



AGENDA

MAYOR AND CABINET

Date: WEDNESDAY, 11 APRIL 2012 at 6.00 pm, or upon the rising of Mayor & Cabinet Contracts whichever is the later

**Committee Rooms 1 & 2
Civic Suite
Lewisham Town Hall
London SE6 4RU**

**Enquiries to: Kevin Flaherty
Telephone: 0208 314 9327 (direct line)
Email: kevin.flaherty@lewisham.gov.uk**

MEMBERS

Sir Steve Bullock	(L)
Councillor Chris Best	(L)
Councillor Janet Daby	(L)
Councillor Damien Egan	(L)
Councillor Helen Klier	(L)
Councillor Paul Maslin	(L)
Councillor Joan Millbank	(L)
Councillor Crada Onuegbu	(L)
Councillor Alan Smith	(L)
Councillor Susan Wise	(L)

Members are summoned to attend this meeting

**Barry Quirk
Chief Executive
Lewisham Town Hall
Catford
London SE6 4RU
Date: March 29 2012**



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

The public are welcome to attend our committee meetings, however occasionally committees may have to consider some business in private. Copies of reports can be made available in additional formats on request.

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Agenda Item 1

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	Declarations of Interests	
Key Decision		Item No. 1
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive	
Class	Part 1	Date: 11 April 2012

Declaration of interests

Members are asked to declare any personal interest they have in any item on the agenda.

Personal interests

There are two types of personal interest :-

- (a) an interest which you must enter in the Register of Members' Interests*
- (b) an interest where the wellbeing or financial position of you, (or a "relevant person") is likely to be affected by a matter more than it would affect the majority of inhabitants of the ward or electoral division affected by the decision.

*Full details of registerable interests appear on the Council's website.

("Relevant" person includes you, a member of your family, a close associate, and their employer, a firm in which they are a partner, a company where they are a director, any body in which they have securities with a nominal value of £25,000 and (i) any body of which they are a member, or in a position of general control or management to which they were appointed or nominated by the Council, and (ii) any body exercising functions of a public nature, or directed to charitable purposes or one of whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy, including any trade union or political party) where they hold a position of general management or control,

If you have a personal interest you must declare the nature and extent of it before the matter is discussed or as soon as it becomes apparent, except in limited circumstances. Even if the interest is in the Register of Interests, you must declare it in meetings where matters relating to it are under discussion, unless an exemption applies.

Exemptions to the need to declare personal interest to the meeting

You do not need to declare a personal interest where it arises solely from membership of, or position of control or management on:

- (a) any other body to which you were appointed or nominated by the Council
- (b) any other body exercising functions of a public nature.

In these exceptional cases, unless your interest is also prejudicial, you only need to declare your interest if and when you speak on the matter .

Sensitive information

If the entry of a personal interest in the Register of Interests would lead to the disclosure of information whose availability for inspection creates or is likely to create a serious risk of violence to you or a person living with you, the interest need not be entered in the Register of Interests, provided the Monitoring Officer accepts that the information is sensitive. Where this is the case, if such an interest arises at a meeting, it must be declared but you need not disclose the sensitive information.

Prejudicial interests

Your personal interest will also be prejudicial if all of the following conditions are met:

- (a) it does not fall into an exempt category (see below)
- (b) the matter affects either your financial interests or relates to regulatory matters - the determining of any consent, approval, licence, permission or registration
- (c) a member of the public who knows the relevant facts would reasonably think your personal interest so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

Categories exempt from being prejudicial interest

- (a) Housing – holding a tenancy or lease with the Council unless the matter relates to your particular tenancy or lease; (subject to arrears exception)
- (b) School meals, school transport and travelling expenses; if you are a parent or guardian of a child in full time education, or a school governor unless the matter relates particularly to the school your child attends or of which you are a governor;
- (c) Statutory sick pay; if you are in receipt
- (d) Allowances, payment or indemnity for members
- (e) Ceremonial honours for members
- (f) Setting Council Tax or precept (subject to arrears exception)

Effect of having a prejudicial interest

If your personal interest is also prejudicial, you must not speak on the matter. Subject to the exception below, you must leave the room when it is being discussed and not seek to influence the decision improperly in any way.

Exception

The exception to this general rule applies to allow a member to act as a community advocate notwithstanding the existence of a prejudicial interest. It only applies where members of the public also have a right to attend to make representation, give evidence or answer questions about the matter. Where this is the case, the member with a prejudicial interest may also attend the meeting for that purpose. However the member must still declare the prejudicial interest, and must leave the room once they have finished making representations, or when the meeting decides they have finished, if that is earlier. The member cannot vote on the matter, nor remain in the public gallery to observe the vote.

Prejudicial interests and overview and scrutiny

In addition, members also have a prejudicial interest in any matter before an Overview and Scrutiny body where the business relates to a decision by the Executive or by a committee or sub committee of the Council if at the time the decision was made the member was on the Executive/Council committee or sub-committee and was present when the decision was taken. In short, members are not allowed to scrutinise decisions to which they were party.

Agenda Item 2

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	Minutes	
Key Decision		Item No.2
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive	
Class	Part 1	Date: April 11 2012

Recommendation

It is recommended that the minutes of that part of the meetings of the Mayor and Cabinet which were open to the press and public, held on February 22 and March 7 2012 (copies attached), be confirmed as a correct record.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

MINUTES of that part of the meeting of the MAYOR AND CABINET, which was open to the press and public, held on WEDNESDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2012 at LEWISHAM TOWN HALL, CATFORD, SE6 4RU at 5.20 p.m.

Present

The Mayor (Sir Steve Bullock)(Chair); Councillors Smith (Deputy Mayor), Best, Egan, Fitzsimmons, Klier, Maslin, Millbank, Onuegbu and Wise.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Best.

<u>Minute No.</u>		<u>Action</u>
1.	<u>Declarations of Interests</u> (page There were none.	
2.	<u>Scrutiny Matters</u>	
2.1	The Mayor received a written report from the Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel and responded to the two matters which had been raised as shown below:	
2.2	(a) <i>Item 5 Mayor & Cabinet meeting 18 January 2012 - Response to Thames Water (Phase2) Consultation on Thames Tunnel</i>	Head of Committee
	Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel members would like the Mayor to note that:	
	i) the Business Panel Support the Mayor's formal objection to Earl Pumping Station and Deptford Church Street as Thames Water's preferred sites at Phase 2 consultation on the basis of the concerns set out in the report.	
	ii) the Business Panel request that the final Thames Water proposals, when known, be circulated to Business Panel Members.	
	iii) the Business Panel suggest that the Deputy Mayor visit the tunnel site to assess its impact on Deptford.	
	Mayoral Responses	
	(i) The Mayor thanked the Business Panel for their support;	
	(ii) The Mayor asked officers from the Regeneration section to	

Minute No.

Action

ensure that papers were circulated when available.

(iii) The Mayor encouraged the Deputy Mayor to respond positively and said he believed Cllr Smith's engineering background could prove to be of assistance.

2.3 (b) *Item 5 Mayor & Cabinet 15 February 2012 – Budget 2012/13*

Head of
Committee

Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel meeting members would like the Mayor to note that:

i) the Business Panel welcomed the Mayor's variations of the Budget Report.

ii) the Business Panel noted that only a year grant provision has been made by the Government to allow Council Tax to be frozen.

iii) the Business Panel recommended that the Children and Young People Select Committee review the Section 17 and Direct Payment budget, focussing on how officer decisions and procedures affected allocations.

Mayoral Responses

(i) The Mayor thanked the Business Panel for their support.

(ii) The Mayor noted the comments of the Business Panel.

(iii) The Mayor said he believed the investigation to be entirely reasonable and he asked relevant Directors to facilitate the review.

3. Budget 2012-13 Update

The report was presented by the Cabinet member for Resources, Councillor Paul Maslin and the Mayor approved the Section 25 Statement from the Chief Financial Officer and confirmed the final Council Tax demands which included the GLA element.

RESOLVED That

(a) saving proposal COM08B – Financial Assessments of £70,000, the second year of a proposal which was agreed as part of the budget setting process for the current year, be rejected;

ED Resources

Minute No.

Action

(b) the Section 25 Statement from the Chief Financial Officer be approved;

(c) a recommended Council Tax for 2012/13 of £1,042.11 for the Council's element be reaffirmed. This is an increase of 0%, based on a General Fund Budget Requirement of £268.510m for 2012/13.

