

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee Supplementary Agenda - 2

Tuesday, 12 March 2019

6.30 pm, Committee Room 4

Civic Suite

Lewisham Town Hall

London SE6 4RU

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Part 1

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SAFER STRONGER COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE			
Report Title	Main Grants Programme 2019 -22		
Contributors	Head of Culture and Community Development		
Class	Part 1	Date: 12.03.19	Item 7

COVER REPORT

Reason for urgency

To ensure the comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee feed into the discussion and decision by the Mayor and Cabinet when they consider this matter at their meeting on 24 April 2019.

Reason for lateness

This paper has been dispatched late to allow for the first draft of the Mayor and Cabinet paper to be completed. The applications for the programme closed for submissions at midnight on 3rd February 2018 and due to the number of applications and the in-depth nature of the assessment processes applicants were only written to on 28th February 2018.

Only at this point, once all the recommendations had been confirmed and communicated to the groups could the drafting of the overall paper begin and this was not ready for the original dispatch deadline.

Consideration was given to providing a truncated report to the Committee but it was felt that more effective scrutiny could be provided given a more complete draft so the delay in dispatch was considered justified.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Committee is asked to consider and make comments on the draft Mayor and Cabinet report which is attached to this paper.

This paper will be subject to revisions following feedback from the Committee and the special meeting of Mayor and Cabinet that is taking place on 27th March 2019 in case of any appeals against the draft recommendations set out in the attached paper.

Details of the paper attached are:

- Draft Mayor and Cabinet paper including appendix 1 – List of organisations recommended for Main Grant funding for 2019-22
- Appendix 2 – Application form and guidance
- Appendix 3 - Assessment guidance
- Appendix 4 – Equalities Assurance Assessment

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MAYOR AND CABINET			
Report Title	Main Grants Programme 2019-22		
Key Decision	Yes	Item No.	
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director for Community Services, Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration, Head of Law		
Class	Part 1	Date:	

1. Purpose and summary of the report

- 1.1 This report seeks agreement for the allocation of the Main Grant programme 2019 – 22. The report details the recommended grant allocations that Mayor and Cabinet are asked to agree following the initial assessment of all applications and the appeals process for organisations unhappy with officer recommendations.
- 1.2 Lewisham’s main grant programme was last fully let in 2015 following a full public consultation on the revised framework which was agreed by Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) on 12 November 2014.
- 1.3 These grants are due to expire at the end of July 2019 and this paper details the process that has been undertaken to re-let the programme through to March 2022.
- 1.4 The paper sets out the results of that consultation and seeks agreement for the process of re-letting the programme. The paper also seeks agreement to extend the current grants through to 31 July 2019 to allow for the application process to be completed and a full three months' notice given to all groups regarding the change of funding arrangements in line with the Voluntary Sector Compact. This extension is necessary to ensure decisions regarding the overall available budget for the programme are agreed in line with wider budget decisions across the council.
- 1.5 The recommendations contained within this report take account of an annual budget cut of £600,000 to the programme.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that Mayor and Cabinet agree:
- the proposals to fund voluntary and community sector groups, as set out in Appendix 1, for the period 1 August 2019 – 31 March 2022 unless otherwise stated.
 - Agree the contribution to London Councils of £227,669 for financial year 2019-20

3. Policy Context

- 3.1 Lewisham’s Corporate Strategy 2018-2022, sets out the borough’s ambitions through seven corporate priorities which are:

- Open Lewisham - Lewisham is a welcoming place of safety for all where we celebrate the diversity that strengthens us.
- Tackling the housing crisis - Everyone has a decent home that is secure and affordable.
- Giving children and young people the best start in life - Every child has access to an outstanding and inspiring education and is given the support they need to keep them safe, well and able to achieve their full potential.
- Building an inclusive local economy - Everyone can access high quality job opportunities, with decent pay and security in our thriving and inclusive local economy.
- Delivering & defending: Health, Social Care and Support - Ensuring everyone receives the health, mental health, social care and support services they need.
- Making Lewisham greener - Everyone enjoys our green spaces and benefits from a healthy environment as we work to protect and improve our local environment.
- Building safer communities - Every resident feels safe and secure living here as we work together towards a borough free from the fear of crime.

3.2 The strategy recognises the importance of the community and voluntary sector in all areas of public life. It recognises that the sector plays a significant part in Lewisham's ongoing success and states that 'it is only through strong and effective partnership working that we will deliver better outcomes for our citizens.

3.3 Lewisham has a strong history of working with the voluntary and community sector and empowering residents and communities. Lewisham is fortunate to have a strong and thriving sector which ranges from very small organisations with no paid staff through to local branches of national charities. The sector includes charities, not for profit companies limited by guarantee, faith organisations, civic amenity societies as well as social enterprises. There are estimated to be around 800 community and voluntary sector organisations in the borough.

3.4 What all these organisations have in common is their ability to bring significant additional value to the work that they do through voluntary support and raising funds from sources not available to other sectors such as charitable trusts. In addition they often provide services that the Council cannot easily provide; create links between communities and people; and give people a voice.

3.5 As well as being directly involved in delivering services to citizens in the borough, third sector organisations also provide the essential infrastructure to allow the sector as a whole to develop and support individual citizens to be able to play an active role within their local communities.

3.6 Lewisham was the first London Borough to develop a Compact with the third sector in 2001. The compact seeks to support a positive relationship between the sector and key statutory partners. It includes expectations around the management of grant aid as well as broader partnership working principles. The compact was further developed in 2010 with the addition of guidelines for commissioning with the third sector in recognition of the important contribution that the third sector should play in identifying needs as well as potentially delivering service solutions.

3.7 Although the third sector's role within the commissioning of local public services continues to grow the council recognises that there continues to be a need for grant aid investment for the following reasons:

- A recognition of the importance of maintaining an independent sector that can act as a critical friend to challenge public sector policy and delivery.

- A recognition that the third sector is often better placed to understand local communities and develop innovative assets based programmes that avoid the need for expensive, and sometimes unwelcome, statutory interventions at a later date.
- A recognition that some people may feel more able to access voluntary sector groups due to suspicion, or negative experiences, of statutory services.
- A recognition of the key role that the sector plays in building civic participation, providing a voice for seldom heard residents and providing community intelligence.
- A recognition of the great diversity of the sector and the need to engage with small and emerging groups as well as large established organisations.
- A recognition of the sector's potential to take risks and innovate which does not sit easily within commissioning frameworks.
- A recognition that third sector organisations have been key delivery partners within Lewisham, including for a wide range of targeted short term initiatives. Grant aid provides a level of security for organisations ensuring that there is a strong sector able to address local need, attract significant additional resources and be ready to work in partnership with us.

4. Background

- 4.1 Lewisham's Main Grant programme was last fully let in 2015 following a full public consultation on the revised framework which was agreed by Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) on 12 November 2014.
- 4.2 The allocations for 2015-2018 were agreed by Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) on 13 May 2015. Funding was provided over four themes:
- strong and cohesive communities
 - communities that care
 - access to advice services
 - widening access to arts and sports
- 4.3 Due to the overall financial position of the Council Mayor and Cabinet agreed to reduce the funding to the grants programme by £1m from 1 April 2017. This equated to around 25% of the overall main grants budget.
- 4.4 Following formal consultation and meetings with all funded groups, officers developed funding recommendations which were agreed by Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) on 7 December 2016, following appeals. A total of 60 grants were recommended for funding, the majority with a pro-rata cut of 15.3%. Four organisations were de-funded. This funding position represents the starting point for the current re-letting process.
- 4.5 In order to inform the criteria and priorities for the full re letting of the programme a three month public consultation was undertaken between 25 July and 25 October 2018 with two public meetings held on 17 September and 17 October.
- 4.6 The outcome of this consultation led to a number of revisions to the criteria for funding and a new application process (detailed below in section 5), along with the extension the current grants through to 31 July 2019 to allow for the application process to be completed and a full three months' notice given to all groups regarding the change of funding arrangements. The criteria, application process and grant extensions were agreed by Mayor and Cabinet on 21 November 2018.

5. Funding criteria and application process

- 5.1 The full application form and criteria agreed by Mayor and Cabinet agreed by Mayor and Cabinet on 21 November 2018 are attached as Appendix 2 with an overview provided in paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 below.

5.2 There was strong support for retaining the 4 themes that had been the basis of the programme in 2015. These are:

Strong and Cohesive Communities – this theme seeks to develop and maintain strong communities and build a more inclusive and cohesive borough. With the reduction in statutory resources, residents and communities are being asked to do more for themselves. This theme seeks to ensure that there is an infrastructure across the borough that can encourage and capitalise on active citizenship, supporting grass roots activity. The theme also funds services that provide equalities support to ensure equal access to services.

Communities that Care – the overall intention of this theme is to fund a range of organisations that together provide support to vulnerable adults to assist them in accessing services, prevent their needs from escalating, reduce the burden on statutory services and provide links between statutory services, VCS and communities in relation to working together to support vulnerable adults. The activities funded through this theme form an important part of the borough's preventative strategy.

Access to Advice Services – the advice sector provides an essential service to some of the borough's most vulnerable residents. Advice organisations provide independent, high quality advice to individuals to ensure that they receive the benefits they are entitled to, are supported to manage debts, address financial exclusion and deal with housing issues. Statutory services work closely with the advice sector as addressing these issues are of mutual benefit.

Widening Access to Arts and Sports - this theme seeks to ensure that the rich and diverse contribution that the borough's Arts and Sports organisations make to the quality of life of residents is maintained. The Arts and Sports sectors are adept at attracting resources from external funding, earned income and volunteers. However, the sectors still require a level of core funding to enable them to continue to attract these resources that would otherwise be lost to the borough. The focus of our support is on increasing participation particularly by those who are less able to participate due to disability, economic disadvantage and age.

5.3 Beyond these the consultation provided significant support for the following to be incorporated into the application and assessment process:

- a split between 3 year grants that provide core funding and 2 year grants that fund direct project activity
- project funding be limited to £35,000 to target towards smaller groups (although smaller groups are also encouraged to consider core funding which has no overall limit)
- organisations and projects in areas with relatively little provision be given priority within the assessment process
- track record, efficiency and effectiveness to form a key part of the assessment criteria overall the assessment process
- core funding bids to be assessed and monitored at an organisational level with project funding assessed against specific activity
- demographic targeting supported with applications relating to addressing inequalities. Disability, age and race were highlighted as particular areas of concern in the consultation but the council should welcome applications across all protected characteristics
- networking and partnership building support across the sector included as a requirement for all groups applying for core funding

- specialist legal, financial and governance support be the focus of the infrastructure offer
- a bespoke approach to Advice services based on the work of the Advice Lewisham partnership with the clear expectation that this work continues to strive to improve access for all groups
- increased focus and weighting towards funding collaboration and the partner profile within the assessment process (these will be considered alongside assessments of track record of delivery, efficiency and effectiveness outlined above)
- areas of provision excluded from the criteria in 2015, as they were commissioned or delivered elsewhere, remain so with this be made explicit as part of the application process¹.

5.3 The application process was launched on 3rd December 2018 with a deadline for applications of midnight on Sunday 3rd February 2019.

5.4 The re-letting of the programme is taking place with an annual budget cut of £600,000.

6. Overall response rate and assessment process

6.1 As with previous application rounds there was huge interest in the Main Grants programme with requests for funding that significantly exceeded the available budget. 92 applications were received requesting annual funds of £5,869,223 against an available budget of £2,562,102 - a subscription rate of 229% i.e. for every £1 available £2.29 was requested.

6.2 In this context officers worked to ensure that funding recommendations were made for those submissions which most closely met the criteria as outlined above, were detailed and comprehensive in their responses and contributed to a strategic spread of services for Lewisham. However, it remains a fact that many projects are not recommended for funding or for much less than they applied for.

6.3 In assessing each application officers applied a 0-5 scoring criteria across a number of questions, with 0 representing an absent answer and 5 covering all expected areas with significant innovation and added value. Detailed assessment guidance that was issued to officers is attached as Appendix 3.

6.4 These scores were then moderated before being passed to a second round of assessment that considered the quality of applications in a range of different groups including service type, geographical spread and equalities implications.

6.5 All applicants were considered together to ensure that the overall programme provided the most appropriate coverage of needs across the borough given the quality and scope of applications and the available budget.

6.6 Taken together this overall assessment process led officers to recommend 43 groups for funding with the remaining 49 not recommended. This is a significant reduction on the current programme which provides funding to 60 groups and is in response to the feedback from the consultation which supported funding fewer organisations to a

¹ The overall theme criteria were agreed by Mayor and Cabinet on 12 November 2014 with the subsequent grants being let at Mayor and Cabinet on 13 May 2015. It was agreed that employment and skills provision was to be provided through locally held Job Centre Plus budgets and related regional commissioning activity. The focus for youth activity within the main grants programme was confirmed as cultural provision as the Youth Service through both its direct and commissioned services provides for generic youth work.

higher level (just over 62% of respondents) over spreading funding across more organisations with each getting less (just over 36%).

- 6.7 The recommendations also reflect the consultation feedback that funding should be targeted at efficient, effective and well run organisations that are able to demonstrate the ability to attract other funding to the borough. Typical consultation responses included phrases such as "those funded should display excellence, accountability and best value for money" and "some organisations are wholly dependent on Lewisham funding and yet fail to prove efficacy and reach."
- 6.8 Overall this means that 13 currently funded groups are not recommended for funding. The remaining reduction in the number of groups recommended is accounted for by a consortium bid by the Advice Lewisham partnership under the Access to Advice theme and 2 of the currently funded groups not applying for funding due to a change in their priorities or the nature of their relationship with the council.
- 6.9 This reduction in the number of funded groups, and the on-going quality of the majority of the current grant recipients, meant that it was difficult for new groups without a strong track record in the borough to respond strongly enough to be recommended for funding. Notwithstanding this 4 groups who have not previously received a Main Grant are recommended for funding.
- 6.10 Despite this rigorous, robust and targeted assessment process the groups recommended for funded are still, in the majority of cases, still receiving significantly less than they applied for. Officers were minded of the level of possible scaling that organisations identified within their applications and attempted to stick to these levels wherever possible but the overall budgetary constraints meant that this was not always possible.
- 6.11 In recognition that a bespoke response to individual applications was not always possible officers also sought to draw parallels between applications providing a similar type and scale of service and apply a flat rate of grant for transparency and equity. This type of flat rate was applied to the neighbourhood community development groups (£25,000), the borough-wide equalities co-ordination services (£35,000) and a number of the organisations involved in sports coordination and promotion (£25,000).
- 6.12 Overall the approach was designed to ensure a varied and equitable spread of services best able to meet the theme criteria set out as part of the application process. In order to ensure equity of access borough-wide services (Age UK, Advice Lewisham etc) tended to be given slight priority over local delivery and community development services that enable communities to work together to make best use of existing assets were given priority over direct provision that is particularly reliant on on-going council funding.
- 6.13 These approaches, along with the Equalities Assurance Assessment (EAA) – attached as Appendix 4 – that was undertaken in tandem with the application assessments sought to deliver a pattern of provision delivering Best Value for the council overall and minimises the negative equalities impact of the cut to the budget. However, it is important to acknowledge that it was impossible to wholly mitigate the impact of a £600,000 (19%) reduction in funding.
- 6.14 Sections 7 -10 below details the both groups recommended for funding and those who have not been successful as well as a brief overview of the rationale for these decisions. The full assessment reports for each application are available on request.

7. Strong and Cohesive Communities

7.1 This theme is designed to fund services that develop and maintaining strong communities and building a more inclusive and cohesive borough through the provision of VCS infrastructure and equalities support. In order to achieve this, the recommendation is to fund organisations that provide both strategic, borough wide support and local community development support.

7.2 Organisations recommended for funding under this theme:

Organisation	Amount Requested	Current funding	Recommendation	Ward/Area
Community Development/Infrastructure Support				
Lewisham Local (RGTB)	£182,000	£76,266	£212,000	Borough-wide
Bellingham Community Project	£34,000	£27,032	£25,000	Bellingham
Goldsmiths Community Association	£33,500	£20,338	£25,000	Whitefoot
Lee Green Lives	£36,000	£15,600	£25,000	Lee Green
Somerville	£51,621	£20,338	£25,000	Telegraph Hill/New Cross
The 2000 Community Action Centre	£100,000	£0	£25,000	Evelyn
St Luke's Downham (Front Room)	£21,192	£0	£12,715	Downham
Equalities				
Lewisham Pensioners Forum	£68,235	£33,896	£35,000	Older People
LRMN	£190,134	£74,503	£35,000 ²	Refugees/migrants
Lewisham refugee welcome	£48,300	£0	£20,000	Refugees
Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust	£53,000	£34,586	£35,000	BAME
Metro	£34,951	£28,247	£35,000	LGBT/Overall co-ordination
TBC	£0	£0	£35,000	Disabilities
LEAN	£37,000	£32,201	£35,000	Young People (WATAS)

7.2 Lewisham Local/ Rushey Green Timebank is recommended for funding as the strategic voluntary and community sector support organisation delivering support to organisations and encouraging greater collaboration across the sector; working with individuals to increase volunteering and the giving and exchanging of time and skills; engaging with business in promoting giving to local communities and causes.

7.3 The approach put forward under the banner of Lewisham Local builds on existing good work undertaken through this initiative and is favoured due to its positive a radical approach to capacity building. Strong bids were also received from Voluntary Action Lewisham and Community Waves but overall the Lewisham Local bid was felt to be the most innovative and forward looking. One area that was lacking in the bid however was specialist support for organisations in crisis so officers are recommending a further £30,000 to allow for this work to be included within the service offer.

7.4 A network of organisations, all funded at a level of £35,000 p.a. to take a lead in identifying and addressing barriers to engagement of communities that do not traditionally access services or have a disproportionate representation within particular services. Organisations recommended for funding are:

- Metro Centre to provide a strategic equalities lead as well as working with LGBT communities
- Stephen Lawrence Centre to work with black and minority ethnic communities

² LRMN will receive a minimum of £71,000 including Advice Lewisham funding

- Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network to work with refugee and migrant communities³
- Lewisham Pensioners Forum to work with older people
- Lewisham Education Arts Network (LEAN) to work with young people (in recognition that the focus of services for young people within the programme is access to cultural activities)

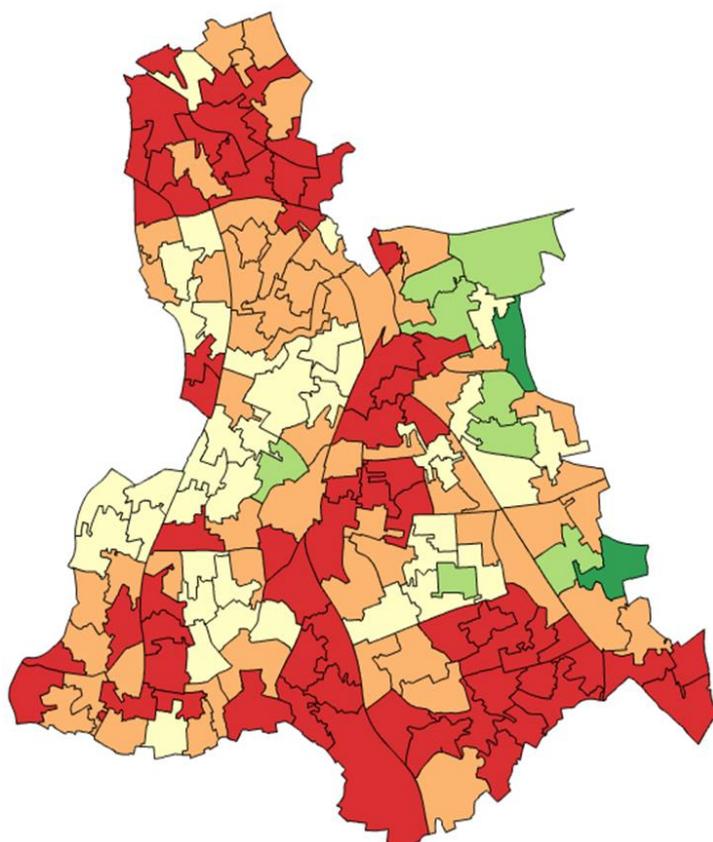
7.5 In attempting to recommend a comprehensive network of organisations to coordinate activity across a number of the protected characteristics assessed through the Equalities Analysis Assessment officers were mindful that no applications were received in this area from Disability Groups. This was identified as a potential gap in the new programme representing a disproportionate impact on disabled people, partially due to the closure of the Lewisham Disability Coalition at the end of 2018. As such officers have recommended that a commensurate allocation of £35,000 (with a contingency of £15,000) be held back pending the establishment of the Accessibility Commission, which will be led by disabled people that is committed to in the Council's Corporate Strategy 2018-22. It is hoped that the Commission will identify both priorities and delivery partners for whom this funding will be appropriate.

