Berkeley Homes propose to build adjacent to Crayford Marshes. Adjoining Hall Place in Crayford, the BT open storage depot is slated for over 500 homes. Crayford dog track is to close. Crayford Manor House is to be sold off by the council - possibly due to budget constraints. **Reference 1**

Losing local amenity sites and activities reduces access for local people to less polluted open spaces which is particularly important for children living in the many existing high-rise blocks in the borough, with many more in planning stages.

There is no current data on what chemicals would be emitted in the chimney process and how the changing interaction of feedstocks would affect combustion. Some chemicals though no longer used, can still remain in the atmosphere. A study reported in 2021 stated - *Lead from petrol remains in London's air 23 years after it was banned.* There may be more such long lasting pollutants to be uncovered. **Reference 2**

Around 20 years ago, data on the hazards of high levels of NO2 was emerging. (As in Professor Ian Mudway's studies of schoolchildren in Charlton, Greenwich Borough.) Along the A206 dual carriage, high levels of NO 2 were found in citizen science testing. At the Northend road section, high rise flats, a nursery, a school, and a Care home, all front on to this busy road. Lead, as an additive was considered a pollutant and removed from petrol. A study stated that "Metallic air pollutants are causing a 'silent heart disease epidemic', states Professor Maher from the University of Lancaster (reported in Air Quality News 7/7/2020). 'It's been known for a long time that people with high exposure to particulate air pollution experience increased levels and severity of heart disease. Our new work shows that iron-rich nanoparticles from air pollution can get right inside the millions of mitochondria inside our hearts." Aside from this, electric and other fuel vehicles, still

cause minute particles of road dust (from paint, tyre crumb, brake dust etc). This later discovery is known as PM2.5. (The website on 18.5.2020 stated "*Fine particulate matter* (*PM2.5*) –*is emitted directly from combustion sources or formed in the atmosphere from complex chemical reactions. It is one of the primary pollutants because it is linked to asthma, lung cancer and deaths from cardiopulmonary diseases.*") The polluting dust, when in rain, runs off into watercourses adding to water contamination. As this report states that "PM2.5 can be formed in the atmosphere from complex chemical reactions," it should be a major concern for the 2 proposed chimneys. Another example of totally unpredictable hazards is Johnson's baby powder, used for generations, that is now alleged to be harmful; in legal proceedings against the company.

UKWIN state that "Waste incinerators are three times more likely to be built in the UK's most deprived neighbourhoods than in the least, an Unearthed investigation has found. Potential new incinerators – which have been proposed, are in planning or being built – also reflect this trend, according to mapping data." This was also stated by Greenpeace as "UK waste incinerators disproportionately sited in most deprived areas". (Source

north of Bexley is not an affluent area of the borough. Cllr Danny Thorpe, Leader of the Royal Borough of Greenwich said in 2020 : "Climate change and poor air quality are already having a dramatic negative effect on our health and, much like COVID-19, have become an issue of equality and social justice. The effects of climate change are likely to affect our elderly, vulnerable and poorer residents the most, so if we take action to lower our emissions, the same residents will benefit from warmer homes, cleaner air, and lower energy bills. This would all indicate that for the health of the local population, careful stack output modelling, taking into account existing high pollution levels in the area, is essential before any actual works are undertaken.

This human dimension does not seem to be a consideration in the application. Whilst Cory historically has been philanthropic, contributing to some local causes such as Belvedere Community Centre and Erith Library, these actions do not reduce local air pollution levels. I am a resident of Slade Green, a designated area of deprivation with higher numbers of those who are vulnerable - with COPD, children with life limiting illnesses and registered Carers. (This is about 3 miles from the existing Cory incinerator at Belvedere.) It has a community food distribution centre. Adjacent Erith, has a full food bank operating also. It seems totally unreasonable to add more possible health hazards in the form of untested technology to an already compromised area of population. Slade Green was a quiet rural village, situated in the north of Bexley and known as Cabbage Island. It had few roads. When the railway, then the engineering depot came in 1900, workers houses were built. Also, for the ammunition factory workers on the marshes, private landlords like Silks built small rental homes for workers. The few roads were lanes and small single carriageway roads. Those same roads today are choaked with cars and commercial vehicles, adding to pollution levels. Double decker buses run to the station from the main A206 road. These get delayed by poor parking. A bus was stuck for 1 hour until assisted by police officers. Commuters from outside the TFL rail zone, park in the small side streets by the station. (A study by a local councillor found cars from Dartford and Gravesend were commuting there). A local family have just moved to Exeter, partly due to never being able to park outside their own house near the station during the week. Another family with children has moved to Southend. Our former postman and family have moved to the Isle of Wight. Around the Slade Green area was reported to be the cheapest area of Bexley, attracting investor landlords. I live in a cul-de-sac of small