ED Resources

(d) an overall decrease in Council Tax for 2012/13 of 0.23% be noted, which includes the Greater London Authority (GLA) precept being reduced by £3.10 to £306.72, representing a 1% decrease from its 2011/12 level and recommended to Council on 29 February 2012, the motion on the budget, attached at Appendix B.

ED Resources

4. Asset Rationalisation Programme Final Proposals (page

The Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration's representative confirmed paragraph 4.3 of the report had been revised to take out three Early Years Centres from consideration pending the review called for by the Mayor.

RESOLVED That

(i) the rationale, approach and final proposals for rationalising the operational corporate estate be noted;

(ii) officers be instructed to proceed to seek to deliver the various service proposals aimed at realising a revenue saving of £1m on the running cost of the operational corporate estate between 2012/13 and 2013/14;

ED Resources

(iii) the service proposals for the three remaining Early Years Centres are conditional on a further consideration by the Mayor in light of the consultation process being undertaken; and

ED CYP

(iv) the following vacant assets (28 Deptford High Street, Lee Green Repairs Depot - Old Road and 106 Wells Park Road) be declared surplus to the Council's requirements and their

ED Resources

Minute No.

Action

disposal under delegated authority be authorised.

5. Torridon ASD Resource Base (page

At the request of the Children & Young People Select Committee, the Mayor agreed to defer the report to the next meeting and confirmed this would not delay the consultation timetable.

RESOLVED That the item be deferred to the March 7 meeting.

Head of Committee

6. Housing Select Committee - New Homes Bonus (page

The Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Councillor Susan Wise, presented the report in the absence of the Chair of the Select Committee.

RESOLVED That the views of the Housing Select Committee be received that the Executive Director for Customer Services be asked to respond to the referral.

ED Customer

7. Proposed Response on Lay Visitor Scheme to Healthier Communities Select Committee

The Cabinet Member for Older People, Councillor Peggy Fitzsimmons said the Scheme had gone from strength to strength and had been praised in a recent Inspection. The Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Councillor Susan Wise, confirmed that the initiative had been warmly welcomed.

RESOLVED That the response from the Executive Director for Community Services to the comments from the Healthier Communities Select Committee on the Lay Visitor Scheme be approved and reported to that Select Committee.

Head of Committee

8. Response on Community Libraries to Healthier Communities Select Committee (page)

The Mayor thanked the Select Committee for their very helpful reference report.

RESOLVED That the response from the Executive Director for Community Services to the comments from

Head of Committee

Minute No.

Action

the Healthier Communities Select Committee
on Community Libraries be approved and
reported to that Select Committee.

The meeting ended at 5.39pm.

Chair

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

MINUTES of that part of the meeting of the MAYOR AND CABINET, which was open to the press and public, held on WEDNESDAY, 7 MARCH 2012 at LEWISHAM TOWN HALL, CATFORD, SE6 4RU at 5.37 p.m.

Present

The Mayor (Sir Steve Bullock)(Chair); Councillors Best, Egan, Klier, Millbank, Onuegbu and Wise.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Maslin, Smith and Fitzsimmons.

<u>Minute No.</u>		<u>Action</u>
1.	<u>Declarations of Interests</u> (page Councillor Millbank declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 16 as a Governor at Crossways Academy and she withdrew from the meeting during consideration of that item.	
2.	<u>Minutes</u> RESOLVED that the minutes of that part of the meeting of the Mayor and Cabinet, which was open to the press and public held on February 15 2012, be confirmed and signed.	
3.	<u>Outstanding References to Select Committees</u> (page The Mayor received a report on issues which had previously been considered that awaited the responses requested from Directorates. RESOLVED that the report be received.	
4.	<u>Regeneration of Excalibur Estate – CPO</u> (page The Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Councillor Susan Wise, confirmed the Home Loss Payment was 7.5% as shown in paragraph 8.1 and not as depicted in paragraph 9.18. RESOLVED That (i) a Compulsory Purchase Order be made in accordance with Section 17 of Part II of the Housing Act 1985 and the Acquisition of Land Act 1981, for the compulsory acquisition of all	Dir Regen/ Head of Law

Minute No.

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interests in the land and buildings known as Excalibur Phases 1 and 2, other than those interests already in the ownership of the Council;

(ii) authority be delegated to the Head of Asset Strategy & Development, in consultation with the Head of Law, to determine the final extent of the land to be included within the CPO provided that the CPO shall not include any additional land outside the area shown;

Dir Regen/
Head of Law

(iii) the appropriate Chief Officers be authorised to take such other action as may be necessary to make, obtain confirmation and effect the Compulsory Purchase Order and to acquire all interests under it; and

(iv) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration (in the event that the Secretary of State notifies the Council that it has been given the power to confirm the Compulsory Purchase Order) to confirm the Compulsory Purchase Order if the Executive Director is satisfied that it is appropriate to do so.

ED Resources

5. Torridon ASD Resource Base (page

A supplementary paper was tabled at the meeting which set out a revised consultation timetable.

RESOLVED That

(i) consultation be carried out for the development of an ASD resource base for sixteen primary school aged children at Torridon Infant and Junior Schools; and

(ii) officers report back on the outcomes of the consultation.

6. Proposals to consult on the provision of additional permanent primary places (page

RESOLVED That

(i) subject to the results of any required further ED CYP

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feasibility work which shows options to be affordable in the light of Lewisham's recent capital settlement, and of consequent outline agreement with potential providers and other stakeholders, funding should be allocated to the proposal that Funds from the Basic Need allocation received by the Council should be allocated to fund the enlargement of Haberdashers' Aske's Knights Academy Temple Grove from 1.5 fe to 2 fe

(ii) should the enlargement proceed, capital works be undertaken through the local authority's framework for the procurement of educational buildings, and that officers bring a subsequent report to Mayor & Cabinet (Contracts) with recommendations for the award of contract for these works.

ED CYP

7. Surrey Canal Triangle Regeneration – "In Principle" resolution to make a Compulsory Purchase Order and Appropriation of Land
(page)

RESOLVED That

(i) "in principle" the Council use its Compulsory Purchase powers to acquire or appropriate the Site shown for planning purposes pursuant to Sections 226 and/or 237 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended);

Dir Regen/
Head of Law

(ii) authority be delegated to the Director of Regeneration and Asset Management, in consultation with the Head of Law and Head of Asset Strategy & Development (interim), to negotiate the terms of and enter into an indemnity agreement with Renewal;

Dir Regen/
Head of Law

(iii) authority be delegated to the Director of Regeneration and Asset Management, in consultation with the Head of Asset Strategy & Development (interim) and the Head of Law, to carry out and complete the land referencing exercise with Renewal to identify all owners, tenants, occupiers and others with a legal interest affected by the Scheme and which may be included in any future Compulsory Purchase Order or become eligible for compensation

Dir Regen/
Head of Law

Minute No.

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under Section 237;

(iv) the Director of Regeneration and Asset Management be appointed as the authorised officer pursuant to S.15 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 for the purposes of the Scheme;

Dir Regen

(v) the Director of Regeneration and Asset Management be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Asset Strategy & Development (interim) and the Head of Law, to issue requisitions for information pursuant to Section 16 of the Local Government Act (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to all potential owners of legal interests affected by the Scheme;

Dir Regen/
Head of Law

(vi) an Equalities Analysis Assessment be undertaken of the potential impact of the proposed Compulsory Purchase Order;

Dir Regen

(vii) in the event that Renewal are unable to complete the assembly of the Site by agreement/private treaty by 30 September 2012, a further report be presented to Mayor & Cabinet seeking authority to make a full and unconditional CPO for the Site and to acquire or appropriate the Site for planning purposes so as to trigger the provisions of Section 237;

Dir Regen/
Head of Law

(viii) any resolution to make a full unconditional CPO and/or for the Council to appropriate land for planning purposes for the purposes of Section 237 for the Site will be subject, in particular, to the following pre-conditions being met:

Dir Regen/
Head of Law

- I. the Mayor being satisfied that Renewal have used their reasonable endeavours to complete the assembly of the SCT Development Site by agreement/private treaty and that the redevelopment proposals cannot otherwise be delivered;
- II. the requirements of Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 and Sections 226, and 237 of the Town and

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Country Planning Act 1990 being met;

- III. the Mayor being satisfied that there is a compelling case in the public interest to make a Compulsory Purchase Order;
- IV. the Mayor being satisfied that there is a delivery mechanism with Renewal and/or others in place, which ensures that there is a comprehensive redevelopment of the whole Site and that the new development will be built and completed within a reasonable time period;
- V. the Mayor being satisfied that Renewal has a viable business plan and funding strategy to deliver a comprehensive regeneration scheme, together with a full and sufficient indemnity agreement(s) and appropriate financial bond covering the costs of making and confirming any such CPO/appropriation for the purposes of Section 237; and

- consideration of any issues raised by the Equalities Analysis Assessment on the potential impact of the Compulsory Purchase Order.

