



Councillor Peter Mason
Leader of the Council
Labour Member Southall Green Ward

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Dear Ashley,

Since being elected leader of Ealing Council last month, I have made it clear that one of my priorities is to address the ongoing distress, concerns and diminishment of quality of life being experienced by Southall residents in the vicinity of the Gasworks development site.

This development is of an unprecedented scale in Southall and with works due to continue for several more decades, it is absolutely vital that the works on the site do not continue to be a running sore, blighting the lives of existing residents for the foreseeable future.

It is clear to me that the existing situation, where residents do not feel listened to or that their concerns are taken seriously, is untenable. We need to radically change how we involve, engage and listen to local people around major developments, including the Gasworks site.

This includes making progress towards establishing independent air quality monitoring around the site. This is an important step which will hopefully provide data which local residents will have easy access to and can have full confidence in.

But we need to go further, and I will be continuing to engage with local residents on what more needs to be done to address their concerns and provide reassurance.

There are two issues I would like to raise with you at this point.

Firstly, and urgently, I am very concerned to be told by officers that we have not received any VOC data from your own commissioned monitoring through Atkins since September 2020, or air quality data since April 2021.



I understand officers have been chasing these for some while and it is very worrying that these have not yet been received. Understandably, this delay is causing concern and suspicion on the part of local residents.

I would ask that this data is released immediately, so that there is full transparency and clarity for residents.

Secondly, as you will know there is ongoing concern among local residents about the soil decontamination process, and a desire for independent checks on the soil on the site that has been through that process to help allay concerns about health impacts from the continued presence of this material.

I have asked officers at the council to scope out what an independent process for such checks could look like. I am also aware that Clean Air for Southall & Hayes (CASH) is in discussions with scientific organisations who might be prepared to undertake such work.

I would urge that Berkeley Group respond positively to any request to grant permission to a properly credentialed independent organisation to access the site and collect soil samples for analysis.

I look forward to your positive response to these requests.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Mason'.

Councillor Peter Mason
Leader of the Council