7.6 Neighbourhood Community Development organisations mainly focussed around the borough's most deprived wards each receiving £25,000 p.a. These organisation will work with individuals, groups and the local assembly to coordinate responses to local issues. Organisations recommended for funding are:

- Bellingham Community Project (Bellingham)
- Goldsmiths Community Association (Whitefoot)
- Lee Green Lives (Lee Green)
- Somerville Youth and Play Provision (Telegraph Hill/New Cross)
- The Front Room Club (Downham) – funded at a lower level due to the nature of the project
- Ackroyd Community Association also received community development funding as part of their overall allocation under Communities that Care but this was at a lower level recognising the overall pattern of their delivery and associated economies of scale.

7.7 As can be seen below these service correlate reasonably well with the most deprived areas of the borough (the dark red areas in the map on the left represent areas amongst the 20% most deprived in the country using the Index of Multiple Deprivation) providing an excellent network of support for local individuals and groups who wish to mobilise local assets to address emerging needs. The main outlier in this network is Lee Green Lives which is not located in an area of significant deprivation. However, in recommending funding for this group officers have recognised the paucity of other services in this area and that Lee Green Lives has also been highlighted as a site for outreach provision by the Advice Lewisham Partnership – see section 9.

³ Lewisham Refugee Welcome are also recommended for project funding under this theme and the expectation is that they work in partnership with LRMN and other services to provide a comprehensive service offer. However, as Refugee Welcome provide volunteer led direct support rather than coordination and oversight services this funding is recommended at a lower level.



7.7 Of those not recommended for funding under this theme four (Urban Synergy, Young Lewisham Project, BeIve UK and For Jimmy) were applying to deliver services for young people although not linked to the Widening Access to Arts and Sports theme. The application guidance clearly states: *[in 2014] the focus for youth activity within the main grants programme was confirmed as cultural provision as the Youth Service through both its direct and commissioned services provides for generic youth work. Despite the changes in the funding landscape since 2014 our recent consultation confirmed that the current themes remain the correct ones so these [employment and training being the other] areas remain excluded from the programme.*

7.8 However, officers have passed the application form to commissioners with the Children and Young People (CYP) department that the current (and future) services offers are considered as part of the 'Early Help' review due to be undertaken during 2019.

7.9 The application from New Cross and Deptford Families First has also been passed to CYP Commissioners as the services proposed, while to an extent working with parents as well as children, again sits as part of the wider review being undertaken during the course of the coming year.

7.10 Voluntary Action Lewisham and Community Waves presented alternatives to the Lewisham Local offer as outlined at paragraph 7.3.

7.11 The Ubele Initiative put forward a positive application but it was considered too similar to that put forward by the Stephen Lawrence Centre to be recommended. The bids by WE Women and Forest Hill Community Library (along with that by ECO Communities

under Communities that Care) all related to aspects of the day to day running of library buildings which was not specifically included as part of the funding criteria.

7.12 Pepys Community Forum put forward a number of different initiatives but the main provision related to the provision of advice services but these were not linked to the Advice Lewisham Partnership as was specifically required under the application process – see section 9. Finally Lewisham Plus Credit Union failed to make a compelling case regarding the impact that Main Grant funding would have in improving their offer to Lewisham's most vulnerable residents.

7.13 As such the organisations not recommended for funding under this theme are:

Organisation	Amount Requested	Current funding	Ward/Area
The Ubele Initiative	£22,000	£0	BAME
Urban Synergy	£35,000	£0	YP
Voluntary Action Lewisham	£200,000	£210,000	Borough-wide
WE Women	£35,000	£0	Evelyn
Young Lewisham Project	£40,000	£0	YP
BelEve UK	£30,000	£0	YP
Community Waves	£179,670	£0	Borough-wide
For Jimmy	£65,000	£0	YP
Forest Hill Community Library	£15,000	£0	Forest Hill
Lewisham Plus Credit Union	£75,000	£0	Borough-wide
New Cross and Deptford Families First	£25,000	£0	New Cross/Evelyn
Noah's Ark children venture	£36,000	£36,156	Borough-wide
Pepys Community Forum	£77,493	£0	Evelyn

8. Communities that Care

8.1 The overall intention of the Communities that Care theme is to fund a range of organisations that together provide support to vulnerable adults to assist them in accessing services, prevent their needs from escalating, reduce the burden on statutory services and provide links between statutory services, the VCS and communities to work together to support vulnerable adults. In the previous application round this area considered of 5 sub themes but these were removed this time to allow for applications that cut across traditional delivery boundaries.

8.2 There were a significant number of extremely strong applications from existing grant recipients under this theme but also a number from organisations who have not adequately responded to the clear message given by the council that there was a need to diversity income streams and attempt to move away from over-reliance on local authority funding. A number of these organisations are not recommended for funding in line with the consultation informed policy approach highlighted at paragraph 6.7 above.

8.3 Of the organisations recommended for funding listed below the majority fall into the former category although the recommendation to fund Stanstead Lodge Seniors Club comes with a requirement to engage with support to develop its governance and delivery model as this remains weak – see paragraph 8.8 for further details.

Organisation	Amount Requested	Current funding	Recommendation
Ackroyd Community Association	£45,320	£41,523	£38,000
Age Exchange	£33,000	£27,541	£24,750
Age UK Lewisham and Southwark Ltd	£110,346	£417,350	£428,455.5 ⁴
Contact	£65,382	£60,606	£49,100
Deptford Methodist Mission Disabled People Contact	£30,000	£6,144	£15,000
Entelechy Arts (also WATAS)	£33,800	£33,896	£33,800
Heart N Soul (also WATAS)	£58,472	£58,472	£53,600
Lewisham Mencap	£30,000	£30,000	£30,000
Lewisham Speaking up	£73,441	£73,441	£66,100
Stanstead Lodge Seniors Club Ltd	£50,000	£38,669	£30,000
Sydenham Garden	£45,500	£33,147	£36,400
The Albany (also WATAS)	£268,020	£267,290	£195,000
Voluntary Services Lewisham	£220,000	£161,474	£144,000
Wheels for Wellbeing	£34,941	£28,925	£29,350

8.4 The recommendation for Age UK Lewisham and Southwark will be funded via resources made available through the Better Care Fund/Improved Better Care Fund which is jointly managed by the Council and Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group. This is an extension of the current arrangements which provides £250,000 to the Main Grants budget for 2018/19 and recognises the importance of the Community Connections and SAIL services to the prevention of costs in health and adult social cares services and their keystone role in the developing Social prescribing model in the borough.

8.5 The organisations not recommended for funding are listed in the table below:

Organisation	Requested	Current	Recommendation
Action for refugees in Lewisham	£83,500	£0	£0
Ageing well in Lewisham - LCC	£28,945	£25,637	£0
Asian elders and carers group	£6,800	£0	£0
Bromley Lewisham and Greenwich MIND Ltd	£34,570	£29,579	£0
ECO Communities CIC	£70,000	£33,896	£0
Lewisham community transport scheme	£75,000	£40,675	£0
Lewisham Parent and Carer's Forum	£18,000	£0	£0
Lewisham Parent and Carer's Forum	£10,800	£0	£0
MOSAC	£40,000	£0	£0
Parent support group (South East)	£7,500	£4,271	£0
Quo Vadis Trust	£66,120	£0	£0
REAP Community	£33,005	£0	£0
Rural Urban synthesis society (RUSS)	£35,000	£0	£0
South London Counselling	£150,000	£0	£0
T4H Therapy 4 Healing	£126,312	£0	£0
Thames Reach charity	£34,944	£16,948	£0
The Bike Project	£24,734	£0	£0
The Grove Centre	£13,482	£16,524	£0
WE matter UK	£35,000	£0	£0

⁴ Additional funding made available via the Better Care Fund/Improved Better Care Fund

- 8.6 Broadly speaking Ageing Well in Lewisham, Lewisham Community Transport Scheme and the Grove Centre fall into the category of organisation who have not effectively developed their governance and financial model as set out in paragraph 8.2 above.
- 8.7 These organisations are heavily reliant on local authority funding which is essentially directly funding the provision delivered with little extra resource secured on the back of the council's support. As such officers have not recommended on-going funding for these groups but will offer direct support to allow them to seek partnerships with more established organisations who can assist in taking forward aspects of the delivery for which there is an on-going need.
- 8.8 It is also important to note that the Equalities Assurance Assessment (EAA) highlighted that both the Grove Centre and Ageing Well are in areas with large populations of older people and defunding them may have a disproportionate impact on those groups. This is one of the reasons for the recommendation to fund Stanstead Lodge Seniors Club who, despite a relatively weak application, have begun to develop their funding model in recent times.
- 8.9 It is recognised that 'Seniors' remains a reasonable distance from the current provision but officers have considered the move of the Age UK services to Bellingham, the on-going support for Community Development support in Whitefoot and Downham and the continued support for Entelechy Arts who are developing their 'Meet me' model in the South of the Borough as potential mitigation. However, officers will continue to work with Lewisham Pensioners Forum and the Positive Aging Council to monitor the impact of these recommendations during the life of the programme.
- 8.10 A number of organisations (Mind, Thames Reach, MOSAC and Lewisham Parent and Carer's Forum) were not recommended as their service offer fall more directly in line with commissioning structures across the council. As with the services detailed at paragraphs 7.7 – 7.9 those suggested by MOSAC will be considered by CYP commissioners as part of the 'Early Help' review and Mental Health and homelessness commissioners have been advised of the nature of the bids from Mind and Thames Reach respectively.
- 8.11 Action for Refugees in Lewisham submitted an interesting application but large parts of it were ineligible for consideration as it significantly exceeded the word limit and overall the established services provided by Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network supplemented by the newly funded Lewisham Refugees Welcome were assessed as providing preferred support in this area.
- 8.12 The application from the Asian Elders and Carers Group, REAP Community and WE Matter were reflective of the small scale of the organisations and failed to adequately address the theme criteria. The submission from the Parent Support Group was stronger but still felt short of describing the depth of provision required and officers have recommended alternative possible funding sources to the group.
- 8.13 South London Counselling and Therapy 4 Healing both made interesting bids that were strong elements. However, there were significant gaps relating to the details of operational delivery in both applications and the level of funding requested would have recognised a huge increase in turnover for the groups so officers have assessed that these applications represent too a great a risk for funding at this time.
- 8.14 Rural Urban Synthesis Society (RUSS) submitted an application that clearly detailed an innovative programme of work and a very good track record of fundraising. However, the proposed programme it does not directly fit the Main Grants criteria and therefore is not recommended for funding. A mental health recovery Café proposed by Quo Vadis Trust was also considered an interesting proposal but insufficient detail was

provided to give officers the confidence that the delivery model was sustainable and, again, this is not recommended for funding.

- 8.15 Finally, in line with other bids outlined at paragraph 7.11, the application for funding by Eco Communities to assist with the running costs for community libraries is not recommended for funding as this was not an area highlighted as a priority in the application criteria. Given that funding is not currently available for this purpose officers felt that the impact of not recommending this funding was overstated in Eco's application form and will meet with representatives of the organisation as a key delivery partner to ensure that existing services are sustainable.
- 8.16 Taken together, while some very difficult decisions had to be made given the funding constraints, it is felt that the recommendations under the Communities that Care theme continue to represent positive coverage across the borough supported by significant borough-wide coordination resource through Community Connections and SAIL.

9. Access to Advice

- 9.1 The application criteria under this theme were significantly more prescriptive due to programme of work that has been underway since the letting of the current Main Grants agreements.
- 9.2 In May 2015, the agreements were set by Mayor and Cabinet on the condition that the advice agencies be subject to a formal review of their provision as there was some concern that the pattern of provision was inequitable and presented barriers to access.
- 9.3 The subsequent review indeed found there the model at the time had a number of flaws including:
- the fixed geographical nature of the services which meant that certain areas of the borough were woefully underserved
 - the lack of coordination of the service offer which meant that all providers could be operating at the same time with other times completely uncovered which again presented barriers to access for those not available during those periods
 - the lack of coordination meant that there was no joint work and sharing of resources which could lead to queues out of the door at one service while another was relatively quiet
 - a lack of any triage based on need and a first come first served service that had to be queued for on the day meant those unwilling or unable to present early or stand for long periods missed out on service regardless of the seriousness of their needs
 - no coherent data collection was undertaken to give an indication of what needs were being seen at different services and at what scale – this presented a major barrier to the effective development of services
 - this lack of data also meant that the skill mix of staff required was almost impossible to determine
 - there was a lack of clear information available to the public about what was available, and where, and the majority of people who accessed services did so due to the proximity of the service to their home
- 9.4 In December 2015, the review recommended:
- single Advice Lewisham Freephone telephone number for residents to call to access advice or information or to make an appointment to see a caseworker in one of the advice agencies if the issue could not be resolved over the phone
 - A single Advice Lewisham website
 - drop-in advice and information at a limited number of main venues across the borough so that residents can, in an emergency, see someone face to face and

be triaged appropriately. The continued availability of drop-ins meets the needs of those residents who are unlikely to use the internet or the phone but restricting the locations may mean that we are making maximum use of resources

- Freeing up resources to provide more generalist and specialist casework for more complex needs

9.5 On the basis of these recommendations work to effectively integrate the service officer to ensure a seamless and truly borough-wide pattern of services has been ongoing. During the consultation there was strong support for funding to protect the advice infrastructure developed through the work of the Advice Lewisham partnership with 54% of respondents in overall support with only 16% opposed. The overall results were: Strongly Support 16%, Support 38%, Neither support or oppose 21%, Oppose 14%, Strongly Oppose 2% and Not Answered 9%.

9.6 As such the application criteria made it clear that all bids under this theme should seek to maintain the key element of the existing partnership including:

- freephone advice line as the principal point of access to the service
- telephone-based triage of calls by assessors
- provision for face to face appointments for individuals whose first language is not English
- centralised appointment booking system, intended to book people into appointments with a specialist adviser most relevant to their need
- home visits for advice appointments especially for the elderly or disabled
- drop-in service
- referral service from professionals, including social workers and GPs
- limited case work provision for more complex cases requiring representation and/or appeals
- referral arrangements for individuals requiring debt and money advice

9.7 In addition applications were required to detail how they would continue to develop the current service model to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the most vulnerable while continuing to develop closer links to meet current service challenges. This would include addressing the following challenges:

- how to better coordinate the extensive range of community organisations involved in providing support to local residents
- how to better link services with those offered by statutory providers, including the developing service offering a single point of access to care and health
- how to further develop the service with other voluntary sector provision which provides advice and support to vulnerable residents

9.8 During the application process officers held a specific application workshop with the specialist advice agencies at which it was made clear that applications could be made collectively or individually but that it was important that they addressed the key issue of service coordination and the effective prioritisation of need.

9.9 In the event just 2 applications were received under this theme, one from the Advice Lewisham Partnership of 170 Community Project, Age UK Lewisham and Southwark, Lewisham Multi-lingual Advice Services and Citizens' Advice Lewisham who also acted as the lead agency and one from the Evelyn 190 Community Trust.

9.10 The Advice Lewisham application was very strong and addressed the key aspects of the theme requirements. It included proposals to further develop the service and increase capacity, working with up to 30,000 residents per year. The partnership also outlines significant information on mobilising community and financial assets.

- 9.11 The application included an outline strategy for making links with a range of statutory provision, particularly services relating to housing advice and working with vulnerable residents. Key in this is a proposal to develop referral arrangements with the borough's Housing Options Service in order to further increase capacity and to work towards reducing the number of individuals becoming homeless. The partnership's work to develop a law centre will further boost employment law support and provide high quality and qualified advice. The application also highlighted a specific agreement with Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network who will supply specialist immigration advice to the partnership under a direct funding arrangement with the partnership.
- 9.12 The service provided details of the locations of the different aspects of the service provision (see below map) which included a reasonable spread of locations notwithstanding the need to develop a presence in the south west of the borough.



Figure 1: Face-to-Face Advice Locations

- 9.13 Overall, this was considered a very positive application and is recommended for funding. It is proposed that officers work with the organisation to develop a mobilisation plan which will develop outreach facilities in areas of the borough,

based on resident needs. The plan should also include arrangements for developing more formal referral arrangements with relevant statutory organisations and will specifically include an approach for addressing the needs of people with disabilities given the recent closure of Lewisham Disability Coalition.

- 9.14 The application from the Evelyn 190 Community Trust was less strong and outlined a specialist housing and employment advice service working with up to 1000 people per year. While there were several references to supporting the Advice Lewisham Partnership there was very little detail about how this would be done in practice or how this might link with the organisation's own needs assessments or triaging mechanisms.
- 9.15 It was also clear from the Advice Lewisham Partnership bid that no formal arrangement had been reached regarding this partnership (as was referenced in relation to LRMN) and the scale of the two bids suggested that this work would be additional to that of the partnership which was not considered an appropriate recommendation given the scale of the funding reductions.
- 9.16 Furthermore, as with the services highlighted at paragraph 8.6 and 8.7 the financial position of the Evelyn 190 Community trust gives cause for concern, with only limited levels of reserves and an over-dependence on Main Grants funding over several years.
- 9.17 Overall the application does not demonstrate that it has sought additional strategic partnership links which would help support vulnerable people across the borough in a holistic manner and is not recommended for direct funding.
- 9.18 However, funding for Advice services are being maintained at a significant level via the Advice Lewisham Partnership and the partnership may wish to engage the organisation to deliver some specialist element of the overall service offer. Regardless of the outcome of conversation between Evelyn 190 and the Advice Lewisham Partnership it is clear that the organisation needs to undertake an urgent review of their current finances to ensure that they are solvent in the short-term. Officers will work with the staff and trustees at Evelyn 190 to ensure that the impact of this funding recommendation on current service users are kept to a minimum.
- 9.19 The funding recommendations for this themes are set out below:

Organisation	Amount Requested	Current funding	Recommendation
Recommended			
Citizens Advice Lewisham	£995,000	£468,720	£866,732
Not Recommended			
Evelyn 190 Community Trust	£175,000	£175,129	£0

10. Widening Access to Arts and Sports

- 10.1 The intention of this theme is to fund organisations or consortiums of organisations that will take a strategic approach to increasing the number of people who participate in the arts and sport in Lewisham. This will particularly involve addressing barriers and providing opportunities for those who are less able to engage. Applications were expected to demonstrate how they will:
- a. Increase participation, particularly including people who are less able to participate due to disability, economic disadvantage and age (young people and older people).
 - b. Nurture talent and provide progression pathways, including developing outreach links into other settings such as schools.

10.2 The theme is split into two strands:

Widening Access to Arts

Through this theme the expectation is to fund a network of organisations that will deliver activities that:

- Provide opportunities for people of all ages to engage with the arts as active participants and members of an audience
- Provide opportunities for people of all ages to explore and develop their creativity and acquire new skills
- Increase awareness and enhance the reputation of Lewisham as a place to spend leisure time
- Capitalise on funding and other support opportunities from regional and national bodies.

Widening Access to Sports

Officers recommend that the Council works with a range of voluntary sports clubs and organisations to develop a more coordinated and partnership driven approach to sports provision in the borough in order to make the best possible sporting offer available to the residents of Lewisham. In this context we expect to fund partnerships or single organisations that will take a lead in facilitating partnerships to develop & deliver borough wide, development plans for specific sports. Applications will be expected to show how they will meet the general criteria for this fund (a and b above) and also respond to the following questions:

- Can you demonstrate high levels of demand or growing demand for your sport within Lewisham?
- How will you make the best use of the borough's current and emerging facilities?
- How will you capitalise on funding and/or other support opportunities from regional and national bodies?
- How will you provide activities that encourage people to participate in recreational sport and physical activity?

11.3 Within the **Arts** strand there were a large number of excellent submissions that strongly addressed the criteria.

11.4 Overall officers felt that this was the theme that was most directly oversubscribed in terms of quality bids that could have been recommended for funding without such tight budget constraints.

11.5 As such the assessments tended to favour organisations with a strong track record of delivery in the borough and no new applicants are recommended for funding under this element of the theme. Several organisations are recommended for significantly less funding they applied for and three are recommended for defunding. Teatro Vivo are not currently funded under this theme but have historically provided a borough wide community development and engagement support under the Strong and Cohesive Communities Strand. While this provision has been excellently received and is well used by the Local Assemblies team amongst others it was not considered the highest priority for this theme during the final assessment round.