The

terrace homes built for rent in the 1930s. Today most properties have been extended to the rear from 2 bedrooms. As in adjacent roads, one property is now student accommodation, another is also a multi occupancy property, all bringing extra cars. The street is very small but there are 2 cars and a van owned by several homes, competing for space in the small road. Many of the small gardens are paved over, reducing green space. The end house has become 3 properties. One home runs a business with deliveries and collections through the day. Homes also have online grocery and parcel deliveries daily. Many more people are living in the same small area with increasing traffic pollution.

Reference 3

There is 1 main road into the area; the A206 dual carriageway. This is an artery leading from the Dartford Tunnel through the North of Bexley passing the incinerator site, on to Woolwich and the Blackwall tunnel. Along this road are many warehouses and distribution depots with heavy goods fleets operating night and day. There are major lorry fleets from grocery distribution sites such as Sainsbury and Asda near the tunnel, with the new Amazon distribution hub also operating. Examples of some large logistics fleet operators are mapped.

Reference 4 - MAP

To the south the other main road, the A2, also leads to the Dartford Tunnell and on to Dover. Both roads are constantly slow moving with almost daily delays causing gridlock in the whole area. Kent Highways previously estimated there were 300 incidents a year of more than 20 minutes delay on average at the tunnel. The latest major incident closed the road for 4 hours. Cory's laying of a power transit cable from the incinerator site at Belvedere to the Littlebrook grid link at Greenhithe caused severe delays through the route for almost a year. (Example - Abbey Wood to Erith took1 hour for a 2-mile trip.) There were so many complaints to the council about the traffic problems caused by the cable laying, that they issued a message on the Bexley news website -

"Thames Road Works - Works currently being undertaken at Thames Road outside the recycling centre are to install a cable into the new Cory site that is currently being built. Temporary traffic lights are in place to allow safe working on site from under the railway bridge on Thames Road to the roundabout at Bob Dunn Way. This is causing long delays in the Borough, particularly in the Crayford area. They are not Council works and a statutory requirement means that we cannot prevent or restrict the works taking place. The works are being carried out on Cory's behalf by the contractor JSM. Please contact JSM with any queries on 0800 035 0708."

The A206 does not have pollution monitors despite being heavily used. (Bexley has less pollution monitors than the adjacent boroughs Dartford and Greenwich. For the southern area dual carriageway, the A2, Bexley uses the data provided by the Greenwich monitor.) Traffic jams and traffic idling creates extra NO2 and PM2.5 pollution in the area. The Mayor of London stated that the whole of the GLA area already exceeds World Health Organisation limits for NO2. The Silvertown Tunnel project when completed, will also bring yet more traffic on to the heavily used A2 road and through Woolwich on to the A206. The London City airport flightpaths pass over the area. The airport has proposed a 40% increase in flight capacity. This will add more pollution, particularly when planes come in to land. (The army base at Woolwich also has some helicopter landings.)

With changing weather conditions, there is also a potential threat to the Cory site from flooding. (It would not seem likely that Valencia would have the severe floods seen recently.) In 1953 a major flood hit low lying Belvedere and the marshes particularly. This may seem irrelevant today, but increasing storms and higher tides may require more closures of the Thames Barrier forcing water downstream passing the site when there are extreme tides predicted.