8. Comprehensive Equalities Scheme 2012 – 2016 (page

RESOLVED That

(i) the Comprehensive Equalities Scheme 2012-16 be approved; ED Resources

(ii) the draft equality objectives for the next four years be agreed; ED Resources

9. Matter referred by the Lee Green Assembly – parking and CPZ report (page

RESOLVED

That the Executive Directors for Customer Services and for Resources and Regeneration to consider and report back to him on the implications of the 'Statement of Community Views' from the Lee Green Assembly.

ED Customer/
ED Resources

<u>Minute No.</u>		<u>Action</u>
10.	<u>Responses to matters referred by Housing Select Committee – Review Private Rented Sector Housing.</u> (page	
	RESOLVED That the proposed response be agreed and reported to the Housing Select Committee.	Head of Committee
11	<u>Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy</u> (page	
	The Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Councillor Susan Wise, updated paragraph 4.2 by saying £1.45m would be made available for five boroughs to use.	
	RESOLVED That the revised Housing Assistance Policy be adopted	ED Customer
12	<u>Appointment of Local Authority Governors</u> (page	
	RESOLVED That the persons listed below be appointed as School Governors,	ED CYP
	Ms Annabel Walker Baring	
	Mr Pankaj Chugh Edmund Waller	
	Ms Prerna Patel John Ball	
	Mrs Dahlia Douglas-Martin New Woodlands	
	Ms Gillian Harewood New Woodlands	
	Ms Catherine Buntten Sandhurst Infants	
	Mr Christopher Mitchell Sandhurst Infants	
	Ms Sarah Shaw Sandhurst Junior	
	Miss Odiri Obiakpani Sandhurst Junior	
	Ms Sarah Wainer Sedgehill	
	Mr Luc Altman Stillness Junior	
	Mrs Amoy Chung-Saunders Torridon Infants	

Minute No.

Action

Ms Teresa Young

Torridon Infants

Mr Simon Nundy

Trinity

13 Leathersellers Federation of Schools – Variation of Instrument of Government (page

RESOLVED That the instrument of government for ‘The Leathersellers’ Federation of Schools be made by the Local Authority by order. ED CYP

14 Management Report (page

RESOLVED That the report be noted.

15. Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act, as amended by the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to information) (Amendments) (England) Regulations 2006 and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information:

The following is a summary of the items considered in the closed part of the meeting:

16 BSF Crossways Sixth Form - Stage 1 (page)

RESOLVED That

- (i) the PfS approval of the Stage 0 Business Case given on 18th March 2010 be noted;
- (ii) the receipt of the Stage 2 submission and subsequent clarifications from the LEP and the observations arising from the evaluation of this submission be noted;
- (iii) the update on the BSF programme be noted;

Minute No.

Action

(iv) the update on progress with design development and the timetable for development as set out and the comments re Value for Money, the financial implications, legal implications and key risks as set out be noted;

(v) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration, on the advice of the Head of Law, to approve the LEP's Stage 2 submission, the procedure for which is summarised, with the key financial data as set out; ED Resources
Head of Law

(vi) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration, on the advice of the Head of Law, to further negotiate on the detailed scope of the project, subject to the price not exceeding the contract sum as set out ; ED Resources
Head of Law

(vii) the outstanding approval as set out be required to be satisfied prior to contract close; ED Resources

(viii) the Design & Build Agreement with the LEP, as set out be entered into on the technical and commercial terms set out in the Stage 2 submission; and ED Resources

(ix) Crossways 6th Form be incorporated into the existing ICT Framework contract between LBL and LSFLEP Ltd as signed at the original BSF Financial Close on 13th December 2007 ED Resources

The meeting ended at 6.16pm.

Chair

MAYOR and CABINET		
Report Title	Report Back On Matters Raised by The Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	
Key Decision	No	Item No.
Ward		
Contributors	Head of Business and Committee	
Class	Open	Date: April 11 2012

1. Purpose of Report

To report back on any matters raised by the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel following their consideration of the decisions made by the Mayor and Cabinet on 7 March 2012.

The Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel agreed that the following reference be made to the Mayor.

2. Item 5 Mayor & Cabinet meeting 7 March 2012 – Surrey Canal Triangle Regeneration – “In Principle” resolution to make a Compulsory Purchase Order and Appropriation

Following discussions at the Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel meeting, Business Panel members would like the Mayor to note that:

i) the Business Panel welcomes the initiative and ask that the Mayor should be satisfied that this was a viable Business Plan.

ii) the Business Panel requests that the Mayor ensures due diligence and all propriety is observed within a transparent process.

Agenda Item 4

Mayor & Cabinet		
Report Title	Outstanding References to Select Committees	
Key Decision	No	Item No.
Ward		
Contributors	Head of Business and Committee	
Class	Part 1	Date: April 11 2012

1. Purpose of Report

To report on items previously reported to the Mayor for response by directorates and to indicate the likely future reporting date.

2. Recommendation

That the reporting dates of the item shown in the table below be noted.

Report Title	Responding Author	Date Considered by Mayor & Cabinet	Scheduled Reporting Date	Slippage since last report
Comments of the Healthier Communities Select Committee on the implications of the Health and Social Care Bill.	ED Community Services	October 26 2011	To be advised	No
Matters referred by the Housing Select Committee – Social Housing Options	ED Customer Services	February 22 2011	April 11 2012	No

BACKGROUND PAPERS and AUTHOR

Mayor & Cabinet minutes, October 26 and February 22 2012 available from Kevin Flaherty 0208 314 9327.

Agenda Item 5

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	Matter referred by the Lee Green Assembly – parking and CPZ report	
Key Decision	No	Item No.
Ward	Lee Green	
Contributors	Lee Green Assembly	
Class	Open	Date: 7 March 2012

1. Summary

This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the statement of community views of the Lee Green assembly relating to the issue of parking and CPZs within the ward. Parking is one of the top priorities for the Lee Green assembly, and a working group drawn from the assembly has worked with officers to develop a report on parking and the CPZ situation within the ward. The assembly has now passed a statement of community views which they would like the Mayor to consider.

2. Purpose of the Report

To inform Mayor and Cabinet of the statement of community views of the Lee Green assembly in relation to parking and CPZs in the ward, specifically, on charges, operational hours and the lack of choice in consultation, and to provide the Mayor and Cabinet with a copy of the assembly report on parking and CPZs in the ward.

3. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Mayor asks the Executive Directors for Customer Services and for Resources and Regeneration to consider and report back to him on the implications of the 'Statement of Community Views' from the Lee Green Assembly.

4. Lee Green Assembly – parking and CPZs

- 4.1 The first Lee Green assembly in June 2008 identified the issue of parking as one of its priorities. This priority was adopted again at the assembly's review of its priorities in autumn 2010, and has been the focus of many assembly meetings.

- 4.2 The Lee Green assembly presented a statement of community views to Mayor & Cabinet in May 2009, requesting a review of parking across the whole ward to find long term solutions for each area in the ward. This arose out of the assembly's concerns about a piecemeal approach to parking in the ward and a 'one-size-fits-all' CPZ model. A review was undertaken by parking officers, and a new parking zone was created following consultation with residents.
- 4.3 Lee Green Assembly agreed at its meeting of 13 September 2011 to set up a working group to look at the issue of parking in the ward, and in particular controlled parking zones (CPZs). The Working Group has met four times since then, with Parking Services officers in attendance. The Group discussed a wide range of issues, including the financing of parking, current parking zones, consultation and implementation, operational hours and flexibility of the schemes, charging policies and comparisons with other boroughs.
- 4.4 The Working Group have looked at the break down of costs associated with parking and have found it difficult to understand these, and have recommended that the Council publishes transparent accounts and that any savings made from service improvements should be reflected in reduced charges to residents.
- 4.5 The Assembly has noted widespread concern about the lack of consultation over the rise in annual charges for resident parking, and the Working Group have found that the current price of £120 is in the top five London Boroughs. Visitor permits were found to be the highest in London. The report recommends that the Council reviews its annual charge, reduce the cost of visitor permits, and establish a scale of higher charges for owners of more than one car (with the money being used to reduce the charge for those with one car).
- 4.6 The assembly has expressed concern about the inflexibility of the CPZ times, most of which are for the whole day. The Assembly has previously requested two-hour restrictions for zones that suffer most from commuter parking, but this has not been granted. This concern was among the most important to the Assembly, and they voted unanimously on shorter restrictions. The report recommends that the zones in the ward are consulted again on whether they wish to have a 2 hour system, adopting different time slots in neighbouring zones to make staffing affordable.
- 4.7 The assembly have expressed concern about the lack of choice or information, and the process used in consulting about CPZs. The report recommends the process is reviewed, local residents are involved in drawing up questionnaires, and consideration is given to using the Alternative Voting system.
- 4.8 The Working Group considered the impact of parking restrictions on local businesses and schools. The report recommends that the Council reduce charges to smaller businesses and undertake work with schools to establish how to overcome problems created by their parking needs.