11.6 Both Montage Theatre Arts and Sydenham Arts are unfortunate not to be recommended for funding. Montage is well run and delivers excellent activities in the borough. However, Lewisham benefits from a wealth of organisations providing similar activities and it is not possible for the Council to support all of them financially. Sydenham Arts were seeking to address their sustainability through their bid but the

exceptionally strong competition within the arts theme means that it is not possible to recommend this application for funding.

11.7 As with the 2015 there is a reasonably good geographical spread of organisations and activities, although the north of the borough is over represented. This is slightly corrected by the fact that GLYPT will be based at the Fellowship Inn in Bellingham during the life of this funding.

11.8 Across the **Sports** strand there were again a range of very strong bids and there was a desire to slightly rebalance the funding within the overall theme to correct historic (relative) underfunding of this area. This has allowed a very positive application for Cricket development from Platform Cricket which will provide new provision for the borough. Other than this there is on-going funding recommended for all other existing sports group

11.9 Those groups recommended for funding under the Widening Access to Arts and Sports theme are:

Organisation	Amount Requested	Current funding	Recommendation
Deptford X	£20,000	£8,474	£8,500
Greenwich and Lewisham Young People's Theatre (GLYPT)	£70,000	£68,530	£35,000
IRIE Dance Theatre	£39,999	£21,105	£21,105
Lewisham Education Arts Network	£37,000	£32,201	£35,000 ⁵
Lewisham Youth Theatre Ltd	£43,000	£36,559	£35,000
Second wave centre for youth arts	£46,142	£45,017	£35,000
The Midi Music Company	£45,000	£44,092	£38,200
Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance	£88,400	£76,831	£60,000
London Sports Ltd	£17,700	£15,000	£15,000
London Thunder Basketball	£35,000	£21,185	£25,000
Millwall Community Trust	£34,775	£21,185	£25,000
Saxon Crown Swimming Club	£15,500	£6,667	£7,750
South East London Tennis	£59,837	£25,140	£25,000
THYSF - Platform Cricket	£33,600	£0	£25,000

11.10 As previously noted the vast majority of the organisations not recommended for funding under both aspects of this theme scored highly on their assessments and would be considered worthy of funding had the budget constraints not been so tight. As highlight at paragraph 11.5 above the main reason for the final recommendations related to the desire to protect established provision rather than direct concerns regarding the new applicants.

11.11 The organisations not recommended for funding under this theme are:

Organisation	Amount Requested	Current funding	Final Allocation
BOW Arts	£29,992	£0	£0
Hartslane	£39,000	£0	£0

⁵ This is the same allocation referenced in Section 7 – LEAN will receive £35,000 in total

Horniman museum and garden	£27,516	£0	£0
Magpie Dance	£7,040	£0	£0
Max media arts CIC	£11,800	£0	£0
Montage Theatre arts	£13,500	£8,474	£0
Penny Dreadful productions	£35,000	£0	£0
Sounds Like Chaos	£57,583	£0	£0
South East London Arts Network	£25,000		£0
South London Art Map	£6,000	£0	£0
South London Art Map	£12,000	£0	£0
Sydenham Arts	£34,353	£8,474	£0
Teatro Vivo	£31,200	£29,377	£0
The Maypole project	£19,620	£0	£0
The Royal society for blind children	£29,969	£0	£0
THYSF - Platform cricket (Core application)	£66,667	£0	£0

11. Core and Project funding

11.1 One of the innovations of this round of the programme was the council's commitment to providing core funding to support key partners to realise their ambitions in the borough as well as project funding for specific activities.

11.2 This meant that funding was made available for 'back office' functions such as administration, fundraising, central management and office costs that others funders are reluctant to finance. This was intended to allow other funding bids to concentrate on project delivery offering better value for money and increasing the success rates of bids and therefore the overall income for the organisation and the borough.

11.3 For this funding the council was seeking to evaluate the magnitude of the step change that the core funding will realise across the whole organisation so applicants were made aware that applying for this funding would mean they have de facto agreed to the council considering their whole output as part of the grant making process.

11.4 However, there was a mixed response from applicants to the challenge set out in through the application process with a number of applicants describing the details of the services that would be funded rather than how core funding would transform delivery models.

11.5 As such officers will work with recommended groups to better understand how Lewisham funding can be used to transform deliver models and increased the value realised by this funding.

11.6 This approach will also be taken with those recommended for project funding despite this funding initially only being recommended until the end of March 2021. The recommended groups who applied for project funding are:

- Lewisham refugee welcome
- London Sports Ltd
- London Thunder Basketball
- Millwall community trust
- The front room club - a project of St Luke's Downham
- THYSF - Platform cricket
- Wheels for wellbeing

11.7 Metro also applied for project funding but officers are recommending that they convert this to a core grant to ensure that this provision is brought fully into line with the other coordination services funded under the Strong and Cohesive Communities theme.

12. Scrutiny and appeals process

12.1 All organisations were written to on Thursday 28 February 2019 to inform them of the draft recommendation of their funding level. This letter also acted as five months' notification of a change of funding for all current grant recipients. The letters inform the organisations that unless otherwise stated the recommended award is for 2 years and 8 months (see section 11 above) until 31 March 2022. The letter highlights that all council expenditure is subject to annual review in light of central government cuts to LB Lewisham but any changes to grant funding will be subject to formal consultation. Finally the letter brings applicants' attention to the fact that the new Grant Conditions include a commitment to moving all staff, including subcontractors, to London Living Wage by 2021.

12.2 As part of the main grants process organisations are given the opportunity to appeal against officers' recommendations. The organisations were given until 20th March to write to the council disputing their funding recommendation with the appeals considered at a special meeting of Mayor and Cabinet on Wednesday 27th March where organisations also had the opportunity to present their case in person.

12.3 The outcome of this meeting and revisions to this paper are attached as annex A.

12.4 In addition to this process the recommendations were considered at the Safer Stronger Committees Select Committee who requested.....

13. Financial Implications (to be updated ahead of Mayor and Cabinet)

13.1 This report seeks approval for a recommended approach to the main grants programme for 2019-22 (set out in Appendix 1).

13.2 It

14. Legal Implications (to be updated ahead of Mayor and Cabinet)

14.1 Under S1 of the Localism Act 2011 the Council has a general power of competence to do anything which an individual may do unless it is expressly prohibited.

14.2 The giving of grants to voluntary organisations is a discretionary power which must be exercised reasonably, taking into account all relevant considerations and ignoring irrelevant considerations.

14.3 In relation to any consultation exercise sufficient reasons must be given for any proposal, adequate time must be given for consideration and response and the outcome of the consultation must be conscientiously taken into account by the decision maker.

14.4 The level of grants at over £10,000 requires the approval of Mayor and Cabinet. The decision will be a key decision under Article 16(c.) (xiii) of the Constitution.

14.5 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age,

disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

In summary, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

14.6 The duty continues to be a “have regard duty”, and the weight to be attached to it is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or foster good relations.

14.7 The Equality and Human Rights Commission has issued Technical Guidance on the Public Sector Equality Duty and statutory guidance entitled “Practice”. The Council must have regard to the statutory code in so far as it relates to the duty and attention is drawn to Chapter 11 which deals particularly with the equality duty. The Technical Guidance also covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guidance does not have statutory force but nonetheless regard should be had to it, as failure to do so without compelling reason would be of evidential value. The statutory code and the technical guidance can be found at:

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/legal-and-policy/equality-act/equality-actcodes-ofpractice-and-technical-guidance/>

14.8 The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has previously issued five guides for public authorities in England giving advice on the equality duty:

- The essential guide to the public sector equality duty
- Meeting the equality duty in policy and decision-making
- Engagement and the equality duty
- Equality objectives and the equality duty
- Equality information and the equality duty

14.9 The essential guide provides an overview of the equality duty requirements including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. It covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty including steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The other four documents provide more detailed guidance on key areas and advice on good practice. Further information and resources are available at

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/public-sectorequalityduty/guidance-on-the-equality-duty/>

15. Crime & Disorder Implications

15.1 There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this report. Some of the recommended main grant organisations deliver services and projects which help to reduce the fear of crime.

16. Equalities Implications

- 16.1 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 16.2 In summary, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
 - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 16.3 The assessment of each individual application included a range of equalities elements including how well the individual services will seek to engage those who do not traditionally access services.
- 16.4 An overarching Equalities Analysis Assessment (Appendix 4) was then undertaken against the entirety of the draft recommendations with a number amended to ensure that the spread of services recommended for funding under the main grants programme was considered to be fair and equitable and did not disproportionately affect any one particular group. The awarding of grants to a wide variety of organisations that work with and support Lewisham's diverse communities will help to promote equal opportunities.
- 16.5 The £600,000 reduction to the grants programme from 1 August 2019 was analysed in terms of equalities impact, and whilst the recommendations for future funding sought to minimise direct impact on service delivery; individual assessments of the protected characteristics most affected by each funding recommendations led to a number of revisions. Officers will continue to work with individual groups and as well as those funded to provide a coordination function to mitigate specific impact of funding reductions.

14. Environmental Implications

- 14.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

15. Conclusion

- 15.1 The Council recognises the important part that the voluntary and community sector plays in the lives of our residents and the main grants programmes seeks to support this provision.
- 15.2 The continued awarding of main grant funding will enable these organisations to continue to deliver much needed services across the borough.
- 15.3 This paper sets out the process for letting the programme for 2019-22 and the recommendations for the allocation of funding. The pattern of services recommended provide an innovative and diverse network of provision and the organisations recommended for a Main Grant have demonstrated that they bring significant added value to Lewisham and deliver a level of service above and beyond that which could be directly funded.

If there are any queries on this report please contact James Lee, Head of Culture and Community Development - james.lee@lewisham.gov.uk, 020 8314 6548.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – List of organisations recommended for Main Grant funding for 2019-22

Appendix 2 – Application form and guidance

Appendix 3 - Assessment guidance

Appendix 4 – Equalities Assurance Assessment

APPENDIX 1 - Total Draft Recommendations - Main Grants 2019-22

Organisation	Amount Requested	Current funding	Final recommendation
Ackroyd Community Association	£45,320	£41,523	£38,000
Action for refugees in Lewisham	£83,500	£0	£0
Age Exchange	£33,000	£27,541	£24,750
Age UK Lewisham and Southwark Ltd	£110,346	£336,000	£428,456
Ageing well in Lewisham - LCC	£28,945	£25,637	£0
Asian elders and carers group	£6,800	£0	£0
BelEve UK	£30,000	£0	0
Bellingham community project	£34,000	£27,032	£25,000
BOW Arts	29992	0	0
Bromley Lewisham and Greenwich MIND Ltd	£34,570	£29,579	£0
Citizens Advice Lewisham	£995,000	£468,720	£866,732
Community waves	£179,670	£0	0
Contact	£65,382	£60,606	£49,100
Deptford methodist mission disabled people contact	£30,000	£6,144	£15,000
Deptford X	£20,000	£8,474	£8,500
ECO Communities CIC	£70,000	£33,896	£0
Entelechy Arts (also WATAS)	£33,800	£33,896	£33,800
Evelyn 190 Community trust	£175,000	£175,129	£0
For Jimmy	£65,000	£0	0
Forest Hill community library	£15,000	£0	0
Goldsmiths Community Association	£33,500	£20,338	£25,000
Greenwich and Lewisham young peoples theatre (GLYPT)	£70,000	£68,530	£35,000
Hartslane	39000	0	0
Heart N Soul (also WATAS)	£58,472	£58,472	£53,600
Horniman museum and garden	27516	0	0
IRIE Dance theatre	£39,999	£21,105	£21,105
Lee Green Lives	£36,000	£15,600	£25,000
Lewisham community transport scheme	£75,000	£40,675	£0
Lewisham education arts network	£37,000	£32,201	£35,000
Lewisham Local (Rushey Green Time Bank)	£182,000	£76,266	£212,000
Lewisham Mencap	£30,000	£30,000	£30,000
Lewisham parent and carer's forum	£18,000	£0	£0
Lewisham parent and carer's forum	£10,800	£0	£0

Lewisham pensioners forum	£68,235	£33,896	£35,000
Lewisham plus credit union ltd	£75,000	£0	0
Lewisham refugee and migrant network	£190,134	£74,503	£35,000
Lewisham refugee welcome	£48,300	£0	£20,000
Lewisham Speaking up	£73,441	£73,441	£66,100
Lewisham Youth theatre Ltd	£43,000	£36,559	£35,000
London Sports Ltd	£17,700	£15,000	£15,000
London Thunder Basketball	£35,000	£21,185	£25,000
Magpie Dance	7040	0	0
Max media arts CIC	11800	0	0
Metro	£34,951	£28,247	£35,000
Millwall community trust	£34,775	£21,185	£25,000
Montage Theatre arts	13500	8474	0
MOSAC	£40,000	£0	£0
New Cross and Deptford families first ltd	£25,000	£0	0
Noah's Ark children venture	£36,000	£36,156	0
Parent support group (South East)	£7,500	£4,271	£0
Penny Dreadful productions	35000	0	0
Pepys community forum	£77,493	£0	0
Quo Vadis Trust	£66,120	£0	£0
REAP Community	£33,005	£0	£0
Rural Urban synthesis society (RUSS)	£35,000	£0	£0
Saxon Crown Swimming club	£15,500	£6,667	£7,750
Second wave centre for youth arts	£46,142	£45,017	£35,000
Somerville	£51,621	£20,338	£25,000
Sounds Like Chaos	57583	0	0
South East London Arts Network (trading as arts network)	25000		0
South East London Tennis	£59,837	£25,140	£25,000
South London Art Map	6000	0	0
South London Art Map	12000	0	0
South London Councelling	£150,000	£0	£0
Stanstead lodge senior club ltd	£50,000	£38,669	£30,000
Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust	£53,000	£34,586	£35,000
Sydenham Arts	34353	8474	0
Sydenham Garden	£45,500	£33,147	£36,400
T4H Therapy 4 Healing	£126,312	£0	£0
TBC (disabilities allocation)			£50,000
Teatro Vivo	31200	29377	0
Thames Reach charity	£34,944	£16,948	£0
The 2000 community action Centre	£100,000	£0	£25,000
The Albany (also WATAS)	£268,020	£267,290	£195,000
The bike project	£24,734	£0	£0
The front room club - a project of St Luke's Downham	£21,192	£0	£12,715
The Grove Centre	£13,482	£16,524	£0
The Maypole project	19620	0	0
The midi music company	£45,000	£44,092	£38,200
The Royal society for blind children	29969	0	0

The Ubele initiative	£22,000	£0	0
THYSF - Platform cricket	£33,600	£0	£25,000
THYSF - Platform cricket	66667	0	0
Trinity Laban conservatoire of music and dance	£88,400	£76,831	£60,000
Urban synergy	£35,000	£0	0
Voluntary Action Lewisham	£200,000	£210,000	0
Voluntary Services Lewisham	£220,000	£161,474	£144,000
WE matter UK	£35,000	£0	£0
WE Women	£35,000	£0	0
Wheels for Wellbeing	£34,941	£28,925	£29,350
Young Lewisham Project	£40,000	£0	0
	£5,882,223	£3,053,780	£2,990,558
		BUDGET	£2,562,102
		BCF/IBCF	-£428,456

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London Borough of Lewisham

Main grants programme August 2019 to March 2022 criteria and guidance

December 2018

Lewisham Main Grants Programme

Section 1 – Overview

1. Purpose

- 1.1 Lewisham is fortunate to have a diverse third sector which ranges from very small organisations with no paid staff through to local branches of national charities. As well as being directly involved in delivering services to citizens in the borough, third sector organisations also provide the essential infrastructure to allow civil society as a whole to develop and to support individual citizens to be able to play an active role within their local communities.
- 1.2 Although the third sectors role within the commissioning of local public services has grown, the Council recognises that there continues to be a need for grant aid investment for the following reasons:
- A recognition of the importance of maintaining an independent sector that can act as a critical friend to challenge public sector policy and delivery.
 - A recognition that the third sector is often better placed to understand local communities and develop innovative assets based programmes that avoid the need for expensive, and sometimes unwelcome, statutory interventions at a later date.
 - A recognition that some people may feel more able to access voluntary sector groups due to suspicion, or negative experiences, of statutory services.
 - A recognition of the key role that the sector plays in building civic participation, providing a voice for seldom heard residents and providing community intelligence.
 - A recognition of the great diversity of the sector and the need to engage with small and emerging groups as well as large established organisations.
 - A recognition of the sector's potential to take risks and innovate which does not sit easily within commissioning frameworks.
 - A recognition that third sector organisations have been key delivery partners within Lewisham, including for a wide range of targeted short term initiatives. Grant aid provides a level of security for organisations ensuring that there is a strong sector able to address local need, attract significant additional resources and be ready to work in partnership with us.
- 1.3 In line with these principles, and informed by our recent consultation on the programme, this round of applications will place increased emphasis on the strengths of the third sector. This will mean a much more open and less prescriptive application process that seeks to empower the sector to identify gaps in provision, emerging needs and to harness local assets to design programmes and deliver services.

Core and project funding

- 1.4 In order to fully realise the potential of the sector the council will be providing core funding to support key partners to realise their ambitions in the borough.
- 1.5 In January 2017 the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee produced its 'Capacity in the Voluntary Sector' report which recommended *providing the opportunity to fund core costs in some circumstances* recognising the importance of these funds to support organisations to both delivery quality services and lever in significant extra funding from other sources.
- 1.6 This call for core funding was echoed in our recent consultation with a significant number of responses calling for the Council to be a key anchor funder to liberate organisations to fully realise their potential.
- 1.7 This means that funding will be made available for 'back office' functions such as administration, fundraising, central management and office costs that others funders are reluctant to finance. This then allows other funding bids to concentrate on project delivery offering better value for money and increasing the success rates of bids and therefore the overall income for the organisation and the borough.
- 1.8 For this funding we will seek to evaluate the magnitude of the step change that the core funding will realise across the whole organisation so applicants need to be aware that applying for this funding will mean they have de facto agreed to the council considering their whole output as part of the grant making process.
- 1.9 In addition to working in partnership with the Council we wish to support organisations that are committed to working with each other and us to ensure the best possible outcomes for Lewisham's residents with our shared resources. We are not just looking to fund organisations but to enlist active partners who are as passionate about Lewisham as we are and have the drive and capacity to make a difference to people's lives.
- 1.10 However, we are also conscious that not all groups are seeking core funding and this may not be appropriate given their size or the nature of their service provision. As such, project funding will be made available for full cost recovery. This means that the overall cost of the project, including overheads, will be eligible for funding. However, applicants should still be aware that value for money will also be a consideration in the application process and therefore the level of 'frontline' service should be maximised in all applications.

Length and size of grants

- 1.11 Feedback from the recent consultation on the approach to grant funding showed a strong preference for grants of varying lengths to allow for regular innovation and development. As core funding is likely to be for more established groups these grants will be for 3 years with project grants for 2 years.
- 1.12 However, due to the fact the grants will be starting on 1 August 2019 rather than the usual start date of 1 April the initial grants will be 2 years and 8 months for core funding and 1 year and 8 months for project funding.
- 1.13 There is no upper or lower limit for core funding but project funding is limited to £35,000 per annum.

Timetable

- 1.14 Please upload this form by midday on Sunday 3rd February 2019. All applicants will be written to with the outcome of their application in mid-March.

SECTION 2 – Funding criteria

- 2.1 In assessing applications to the grants programme we will be looking at organisation's readiness to work with us as active partners and what they can bring to such a partnership. We will be considering:
- **Local Intelligence**
The level of understanding you have of local issues. Who are your users? Do you serve a geographical area or a community of interest? How do you recognise and record need? What do you know about people who do not use your services but may benefit from them?
 - **Assets based approaches**
What assets will you harness in the design and delivery of your services? This could be physical, human or financial but will demonstrate how you are embedded in your local community and able to work with the strengths of it to coproduce priorities and actions.
 - **Innovation and enterprise**
We will assess how your application uses your local knowledge of both communities and assets to develop collaborative and innovative services. How does your service differ from those that are already delivered or commissioned by the council?
 - **Your track record**
We will assess this across a range of different areas:
 - Partnerships. How well connected are you to other organisations delivering similar services? What opportunities do you see for increased partnership work and what benefit could this bring to your users?
 - Resources. What is your record of attracting resources both financial and volunteer time. What resources does your

organisation bring to the borough? What are your plans for resourcing your work over the next 3 years?
How do you ensure that your organisation is financially viable. What is your reserve policy and current reserves status as a percentage of your turnover? NB for those with less than 10% of their turnover in reserve we will require specific explanation.