Reference 5

Should the project for the installation of the 2 carbon capture process chimneys go ahead, it would seem only rational that the current incinerator should be used as a test bed for any new system, as there is no existing blueprint for the technology. This facility will have established records of feedstock, input quality, energy use, etc. Any anomalies found could then be adjusted in modelling for the installation within the higher throughput of the second incinerator.

.....

Mrs M J White 26/11/2024

1

Notice of Intention to Sell Green Belt Land (Updated)

Land and Buildings at Crayford Manor House, Mayplace Road East, Bexleyheath DA1 4HB Notice is hereby given that The Mayor and Burgesses of the London Borough of Bexley are proposing to apply to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for consent to dispose, by way of a long leasehold and/or freehold sale, the following property by virtue of the provisions of the Green Belt (London and Home Counties) Act 1938:

Land and buildings known as Crayford Manor House, Mayplace Road East, Bexleyheath DA1 4HB

The intended purpose of the disposal is to secure the long-term future and refurbishment of the locally-listed Manor House as well as the Coach House for residential use together with some enabling residential development within the land edged in red on the site plan. Any development will be subject to planning approval following due consultation and will have regard to the site's Metropolitan Open Land status and all other relevant planning designations.

Details of the property, including a site plan indicating its boundaries, have been deposited for public inspection at:

Civic Offices, 2 Watling Street, Bexleyheath DA6 7AT between the hours of 9am and 5pm Mondays to Fridays

or by telephoning 020 3045 4944 or 020 3045 4830 or emailing <u>propertyservices@bexley.gov.uk</u>

Any objection to the proposed disposal should be sent in writing to Property Services, Civic Offices, 2 Watling Street, Bexleyheath DA6 7AT before Wednesday 7 September 2022 and should state the reasons for such objection.

Patricia Narebor

Deputy Director Legal and Democratic Services Dated this 10 day of August 2022

2

853

DARRYL CHAMBERLAIN 22/6/2021

Public interest news for Greenwich and SE London, funded by you

Lead from petrol remains in London's air 23 years after it was banned, <u>researchers from Imperial College have found</u>.

Tetraethyl lead was added to petrol to improve cars' performance, but it was phased out in the 1980s and 1990s after studies found that it could cause brain damage in children – with those living near motorways more vulnerable – as well as heart, kidney and reproductive problems for adults.

Levels of lead in London's air have dropped dramatically since it was banned in 1999, but academics found that 40 per cent of lead in airborne particles today comes from the legacy of leaded petrol.

Lead from leaded petrol which has settled in the environment circulates in the air through wind and vehicle movement, providing a constant background level of the pollutant. There is no safe level of lead in air, despite air quality targets.

The findings from the research team – who studied the air on Marylebone Road in central London as well as at Imperial's campus in South Kensington – will cause concern for those who live near historically congested areas such as the Blackwall Tunnel approaches, the A₂ – including its former route along Rochester Way in Eltham – and the South Circular Road.

Dr Eléonore Resongles, who led the team carrying out the study, said: "Long-term low-level exposure to lead can adversely affect health and, while we don't yet know the health implications of our findings, they suggest that leaded petrol might still be providing low level exposure which can have detrimental effects on health."

In the 1980s, annual average airborne lead concentrations in central London dropped from 500-600 ng/m3 of air to around 300 ng/m3, before dropping further to about 20 ng/m3 in 2000. The researchers

in this study measured lead concentrations of 8 ng/m3 of air on average during the summer of 2018 at Marylebone Road.

Senior author Professor Dominik Weiss said: "We used to have a lot of lead circulating in the air, but it dropped dramatically when leaded petrol was phased out at the turn of the millennium. However, the evolution of isotope composition since then suggests that lead in the air, soil and dust persists at background levels, and this could turn out to be a concern for health."

The researchers said that if the levels of lead prove to be harmful, then measures should be taken such as covering contaminated soil with fresh soil, which has been effective in reducing children's blood lead levels in New Orleans.

Dr Resongles said: "Atmospheric lead has reached a baseline in London which is difficult to push down further with present policy measures. More research is needed to identify the effect of present air concentrations – even if they meet data air quality targets – on human health, and to find the best way to rid London of lead's legacy for good." The research is published in <u>the *PNAS* academic journal</u>.