4.9 The assembly therefore sets out the following statement of community views and requests that the Mayor considers:

- (i) A formal response from the Mayor and Cabinet to the parking and CPZ report and instruct officers to provide a formal response to the recommendations contained within the report (in particular, the recommendations calling for reductions and greater flexibility in all charges, zones adopting two-hour restrictions, and greater resident involvement in the consultation process), including the costs of the proposed changes.
- (ii) The Assembly also agreed to continue the Working Group in order to progress issues that can be resolved within Lee Green.

5. Financial Implications

That there are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

6. Legal Implications

Executive Procedure Rule 19 in the Constitution outlines that each local assembly may place up to one item on Mayor and Cabinet agenda in any twelve month period, unless the Mayor agrees to contrary, restricted to a maximum of any two such items on any agenda.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1: Lee Green parking and CPZ report (February 2012).

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Petra Smith on 020 8314 7034, or Liz Dart on 020 8314 6115.

February 2012

Parking and CPZs: Report for Lee Green Assembly

Background

Lee Green Assembly agreed at its meeting of 13 September to set up a working group to look at the issue of parking in the ward, and in particular controlled parking zones (CPZs). This followed a report back from Lewisham Council's then Director of Regeneration, Malcolm Smith, who proposed the formation of a Working Group, made up of residents from all parts of the ward, to look at what he described as the "most complex set of parking problems". He suggested that, aided by Council officers, it should be possible to produce a report with recommendations within four-six months.

The Working Group met four times – 26 October, 23 November and 15 December 2011, and 10 January 2012 – with Lesley Brooks and Bill Tarplett of the Council's Parking Services, supported by Ade Joseph of the Assemblies Team. We discussed a wide range of issues, including the financing of parking, current parking zones, consultation and implementation, operational hours and flexibility of the schemes, charging policies and comparisons with other boroughs.

Preamble

Lee Green – with two railway stations – is one of Lewisham's wards most susceptible to "creeping CPZism". The issue is so big that it has dominated many ward Assembly meetings – this, despite a strong commitment to funding priorities, notably regenerating a run-down shopping area, facilities for young people and enhancing the ward's green spaces. Overwhelmingly, residents have been concerned that fairness should have underpinned the schemes and have not been convinced that this has been the case.

Here is a summary of our findings, together with recommendations. Some of these will have borough-wide implications, some may be resolved within the ward... whatever, the exercise has been carried out in good faith and we hope and expect that it will be taken seriously by the Council.

The financing of parking

The Working Group found it extremely difficult to understand how costs were broken down, and while officers did their best to explain the workings, there was a sense that the way the accounts are prepared – at least for public consumption – was at best opaque. Annual income, takings by the contractor, and money accrued for re-investment – highway and road maintenance – were not clear.

In particular, the way in which since 2004 the implementation of the contract is based on prudential borrowing and the first call on revenue is to repay that borrowing, before any money goes towards equipment to sustain the contract or highway maintenance.

We also had information on improvements in the service such as online applications for permits and "virtual" permits removing the necessity for windscreen displays and, while we accepted these might result in savings, some of this should be reflected in savings to the customer. Also, the new systems would not help people without access to the internet.

We had income figures showing a reduction in demand for permits, but no information separating out income from the annual charge for a permit, income from visitor's permits and money accrued from fines. This information will be crucial in any Council review of whether it's meeting its income targets.

Recommendation

- 1) The Council should publish transparent accounts, with clear differentiation about costs and income for annual charges, visitor's permits and fines.
- 2) Service improvements, particularly those leading to savings, should be reflected in reduced charges to residents.

Charging policy

There was widespread concern that, while residents in the early CPZs had initially agreed to a £30 annual charge (which was then raised to £60) and other later ones to £60, the massive hike to £120 was not part of anyone agreeing to the CPZ, meaning that the decision was taken without consultation. Previous assurances that Lewisham's charges are average were found, on comparisons with other London boroughs, to lack validity. **Lewisham's annual charge is in the top six among London boroughs**, hardly reflective of its demographic and people's resulting ability to pay – Lewisham is the 31st most deprived borough in the country (10th in London), according to Government statistics of 2010.

Some other boroughs have a graduated scale of charges, increasing charges for second and third cars. This would seem a sensible policy.

The big increase in visitor's permits similarly also lacked consultation. Here, comparisons with other London boroughs indicate that **Lewisham charges for visitor's permits are the highest in London**. This seems particularly unfair on residents who have informal carers, and on non-car owners who also have to pay for visitor's permits, despite being unlikely to have voted for the CPZ. Some problems might be resolved by granting an initial "grace" period for visitors in which residents might pay less for an initial period.

Many local residents reported of rude treatment by staff issuing the permits at the Parking Shop in Rennell Street. This may well have added to their hostility to the charges for permits.

The most recent hike has produced a new form of abuse, with residents either unable or unwilling to pay, parking in neighbouring roads without a CPZ, thereby producing a further unfairness that pits residents in neighbouring roads against each other.

Recommendation

- 3) The Council needs to review its charges with a view to reducing the annual charge, and address this very real grievance.
- 4) The Council should look to reduce the cost of visitor's permits, the charges for which seem particularly inequitable on residents with informal carers and non-car owners. Or, there could be a "grace" period to mitigate the impact of the charge.
- 5) The Council should establish a scale of higher charges for owners of more than one car, with a reduction in the one-car charge being recompensed by increased charges for multi-car owners.

Current CPZs: Flexibility of schemes and operational hours

Most schemes are for the whole day, with some 9am-6pm, others 9am to 7pm, some weekdays only, others including Saturdays. Despite requests for a two-hour restriction from zones which suffer primarily from commuters, there has been great resistance by the Council in the past. This is really about money and income, not suitability.

The cost of policing such a scheme could be borne by creating different two-hour slots in adjoining zones, enabling parking officers to move from one zone to the next. There would be a staff saving to more than compensate for any loss of net income.

There was unanimous support for a shorter restriction – as practised borough-wide in Bromley and parts of Greenwich. This would still deter commuters, while enabling residents to accommodate visitors, services and tradespeople without excessive cost – and could mitigate the worst of the price hikes.

Recommendation

- 6) Zones in Lee Green ward should be consulted again on whether they wished to have a two-hour system, adopting different time slots in neighbouring zones in order to reduce the staffing costs for the contractor. This recommendation, more than any other, was seen as the most likely to meet residents' concerns about fairness. Furthermore, the two-hour zone would be possible to implement within one ward.

Consultation and implementation

The evidence is that residents are usually offered one option (all-day), based on officers' knowledge of "attractors". They often cite factors other than commuters, necessitating all-day parking – in Lee Green workers at Lewisham Hospital being cited. The only part of the ward in which this seemed to be valid was the College Park area. Residents' own experience was that few people living near the station were affected by anybody other than commuters.

The lack of choice was seen as a major denial of democracy. The questionnaires fail to provide sufficient information or choice, with a more complete questionnaire likely to lead to a different result. Little notice is taken of comments – which are not votes – and the evidence as scrutinised by the Working Group is that sufficient numbers of people asked for other options to warrant the need for greater choice.

To improve the sense of fairness and increase turnout, the Working Group believes local residents should be involved in drawing up the questionnaire and consideration should be given to the literature being delivered by volunteers, ensuring there was no bias. This would also reduce costs.