- Delivery – what have you achieved over the last few years and how will you build on this with our support.

- **Shared Values**

your commitment to London Living Wage, equalities and environmental sustainability. How can you demonstrate your commitment in these areas? What plans do you have to improve on this?

Programme Themes

- 2.2 On 12 November 2014 Mayor and Cabinet agreed the four overarching programme themes for the previous main grants programme which was subsequently let in 2015 and is currently running.
- 2.3 The programme themes are:
 - 1. Strong and Cohesive Communities
 - 2. Communities that Care
 - 3. Access to Advice
 - 4. Widening access to Arts and Sports
- 2.4 These themes differed from previous rounds in two main areas with the agreement that employment and skills provision was to be provided through locally held Job Centre Plus budgets and related regional commissioning activity. The focus for youth activity within the main grants programme was confirmed as cultural provision as the Youth Service through both its direct and commissioned services provides for generic youth work.
- 2.5 Despite the changes in the funding landscape since 2014 our recent consultation confirmed that the current themes remain the correct ones so these areas remain excluded from the programme.
- 2.6 Details of what we are seeking to fund in each theme are provided below with advice on what you will need to cover in your application.

THEME CRITERIA

Theme 1: Strong and Cohesive Communities

This theme is around developing and maintaining strong communities and building a more inclusive and cohesive borough through the provision of VCS infrastructure and equalities support.

We wish to fund a group of organisations that will adopt a strong collaborative approach, sharing resources and minimising duplication to achieve the following:

- I. Build a more inclusive and cohesive borough, promoting understanding across different communities and reducing marginalisation.
- II. Develop and coordinate equalities networks and collaborations and provide effective representation at appropriate levels
- III. Identify and work in partnership to address issues that lead to particular communities experiencing difficulties accessing services
- IV. Identify disproportionate representation of particular communities within services and work with partners to address this
- V. Give voice to, and build on assets of, local communities who may face barriers to traditional engagement
- VI. Facilitate the involvement of residents in the issues which affect their lives; and supporting collective action to deliver change including the giving of time and resources
- VII. Provide specialist legal, financial and governance support across the Voluntary and Community Sector
- VIII. Promote and broker partnerships to maximise access to and cost-effective use of both statutory and non-statutory funding
- IX. Promote volunteering and provide support for community organisations to access volunteers.

Theme 2: Communities that Care

The overall intention of the Communities that Care theme is to fund a range of organisations that together provide support to vulnerable adults to assist them in accessing services, prevent their needs from escalating, reduce the burden on statutory services and provide links between statutory services, the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) and communities in relation to working together to support vulnerable adults or families with disabled children.

We are purposely keeping the guidance on this theme to a minimum to encourage the VCS in Lewisham to use their knowledge of the local communities they are part of and the issues they face to develop innovative and asset based solutions and services.

This lack of guidance is not intended to signal the exclusion or downgrading of provision areas that have previously been funded and we continue to welcome submissions aimed at providing advocacy for vulnerable groups or reducing social isolation for vulnerable adults either through community provision and/or transport to existing services.

As with all themes we expect applicants to be clear why their service is needed and how it complements and works in partnership with other provision and the local community as well as creating new networks of sector-wide support.

Theme 3. Access to Advice Services

Background

In May 2015, the current grants were set by Mayor and Cabinet on the condition that the advice agencies be subject to a review of their provision as there was concern that the pattern of provision was inequitable and presented barriers to access.

The subsequent review found that although the individual agencies were providing valuable services and meeting the needs who were able to access the provision overall the model had a number of flaws including:

- the fixed geographical nature of the services which meant that certain areas of the borough were underserved
- the lack of coordination of the service offer which meant that all providers could be operating at the same time with other times completely uncovered which presented barriers to access for those not available during those periods
- the lack of coordination meant that there was no joint work and sharing of resources which could lead to queues at one service while another was relatively quiet
- a lack of any triage based on need and a first come first served service that had to be queued for on the day meant those unwilling or unable to present early or stand for long periods missed out on service regardless of the seriousness of their needs
- no overarching data collection was undertaken to give an indication of what needs were being seen at different services and at what scale – this presented a major barrier to the effective development of services
- this lack of data meant that the staff skill mix required was impossible to determine
- there was a lack of clear information available to the public about what was available, and where, and the majority of people who accessed services did so due to the proximity of the service to their home

Key Elements of Current Service

In response to the review the current grant funded members of the Advice Lewisham partnership developed a new service offer which began delivery in 2017. This differed from the previous approach in a number of respects, including:

- The introduction of a freephone advice line as the principal point of access to the service
- Telephone-based triage of calls by assessors
- Provision for face to face appointments for individuals whose first language is not English
- A centralised appointment booking system, intended to book people into appointments with a specialist adviser most relevant to their need

- A limited number of home visits for advice appointments especially for the elderly or disabled
- A drop-in service at three hubs
- A referral service from professionals, including social workers and GPs
- A limited case work provision for more complex cases requiring representation and/or appeals
- Referral arrangements for individuals requiring debt and money advice

As a result of the implementation of this service model, the number of individuals accessing services has demonstrably increased since 2017.

As such we are seeking applications from organisations who will work in partnership to maintain and develop the current service model to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the most vulnerable while continuing to develop closer links to meet current service challenges.

Although significant progress has been made, there are still a number of areas which require further development. These include:

- Better coordination of the extensive range of community organisations involved in providing support to local residents
- Better coordination of Advice Lewisham's services with those offered by statutory providers, including the developing service offering a single point of access to care and health
- Potential to further develop the service with other voluntary sector provision which provides advice and support to vulnerable residents

The over-arching challenge for the service is to provide solutions for individuals which significantly reduce their potential for requiring further support in the future. This will be most effectively achieved through enabling the majority of people to source and identify their own solutions rather than seeking them through a third party.

Delivery Requirements

Organisations bidding under this theme will need to demonstrate how they will work together to deliver advice services to up to 30,000 individuals per year across the borough using a range of approaches to ensure full accessibility.

These include:

- Telephone
- Face-to-face
- E-mail
- Professional referrals
- Web-based
- Social media based

Services will be offered via the following routes:

- Telephone advice and triage line

- One-to-one advice consultations
- Ongoing casework for complex cases and for particularly vulnerable individuals
- Home visits, where required, for complex cases and for particularly vulnerable individuals
- Face-to-face delivery to individuals accessing hub-based services, including advice provided by volunteer advisers

It is important that organisations and partnerships applying under this theme are able to deliver effective advice and information services to vulnerable residents, such as older people, disabled people, newly arrived communities and those who do not speak English as their first language to ensure that all individuals, regardless of the barriers, access services and are supported to live fulfilled and independent lives.

Organisations and partnerships should be constantly reviewing their data to ensure that the focus and level of the provision is appropriate to presenting need and that the service model is able to continually adapt to ensure the most efficient use of resources.

Organisations applying under this theme will the appropriate Advice Quality Standard (AQS) Advice or Advice & Casework accreditation. For more specialist advice, casework and representation will need to employ supervisors and caseworkers who are appropriately qualified and who individually meet the Specialist Quality Mark (SQM) for their area of competence. Where appropriate, organisations may also require the Lexcel quality mark or be registered with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

Organisations will need to demonstrate that they are working together to deliver advice in the following priority areas:

- Welfare rights
- Housing (including homelessness, repairs, possession proceedings and tenancy issues)
- Immigration
- Employment

In general we would expect debt and money advice (including multiple debts and arrears) provision to be funded through the money advice service so bids should be clear how this existing provision will be integrated within the grant funded offer in Lewisham.

Theme 4. Widening Access to Arts and Sports

The intention of this theme is to fund organisations or consortiums of organisations that will take a strategic approach to increasing the number of people who participate in the arts and sport in Lewisham. This will particularly involve addressing barriers and providing opportunities for those who are less able to engage. Applications will be expected to demonstrate how they will:

- a. Increase participation, particularly including people who are less able to participate due to disability, economic disadvantage and age (young people and older people) and groups with traditionally lower rates of participation .
- b. Nurture talent and provide progression pathways, including developing outreach links into other settings such as schools.
- c. Providing opportunities for people of all ages to improve their health, wellbeing and resilience via participation

The theme is split into two strands:

4a Widening Access to Arts

Lewisham has a rich and diverse arts sector and is recognised as a borough in which creativity can thrive. It is also home to some of the capital's most exciting and innovative organisations. We recognise the huge impact that the arts and creative industries have had on issues such as health and wellbeing, education and the economy but also value the way in which they have helped to make Lewisham the dynamic place that it is. We want to continue to encourage innovation and the ongoing development of an atmosphere in which new things can emerge. Whilst recognising the importance of access to the arts for all ages we also want to ensure that we are building for the future by responding to the current climate in which opportunities for young people to access the arts and develop creative skills in settings other than school is becoming increasingly important.

Through this theme we expect to fund a network of organisations that will deliver activities that:

- Provide opportunities for people of all ages to engage with the arts as active participants and members of an audience.
- Provide opportunities for people of all ages to explore and develop their creativity and acquire new skills.
- Increase awareness and enhance the reputation of Lewisham as a place to spend leisure time.
- Capitalise on funding and other support opportunities from regional and national bodies.

4b Widening Access to Sports

Lewisham has a strong sporting tradition and recognises the vital role that sport and physical activity can play in improving the quality of life of the borough's residents. We want Lewisham to continue to be a place where talent is nurtured and encouraged and where sporting participants fulfil their

potential. We also want to make sure that opportunities are available to all of the boroughs residents to regularly participate in sport and physical activity as a means of maintaining and improving their health.

In recent years Lewisham Council has invested significantly in developing high quality sport and leisure facilities and continues to fund Fusion and 1Life to manage these facilities and deliver a programme of associated activities.

To complement these facilities we want to work with a range of voluntary sports clubs and organisations to develop a more coordinated and partnership driven approach to sports provision in the borough in order to make the best possible sporting offer available to the residents of Lewisham. In this context we expect to fund partnerships or single organisations that will take a lead in facilitating partnerships to develop & deliver borough wide, development plans for specific sports. Applications will be expected to show how they will meet the general criteria for this fund (a and b above) and also respond to the following questions:

- Can you demonstrate high levels of demand or growing demand for your sport within Lewisham?
- How will you make the best use of the borough's current and emerging facilities?
- How will you capitalise on funding and/or other support opportunities from regional and national bodies?
- How will you provide activities that encourage people to participate in recreational sport and physical activity?

SECTION 3 – APPLICATION PROCESS AND ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

- 3.1 In order to apply to Lewisham Council Main grants programme you must complete the main grants application form and upload via the Lewisham website.
- 3.2 You should read the criteria and guidance contained in the previous sections of this document before completing your application.
- 3.3 It is hoped that the application form itself is largely self-explanatory but additional guidance on each section of the form is contained below. Word limits are quoted with each question – please do not see these limit as targets and answer all questions as succinctly as possible.
- 3.4 Please complete each section in turn. If you are applying for core funding please complete section C1 for project funding please complete C2.
- 3.5 Those applying for funding under the Access to Advice theme should use section C1 as well as answering the specific supplementary question relating to partnership working.
- 3.6 In general we would expect organisations to submit one application form and therefore to simply submit one section C. Organisations who wish to deliver numerous projects should apply for core funding rather than submit a number of different project forms. However, if you think it is necessary to submit more than one section C document please make the reasons for that clear in section G.

Section A – Organisation name

- 3.7 All we need in this section is your organisation name as we will have your contact details through your registration via the website. Please ensure that your organisation name is the same one that you registered with.

Section B – Eligibility

- 3.8 The questions in this section will enable us to check that you are eligible to apply for funding under this programme.
- 3.9 In order to be eligible for a grant from Lewisham Council you must be a not for profit organisation – we will check the details that you submitted when registering via the website.
- 3.10 This section also checks whether the majority of the recipients of your project live in Lewisham. This is a requirement for project funding but if you are applying for core funding and this is not the case e.g. you are a

national or regional organisation based in Lewisham please explain this at question 4.

Sections C1 (Core) and C2 (Project) – Your service offer

- 3.11 These sections will be used to assess how well your organisation meets the criteria described in section 2 this document. This is an important part of the assessment and it is essential that you complete this section fully and address as many aspects of the criteria as possible.
- 3.12 As outlined above please complete section C1 for core funding and C2 for project funding. Project funding applications are limited to a maximum of £35,000 per annum. Please do not see this as a target figure and simply apply for the amount that you need to deliver your project.
- 3.13 In general we would expect organisations to submit one application form and therefore to simply submit one section C. Organisations who wish to deliver numerous projects should apply for core funding rather than submit a number of different project forms. However, if you think it is necessary to submit more than one section C document please make the reasons for that clear in section G.
- 3.14 Applicants under the Access to Advice theme Advice should complete section C1 (Core funding) section of the application as well as the specific question 9C relating to partnership working. It is expected that all agencies applying as part of a consortium under this theme provide complementary responses to this question which are easily identifiable as such.
- 3.15 Project funding is not available to standalone advice projects. Those that wish to apply for specialist advice services should seek to align their provision with the core advice offer and highlight synergies and mutual referral pathways.
- 3.16 Those who wish to include an element of generalist advice and signposting as part of their project should apply under the theme that best represents their overall offer.
- 3.17 Those applying for project funding are also required to complete the table at 9b setting out the programme of activity in Year 1 with outcomes, outputs and proposed measurements associated with these.
- 3.18 Questions 10 to 12 are standard across the two sections and seek details of the scalability of your offer, further details of your users and your engagement methods and mechanisms.
- 3.19 We would expect you to use your local community knowledge to inform your submissions but there is also a wealth of information on the

borough available at the JSNA website which may be useful to applicants.

<http://www.lewishamsna.org.uk/>

Section D – Your track record

- 3.20 Questions 13 – 16 seeks details of your track record of partnership working, revenue raising and the attraction of other resources such as volunteers.
- 3.21 There is detailed explanations within each question which is self-explanatory. The tables are designed to reduce the level of text required and should be relatively easy to complete. However, if this information is not available please provide details in the space below the tables in question 14.

Section E – Accounts/Budget

- 3.22 As we have already requested a lot of financial information as part of section D we simply ask you to submit your 2017/18 accounts (audited if appropriate) here. If you are newly formed and do not have full accounts for this year please submit your latest management accounts.
- 3.23 If you are applying for project funding please provide a breakdown your proposed expenditure at 17b. Please feel free to add additional lines as required. ***This is not required for core funding applications.***

Section F – Your organisation

- 3.24 This section requires you to provide a brief overview of your organisation and its governance.
- 3.25 Please pay particular attention to question 23 as this requires a statement from your Board and this may take time to coordinate if there is not a meeting scheduled during the application period.
- 3.26 Question 25 may seem like a duplication of information at question 14 but is simply an opportunity to provide further detail on Lewisham specific funding that you have received in the last few years.
- 3.27 It is not a requirement as part of the application to submit the documentation listed at question 27 but this must be available within 10 working days when requested otherwise your application may be invalidated.

Section G – Further Information and Declaration

- 3.28 It is essential that your application is signed by the chair of your organisations or other member of the management committee with appropriate authority.

Additional Guidance

- 3.29 There will be a series of application workshops in January 2019. Details of these will be available later in the year.

Main Grants Programme 2019 - 2022 Funding Application

Section A

Contact Details

1. Name of your organisation

1.	Name of your organisation

Section B

Eligibility

2. We will check the status of your organisation via the details you submitted as part of your registration via the website.

3. Does your intended programme benefit mainly Lewisham residents (90%+ of your recipients live in Lewisham)

Yes

No

4. If you are applying for core funding and have answered no to question 3 please outline the reasons here and how you will ensure maximum benefits for Lewisham residents.

250 words.

4.	If you are applying for core funding and have answered no to question 3 please outline the reasons here and how you will ensure maximum benefits for Lewisham residents.

Section C1

Core Funding - Your service offer

This section requires you to set out what you propose to deliver, to whom and why.

5. Please mark which main grant theme you are applying for.
Please note that if you are applying for more than one grant please complete a separate section C for each application.

1 Strong and cohesive communities

2 Communities that care

3 Access to advice

NB – those applying under this theme should complete the core funding section of the application as well as the specific question X relating to partnership working

4 Widening access to arts and sports

4a Widening access to arts

4b Widening access to sports

6. Please tell us the annual amount you are requesting.

£

7. Tell us the issue you are seeking to address.
Please ensure you are clear why this issue is Lewisham specific and why you feel the need is not met by the existing assets in the community whether they be people, services (both commissioned and non-commissioned) or available funding.
400 words.

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8.	<p>Tell us the assets you will be seeking to engage and mobilise to assist you.</p> <p>These assets could include individuals, groups, buildings or any or specific strengths that already exist within your community including the lived experiences of those within it.</p> <p>Tell us the other organisations working in this area and how you will avoid duplication and add value.</p> <p>400 words.</p>
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9.	<p>Please tell us what you will seek to achieve over the next three years both with and without the funding you are applying for.</p> <p>Please include details of how many extra people you would expect to work with, the outputs you will deliver and the outcomes you will seek to achieve.</p> <p>Please tell us how your service differs from those that are already delivered or commissioned by the council.</p> <p>You should state the level of funding that you would anticipate attracting during this period both with and without Lewisham's core support.</p> <p>As you are applying for Core Funding this section should set out your ambitions as an organisation and what Lewisham's funding will help you achieve rather than simply what 'we are paying for.'</p> <p>NB – this details in this section will form the basis of the monitoring of your organisation although the exact details will be agreement with once the grant has been awarded.</p>
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A) Without core funding from Lewisham (500 words):

B) With core funding from Lewisham – in addition to the above (500 words):

C) For Access to Advice applicants only – please describe how your service fits with the overall Advice Lewisham partnership and builds on the current infrastructure and service offer (400 words):

10.	Please state how far your service offer is scalable. Please indicate below what percentage of your requested amount would still be feasible in terms of service delivery. Please tick all that apply
75%	<input type="checkbox"/>
50%	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Please specify reasons (e.g. a minimum of 65% of your application amount is required to appoint a full time member of staff)
<p>Please describe below which elements of your service offer (question 9B) that you would NOT be included under the different levels of scaling you have selected (max 200 word per amount e.g. if you have selected both 50 and 75% please detail which elements you would cease for each scenario).</p>	

11.	User profile. The Council must adhere to the Equality Act 2010 in its provision of funding. Any organisation that is grant funded by the Council must strive to ensure their services are accessible and available to everyone. The impact that the grants programme has will be assessed across all the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010. In order to enable us to make this assessment please tell us more about who your proposed programme will benefit:
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PROTECTED CHARACTERISTIC	PLEASE TICK ✓	FURTHER DETAIL
Age		
Disability		
Gender		
Gender reassignment		
Marriage & civil partnership		
Pregnancy & maternity		
Race		
Religion & belief		
Sexual orientation		

11b.	If your proposed programme will be aimed exclusively at one specific community please explain the reasons for this.
	NB – this could be a community of interest or a geographical area not listed above.
	300 words.

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12. Please set out how your proposed programme will engage those who do not traditionally access services.

This engage should relate to both the protected characteristics but also other groups.

300 words.

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Section C2

Project Funding - your service offer

This section requires you to set out what you propose to deliver, to whom and why.

5.	Please mark which main grant theme you are applying for. Please note that if you are applying for more than one grant please complete a separate section C for each application.
1	Strong and cohesive communities <input type="checkbox"/> _____
2	Communities that care <input type="checkbox"/> _____
3	Access to advice NB – project funding is not available to standalone advice projects. Those that wish to apply for specialist advice services should seek to align their provision with the Advice Lewisham Partnership within Section C1 (Core funding) Those who wish to include an element of generalist advice and signposting as art of their project should apply under the theme that best represents their overall offer. _____
4	Widening access to arts and sports
4a	<input type="checkbox"/> Widening access to arts
4b	<input type="checkbox"/> Widening access to sports

6.	Please tell us the annual amount you are requesting. Please note that the maximum possible grant for project funding is £35,000 per annum and is available for 2 years.
£	

7.	<p>Tell us the issue you are seeking to address.</p> <p>Please ensure you are clear why this issue is Lewisham specific and why you feel the need is not met by the existing assets in the community whether they be people, services (both commissioned and non-commissioned) or available funding.</p> <p>400 words.</p>

8.	<p>Tell us the assets you will be seeking to engage and mobilise to assist you.</p> <p>These assets could include individuals, groups, buildings or any or specific strengths that already exist within your community including the lived experiences of those within it.</p> <p>Tell us the other organisations working in this area and how you will avoid duplication and add value.</p> <p>400 words.</p>

9.	<p>Please tell us what you will seek to achieve over the next two with the funding you are applying for.</p> <p>Please include details of how many people you would expect to work with, the outputs you will deliver and the outcomes you will seek to achieve – please also complete the table at 13b.</p>
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Please tell us how your service differs from those that are already delivered or commissioned by the council.