3 Local road in Slade Green

4 Map of local area With London City airport top left and Dartford Tunnel lower left.



Key to Map

1 Blackwall Tunnel and Silvertown Tunnel

2 Sainsburys Distribution Centre SE7 7SW

3 Incinerator DA17 6JY

4 Asda Distribution Centre DA17 6JY

5 Amazon Logistics Centre DA17 6JS

6 Separate Ocado and Tesco Distribution Centres DA8 1DE

7 Eden Valley meat processing plant DA8 2AD

8 UPS Hub DA1 5BS, Fed Ex DA1 5XA, TNT International Road Hub DA1 5LY

9 Sainsburys Distribution Centre DA1 5FD

10 Amazon Fulfilment Centre DA1 5PZ

11 EMR Erith Scrap Metal Recycling unit DA8 2AD

12 Veolia Recycling Thames Rd

13 Banana Ripening Facility DA2 6QL

RSPB Rainham Marshes RM19 1SZ

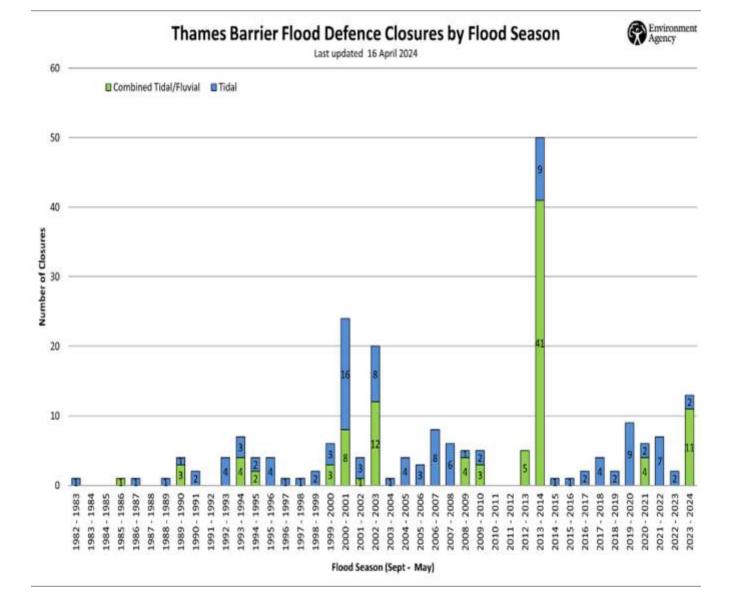
.....

Reference 5

Thames Barrier closures

The Thames Barrier has been closed 221 times for flood defence purposes, since it became operational in 1982 - correct as at 16 April 2024. Of these closures:

- 119 were to protect against tidal flooding
- 102 were to protect against combined tidal/fluvial flooding
- thamesbarrierenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk.



End of document

Summary

Worldwide there are no working or completed projects for carbon capture from variable feed stock incinerators that I know of. Yet, Cory proposes not one, but 2 carbon capture chimneys at their Belvedere incinerator site. A test project in a remote area, would give some indication as to chemical and other hazards that may occur in the chimney output. Over time new chemical hazards are discovered. We cannot predict accurately how these variables will impact on the proposed works, so careful studies are required. How can the current project be justified as suitable for completion in a heavily populated area with existing hazards adding yet more variables to any calculations made.

Cory has proposed using part of the riverside Nature reserve as land for 2 Chimney stacks for the extraction of Carbon. However, it is not proposing adequate replacement land. Improving paths on the Norman Road field is not enhancing the area in any way, whereas increasing land areas with shrubs and trees, acts as natural pollution reduction. There is also a concern about the effect on the Thames path which passes the site. I would object to any diversions or tunnels within the path, which would discourage users. (There is very little open river frontage in the area with much high rise development.) In Bexley borough, much open space has already been lost, such as Erith Quarry, now many homes. Berkeley Homes propose to build adjacent to Crayford Marshes. Adjoining Hall Place in Crayford, the BT open storage depot is slated for over 500 homes. Crayford dog track is to close. Crayford Manor House is to be sold off by the council - possibly due to budget constraints. **Reference 1**

Losing local amenity sites and activities reduces access for local people to less polluted open spaces which is particularly important for children living in the many existing high-rise blocks in the borough, with many more in planning stages.