In a Council review of the Hither Green East CPZ, in which residents were sent questionnaires, there were 91 people who took the trouble to write in the "other comments" box. Of these, 97.9% wanted some kind of change, only 2.1% wanted it to stay as it was – 76% wanted to change the length (primarily two hours) and/or reduce charges. The review was before the latest increase to £120 per annum. As the questionnaire failed to include the two-hour option, this lack of choice undermined the validity of questionnaire.

The Council offered more than one option in Holme Lacey and Dallinger roads – but there was concern about the First Past the Post producing the "least bad" option. Consideration should be given to Alternative

Voting as it might produce a greater consensus. There were concerns about turnout, often pretty low, but the Group had no view about minimum turnout.

The Working Group also looked at the process – is it fair that zones are consulted, each successful ballot resulting in demand in the adjacent zone (“creeping CPZism”)? And whether it would be better to have a single zone for the whole ward? As conditions are different across the ward, it would be unfair to impose a CPZ for the whole ward as in some areas there have been majorities who are clearly opposed. However, should people living in such areas feel the impact of a new CPZ in an adjacent area, they should have the opportunity to be consulted again about having one in their area.

Recommendation

- 7) The consultation process should be reviewed, with questionnaires providing better information and ballots greater choice – greater clarity would lead to more informed choices. That review should be paid for from surplus revenue from the parking account.
- 8) Local residents should be involved in drawing up the questionnaires, and volunteers should be used to deliver the literature, ensuring that it is done without bias.
- 9) Consideration should be given to using the Alternative Voting system.

Local businesses and traders and local schools

Some CPZ zones encompass shopping areas, with shoppers getting free short-stay parking in a limited number of bays. This is the practice in Staplehurst Road next to Hither Green station and in front of the Manor Lane shops, and in Burnt Ash Hill near Lee station. This was seen as a good policy.

The Working Group looked at business permit charges, and comparisons with other London boroughs. Last year’s increase of 67% to £500 made **Lewisham’s business permits among the five most expensive**. This is really unfair in a borough like Lewisham with a relatively low-income population. It also hits small businesses hard at a time when Lewisham should be pursuing economic regeneration policies that encourage small businesses.

Local schools were seen as a problem, as they generate parking needs for staff and temporary ones for parents. There was insufficient information about how these might be accommodated. However, one suggestion that should be explored is negotiating special parking rates for staff at local car parks, run by supermarkets, etc.

Recommendation

- 10) The Council should reduce charges to smaller businesses as part of its economic regeneration strategy.
- 11) Work should be undertaken to establish how to overcome problems created by the parking needs generated by schools.

SUMMARY

Only the commuter-blighted, worst-affected areas vote for CPZs first time. Residents elsewhere only convert once the impact of a neighbouring CPZ translates into an increase in other people’s cars in their area. Charges across the board, as comparisons with the rest of London showed, have created a sense of

unfairness in a borough that is hardly among the wealthiest. Is this the best way of fostering community solidarity?

The massive price hikes have generated enormous ill-will, not least because they were taken without consultation. While we appreciate the Council faces difficult decisions in meeting the challenge of big cuts in their budget, we do feel decisions about charging need to be considered more carefully, and that the most recent hike was a step too far.

There is a strong consensus on the Working Group that the Council has a duty to residents to look for an accounting structure that would better serve its electorate, and we hope our work will be useful to other wards experiencing similar problems in the consultation over and implementation of Controlled Parking Zones in their areas.

In addition, we would like to thank the officers who provided comparative data that helped considerably in informing the discussions that helped to produce such a wide-ranging set of recommendations.

Finally, we believe that adopting these recommendations would help to alleviate the genuine sense of grievance arising out of the implementation of the CPZs and the subsequent increase in charges. In particular, making it possible for residents to vote for more flexible schemes including the two-hour option would, if agreed, also impact on the need for permits for visitors and tradespeople and would help to create a greater sense of fairness.

Agenda Item 6

Mayor and Cabinet			
Report Title	Comments of the Healthier Communities Select Committee on Premature Mortality in Lewisham		
Key Decision	No	Item No.	
Ward	All		
Contributors	Healthier Communities Select Committee		
Class	Part 1	Date	11 April 2012

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report presents the final report and recommendations arising from the Healthier Communities Select Committee's Preventing Premature Mortality in Lewisham Review, which is attached at Appendix A.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Mayor is recommended to:

- (a) Note the views and recommendation of the Committee set out in the main report at Appendix A
- (b) Agree that all Executive Directors be asked to respond to the Review's recommendations.
- (c) Ensure that a response is provided to the Select Committee.

3. Context

- 3.1 The review was scoped in June 2011 and four evidence gathering sessions were held in July, September and December 2011 and February 2012. The Committee agreed the report and recommendations in March 2012.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report per se, although the financial implications of accepting the Committee's recommendations will need to be considered.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Constitution provides for Select Committees to refer reports to the Mayor and Cabinet, who are obliged to consider the report and the proposed response from the relevant Executive Director; and report back to the Committee within two months (not including recess).

6. Equalities Implications

- 6.1 The Council works to eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment, promote equality of opportunity and good relations between different groups in the community and recognise and take account of people's differences.

7. Crime and Disorder/Environmental Implications

- 7.1 There are no specific implications.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Salena Mulhere, Scrutiny Manager (0208 3143380), or Kevin Flaherty, Head of Business & Committee (0208 3149327).

Overview and Scrutiny

Preventing Premature Mortality Review

Healthier Communities Select Committee

March 2012

Membership of the Healthier Communities Select Committee:

Councillor John Muldoon (Chair)

Councillor Stella Jeffrey (Vice - Chair)

Councillor Pauline Beck

Councillor Kevin Bonavia

Councillor Joseph Foloronsu

Councillor Carl Handley

Councillor Michael Harris

Councillor Ami Ibitson

Councillor Chris Maines

Councillor Dan Whittle

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1. Chair's Introduction

In Lewisham, we have a saying: "*Salus populi suprema lex*" – it's the motto on our coat of arms. It can be roughly translated as "The health of the people is the first great law" and can be found as far back as the writings of Cicero. It is especially relevant today, as the transfer of the public health function to local government progresses. Once again, local government will be central to driving forward the improvement of the health of our nation. Those familiar with public administration may recall when public health responsibilities were last vested in local government; it will be different this time. Health and wellbeing boards will be the foundation for developing a cogent and coherent system for public health, providing leadership and engagement.



Whilst London has higher life expectancy than New York, it is behind other world cities, such as Tokyo, Paris and Sydney, especially for female life expectancy. Mortality ratios show that health inequalities between areas of Britain have continued to rise this century. Although it is reported that the "North/South" divide in Britain is the widest for 40 years, this conceals the variations within geographical regions. For example, the difference in life expectancy between the most and least deprived London neighbourhoods is 7.2 years for men and 4.6 years for women. If you live in Westminster or Kensington & Chelsea, on average you will live longer than if you live in Lewisham or Greenwich.

It was against this landscape that the Healthier Communities Select Committee embarked on a major review of the causes of premature mortality in Lewisham, and how the Council could support our residents to address these issues, to create a borough where people can live longer, live healthier lives. There is, of course, a range of causes of premature mortality. The Committee, to make best use of its time, focussed on those important factors where Council influence and inputs would have the most effective outcomes.

I am extremely grateful to all those who gave oral and written evidence to the Committee and for the support provided to the review by Lewisham Council and NHS staff. I thank the Committee members for their persistent and diligent enquiry. I commend this report to the reader.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Muldoon', written in a cursive style.

Cllr John Muldoon
Chair of the Healthier Communities Select Committee

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 Although life expectancy in Lewisham has improved slightly in recent years, the gap between the national average life expectancy and life expectancy in Lewisham is not improving. People dying before the average life expectancy, premature mortality, is often a key indicator of broader health inequalities. “Health inequalities” are the differences in the quality of health and well being and health care across different populations. This specifically includes differences in the presence of disease, health outcomes, or access to health care across racial, ethnic, sexual orientation and socio-economic groups.
- 2.2 In November 2010, the Government published a White Paper “Healthy Lives, Healthy People” that sets out the Government’s long term vision for the future of public health in England. Within the evidence base for the White Paper, it was found that many deaths and illnesses could be avoided by adopting healthier lifestyles. The report concluded that a substantial proportion of cancers, around 30% of circulatory diseases and a large proportion of vascular disease could be avoided. This could be done mainly through a combination of reducing smoking rates, improving diet and increasing physical activity.
- 2.3 The Healthier Communities Select Committee wanted to examine what action was being taken, and what more could be done, to help people in Lewisham live healthier, longer lives. The Committee focused on the lifestyle issues that are primarily responsible for early deaths: smoking, unhealthy diets and lack of physical activity. The Committee found evidence of a wide range of activities and programmes in Lewisham supporting people to live healthily. However, the Committee also identified areas where more could be done to support, encourage and enable people to learn about and develop healthier lifestyles. As a result the Committee has identified a number of recommendations for the Council, schools and the local NHS as to how they could better support everyone in Lewisham to enjoy a long and healthy life.