NB – this details in this section will form the basis of the monitoring of your organisation although the exact details will be agreement with once the grant has been awarded.

500 words.

9b.	Detail your outputs and outcomes and explain how you propose to measure your performance against outcomes. Please remember your outcomes must be linked to the theme priorities. Outcomes are the impact or change you hope to achieve as a result of the project. Outputs are the specific steps you will take to achieve the outcomes.		
	Outcomes	Outputs	How you will measure outcomes
<p><i>e.g. people increase their fitness levels to improve their health and well-being.</i></p>	<p><i>e.g. weekly dance classes for 100 previously social isolated adults will be delivered. 250 sessions (each 60 minutes long) will take place in 2 locations (Sydenham and New Cross).</i></p>	<p><i>e.g.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Registers of all attendance at activities</i> • <i>Questionnaires / interviews will be used to assess impact on participants.</i> • <i>An external health professional will evaluate health, fitness and well-being impact.</i> • <i>Comments and observations from teaching and support staff, artists, facilitators etc</i> 	

10. Please state how far your service offer is scalable. Please indicate below what percentage of your requested amount would still be feasible in terms of service delivery. Please tick all that apply

75%

50%

Other Please specify reasons (e.g. a minimum of 65% of your application amount is required to appoint a full time member of staff)

Please describe below which elements of your service offer (question 9B) that you would NOT be included under the different levels of scaling you have selected (max 200 word per amount e.g. if you have selected both 50 and 75% please detail which elements you would cease for each scenario).

11. User profile. The Council must adhere to the Equality Act 2010 in its provision of funding. Any organisation that is grant funded by the Council must strive to ensure their services are accessible and available to everyone. The impact that the grants programme has will be assessed across all the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010. In order to enable us to make this assessment please tell us more about who your proposed programme will benefit:

PROTECTED CHARACTERISTIC	PLEASE TICK <input type="checkbox"/>	FURTHER DETAIL
Age		
Disability		
Gender		
Gender reassignment		
Marriage & civil partnership		
Pregnancy & maternity		
Race		
Religion & belief		
Sexual orientation		

11b. If your proposed programme will be aimed exclusively at one specific community please explain the reasons for this.

NB – this could be a community of interest or a geographical area not listed above.

300 words.

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12.	Please set out how your proposed programme will engage those who do not traditionally access your services. This engage should relate to both the protected characteristics but also other groups. 300 words.
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Section D**Your track record**

This sections seeks details of your track record of partnership working, service delivery, revenue raising and the attraction of other resources such as volunteers.

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 13. | <p>Collaboration and delivery: your track record of working in partnership and delivering quality services.</p> <p>Please use this section to outline the partnerships you have developed over the last three years. Please detail who you have worked with and what you have achieved.</p> <p>Please also details the three service achievements during this period of which you are most proud.</p> <p>500 words.</p> |
|-----|---|

14. Resources: your track record of attracting resources both financial and human.

Please complete the below tables detailing your track record of the following over the past three years:

- funding applications both successful and unsuccessful
- other fundraising activities
- volunteer engagement

Please add extra rows as required.

Please use the space below the tables to provide further details as required (200 words max).

Year	Funder and nature of application	Level of funding requested	Outcome/level of funding received

Year	Fundraising activity undertaken	Level of funding achieved

Year	Volunteer engagement activity undertaken	Approximate number of volunteer hours delivered

15. Overall financial health: Please complete the below table and answer the following questions.

What is your reserve policy and current reserves status as a percentage of your turnover?

We would expect organisation who are more than three years old to have a minimum of 10% of their annual turnover in reserve.

If you are seeking funding and do not meet this threshold please provide a detailed account of why and what you intend to do to bring your reserves to an adequate level.

Regardless of your reserve position please explain how your organisation is financially viable.

250 words.

Please complete the below table with high level figures. It is not necessary to split these figures into restricted or unrestricted funds or provide further detail – the table is simply intended to give a general sense of your organisation's financial health. Use the area below the table to answer the questions relating to reserves and sustainability.

Year	Income	Expenditure	Surplus/deficit
2015/16			
2016/17			
2017/18			
2018/19 (anticipated)			

16. Shared values: Please use this section to demonstrate your commitment to these (London Living Wage, equalities, being Dementia Friendly, ending Modern Slavery and sustainability) and plans to develop these commitments.

250 words.

Section E**Accounts/Budget**

17. Please attach you accounts for 2017/18 – if you were formed after 2017 please attached your most recent set of management accounts.

17b.	PROJECT FUNDING ONLY - please complete the below table	Annual expenditure
Staff costs (please specify)		
Activity costs (please specify)		
Running costs (please specify)		
Other costs (please specify)		
Total		

18. **Banking arrangements.** Successful grant recipients will have their grant paid directly into the organisation's bank account. Please give details of the bank or building society that grant should be paid into.

Account number	
Branch sort code	
Account name	
Bank name and full address	
Organisation name and/or	

address (if different from Section A)	
Email address for remittance (if different from Section A)	

Section F

About your organisation

19. Please give a brief description of your organisation, including stating your organisation's aims and objectives and when the organisation was formed – 100 words.

20. Is the organisation currently compliant with filing requirements? Please state when annual details were last filed with the Charity Commission/Companies House. If returns are outstanding please state why – 100 words.

21. How many people are involved in your organisation?

Committee members Other members

Paid staff Volunteers

22. Please give details of the members of your management committee

Full name	Position Held	Date elected	Term of office
	Chairperson		
	Secretary		
	Treasurer		

23.	Board Statement: Please include a statement from your Board regarding its overall approach to managing the organisation. This should include the details of the most recent skills audit and how the key posts on the Board are recruited to.
	250 words.

24.	Please outline what quality assurance system your organisation has in place, level attained (if relevant) and how long this is valid for?

25.	Has your organisation been funded by Lewisham Council within the last 3 years? Please tick as appropriate.	
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	If yes, please tick which fund(s) and specify date(s) received:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Assembly Funding	<input style="width: 350px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small and Faith Fund	<input style="width: 350px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sports Small Grant	<input style="width: 350px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arts / Festival Fund	<input style="width: 350px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commissioning/Contracts	<input style="width: 350px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input style="width: 350px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>

26.	Please describe the opportunities and threats (risks) face your organisation over the next three years and what plans you have in place to deal with them.
	250 words.

27.	You must be able to supply the below documents with 10 working days on request otherwise your application will be considered invalid	
Item	Please indicate here that these documents will be available on request	
Organisation's constitution or governing document		
Accounts for 2017/18 (audited if applicable)		
Equalities and Diversity policy and procedures		
Health & safety policy		
Volunteers' policy (if applicable)		
Child protection and vulnerable adults safeguarding policy (if applicable)		
Evidence of CRB / DBS checks and disclosures – reference number and date (if applicable)		
Public liability insurance (if applicable)		

Section G	Further information and declaration
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28.	<p>In the space below write any points you want to bring to the attention of the Council. If you have included more than one Section C submission please note the reasons here.</p> <p>200 words.</p>

Declaration	
<p>This application must be signed by the Chair or by a member of the management committee. Scanned copy of signature will be accepted.</p> <p>The information given in this application is correct. The organisation was neither established for profit nor is conducted for profit. We will inform the relevant officer at Lewisham Council of any changes in the organisation's circumstances that would affect this application or the use of any grant funding relating to it. We agree to abide by the requirements of the Equalities Act.</p> <p>Name in block capitals: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____ Date: _____</p> <p>Position Held in Organisation: _____</p> <p>Name of organisation: _____</p>	

The information you have provided us with will be used in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and other relevant legislation. We have a duty to make sure you know what we intend to do with your information and who it will be shared with or disclosed to.

The council may share the information you have provided us with amongst its own departments, this is to improve working practices and the delivery of services. We may also use it to contact you from time to time.

We may pass your information to other agencies or organisations as allowed or required by law, for example to enable them to carry out their statutory duties or where it is necessary to prevent harm to yourself or other individuals.

*Please tick here if you do **not** wish to be contacted by the Council.*

Please check that you have answered all questions on this form as only fully completed applications can be assessed.

If you have an questions regarding the completion of this form please email:
main.grants@lewisham.gov.uk.

Closing dates for applications to be uploaded to the website – Sunday 3rd February 2019.

Forms returned after this deadline date will not be assessed.



London Borough of Lewisham

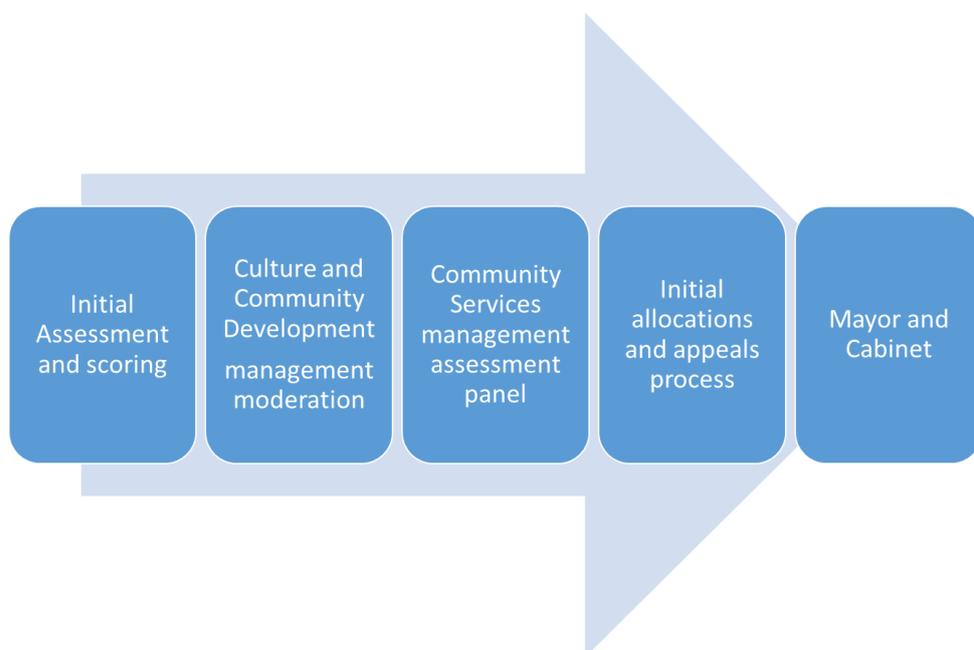
Main grants programme August 2019 to March 2022 assessment guidance

Lewisham Main Grants Programme

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The 2019-22 Main Grants Programme was launched for applications in November 2018 on with a deadline of midnight on Sunday 3 February 2019 for submissions.
- 1.2 Detailed guidance notes and funding criteria were included as part of the application process with workshops and phone support provided to assist applicants in understanding the process.
- 1.3 In order to ensure each application is assessed fairly and equitably an assessment form has been devised to provide a framework and scoring mechanism for the initial filtering of the submissions. The document provides guidance on how to use that form and broad levels of expectation for scoring each response. Any and all examples included in this guidance are non-prescriptive or exhaustive and officers should use their own judgement in scoring responses.
- 1.4 The initial scores are indicative and may be amended following a moderation process to ensure consistency in approaches across the board and that the programme provides effective coverage across a range of criteria.

The overall assessment process will take the following steps:



1.5 The Community Services management assessment stage will also incorporate an overall Equalities Analysis Assessment (EEA) across the programme.

1.6 Please note that the assessment forms will be sent to applicants and will, ultimately, be public documents so all comments should be written accordingly.

2. Assessment guidance

2.1 In assessing applications to the grants programme it is important that officers consider an organisation's readiness to work with us as active partners and what they can bring to such a partnership. It is important to consider the following key principles:

- **Local Intelligence**

The level of understanding of local issues demonstrated by the applicant. Who are their users? Do they serve a geographical area or a community of interest? How do they recognise and record need? What do they know about people who do not use their services but may benefit from them?

- **Assets based approaches**

What assets will they harness in the design and delivery of their services? This could be physical, human or financial but will demonstrate how the group are embedded in your local community and able to work with the strengths of it to coproduce priorities and actions.

- **Innovation and enterprise**

How does the application make use of specific local knowledge of both communities and assets to develop collaborative and innovative services? How does the proposed service differ from those that are already delivered or commissioned by the council? **NB** If you are unsure it is important to check with the relevant department/colleague¹.

- **Track record**

- Partnerships. How well connected is the applicant to other organisations delivering similar services? What opportunities have been identified for increased partnership work and what benefit could this bring to users?

- Resources. What is the organisation's record of attracting resources both financial and volunteer time. What resources has and could the organisation bring to the borough? What are the plans for resourcing the organisation over the next 3 years?

Are we reassured that the organisation is financially viable? What is the organisation's reserve policy and current reserves status as a percentage of your turnover? **NB** for those with less than 10% of their turnover in reserve we will require specific explanation.

- Delivery – what have they achieved over the last few years and how will a grant from Lewisham Council build on this?

- **Shared Values**

Does the organisation demonstrate commitment to London Living Wage, equalities and environmental sustainability? What plans do they have to improve on this?

¹ In general activities related to employment and training and those for young people are excluded from the criteria. Employment and training services are commissioned through separate budgets and the focus for youth activity within the main grants programme is limited to cultural provision.

- 2.2 These key principles should be evident throughout the application and form the core values of the applicant rather than simply be referred to when prompted by specific questions.
- 2.3 It is also vital that the application addresses the Programme's 4 main themes:
1. Strong and Cohesive Communities
 2. Communities that Care
 3. Access to Advice
 4. Widening access to Arts and Sports
- 2.4 Full details of the guidance provided to applicants on these themes is attached as Appendix 1 for reference. However, it is also important to note that these criteria are non-exhaustive and should be used as broad parameters for activity rather than prescriptions. Innovative applications that address associated needs should be considered on their merits.

3. Completing the assessment form

Section 1 – Core Information

- 3.1 The information required to complete Section 1 should be easily and self-evidently available on the application form or from the master logging spreadsheet. Any information that is unclear please note in the box titled *Reasons for ineligibility or any further comments*.
- 3.2 At the initial assessment stage do not worry about the eligibility question as this can be updated from the master logging sheet at a later date.

Section 2 – Deliverables

- 3.3 This section provides boxes for scoring and commenting on specific questions within the application form. The application question number that you should be scoring is recorded in the top right corner of the table – please ensure you check this as not every answer is scored in the same way.
- 3.4 For each scoring question a table is provided. This table provides a general guidance to the expectations for every answer as well as what might be included for each score against the specific question. These examples should be used as guidance only and officers should use their own knowledge and judgement to score the answers. This is because an answer may be very strong in particular elements of the answer but miss others completely while the guidance assumes a general improvement across all aspects of the answer as the score increases. Any inconsistencies will be addressed through the moderation process.
- 3.5 The score should be supplemented by commentary which highlights the areas of strength and weakness in the answer and provides clear justification for the score.
- 3.6 The word count row at the end of the table should be used to simply record the number of words in the answer. You should stop scoring the answer once the word count is reached but it is important that we note the count for each answer as those who persistently ignore the guidance should be noted in the final section of the assessment form.
- 3.7 The first question to be scored is Question 7 on the application form:

Score	Level	Standard	Possible examples
0	Non-existent	Answer absent	N/A
1	Poor	Answer contains many shortcomings and lacks understanding of the key principles of the grants programme.	Provides a general overview of a specific issue. Very little or no reference to the Lewisham context in terms of need or other available services. Link to themes to vague.
2	Weak	Answer meets some of the	Provides a good articulation of the general

		question requirements but the understanding of the key principles is limited and the links to the themes is weak	needs with clear reference to relevant theme but with limited reference to Lewisham specific data or other local services. Some reference to theme criteria.
3	Good	Answer addresses the question well and demonstrates an understanding of the key principles and the theme criteria but lacks some depth (e.g. limited local knowledge or partnerships)	Provides clear articulation of need and provides Lewisham specific data although this is limited to publicly held data such as the census. Provides an overview of other local services but is not clear why they do not meet the identified need. Clear reference to theme criteria. Clear equalities awareness.
4	Very good	Answer is well rounded and demonstrates strong understanding of the key principles and theme criteria and can demonstrate how these are a key part of their service offer	Provides clear articulation of specific local needs including local data and knowledge of specific issues. Provides a clear articulation of other local provision and partnerships and highlights why these do not meet local need. Clear reference to theme criteria. Clear equalities awareness.
5	Excellent	Answer is comprehensive and demonstrates full understanding of the key principles and theme criteria. The answer demonstrates a strong track record, innovative delivery models and a strong knowledge of Lewisham.	Provides clear articulation of specific local needs including local data and knowledge of specific issues. Provides a clear articulation of other local provision including assets beyond services and highlights why this does not meet local need. Provides specific insights into local need not articulated elsewhere and demonstrates full understanding of key principles and theme criteria. Clear equalities awareness.

3.8 Question 8:

Score	Level	Standard	Possible examples
0	Non-existent	Answer absent	N/A
1	Poor	Answer contains many shortcomings and lacks understanding of the key principles of the grants programme.	Provides details of other services and funding linked directly to the applicant.
2	Weak	Answer meets some of the question requirements but the understanding of the key principles is limited and the links to the themes is weak	Provides details of other local services but these are primarily larger well funded services or buildings. Limited specific local knowledge. No reference to wider assets.
3	Good	Answer addresses the question well and demonstrates an understanding of the key principles and the theme criteria but lacks some depth	Provides details of the above services but also some smaller local services and the particularly strengths that they bring. Provides an understanding of the dynamics of the area in which they seek to work and considers assets in the broadest

		(e.g. limited local knowledge or partnerships)	form. Provides clarity as to where the proposed service offer fits within the local provision and avoids duplication.
4	Very good	Answer is well rounded and demonstrates strong understanding of the key principles and theme criteria and can demonstrate how these are a key part of their service offer	As above but also provides significant insight into the local area which might include partnerships across traditional boundaries e.g. with GP practices or schools. Provides details of local assets that may go beyond organisations or buildings e.g. local individuals or groups. Is clearly linked with local infrastructure, including Assemblies, and understands how the service offer with work in partnership with it and add value.
5	Excellent	Answer is comprehensive and demonstrates full understanding of the key principles and theme criteria. The answer demonstrates a strong track record, innovative delivery models and a strong knowledge of Lewisham.	As above but provides an insight into why other local provision exists, where it is funded from and how the proposed service links into the overall offer in the area. Is clear on a range of different local assets including those with lived experience.

3.9 Question 9 is difficult to provide clear guidance on as there will be a significant range of activity within this section. Overall, this question is seeking to assess the added value provided by Lewisham funding rather than the overall strength of the organisation applying. As such it is important that answer B is considered in light of answer A (which isn't directly scored as is it not a result of the Lewisham funding) and represents a step change in what will be achieved rather than simply more of the same. This is particularly the case for core funding which should demonstrably lever in more funding and resources to ensure that the outputs and outcomes delivered far exceed those that could simply be purchased directly with the funding. Separate scoring tables for core and project funding are provided below:

Core:

Score	Level	Standard	Possible examples
0	Non-existent	Answer absent	N/A
1	Poor	Answer contains many shortcomings and lacks understanding of the key principles of the grants programme.	The proposal has little or no reference to the themes and criteria and simply describes the activities of the organisation and that the grant will allow them to do more of the same. No reference to how the service differs from others available.
2	Weak	Answer meets some of the question requirements but the understanding of the key principles is limited and the links to the themes is weak	Provides reference to the criteria and theme but the added value provided by the grant is minimal and the funding simply pays for extra activity that could be directly funded at the same cost. Some reference to other services and how the

			offer differs.
3	Good	Answer addresses the question well and demonstrates an understanding of the key principles and the theme criteria but lacks some depth (e.g. limited local knowledge or partnerships)	Provides detailed understanding of the themes and criteria and provides significant added value. Makes clear reference to the grant as a springboard to attracting other funding and delivering over and above what could be purchased directly. Clear understanding of other services and how the proposal avoids duplication.
4	Very good	Answer is well rounded and demonstrates strong understanding of the key principles and theme criteria and can demonstrate how these are a key part of their service offer	As above but with significantly greater resources levered in due to the grant. Provides clear and SMART outputs and outcomes over and above what would be provided without the grant. Clear funding targets to be raised in addition to the grant funding. Clear articulation of the service offer in the context of other provision and how it will complement this.
5	Excellent	Answer is comprehensive and demonstrates full understanding of the key principles and theme criteria. The answer demonstrates a strong track record, innovative delivery models and a strong knowledge of Lewisham.	As above but demonstrating clearly innovative service offer that would be unlikely to be delivered without core funding e.g. delivers added value of significant scale through a variety of means.