There is no current data on what chemicals would be emitted in the chimney process and how the changing interaction of feedstocks would affect combustion. Some chemicals though no longer used, can still remain in the atmosphere. A study reported in 2021 stated - *Lead from petrol remains in London's air 23 years after it was banned.* There may be more such long lasting pollutants to be uncovered. **Reference 2**

Around 20 years ago, data on the hazards of high levels of NO2 was emerging. (As in Professor Ian Mudway's studies of schoolchildren in Charlton, Greenwich Borough.) Along the A206 dual carriage, high levels of NO 2 were found in citizen science testing. At the Northend road section, high rise flats, a nursery, a school, and a Care home, all front on to this busy road. Lead, as an additive was considered a pollutant and removed from petrol. A study stated that "Metallic air pollutants are causing a 'silent heart disease epidemic', states Professor Maher from the University of Lancaster (reported in Air Quality News 7/7/2020). 'It's been known for a long time that people with high exposure to particulate air pollution experience increased levels and severity of heart disease. Our new work shows that iron-rich nanoparticles from air pollution can get right inside the millions of mitochondria inside our hearts." Aside from this, electric and other fuel vehicles, still

cause minute particles of road dust (from paint, tyre crumb, brake dust etc). This later discovery is known as PM2.5. (The Videalert.com website on 18.5.2020 stated "*Fine particulate matter* (*PM2.5*) –*is emitted directly from combustion sources or formed in the atmosphere from complex chemical reactions. It is one of the primary pollutants because it is linked to asthma, lung cancer and deaths from cardiopulmonary diseases.*") The polluting dust, when in rain, runs off into watercourses adding to water contamination. As this report states that "PM2.5 can be formed in the atmosphere from complex chemical reactions," it should be a major concern for the 2 proposed chimneys. Another example of totally unpredictable hazards is Johnson's baby powder, used for generations, that is now alleged to be harmful; in legal proceedings against the company.

UKWIN state that "Waste incinerators are three times more likely to be built in the UK's most deprived neighbourhoods than in the least, an Unearthed investigation has found. Potential new incinerators – which have been proposed, are in planning or being built – also reflect this trend, according to mapping data." This was also stated by Greenpeace as "UK waste incinerators disproportionately sited in most deprived areas". (Source

). The north of Bexley is not an affluent area of the borough. Cllr Danny Thorpe, Leader of the Royal Borough of Greenwich said in 2020 : "Climate change and poor air quality are already having a dramatic negative effect on our health and, much like COVID-19, have become an issue of equality and social justice. The effects of climate change are likely to affect our elderly, vulnerable and poorer residents the most, so if we take action to lower our emissions, the same residents will benefit from warmer homes, cleaner air, and lower energy bills. This would all indicate that for the health of the local population, careful stack output modelling, taking into account existing high pollution levels in the area, is essential before any actual works are undertaken.

This human dimension does not seem to be a consideration in the application. Whilst Cory historically has been philanthropic, contributing to some local causes such as Belvedere Community Centre and Erith Library, these actions do not reduce local air pollution levels. I am a resident of Slade Green, a designated area of deprivation with higher numbers of those who are vulnerable - with COPD, children with life limiting illnesses and registered Carers. (This is about 3 miles from the existing Cory incinerator at Belvedere.) It has a community food distribution centre. Adjacent Erith, has a full food bank operating also. It seems totally unreasonable to add more possible health hazards in the form of untested technology to an already compromised area of population. Slade Green was a quiet rural village, situated in the north of Bexley and known as Cabbage Island. It had few roads. When the railway, then the engineering depot came in 1900, workers houses were built. Also, for the ammunition factory workers on the marshes, private landlords like Silks built small rental homes for workers. The few roads were lanes and small single carriageway roads. Those same roads today are choaked with cars and commercial vehicles, adding to pollution levels. Double decker buses run to the station from the main A206 road. These get delayed by poor parking. A bus was stuck for 1 hour until assisted by police officers. Commuters from outside the TFL rail zone, park in the small side streets by the station. (A study by a local councillor found cars from Dartford and Gravesend were commuting there). A local family have just moved to Exeter, partly due to never being able to park outside their own house near the station during the week. Another family with children has moved to Southend. Our former postman and family have moved to the Isle of Wight. Around the Slade Green area was reported to be the cheapest area of Bexley, attracting investor landlords. I live in a cul-de-sac of small