3. Purpose and Structure of Review

- 3.1 The aim of this review was to assess the current actions being taken to address the main causes of premature mortality in Lewisham, in order to assess the effectiveness of current interventions in improving outcomes and reducing the rates of premature mortality across the Borough.
- 3.2 The review was scoped in June 2011 and the terms of reference for the review were agreed as:
- What is the rate of premature mortality in Lewisham and how does this compare locally and nationally?
 - Are there any marked imbalances in premature mortality figures in Lewisham between localities and communities, and if so what are the causes of the imbalance?
 - What are the specific causes of premature mortality in Lewisham?
 - What are the “underlying” causes of premature mortality in Lewisham?
 - What is being done to tackle premature mortality in Lewisham?
 - Is there a strategic approach to tackling premature mortality across the borough?
 - Is the strategic approach taken demonstrating success in meeting its objectives?
 - Are there evidence-based targeted actions being taken to reduce mortality?
 - Are the targeted actions being taken effective?
 - Is there best practice that can be shared within Lewisham and beyond?
 - Is there best practice locally or nationally in preventing premature mortality that we could learn from?
 - Is there more that can be done to prevent premature mortality in Lewisham?
- 3.3 Four evidence sessions were held in July, September and December 2011 and February 2012. The first session focussed on smoking, the second on obesity, the third on physical activity and the fourth on the role of primary care and wider best practice in reducing health inequalities.
- 3.4 The committee heard from the following expert witnesses:
- Dr Helen Tattersfield, Lewisham GP and Vice Chair of Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board
 - Dr Danny Ruta, Director of Public Health
 - Katrina McCormick, Deputy Director of Public Health
 - Jane Miller, Deputy Director of Public Health
 - Lyn Burton, Tobacco Control Strategy and Commissioning Manager
 - Jo Edun, Joint Service Manager for Lewisham Stop Smoking Service
 - Gwenda Scott, Healthy Weight Strategy Manager, Public Health, NHS Lewisham
 - Sally Brothers, Head of Nutrition and Dietetics, Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust
 - Annette Stead, Service Manager, Sport and Leisure Services, LBL

- John Pye, Trading Standards and Markets Manager, LBL
- Mervyn Kaye, Commissioner, CYP, LBL
- Sam Kirk, Strategic Waste and Environment Manager, LBL
- Sara Nelson, South London Cardiac and Stroke Network
- Lyn Wheeler, Patient Representative, South London Cardiac and Stroke Network
- Jenny Budd, Lewisham Healthy Walks Co-ordinator, Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust
- Lucreta LaPierre, Healthy Walks Leader (volunteer)
- Joni Blackwood, Fitness Instructor - "Get Active" and "Check and Change" Programmes
- Gail Findlay, Director of Health Improvement, University of East London
- Alison Pearce, Well London Programme Manager

- 3.5 The Committee visited health & leisure facilities and activities across the borough where Members spoke to people working at the different centres, and to members of the public taking part in the range of activities. The Committee also met with the Young Mayor and Young Advisors.
- 3.6 The Committee concluded its review and agreed its recommendations in March 2012.

4. Background

- 4.1 At the meeting of the Healthier Communities Select Committee on 27 April 2011, the Committee resolved to undertake an in-depth review looking at premature mortality in Lewisham
- 4.2 Premature mortality is often a key indicator of broader health inequalities. “Health inequalities” refers to the differences in the quality of health and well being and health care across different populations. This specifically includes differences in the presence of disease, health outcomes, or access to health care across racial, ethnic, sexual orientation and socio-economic groups
- 4.3 In 2010 the Marmot Review: “Fairer Society, Healthy Lives” was published. This was the culmination of a year long independent review into the most effective, evidence-based, strategies for reducing health inequalities in England. The review found that, in England, people living in the poorest neighbourhoods will, on average, die seven years earlier than people living in the richest neighbourhoods.¹
- 4.4 The review further concluded that, “not only are there dramatic differences between best-off and worst-off in England, but the relationship between social circumstances and health is also a graded one. This is the social gradient in health. Put simply, the higher one’s social position, the better one’s health is likely to be.”

Premature mortality in Lewisham

- 4.5 Life expectancy at birth for males and females in Lewisham is lower than the England average.² Between 2005 and 2007, the average life expectancy at birth for men in Lewisham was 76.0 years; this was 1.2 years less than the England average of 77.3 years.³ Although life expectancy for women in Lewisham is lower than that for England, it is improving. Since 1995-1997 it has increased by 2.4 years. In the period 2005-2007, life expectancy in women in Lewisham was 80.8 years, 0.74 years less than the England average of 81.5 years.⁴
- 4.6 There are inequalities in premature mortality across Lewisham. In the period 2003 - 2007, nine wards in Lewisham experienced higher premature mortality than that of England. For this period, the wards that experienced the highest rates were found in Lewisham Central, Evelyn, Rushey Green, Downham and New Cross.
- 4.7 In addition, Bellingham, Grove Park, Perry Vale, Rushey Green, Sydenham and Whitefoot experienced higher premature mortalities from circulatory diseases compared to England. The average for Lewisham was 128.5 per 100,000 population, significantly higher than the rates for England. (111.99 for males and 49.51 for females per 100,000 population).

¹ Fair Society, Healthy Lives – the report of the Marmot Review
<http://www.marmotreview.org/AssetLibrary/Exec%20sum%204.8MB.pdf>

² Lewisham’s Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)