3.10 Applications for core funding under the Access to Advice theme should also be scored 0-5 on the basis of engagement with the Advice Lewisham partnership to deliver a fully integrated, borough wide network of advice provision. Any submission without reference to this, or without a clear explanation regarding the need for stand-alone provision should receive a low score.

Project

Score	Level	Standard	Possible examples
0	Non-existent	Answer absent	N/A
1	Poor	Answer contains many shortcomings and lacks understanding of the key principles of the grants programme.	A project lacking clear reference to the themes or funding criteria. Provides limited or no explanation of deliverables.
2	Weak	Answer meets some of the question requirements but the understanding of the key principles is limited and the links to the themes is weak	Provides some reference to the themes and funding criteria but limited in scope and ambition. Outputs provided but outcomes to be delivered unclear.
3	Good	Answer addresses the question well and demonstrates an	Provides clear reference to themes and funding criteria and demonstrates understanding of the scope and the scale

		understanding of the key principles and the theme criteria but lacks some depth (e.g. limited local knowledge or partnerships)	of the work to be delivered which is proportionate to the level of funding requested. Clearly defines how the service adds value and does not duplicate local provision. Outputs and outcomes provided but lacking detail.
4	Very good	Answer is well rounded and demonstrates strong understanding of the key principles and theme criteria and can demonstrate how these are a key part of their service offer	As above but provides significant levels of detail regarding outputs and outcomes. Clear on how the provision differs from what is already available.
5	Excellent	Answer is comprehensive and demonstrates full understanding of the key principles and theme criteria. The answer demonstrates a strong track record, innovative delivery models and a strong knowledge of Lewisham.	As above but provides significant innovation. Exit strategy/future funding plans are clear and the project provides a springboard to future funding and delivery models. Clear on how present and future delivery will differ from existing services and add value to the borough over and above the paid for activity.

3.11 For Project funding applications there is an additional box to complete on the assessment form which asks for an assessment of value for money and deliverability (reasonableness). This is not scored but offers the opportunity to refer to the budget provided at question 17b and provide additional comments to those provided against 9b.

3.12 Question 10 relates to scalability. This is not scored but the comments should provide a clear indication of the value for money and desirability of each of the potential options.

3.13 Question 11b is not scored as it is not answered universally but the comment should make it clear whether this is a strong and convincing answer or not.

3.14 Question 12:

Score	Level	Standard	Possible examples
0	Non-existent	Answer absent	N/A
1	Poor	Answer contains many shortcomings and lacks understanding of the key principles of the grants programme.	Provides little or no understanding of groups who might not access the provision and how they could be engaged.
2	Weak	Answer meets some of the question requirements but the understanding of the key principles is limited and the links to the themes is weak	Provides some understanding of groups who might not access the provision but little insight into how they could be engaged.
3	Good	Answer addresses the	Provides good understanding of groups

		question well and demonstrates an understanding of the key principles and the theme criteria but lacks some depth (e.g. limited local knowledge or partnerships)	who might not access the provision and some insight into how they could be engaged. However, the answer lacks credibility and it is unclear whether the engagement activity would happen in a meaningful way if funded. No evidence of past engagement of this type. Clear equalities awareness.
4	Very good	Answer is well rounded and demonstrates strong understanding of the key principles and theme criteria and can demonstrate how these are a key part of their service offer	Provides good understanding of groups who might not access the provision and positive insight into how they could be engaged. The engagement techniques suggested are credible and there is evidence of past engagement of this type. Clear equalities awareness.
5	Excellent	Answer is comprehensive and demonstrates full understanding of the key principles and theme criteria. The answer demonstrates a strong track record, innovative delivery models and a strong knowledge of Lewisham.	Provides clear and insightful breakdown of barriers to access and innovative engagement techniques. Significant history of engagement and track record of achieving positive results in Lewisham or a similar area. Clear equalities awareness.

Section 3 - Track record, finance and governance

3.15 The title of this section speaks for itself and it is important there is clear evidence to back up this section of the application form and it represents genuine past activity rather than future ambitions.

3.16 Question 13:

Score	Level	Standard	Possible examples
0	Non-existent	Answer absent	N/A
1	Poor	Answer contains many shortcomings and lacks understanding of the key principles of the grants programme.	Provides very few partnerships details and the achievements highlighted lack depth.
2	Weak	Answer meets some of the question requirements but the understanding of the key principles is limited and the links to the themes is weak.	Provides details of limited partnerships that lack a degree of integration. Achievements limited in scope and not progressive.
3	Good	Answer addresses the question well and demonstrates an understanding of the key principles and the theme criteria but lacks some depth (e.g. limited local knowledge or partnerships)	Strong partnerships demonstrated that are underpinned by shared vision and true collaboration. However these are limited in scope and the achievements still tend to be delivered by a single organisation.

4	Very good	Answer is well rounded and demonstrates strong understanding of the key principles and theme criteria and can demonstrate how these are a key part of their service offer	Strong partnerships with multiple partners demonstrated. Partnerships are well embedded and play to individual strengths to deliver clear benefits to users and residents. Achievements highlighted enhanced due to partnership working.
5	Excellent	Answer is comprehensive and demonstrates full understanding of the key principles and theme criteria. The answer demonstrates a strong track record, innovative delivery models and a strong knowledge of Lewisham.	As above but achievements represent outstanding delivery. Recognised as best practice outside of Lewisham and representing innovative, service led delivery.

3.17 In assessing question 14 place total the number of activity lines and the total achievements and enter these into the single row tables in the assessment form for reference. However, the scoring should be undertaken with reference to the full submission in order to assess the types and depth of activity as well as the simple number of applications/activities undertaken:

Score	Level	Standard	Possible examples
0	Non-existent	Answer absent	N/A
1	Poor	Answer contains many shortcomings and lacks understanding of the key principles of the grants programme.	Limited evidence of funding applications, fund raising or volunteer recruitment. Clearly strongly reliant on funding from LB Lewisham over the whole period.
2	Weak	Answer meets some of the question requirements but the understanding of the key principles is limited and the links to the themes is weak.	Some activity across all areas but limited in size and scope. Majority of funding applications limited to mainstream givers e.g. Big Lottery, Comic Relief, City Bridge Trust etc
3	Good	Answer addresses the question well and demonstrates an understanding of the key principles and the theme criteria but lacks some depth (e.g. limited local knowledge or partnerships).	Positive activity across all fronts and engagement with a range of funders including trusts and foundations. Size and scale of activity limited by comparison to the turnover of the organisation.
4	Very good	Answer is well rounded and demonstrates strong understanding of the key principles and theme criteria and can demonstrate how these are a key part of their service offer.	Strong track record of activity and success across all fronts. Applications made to a range of funders including unusual ones. Significant activity when compared to organisational turnover and increasing in size and scope year on year.
5	Excellent	Answer is comprehensive and demonstrates full understanding of	As above but contributing to significant growth in

		the key principles and theme criteria. The answer demonstrates a strong track record, innovative delivery models and a strong knowledge of Lewisham.	turnover/volunteer hour delivery during the past three years. Proportion of funding coming from statutory sources decreasing significantly as a proportion of income over the three years.
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3.18 Question 15:

Score	Level	Standard	Possible examples
0	Non-existent	Answer absent	N/A
1	Poor	Answer contains many shortcomings and lacks understanding of the key principles of the grants programme.	Organisation has run in deficit during two or three of the last three years. Cash reserve level is below 10% of the annual turnover of the organisation. No credible reserves policy.
2	Weak	Answer meets some of the question requirements but the understanding of the key principles is limited and the links to the themes is weak	Organisation has run in deficit in any one of the last few years or has just broken even each year. Cash reserve level is below 10% of the annual turnover of the organisation. No credible reserves policy.
3	Good	Answer addresses the question well and demonstrates an understanding of the key principles and the theme criteria but lacks some depth (e.g. limited local knowledge or partnerships)	Organisation has been operating with a small surplus each year. Cash reserve level above 10% of annual turnover. Clear reserve policy.
4	Very good	Answer is well rounded and demonstrates strong understanding of the key principles and theme criteria and can demonstrate how these are a key part of their service offer	Organisation operating surplus each year with cash reserves over 20% of annual turnover. Clear reserves and investment policies.
5	Excellent	Answer is comprehensive and demonstrates full understanding of the key principles and theme criteria. The answer demonstrates a strong track record, innovative delivery models and a strong knowledge of Lewisham.	Organisation operating surplus each year with cash reserves in line with reserve policy or at 3 months operating turnover. Turnover generally growing. Clear reserves and investment policies.

3.19 Question 16. The below is general guidance but this can be amended to reflect a degree of proportionality based on the size of the organisation that is applying:

Score	Level	Standard	Possible examples
0	Non-existent	Answer absent	N/A

1	Poor	Answer contains many shortcomings and lacks understanding of the key principles of the grants programme.	Little evidence of approach to London Living Wage, equalities, being Dementia Friendly, ending Modern Slavery and sustainability no plans to develop these commitments.
2	Weak	Answer meets some of the question requirements but the understanding of the key principles is limited and the links to the themes is weak	Little evidence of approach to London Living Wage, equalities, being Dementia Friendly, ending Modern Slavery and sustainability but clear plans to develop these commitments.
3	Good	Answer addresses the question well and demonstrates an understanding of the key principles and the theme criteria but lacks some depth (e.g. limited local knowledge or partnerships)	Clear commitment to some of the above and with plans to address the others.
4	Very good	Answer is well rounded and demonstrates strong understanding of the key principles and theme criteria and can demonstrate how these are a key part of their service offer	Clear evidence of approach to London Living Wage, equalities, being Dementia Friendly, ending Modern Slavery and sustainability.
5	Excellent	Answer is comprehensive and demonstrates full understanding of the key principles and theme criteria. The answer demonstrates a strong track record, innovative delivery models and a strong knowledge of Lewisham.	As above but with clear policies and demonstrable evidence of implementation.

3.20 Question 23 – please assess this answer in line with the information provided to questions 21 and 22. It is important that taken together this information displays a strong and active governance arrangement and that the Board statement is not considered in isolation.

Score	Level	Standard	Possible examples
0	Non-existent	Answer absent	N/A
1	Poor	Answer contains many shortcomings and lacks understanding of the key principles of the grants programme.	The Board consist of less than 5 people and the key posts are not filled. The statement lacks depth and no skills audits are apparent.
2	Weak	Answer meets some of the question requirements but the understanding of the key principles is limited and the links to the themes is weak	The Board consists of 5 or more individuals and the key posts are filled although the statement lacks depth and it is unclear what skills audits have taken place.
3	Good	Answer addresses the question well and demonstrates an understanding of the key principles and the theme	The Board consists of 6 or more people with people of the correct skill level in the key

		criteria but lacks some depth (e.g. limited local knowledge or partnerships)	posts. A positive board statement with a clear approach to filling important roles.
4	Very good	Answer is well rounded and demonstrates strong understanding of the key principles and theme criteria and can demonstrate how these are a key part of their service offer	As above but with clear policies regarding regular skills audits and recruitment of the Board. A positive statement demonstrating clear vision for the organisation.
5	Excellent	Answer is comprehensive and demonstrates full understanding of the key principles and theme criteria. The answer demonstrates a strong track record, innovative delivery models and a strong knowledge of Lewisham.	An outstanding Board statement demonstrating clear vision and leadership for the organisation. This is underpinned by an expert board with up to date skills audits and demonstrable expertise in the key positions.

- 3.21 The remainder of the assessment form is self-explanatory and requires the confirmation that all of the required information would be available on request or is in place.
- 3.22 The final box on the assessment form is for final comments and an overall assessment of the application. This should not be a simple assessment of each answer and the score but an overview of how well the application hangs together and whether it meets all of the overarching criteria and theme requirements. The final assessment should give an indication of whether a bid is deemed worthy of funding and whether there is an appropriate scale at which it might also be consider.
- 3.23 As previously stated a recommendation for funding at the initial assessment phase does not guarantee that an application will be recommended for funding following the other stages of the process. The management moderation with correct for overly positive or negative marking and assessments while the other stages will consider the totality of applications across theme, geographical, equalities and other coverage to ensure that the final recommendations deliver an effective programme overall. As such a high scoring application may still not be recommended for funding if there are other, stronger, applications in that area while a relatively weaker bid may be recommended for funding if it is meeting a very particular need.
- 3.24 If there are any questions regarding this guidance or the specifics of a particular application please contact your manager in the first instance.

Theme 1: Strong and Cohesive Communities

This theme is around developing and maintaining strong communities and building a more inclusive and cohesive borough through the provision of VCS infrastructure and equalities support.

We wish to fund a group of organisations that will adopt a strong collaborative approach, sharing resources and minimising duplication to achieve the following:

- I. Build a more inclusive and cohesive borough, promoting understanding across different communities and reducing marginalisation.
- II. Develop and coordinate equalities networks and collaborations and provide effective representation at appropriate levels
- III. Identify and work in partnership to address issues that lead to particular communities experiencing difficulties accessing services
- IV. Identify disproportionate representation of particular communities within services and work with partners to address this
- V. Give voice to, and build on assets of, local communities who may face barriers to traditional engagement
- VI. Facilitate the involvement of residents in the issues which affect their lives; and supporting collective action to deliver change including the giving of time and resources
- VII. Provide specialist legal, financial and governance support across the Voluntary and Community Sector
- VIII. Promote and broker partnerships to maximise access to and cost-effective use of both statutory and non-statutory funding
- IX. Promote volunteering and provide support for community organisations to access volunteers.

Theme 2: Communities that Care

The overall intention of the Communities that Care theme is to fund a range of organisations that together provide support to vulnerable adults to assist them in accessing services, prevent their needs from escalating, reduce the burden on statutory services and provide links between statutory services, the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) and communities in relation to working together to support vulnerable adults or families with disabled children.

We are purposely keeping the guidance on this theme to a minimum to encourage the VCS in Lewisham to use their knowledge of the local communities they are part of and the issues they face to develop innovative and asset based solutions and services.

This lack of guidance is not intended to signal the exclusion or downgrading of provision areas that have previously been funded and we continue to welcome submissions aimed at providing advocacy for vulnerable groups or reducing social isolation for vulnerable adults either through community provision and/or transport to existing services.

As with all themes we expect applicants to be clear why their service is needed and how it complements and works in partnership with other provision and the local community as well as creating new networks of sector-wide support.

Theme 3. Access to Advice Services

Background

In May 2015, the current grants were set by Mayor and Cabinet on the condition that the advice agencies be subject to a review of their provision as there was concern that the pattern of provision was inequitable and presented barriers to access.

The subsequent review found that although the individual agencies were providing valuable services and meeting the needs who were able to access the provision overall the model had a number of flaws including:

- the fixed geographical nature of the services which meant that certain areas of the borough were underserved
- the lack of coordination of the service offer which meant that all providers could be operating at the same time with other times completely uncovered which presented barriers to access for those not available during those periods
- the lack of coordination meant that there was no joint work and sharing of resources which could lead to queues at one service while another was relatively quiet
- a lack of any triage based on need and a first come first served service that had to be queued for on the day meant those unwilling or unable to present early or stand for long periods missed out on service regardless of the seriousness of their needs
- no overarching data collection was undertaken to give an indication of what needs were being seen at different services and at what scale – this presented a major barrier to the effective development of services
- this lack of data meant that the staff skill mix required was impossible to determine
- there was a lack of clear information available to the public about what was available, and where, and the majority of people who accessed services did so due to the proximity of the service to their home

Key Elements of Current Service

In response to the review the current grant funded members of the Advice Lewisham partnership developed a new service offer which began delivery in 2017. This differed from the previous approach in a number of respects, including:

- The introduction of a freephone advice line as the principal point of access to the service
- Telephone-based triage of calls by assessors
- Provision for face to face appointments for individuals whose first language is not English
- A centralised appointment booking system, intended to book people into appointments with a specialist adviser most relevant to their need
- A limited number of home visits for advice appointments especially for the elderly or disabled
- A drop-in service at three hubs

- A referral service from professionals, including social workers and GPs
- A limited case work provision for more complex cases requiring representation and/or appeals
- Referral arrangements for individuals requiring debt and money advice

As a result of the implementation of this service model, the number of individuals accessing services has demonstrably increased since 2017.

As such we are seeking applications from organisations who will work in partnership to maintain and develop the current service model to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the most vulnerable while continuing to develop closer links to meet current service challenges.

Although significant progress has been made, there are still a number of areas which require further development. These include:

- Better coordination of the extensive range of community organisations involved in providing support to local residents
- Better coordination of Advice Lewisham's services with those offered by statutory providers, including the developing service offering a single point of access to care and health
- Potential to further develop the service with other voluntary sector provision which provides advice and support to vulnerable residents

The over-arching challenge for the service is to provide solutions for individuals which significantly reduce their potential for requiring further support in the future. This will be most effectively achieved through enabling the majority of people to source and identify their own solutions rather than seeking them through a third party.

Delivery Requirements

Organisations bidding under this theme will need to demonstrate how they will work together to deliver advice services to up to 30,000 individuals per year across the borough using a range of approaches to ensure full accessibility. These include:

- Telephone
- Face-to-face
- E-mail
- Professional referrals
- Web-based
- Social media based

Services will be offered via the following routes:

- Telephone advice and triage line
- One-to-one advice consultations
- Ongoing casework for complex cases and for particularly vulnerable individuals
- Home visits, where required, for complex cases and for particularly vulnerable individuals
- Face-to-face delivery to individuals accessing hub-based services, including advice provided by volunteer advisers

It is important that organisations and partnerships applying under this theme are able to deliver effective advice and information services to vulnerable residents, such as older people, disabled people, newly arrived communities and those who do not speak English as their first language to ensure that all individuals, regardless of the barriers, access services and are supported to live fulfilled and independent lives.

Organisations and partnerships should be constantly reviewing their data to ensure that the focus and level of the provision is appropriate to presenting need and that the service model is able to continually adapt to ensure the most efficient use of resources.

Organisations applying under this theme will the appropriate Advice Quality Standard (AQS) Advice or Advice & Casework accreditation. For more specialist advice, casework and representation will need to employ supervisors and caseworkers who are appropriately qualified and who individually meet the Specialist Quality Mark (SQM) for their area of competence. Where appropriate, organisations may also require the Lexcel quality mark or be registered with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

Organisations will need to demonstrate that they are working together to deliver advice in the following priority areas:

- Welfare rights
- Housing (including homelessness, repairs, possession proceedings and tenancy issues)
- Immigration
- Employment

In general we would expect debt and money advice (including multiple debts and arrears) provision to be funded through the money advice service so bids should be clear how this existing provision will be integrated within the grant funded offer in Lewisham.

Theme 4. Widening Access to Arts and Sports

The intention of this theme is to fund organisations or consortiums of organisations that will take a strategic approach to increasing the number of people who participate in the arts and sport in Lewisham. This will particularly involve addressing barriers and providing opportunities for those who are less able to engage. Applications will be expected to demonstrate how they will:

- a. Increase participation, particularly including people who are less able to participate due to disability, economic disadvantage and age (young people and older people) and groups with traditionally lower rates of participation..
- b. Nurture talent and provide progression pathways, including developing outreach links into other settings such as schools.
- c. Providing opportunities for people of all ages to improve their health, wellbeing and resilience via participation.

The theme is split into two strands:

4a Widening Access to Arts

Lewisham has a rich and diverse arts sector and is recognised as a borough in which creativity can thrive. It is also home to some of the capital's most exciting and innovative organisations. We recognise the huge impact that the arts and creative industries have had on issues such as health and wellbeing, education and the economy but also value the way in which they have helped to make Lewisham the dynamic place that it is. We want to continue to encourage innovation and the ongoing development of an atmosphere in which new things can emerge. Whilst recognising the importance of access to the arts for all ages we also want to ensure that we are building for the future by responding to the current climate in which opportunities for young people to access the arts and develop creative skills in settings other than school is becoming increasingly important.

Through this theme we expect to fund a network of organisations that will deliver activities that:

- Provide opportunities for people of all ages to engage with the arts as active participants and members of an audience.
- Provide opportunities for people of all ages to explore and develop their creativity and acquire new skills.
- Increase awareness and enhance the reputation of Lewisham as a place to spend leisure time.
- Capitalise on funding and other support opportunities from regional and national bodies.