terrace homes built for rent in the 1930s. Today most properties have been extended to the rear from 2 bedrooms. As in adjacent roads, one property is now student accommodation, another is also a multi occupancy property, all bringing extra cars. The street is very small but there are 2 cars and a van owned by several homes, competing for space in the small road. Many of the small gardens are paved over, reducing green space. The end house has become 3 properties. One home runs a business with deliveries and collections through the day. Homes also have online grocery and parcel deliveries daily. Many more people are living in the same small area with increasing traffic pollution.

Reference 3

There is 1 main road into the area; the A206 dual carriageway. This is an artery leading from the Dartford Tunnel through the North of Bexley passing the incinerator site, on to Woolwich and the Blackwall tunnel. Along this road are many warehouses and distribution depots with heavy goods fleets operating night and day. There are major lorry fleets from grocery distribution sites such as Sainsbury and Asda near the tunnel, with the new Amazon distribution hub also operating. Examples of some large logistics fleet operators are mapped.

Reference 4 - MAP

To the south the other main road, the A2, also leads to the Dartford Tunnell and on to Dover. Both roads are constantly slow moving with almost daily delays causing gridlock in the whole area. Kent Highways previously estimated there were 300 incidents a year of more than 20 minutes delay on average at the tunnel. The latest major incident closed the road for 4 hours. Cory's laying of a power transit cable from the incinerator site at Belvedere to the Littlebrook grid link at Greenhithe caused severe delays through the route for almost a year. (Example - Abbey Wood to Erith took1 hour for a 2-mile trip.) There were so many complaints to the council about the traffic problems caused by the cable laying, that they issued a message on the Bexley news website -

"Thames Road Works - Works currently being undertaken at Thames Road outside the recycling centre are to install a cable into the new Cory site that is currently being built. Temporary traffic lights are in place to allow safe working on site from under the railway bridge on Thames Road to the roundabout at Bob Dunn Way. This is causing long delays in the Borough, particularly in the Crayford area. They are not Council works and a statutory requirement means that we cannot prevent or restrict the works taking place. The works are being carried out on Cory's behalf by the contractor JSM. Please contact JSM with any queries on 0800 035 0708."

The A206 does not have pollution monitors despite being heavily used. (Bexley has less pollution monitors than the adjacent boroughs Dartford and Greenwich. For the southern area dual carriageway, the A2, Bexley uses the data provided by the Greenwich monitor.) Traffic jams and traffic idling creates extra NO2 and PM2.5 pollution in the area. The Mayor of London stated that the whole of the GLA area already exceeds World Health Organisation limits for NO2. The Silvertown Tunnel project when completed, will also bring yet more traffic on to the heavily used A2 road and through Woolwich on to the A206. The London City airport flightpaths pass over the area. The airport has proposed a 40% increase in flight capacity. This will add more pollution, particularly when planes come in to land. (The army base at Woolwich also has some helicopter landings.)

With changing weather conditions, there is also a potential threat to the Cory site from flooding. (It would not seem likely that Valencia would have the severe floods seen recently.) In 1953 a major flood hit low lying Belvedere and the marshes particularly. This may seem irrelevant today, but increasing storms and higher tides may require more closures of the Thames Barrier forcing water downstream passing the site when there are extreme tides predicted.

Reference 5

Should the project for the installation of the 2 carbon capture process chimneys go ahead, it would seem only rational that the current incinerator should be used as a test bed for any new system, as there is no existing blueprint for the technology. This facility will have established records of feedstock, input quality, energy use, etc. Any anomalies found could then be adjusted in modelling for the installation within the higher throughput of the second incinerator.

.....

Mrs M J White 26/11/2024