³ Lewisham’s JSNA

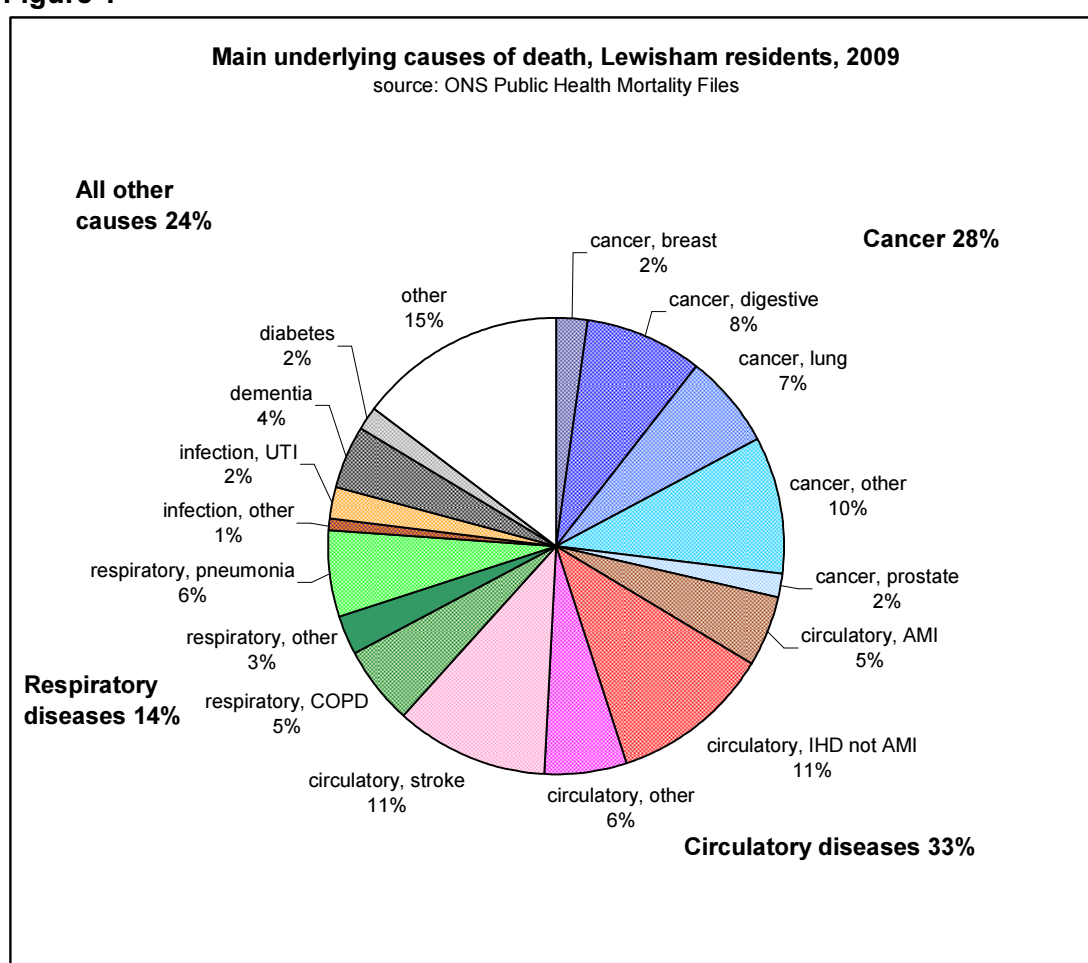
⁴ Lewisham’s JSNA

4.8 Standardised Mortality Rates (SMRs) are a reliable illustrator of overall health inequalities. The directly standardised all-age all-cause mortality rate for Lewisham was 644 persons per 100,000 population in 2007, or 673 per 100,000 population for the 3-year average 2005-2007: this is significantly higher than the rates for London and England. The main underlying causes of death in Lewisham are circulatory diseases, cancer and respiratory diseases. This is similar to the main causes of death nationally.

Specific causes of mortality in Lewisham

4.9 The three main causes of death in Lewisham in 2008-2009 were circulatory diseases (33%), cancers (26%) and respiratory diseases (15%). The following chart illustrates the breakdown of causes of death in calendar year 2009.⁵

Figure 1



Circulatory Diseases

4.10 Sometimes referred to as cardiovascular disease (CVD), Circulatory diseases include:

- coronary heart disease (CHD),
- ischemic heart disease,

⁵ <http://www.lewishamjsna.org.uk/a-profile-of-lewisham/demography/deaths>

- stroke and cerebro-vascular accident,
 - heart failure,
 - hypertensive disease (high blood pressure).
- 4.11 Coronary heart disease (CHD) develops when the artery supplying blood to the heart becomes partially or wholly blocked, and can result in a heart attack. A stroke happens when the blood supply to the brain is disturbed. Strokes are the leading cause of severe adult disability in the UK and the third most common cause of death after cancer and coronary heart disease.
- 4.12 In 2008/9 in Lewisham, there were 5,509 people with diagnosed chronic heart disease (CHD), 1,923 people with atrial fibrillation, 1,454 people with heart failure, and 3,033 people with diagnosed transient ischemic attack (TIA) or stroke. Hypertension is the most common long term health condition both in Lewisham and nationally. It is a highly modifiable risk factor for stroke, heart disease, and kidney failure. There is a strong association between undetected and uncontrolled hypertension and deprivation and inequalities. In Lewisham there are 30,321 people with diagnosed hypertension. It is estimated that only half of the expected number of people with hypertension in Lewisham are diagnosed.
- 4.13 Between 2005-2007, the premature mortality rate from all circulatory diseases (diseases of the heart and blood vessels) for men and women in Lewisham was 148.33 and 61.99 per 100,000 population respectively. This is above the rates for England (111.99 for males and 49.51 for females per 100,000 population). In the period 2004-06 there were 33% more deaths in men and 26% more deaths in women from circulatory diseases in Lewisham compared to England.⁶
- 4.14 In females aged 65-74, Lewisham's death rate from circulatory disease is 22% higher than England's. In females aged 75 and over, Lewisham's death rate from circulatory disease is 11% higher than the national rate.

Cancer

- 4.15 Mortality from cancer accounts for 19% of the male life expectancy gap and 13% of the female life expectancy gap between Lewisham and England. There is a clear downward trend in premature mortality from cancer in Lewisham but the relative gap between Lewisham and England has increased from 9.35 in 1995-97 to 11.6% in 2006-08.
- 4.16 The total number of deaths from cancer in Lewisham in 2008-09 was 469. Lung cancer is the main cause of cancer deaths in Lewisham, followed by Breast, Colon and Prostate Cancer.⁷
- 4.17 Directly standardised rates of incidence of cancer for males in Lewisham is significantly higher than those for London and England. Rates for females in Lewisham are lower than England but not for London. The premature mortality rate of cancer for men in Lewisham for the period, 2005-2007, was significantly higher than the London and England rates. There were 18% more deaths in men from cancer in Lewisham compared to England.

⁶ <http://www.lewishamjsna.org.uk/health-inequalities/cvd-prevention/what-do-we-know/facts-and-figures>

⁷ <http://www.lewishamjsna.org.uk/adults/cancer-prevention-screening-and-treatment>

- 4.18 The premature mortality rate of female cancer in Lewisham has generally been above the rate for England. However the most recent data (2005-2007) shows that this rate was not significantly different from that of England or London:

Table 1: Deaths from cancer type 2008-09

Cancer type	Lung	Breast	Colon	Prostrate	Oesph	Pancreas	Stomach	Other
	23.9% (110)	6.6% (31)	5.8% (27)	5.1% (24)	4.9% (23)	4.9% (23)	4.7% (22)	44.6% (209)

Source: PH Mortality Files

Respiratory Diseases

- 4.19 Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is the name for a collection of lung diseases including chronic bronchitis, emphysema and chronic obstructive airways disease. The main symptom of COPD is an inability to breathe in and out properly. This is also referred to as airflow obstruction.
- 4.20 Airflow obstruction is caused by long-term damage to the lungs, usually as a result of smoking, which is the main cause of COPD. As the condition progresses, breathing in and out becomes increasingly difficult, and the patient's physical ability to carry out normal tasks may be diminished. Symptoms can be exacerbated by air pollution, extremes of temperature, and viral or bacterial infections. There is no cure for COPD, and treatment concentrates on relieving the symptoms.
- 4.21 COPD is the third leading cause of death among males in Lewisham and the eighth among females. COPD contributes to the gap in life expectancy between England and Lewisham, as smoking rates are highest in lower socio-economic groups and the number of cigarettes smoked per day is also higher in this group. COPD is the second highest contributor to the gap in life expectancy in men (11.3%) and fourth highest contributor in females (9.1%), with pneumonia the second highest. The recorded prevalence of COPD in Lewisham is higher than that of London, and the admission rate for COPD is also higher.
- 4.22 The three main causes of premature mortality in Lewisham are Cardiovascular Disease (CVD), Cancer and COPD. The predominant causes of these illnesses are Smoking, Obesity and lack of Physical Activity.

5. Findings

SMOKING

- 5.1 Smoking is the single greatest cause of preventable illness and premature death in the UK, and is one of the main determinants of health inequalities. It is the major contributing factor to the mortality divide between the most deprived areas in England and England as a whole. It is estimated to cost the NHS in the UK £5.2 billion a year. It is a major contributor to ill health, including circulatory disease, cancer and COPD.
- 5.2 Nationally, one fifth of all UK deaths, 112,000 per year, are caused by smoking. One in two regular smokers is killed by tobacco, half dying before the age of 70, losing an average of 21 years of life. Around 84% of deaths from COPD, and 90% of all deaths from lung cancer are caused by smoking. It is estimated that around 5% of all hospital admissions in 2008/09 were attributable to smoking.
- 5.3 There are a number of different sources of information about smoking prevalence. The key sources are the General Lifestyle Survey, the Integrated Household Survey, the Health Survey for England, the 'Smoking Epidemic in England' paper, produced by the Institute for the Geography of Health at The University of Portsmouth in 2004, and the GP Quality and Outcomes Framework data.⁸
- 5.4 Smoking prevalence for England was estimated to be 21% from the Integrated Household Survey for the period October 2009 to September 2010. This is the same as the 2009 General Lifestyle Survey, which estimated that 21% of the adult population were cigarette smokers, in Great Britain, in 2009.