4b Widening Access to Sports

Lewisham has a strong sporting tradition and recognises the vital role that sport and physical activity can play in improving the quality of life of the borough's residents. We want Lewisham to continue to be a place where talent is nurtured and encouraged and where sporting participants fulfil their potential. We also want to make sure that opportunities are available to all of the boroughs residents to regularly participate in sport and physical activity as a means of maintaining and improving their health.

In recent years Lewisham Council has invested significantly in developing high quality sport and leisure facilities and continues to fund Fusion and 1Life to manage these facilities and deliver a programme of associated activities.

To complement these facilities we want to work with a range of voluntary sports clubs and organisations to develop a more coordinated and partnership driven approach to sports provision in the borough in order to make the best possible sporting offer available to the residents of Lewisham. In this context we expect to fund partnerships or single organisations that will take a lead in facilitating partnerships to develop & deliver borough wide, development plans for specific sports. Applications will be expected to show how they will meet the general criteria for this fund (a and b above) and also respond to the following questions:

- Can you demonstrate high levels of demand or growing demand for your sport within Lewisham?
- How will you make the best use of the borough's current and emerging facilities?
- How will you capitalise on funding and/or other support opportunities from regional and national bodies?
- How will you provide activities that encourage people to participate in recreational sport and physical activity?

Mayor and Cabinet – Main grants Programme 2019-22

APPENDIX 4

Equalities Assurance Assessment (EAA)

Author	James Lee	Directorate	Community Services
Date	03/02/19 – 28/02/19	Service	Culture and Community Development

1. The project or decision that this assessment is being undertaken for (including contextual background)

This Equalities Assurance Assessment (EAA) has been undertaken on the draft recommendations for the Lewisham Main Grants programme 2019-22.

Lewisham's Main Grant programme was last fully let in 2015 following a full public consultation on the revised framework which was agreed by Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) on 12 November 2014.

Due to the overall financial position of the Council Mayor and Cabinet agreed to reduce the funding to the grants programme by £1m from 1 April 2017. This equated to around 25% of the overall main grants budget.

Following formal consultation and meetings with all funded groups, officers developed funding recommendations which were agreed by Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) on 7 December 2016, following appeals. A total of 60 grants were recommended for funding, the majority with a pro-rata cut of 15.3%. Four organisations were de-funded.

In order to inform the criteria and priorities for the full re letting of the programme a three month public consultation was undertaken between 25 July and 25 October 2018 with two public meetings held on 17 September and 17 October.

The outcome of this consultation led to a number of revisions to the criteria for funding and a new application process along with the extension the current grants through to 31 July 2019 to allow for the application process to be completed and a full three months' notice given to all groups regarding the change of funding arrangements. The criteria, application process and grant extensions were agreed by Mayor and Cabinet on 21 November 2018.

The full application form and criteria agreed by Mayor and Cabinet agreed by Mayor and Cabinet on 21 November 2018.

There was strong support for retaining the 4 themes that had been the basis of the programme in 2015. These are:

Strong and Cohesive Communities – this theme seeks to develop and maintain strong communities and build a more inclusive and cohesive borough. With the reduction in statutory resources, residents and communities are being asked to do more for themselves. This theme seeks to ensure that there is an infrastructure across the borough that can encourage and capitalise on active citizenship, supporting grass roots activity. The theme also funds services that provide equalities support to ensure equal access to services.

Communities that Care – the overall intention of this theme is to fund a range of organisations that together provide support to vulnerable adults to assist them in accessing services, prevent their needs from escalating, reduce the burden on statutory services and provide links between statutory services, VCS and communities in relation to working together to support vulnerable adults. The activities funded through this theme form an important part of the borough's preventative strategy.

Access to Advice Services – the advice sector provides an essential service to some of the borough's most vulnerable residents. Advice organisations provide independent, high quality advice to individuals to ensure that they receive the benefits they are entitled to, are supported to manage debts, address financial exclusion and deal with housing issues. Statutory services work closely with the advice sector as addressing these issues are of mutual benefit.

Widening Access to Arts and Sports - this theme seeks to ensure that the rich and diverse contribution that the borough's Arts and Sports organisations make to the quality of life of residents is maintained. The Arts and Sports sectors are adept at attracting resources from external funding, earned income and volunteers. However, the sectors still require a level of core funding to enable them to continue to attract these resources that would otherwise be lost to the borough. The focus of our support is on increasing participation particularly by those who are less able to participate due to disability, economic disadvantage and age.

The application process was launched on 3rd December 2018 with a deadline for applications of midnight on Sunday 3rd February 2019. Due to the over financial pressure on the Council created by Central Government cuts to budget available for the programme was £600,000 (19%) lower than the current programme.

The EAA was undertaken as part of the officer assessment process which has led to draft allocations to be sent to groups on 28 February 2019 giving a full 5 months' notice of changes to current grant funding.

The EAA is intended to ensure that the allocation of the new grants is fair and equitable and promotes access for all groups as well as ensuring that the impact of the changes to, or ending of, the current grants does not have a disproportionate impact on any groups.

However, it is important to recognise that a 19% budget reduction will, inevitably, have a negative impact of the level of service supported through the Main Grant programme. Given the focus of the programme on particular areas e.g. older people, those with disabilities etc it is also inevitable that there will be significant impacts on these groups.

2. The protected characteristics or other equalities factors potentially impacted by this decision

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ethnicity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maternity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Language spoken	<input type="checkbox"/> Other, please define:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender identity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Household type	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carer status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Income	

Equalities Context

Public bodies such as local authorities are legally required to consider the three aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty (set out in the Equality Act 2010) and document their thinking as part of any decision-making processes. The Act sets out that public bodies must have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share that characteristic; and
- foster good relationships between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share that characteristic.

The following equalities characteristics are 'protected' from unlawful discrimination in service provision under the Equality Act 2010: age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; marriage and civil partnership; race; religion and belief; gender; and sexual orientation.

The duty continues to be a "have regard duty", and the weight to be attached to it is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or foster good relations.

The Human Rights Act came into effect in the UK in October 2000. It means that people in the UK can take cases about their human rights as defined in the European convention on Human Rights to a UK court. At least 11 Articles of the European Convention on Human Rights have implications for the provision of public services and

functions. This EAA assesses whether the proposed recommendations are in line with duties established by this Act.

Against the backdrop of the Equality Act 2010, Lewisham's Comprehensive Equalities Scheme (CES) was developed and agreed by the Mayor in 2012. The CES is the council's overarching equalities vision statement. It specifically describes how the Public Sector Equality Duty will be addressed through five overarching objectives:

- tackling victimisation discrimination and harassment
- closing the gap in outcomes for citizens
- improving access to services
- improving mutual understanding and respect
- improving participation and engagement

3. The evidence to support the analysis

The demographic data from the 2011 census, the ONS and the GLA; and service monitoring to date, have been brought together in this section to inform the impact assessment. For each of the nine protected characteristics, the impact of the proposed changes has been classified as positive, negative or equivocal for each of the nine protected characteristics.

The following data sources were identified:

- 1) **Demographic data from 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics, Greater London Authority** – used to determine the prevalence of having a protected characteristic in the Lewisham population.
- 2) **Equalities Data provided through the application process for the Main Grants programme 2019-22** as well as a-priori knowledge of a number of the services

Contextual data: The Lewisham population

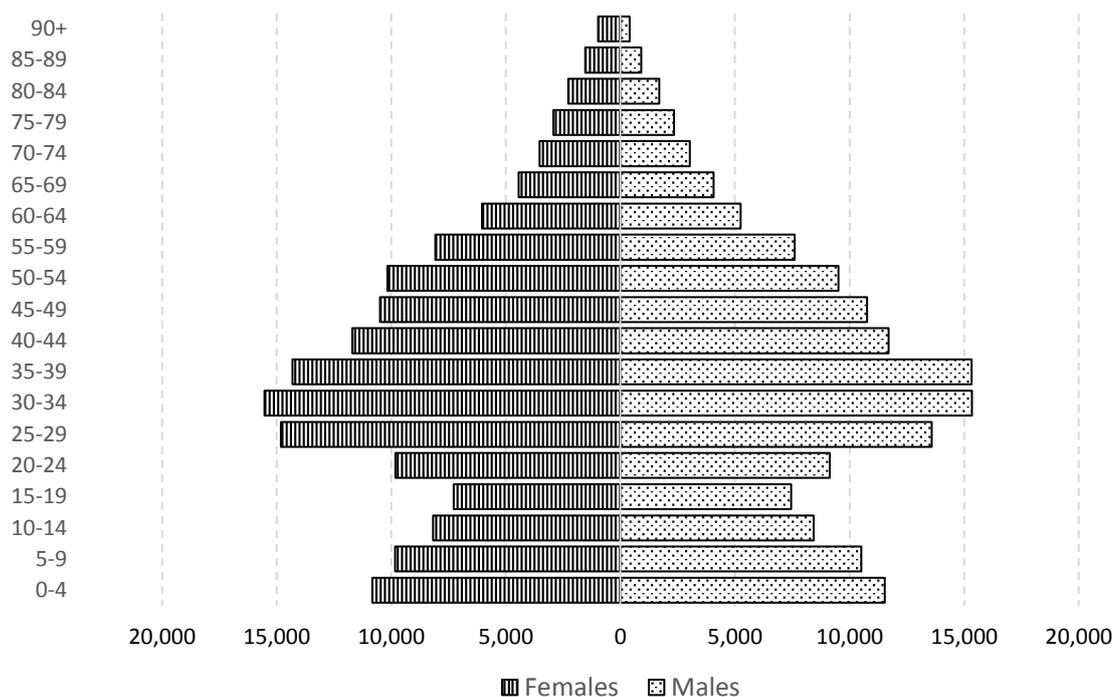
Gender

In 2017, it is estimated that just over half (50.7%) of Lewisham's population of 301,300 are female.¹

Age

¹ Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2017 mid-year population estimates.

Lewisham population by age and gender, 2017



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2017 mid-year population estimate.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalesscotlandandnorthernireland>

Ethnicity

The below table sets out the ethnic profile of Lewisham from the 2011 census.

Ethnic Group	2011	
	number	%
All usual residents	275,885	100.0
White	147,686	53.5
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	20,472	7.4
Asian/Asian British	25,534	9.3
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	74,942	27.2
Other ethnic group	7,251	2.6
BAME	128,199	46.5

Disability status

The 2011 Census asked about long-term health problems and disabilities. It found that in Lewisham, 14.4% of the population reported that were living with a long-term health condition that limited their day-to-day activities: 7.1% reported that they were limited a lot and 7.3% reported that they were limited a little.²

Sexual orientation

The Annual Population Survey has released experimental statistics on sexual identity at a local authority level, using estimates based on a survey.³ In Lewisham, it is estimated that 89.0% of the adult population identify themselves as heterosexual or straight; 2.5% identify themselves as lesbian, gay or bisexual; and 8.5% don't know, refuse to answer or identify themselves as other (i.e. neither heterosexual/straight, lesbian, gay or bisexual).

² Table KS301UK. 2011 Census: Health and provision of unpaid care, local authorities in the United Kingdom.

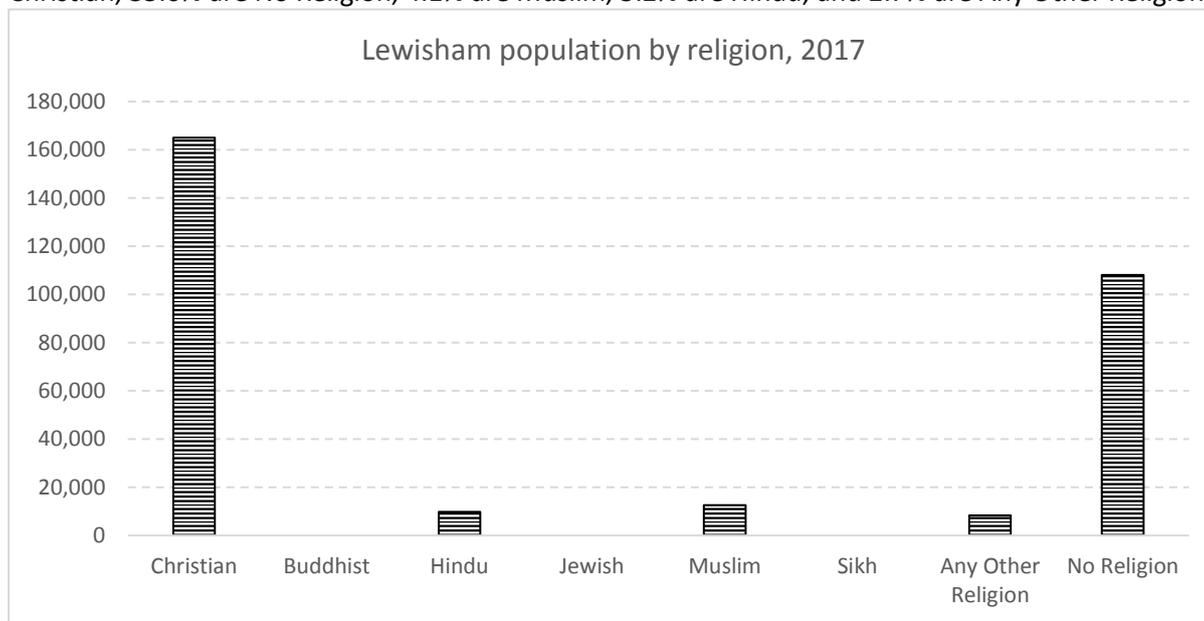
³ This means they are subject to sampling variability. This is because the sample selected is only one of a large number of possible samples that could have been drawn from the population.

Gender identity

The ONS 2021 Census topic consultation identified a need amongst a number of data users for information about gender identity for policy development and service planning; especially in relation to the provision of health services. These requirements are strengthened by the need for information on those with the protected characteristic of gender reassignment as set out in the Equality Act 2010.

Religious belief

The Annual Population Survey estimates the population by religion in Lewisham. It estimates that 54.3% are Christian, 35.6% are No Religion, 4.1% are Muslim, 3.2% are Hindu; and 2.7% are Any Other Religion.



Source: Greater London Authority (GLA) Population by Religion, Borough <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/percentage-population-religion-borough>. Data from ONS Annual Population Survey.

Maternity/pregnancy

Of live births in Lewisham in 2017, 2.0% of mothers were aged under 20 and 9.4% of mothers were aged 20-24

Number and percentage of live births in Lewisham, by age of mother, 2015-2017

Age of mother	2015		2016		2017	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Mother aged under 20	116	2.4%	114	2.4%	97	2.0%
Mother aged 20-24	499	10.4%	466	9.9%	445	9.4%
Mother aged 25-29	1,032	21.4%	958	20.3%	951	20.0%
Mother aged 30-34	1,612	33.5%	1,628	34.5%	1,617	34.0%
Mother aged 35-39	1,228	25.5%	1,219	25.8%	1,303	27.4%
Mother aged 40-44	292	6.1%	308	6.5%	313	6.6%
Mother aged 45 and over	35	0.7%	28	0.6%	25	0.5%
Total	4,814		4,721		4,751	

Source: Office for National Statistics. Live births in England and Wales down to local authority local area. Downloaded from Nomis.

4. The analysis

General

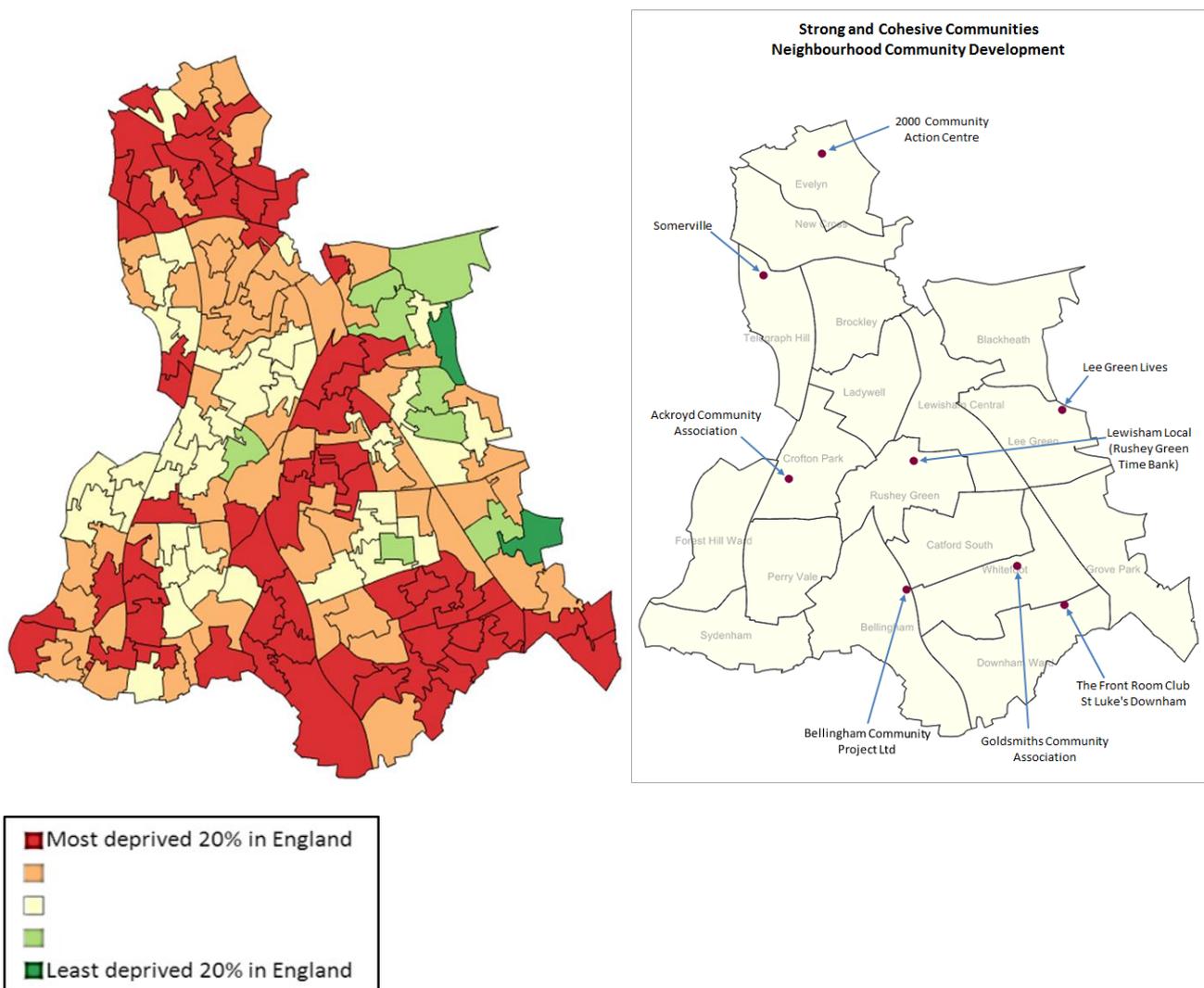
Changes to the allocation of Main Grant funding may impact the protected characteristics in different ways. Each and every application had to confirm that they shared the Council's commitment to equalities and that they has up to date Equalities and Diversity policies and procedures. In addition there was a specific question

that was scored as part of the assessment process relating to the engagement of groups who may not traditionally engage directly with services without specific actions.

This ensures that all groups recommended for funding take a proactive approach to equalities ensuring that the programme as a whole provides opportunities for all groups regardless of their specific focus.

Officers were also mindful that Council budgets have been reducing steadily for nearly 10 years and are likely to continue to do so for the foreseeable future so have sought to prioritise funding for community development activity over direct delivery. This is intended to ensure that communities are well placed to organise locally and build on existing assets to deliver solutions rather than require on Council funded services that may cease to exist if the Central Government cuts continue.

This funding has been targeted wherever possible at areas of high deprivation as there is evidence to suggest that this can have a multiplier effect in creating barriers for those with protected characteristics.



In order to ensure there is adequate oversight over the equalities work across the programme, and more broadly, across the borough Metro have been recommended to provide a coordination role across a range of groups supporting areas of protected characteristics. These are:

Organisation	Current funding	Recommendation	Characteristic
Lewisham pensioners forum	£33,896	£35,000	Older People
Lewisham refugee and migrant network (LRMN)	£74,503	£35,000	Refugees
Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust	£34,586	£35,000	BAME

Metro	£28,247	£35,000	LGBT/Overall coordination
TBC	£0	£35,000	Disabilities
LEAN	£32,000	£35,000	Young People (WATAS)

These recommendations are in all cases apart from LRMN an increase in the current level of funding and this is because LRMN current receive funding under a number of different themes. This funding increase recognises the important of co-ordinated action across equalities work and officers hope that this network will serve to mitigate the worse impacts of the overall cut or, at the very least, highlight where impacts are being felt and suggest remedial action.

The specific services are also referenced against their specific characteristics but it is important that they are considered at this point as a whole because the recommendations are intended to be seen as an overall approach (alongside the overall VCS infrastructure funding to Lewisham Local) that can deliver impact greater than the sum of its parts.

Other borough-wide services that are worthy of note in this context are delivered by the Advice Lewisham Partnership, the Community Connections Consortium (led by Age UK Lewisham and Southwark) and Voluntary Service Lewisham and these are explored in more detail later in this assessment.

Age

Older people

Older people are probably the single biggest group that benefit directly from the services funded through the Main Grants programme so officers were extremely mindful to ensure that the overall budget cut did not disproportionately impact on this group.

Analysis of funding to group who work specifically, or primarily with older people, shows that this funding has increased slightly. This is primarily due to the extra resource secured for the Age UK services which to an extent hits the impact elsewhere.

Organisations that work specifically with older people	Current funding	Recommendation
Ackroyd Community Association	£41,523	£38,000
Age Exchange	£27,541	£24,750
Age UK Lewisham and Southwark Ltd	£336,000	£428,456
Ageing well in Lewisham - LCC	£25,637	£0
Asian elders and carers group	£0	£0
Deptford Methodist Mission disabled people contact	£6,144	£15,000
Entelechy Arts (also WATAS)	£33,896	£33,800
Lewisham pensioners forum	£33,896	£35,000
Stanstead lodge senior club ltd	£38,669	£30,000
The Grove Centre	£16,524	£0
TOTAL	£559,830	£605,006

It is also important to note that two borough-wide services that have received relative protection (a 13% reduction in funding rather than the 19% reduction to the budget overall) all provide a significant level of service to older people further mitigating the worst impact of the cut and providing a positive network of service.

On average Advice Lewisham clients are older than the average within the local population (60% age 35-64 and 80% age 25-64). The proportion of older adults within the client base is higher than the proportion within the local community.

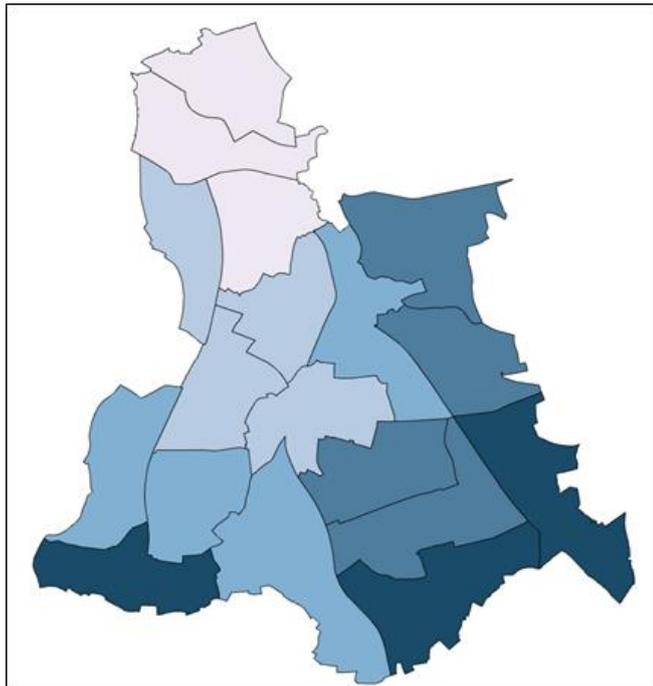
Organisation	Current funding	Recommendation

Voluntary Services Lewisham	£161,474	£144,000
Advice Lewisham	£1,002,737	£866,732
TOTAL	£1,164,211	£1,010,732

13%

Despite this relative protection to specific services officers were also mindful that the pattern of quality applications did not reflect the demographic of the borough in relation to older people.

Initial consideration was given to not recommending any of the older people's services in the south of the borough (Grove Centre, Stanstead Lodge Seniors Club 'Seniors' and Ageing Well) for funding based on the quality of their applications. However, when mapped against the population data this showed a likely significant impact – see below.



Number of residents over the age of 65
Source: ONS Census 2011



As such the decision was taken to recommend Seniors for funding as their application had the most potential for the development of a sustainable service that could grow to support wider provision in the south of the borough. In addition to this on-going (and increased) community development funding was provided to Goldsmith's Community Association from where Ageing Well deliver the majority of their services should provide the bedrock for the development of more services in this area.

Officers have further sought to mitigate the impact of the loss of services in the south by recommending full funding for Entelechy Arts who are in the process of securing external funding for the expansion of their 'Meet me' programme to the area. The increased level of funding to Age UK is also material here as they have recently re-located to Bellingham from their existing base in Rushey Green and this provides a further base for the coordination and development of Older People's service in the South.

Notwithstanding this, officers are mindful that older people in south-west and south-east of the borough are underserved by the grants programme. This is not entirely a result of the recommendations because application were not forthcoming across the area and therefore the role of Lewisham Pensioners Forum (LPF) will be crucial as they have been funded to provide coordination and overview of issues for this group. Officers will work with LPF and other funded groups to identify opportunities for service development in these areas.

In this regard, a close partnership with the Advice Lewisham Partnership is likely to be useful as they have developed a reasonable pattern of outreach services in the south east of the borough although joint work is likely

to be necessary to identify opportunities in the south west – see below map from the Advice Lewisham application.



Figure 1: Face-to-Face Advice Locations

Finally, other recommended programmes have a flexible locations or be delivered where older people are already present, for example Wheels for Wellbeing will provide outreach for older people in various locations and continue their programme for people with late-stage Dementia attending the Ladywell Dementia Day Service, supported by students from Abbey Manor College. Overall this type of initiative will reduce the risk that older people will not be able to access the services recommended.

Young People

Generic services for young people are not eligible for funding although where the activity is based within the Widening Access to Arts and Sports theme they tend to be the majority recipients of the services provided. Page 97

These services are not all exclusively for young people and the exact proportion, and age, of participants varies across the services but it is a very useful proxy for the like impact on this group.

As such the table below demonstrates that overall the level of funding provided to this theme has been reduced by less than 10% against an overall cut of 19% which is likely to ensure that this group is not disproportionately affected by the recommendations.

Organisation	Current funding	Recommendation
Deptford X	£8,474	£8,500
Greenwich and Lewisham young peoples theatre (GLYPT)	£68,530	£35,000
IRIE Dance theatre	£21,105	£21,105
Lewisham education arts network	£32,201	£35,000
Lewisham Youth theatre Ltd	£36,559	£35,000
Second wave centre for youth arts	£45,017	£35,000
The midi music company	£44,092	£38,200
Trinity Laban conservatoire of music and dance	£76,831	£60,000
London Sports Ltd	£15,000	£15,000
London Thunder Basketball	£21,185	£25,000
Millwall community trust	£21,185	£25,000
Saxon Crown Swimming club	£6,667	£7,750
South East London Tennis	£25,140	£25,000
THYSF - Platform cricket	£0	£25,000
TOTAL	£421,986	£390,555

The one group who have applied under this theme who are recommended for a significant cut are Teatro Vivo and their current services provide generic borough-wide community develop support so this is unlikely to have a significant impact of younger people.

Overall Assessment - impact equivocal

The mitigations outlined above along with the variety of bids recommended for funding under the main grants programme suggests that younger or older people will not be disproportionately affected. A number of programmes are recommended that will have positive impact on the lives of both groups throughout the borough. Flexible services will ensure that all older people can benefit from those programmes.

Officers will work with relevant organisations to promote ongoing service development in areas of need, particularly in the south of the borough.

Gender

There is no single picture of gender balance across the groups recommended for funding for a Main Grant with various groups tending to see over representation from either gender.

However, no groups are funded to work specifically with on or other of the genders and where there is a specific imbalance organisations are expected to undertake engagement activity to promote their service to the under-represented group.

As such the impact overall is likely to be neutral.

Disability

Along with older people, officers considered there to be a likely impact on those with disabilities particularly due to the recent closure of Lewisham Disability Coalition who was previously a recipient of a Main Grant.

A person has a disability if s/he has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. 'Substantial' is more than minor or trivial e.g. it takes longer than it usually would to complete an everyday action such as getting dressed, whilst a 'long-term' condition means 12 months or more. Progressive conditions can also be classed as disabilities; these are conditions that get worse over time like HIV or cancer. It should also be noted that a number of older residents are likely to be eligible for disability-specific provision, for examples for services supporting dementia or individuals who are physically incapacitated.

In terms of direct delivery the recommendations are broadly positive with significant number of applications that actively promote equal opportunities for those with disabilities have been recommended for funding. These include a range of activities including advocacy groups, such as Lewisham Speaking Up, sports teams inclusive of those with disabilities (London Thunder Basketball and Millwall), as well as arts programmes like Heart 'n' Soul and social activities provided by Mencap targeting individuals with learning disabilities. The significant increase in funding (albeit from a low base) for Deptford Methodist Mission Disabled People Contact is also a positive recommendation for this group.

The services delivered by Contact will ensure that families with disabled families are supported and officers have highlighted the application from Lewisham Parents and Carers Forum to commissioners in the Council's CYP Commissioning Team.

The potential impact of the recommendation to defund Mind should be mitigated by the significant contract they have recently been awarded by the council to provide similar services which should provide the foundation for significant further fundraising for their services. Sydenham Garden are recommended for ongoing funding for their mental health work.

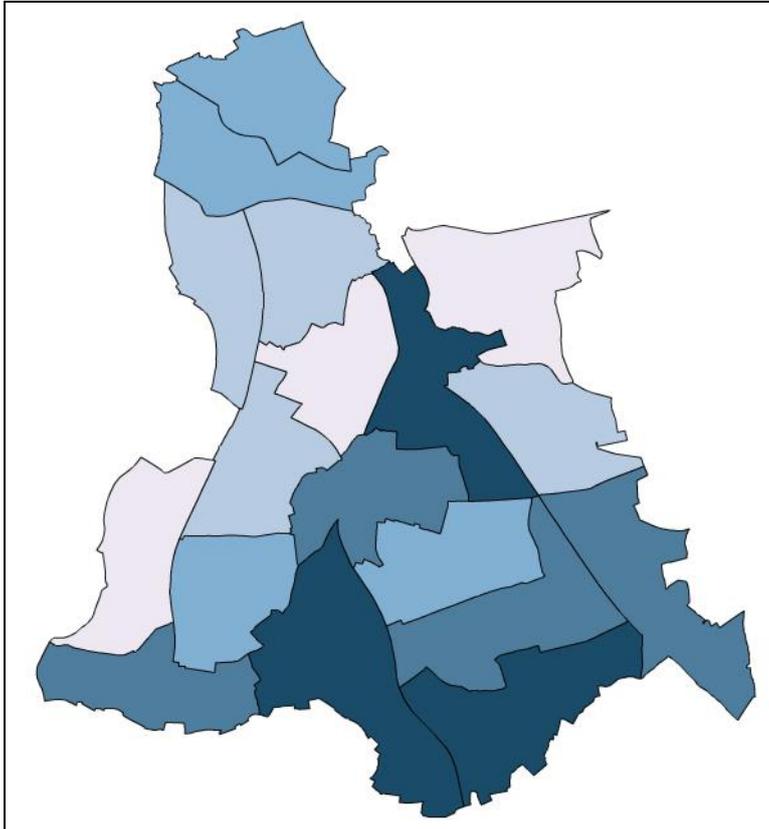
As with older people's services the provision provided by Advice Lewisham is again material here. Advice Lewisham takes all reasonable measures to ensure that services are accessible to residents with a range of disabilities. 45% of clients have a disability or long-term condition – significantly higher than the 14% prevalence within the general population.

The service recommended for funding will offer a range of services tailored to the needs of adults with disabilities, including information presented in BSL, home visits for residents with mobility difficulties and services specialising in advising on disability related issues, such as income maximisation, discrimination and housing advice. All public facing digital services developed by the partnership will be WAI compliant. All Advice Hubs are Equalities Act compliant. Overall, therefore, the relative protection of funding to this service mitigates the impact on disabled people.

Again, common with older people the outstanding concern relates to the over representation of disabled people in the South of the borough (see below map showing the pattern of disabled residents or residents whose 'day to day activities are limited a lot' using census 2011 data) but a limited number of quality applications from organisations in that area.

However, with the demise of LDC there is limited coordination provision for this group and no applicant came forward with a service offer in this area. As such in order to attempt to ensure that negative impacts are mitigated as far as possible for disabled people officers have recommended that an allocation commensurate with other equalities coordination allocations (£35,000 with a contingency of £15,000) be held back pending the establishment of the Accessibility Commission, which will be led by disabled people that is committed to in the Council's Corporate Strategy 2018-22. It is hoped that the Commission will identify both priorities and delivery partners for whom this funding will be appropriate.

As such, in the short term officers assess the potential impact on disabled people as negative but it is hoped that the actions outlined above will ensure that in the medium term it is neutral if not positive as greater understanding of the issue can be developed and explored.

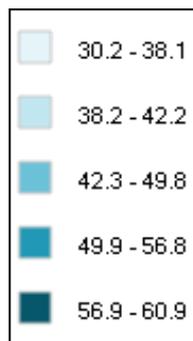
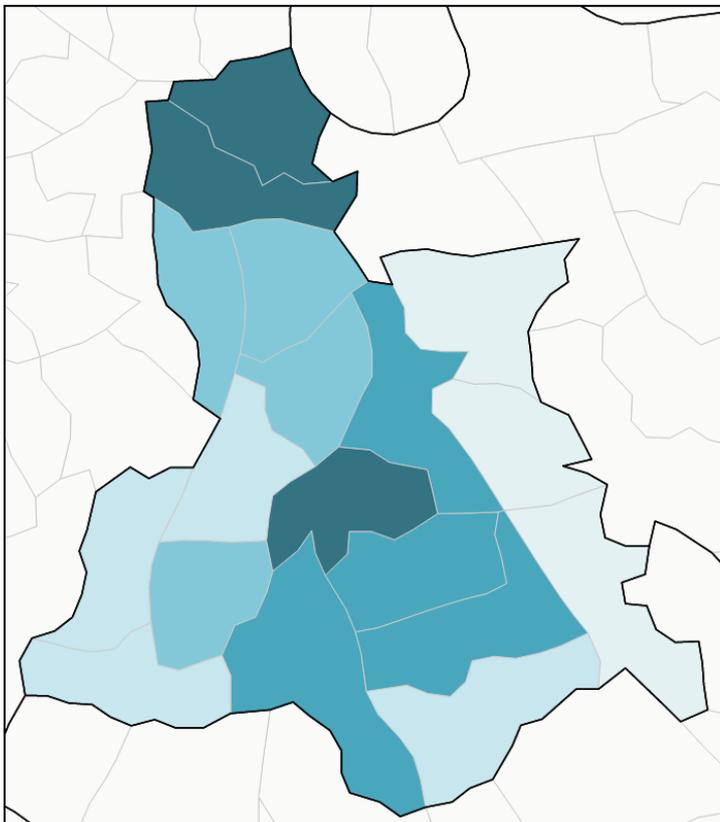


Number of residents whose day to day activities are limited a lot

Ethnicity

As in previous years of the Main Grants programme most applications highlighted a wide range of service users from a variety of ethnic backgrounds. All organisations funded through this programme are required to make their services available to all sections of the community that require them.

The data in the table below shows that there is considerable demographic variation across the borough when it comes to BME communities with a number of wards having a BME majority – as represented by the dark blue areas below.



Percentage of the population from a BME community

Overall the organisations recommended for funding are deemed to be well able to meet the needs of the various populations in Lewisham with some organisations specifically based in areas of particular diversity. This includes the Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network (based in Evelyn) and the Stephen Lawrence Centre (also based in the North of the borough) is recommended for on-going funding and will work to enable local organisations to develop relationships with BME communities and ensure that their services are fully accessible. The Stephen Lawrence Centre will also support a specific network of BME organisations to ensure that community led initiatives are supported to succeed.

The Lewisham Multilingual Advice Service (LMAS) are also included in the recommendation for funding to the Advice Lewisham partnership and this will ensure a key, borough-wide service, is open and accessible to a range of communities from whom English is not their first language.

Consideration was also given to the fact that many of the organisations that are receiving widening access to Arts and Sports funding who were considered in relation to the impact on young people may work with a significant number of BME individuals due to the demographics of the young people in the borough so the assessment undertaken relating to young people is considered relevant here and therefore BME communities are not disproportionately affected due to associated impact on young people.

When considering recommendations officers also weighed up any proposals to defund services that operate in highly diverse areas. The principle consideration here relates to the recommendation not to fund the Evelyn 190 Community Trust who, as the name suggests, are based in Evelyn ward. In considering this application the fact that the service is located in this area suggests that this will promote access for local individuals and the recommendation not to fund may have a negative impact here. However, given the available budget the decision was a binary one between Evelyn 190 and Advice Lewisham i.e. any recommendation to the former would be taken from the resources available to the latter. Given the overall approach outlined by Advice Lewisham and detailed elsewhere in this EAA officers felt that the overall accessibility, triage and partnerships meant that equality of access across the borough would be promoted through a higher level of funding to Advice Lewisham notwithstanding the potential impact on a small number of people who may live locally to Evelyn 190.

Overall the services recommended for funding to work on specific issues along with the fact that all services are required to be fully accessible means that the recommendations are not considered to have a disproportionate impact relating to ethnicity. Officers will also work with all organisations, and specifically those working to provide equalities coordination to build positive approaches to meet the needs of Lewisham's diverse population and promote community cohesion/ mutual understanding and respect. This is one of our comprehensive equalities scheme objectives.

Pregnancy and maternity

We do not have data for this characteristic across the Main Grants programme. A number of the services funded provide support for parents and it is anticipated that these may be of use during pregnancy and a child's early years but no services are directly funded focusing on pregnancy and maternity issues.

Again the protection of funding to Advice Lewisham is considered to be a positive here as pregnancy and the early years of a child's life are times of major change when advice relating to benefits, eligibility for services and maternity discrimination may well be required.

Overall therefore the impact is assessed to be neutral.

Religion/belief

While a number of the Main Grant recommendations are for funding to religious organisations (Deptford Methodist Mission, St. Luke's Downham) these are for the provision of community services and are not targeted at people of a particular faith.

Overall Main Grants are not recommended for activities based on religion but clearly those of a particular faith will be over represented in certain other groups that have been considered as part of this assessment.

Given the conclusions reached in other areas of the Assessment it is considered overall that the impact on Religion/belief will be neutral.

Sexual orientation

In Lewisham, it is estimated that 89.0% of the adult population identify themselves as heterosexual or straight; 2.5% identify themselves as lesbian, gay or bisexual; and 8.5% don't know, refuse to answer or identify themselves as other (i.e. neither heterosexual/straight, lesbian, gay or bisexual).

However, it is generally considered that the official statistics underrepresent the number of lesbian, gay or bisexual people in the population with The Greater London Authority estimating that the lesbian and gay population comprises up to 10% of the total population of London.

Overall it is difficult to truly assess whether different sexual orientations are over or under represented across main grant funded services. As such the differential impact is assessed as equivocal.

However, this should in no way be considered to be complacent and a specific grant has been recommended for Metro to ensure that access and equality for this groups is monitored and any specific issues or areas of concern are raised immediately.

Gender reassignment

We do not have a reliable comparator data source for this protected characteristic at local authority level or across the Main Grant organisations. Metro are recommended to provide support in this area but overall the impact of the recommendations is assessed to be equivocal due to the lack of available data.

Marriage and civil partnership

We do not currently have comparator data for this characteristic across the Main Grants programme.

4. Conclusion

Overall the considerations and mitigations that have been taken as part of this assessment mean that the impact of the budget cut will be significantly reduced but overall it will have a negative impact where all things remain equal as there is a loss of overall resource to the system.

For some groups this is straightforward as they are evenly represented in the service but for other groups the impact will be more equivocal for a number of reasons as outlined above.

As stated above, it is important to recognise that a 19% budget reduction will, inevitably, have a negative impact of the level of service supported through the Main Grant programme. Given the focus of the programme on particular areas e.g. older people, those with disabilities etc it is also inevitable that there will be impacts on these groups, even if this assessment has concluded they are not disproportionate, and it is vital that the Council works closely with the network of organisation recommended for funding related to equalities coordination to identify, and seek, to mitigate all negative impacts.

Signature of Head of Service

For further information please see the full [Corporate Equality Policy](#).