Smoking in Lewisham

- 5.5 Tobacco use is the biggest single factor in the gap in healthy life expectancy between Lewisham and England. Lewisham performed significantly worse on 9 out of 15 smoking indicators in the local tobacco control profiles from the London Health Observatory 2010. In 2006-08, there was a rate of 267 per 100,000 smoking attributable deaths compared with a 206.8 average in England as a whole⁹. Some of the other indicators for which Lewisham performed worse than England included deaths from lung cancer, numbers of hospital admissions, adult smoking prevalence, and numbers of successful quitters. Lewisham had the sixth highest estimated smoking prevalence in London, using the Integrated Household Survey (IHS) data.
- 5.6 There is no precise measure of smoking prevalence in Lewisham. Using IHS data for Lewisham there was an estimated 19.9% (17.7% to 22.6%) smoking rate in Lewisham for the period September 2009 to October 2010 from a survey sample of 875 responders. The difference from England at 21% was not statistically significant.
- 5.7 However the estimated prevalence data that is available from Local Tobacco Control Profiles,¹⁰ states a smoking prevalence of 27.1% for the three year period 2006-2008, higher than the England prevalence of 22.2% and London prevalence of 20.8%.

⁸ See appendix B for different measures of smoking prevalence

⁹ Association of Public Health Observatories: Local Tobacco Control profiles 2010

¹⁰ *ibid*

- 5.8 Smoking prevalence from the 'GP recorded smoking prevalence' data in 2009 ranged from 17% in some Lewisham practice populations to 24% in others for patients aged 16 and above. It is unlikely that the range between practices would be as large as 7%. Despite the fact that it provides a measure of smoking prevalence, it does not give an accurate picture due to incomplete data in some practices and some smokers being reluctant to inform their GPs if they continue to smoke.
- 5.9 The number of smokers in Lewisham is estimated to lie somewhere between 45,000 and 50,000 (with 58,253 at 27.1% and 37,325 at 17%). With the exception of pregnant women and practice populations there is no data available on smoking prevalence in different population groups in Lewisham, therefore prevalence data for different population groups has to be extrapolated from national data (as described above).
- 5.10 Using the GP smoking prevalence data, it is possible to plot smoking prevalence for each practice, which can then be considered in terms of deprivation. As would be expected, a high Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) score correlates with high smoking prevalence. Table 2 shows the ratio of smoking indicators for the most and least deprived practices compared with Lewisham. A ratio of 1.00 indicates a similar profile to Lewisham, above 1 is higher than Lewisham and below 1 is lower than the Lewisham average.

Table 2: Ratio of smoking indicators comparing most deprived practices with least deprived by IMD score

Practice Name	IMD Ratio	% 0-24 yrs ratio	% 75 + ratio	Smoking Prevalence ratio	Smoking recorded in last 15 months ratio
Lee Road	0.66	0.74	1.05	0.84	1.02
Torrison Road	0.75	1.00	0.71	0.90	1.00
Brockley	0.76	0.97	0.66	0.87	1.03
MacDonagh	0.78	0.81	1.42	0.91	0.98
Hilly Fields	0.81	0.95	0.58	0.91	0.98
Lewisham	1			1	1
Amersham Vale	1.19	1.14	0.3	1.01	1.03
Batra (Waldon)	1.17	1.12	0.33	1.01	1.00
Jamil (Waldron)	1.17	1.07	0.49	1.01	1.03
Boundfield Road	1.26	1.24	0.5	1.11	1.04
Bellingham Green	1.31	1.17	0.57	1.24	1.02

Source: Lewisham PCT Public Health Department, Annual Public Health Report 2009

Stopping Smoking in Lewisham

- 5.11 The Committee heard from the manager of the Lewisham-wide Stop Smoking Service, and the Tobacco Control Strategy Commissioning manager from the Department of Public Health.
- 5.12 Lewisham Stop Smoking Service (SSS) supports a large network of advisors based in primary care, pharmacy and the community. There is a core team of 9 which train others to become advisors, and then mentors all advisors across the borough. The team also monitors performance across the borough, provides

materials to all advisors and runs numerous clinics and drop ins. Lewisham SSS is part of a London network of all London SSS that meet regularly to share best practice. The service implements and promotes best practice.

- 5.13 The service is funded as an adult treatment service for people who want to stop smoking and offers help for those who live, work or study in Lewisham. Support is provided in the form of 1-2-1 advice and support and offers a combination of medication and behavioural support.
- 5.14 The service provides a full range of medications for up to 12 weeks to help people when they are withdrawing from Nicotine such as: Patches, Gum, Inhalator, Mouth and Nasal Sprays and Lozenges. Champix is the most effective single treatment which is a prescription only medication available through GP surgeries.
- 5.15 Champix works by slowly blocking the brain's receptors so they no longer crave nicotine. Patients take it whilst continuing to smoke and slowly cut down the number of cigarettes smoked between the 8th and 14th day. The effects of Champix make smoking less enjoyable as it tastes unpleasant to smoke. It is not used for pregnant women or those aged under 18. The service has now made Champix more available through 18 Pharmacists with Patient Group Direction.
- 5.16 The Stop Smoking Service is currently delivered at 33 of the 55 GP practices in Lewisham, 32 pharmacies, 4 Community Clinics and a range of work places. There is also a specialist hospital based service and specialist services for people with mental health condition and pregnant women. The pregnancy advisers promote smoke-free homes for those who cannot or will not stop smoking.
- 5.17 The Committee was advised that some of the smaller GP practices considered that that they did not have the capacity to offer a Stop Smoking Service, and that the team was working with them to explore ways of joining up with neighbouring practices to deliver a Stop Smoking Service for their patients.

Recommendation 1: All GP practices should be encouraged to offer a Stop Smoking Service, either alone or in partnership with neighbouring practices. If this is not possible, for an individual practice, the GP should actively refer patients who smoke to the Stop Smoking Service.

Using the Stop Smoking Service

- 5.18 The majority of Lewisham residents currently access the Stop Smoking Service through their GP practice, while those who work and study in Lewisham are most likely to use local pharmacies and other community drop-in clinics spread across the borough.

Recommendation 2: The Stop Smoking Service should continue to extend its services to reach more people in more non-medical venues.

- 5.19 The profile of service users for the last year was: 47% male, 53% female, 40% from BME groups, 52% over 40, 2% under 18. The Stop Smoking Service manager

advised that the service works to increase uptake in under-represented groups (Asian people make up 6% of the LBL population but 2% of service users) and hopes that the uptake will increase over the next 12 months.

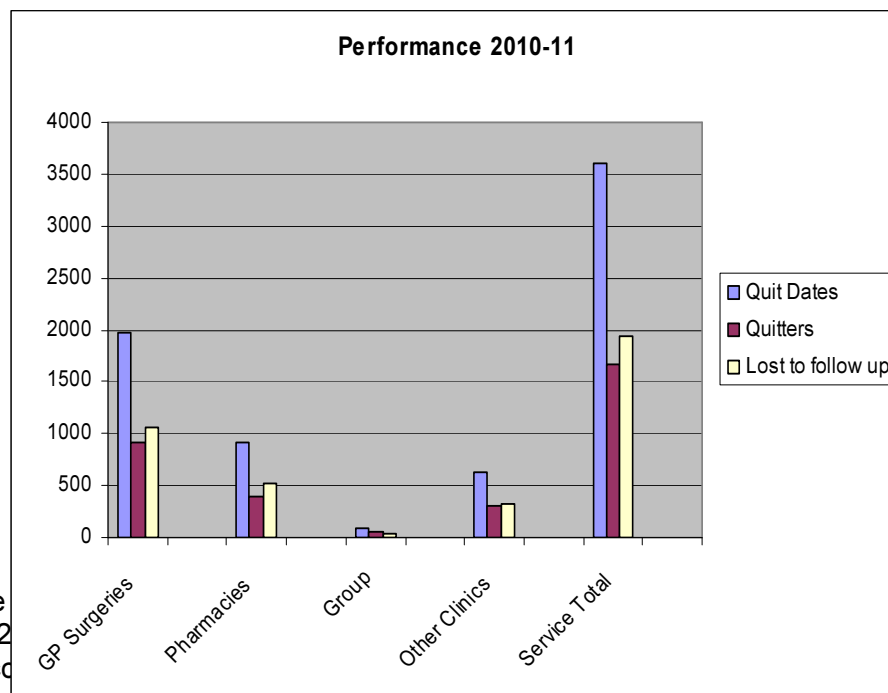
Recommendation 3: The Stop Smoking Service should undertake more targeted work focusing on community groups, particularly those that are currently under-represented in the service’s usage figures, such as South-East Asian communities and Eastern & Central European communities.

Recommendation 4: The Stop Smoking Service should look at developing its promotion and outreach work, to include publicising the service with posters and leaflets in relevant languages, in a wider range of locations, such as specialist food shops, betting shops, pubs and mini-cab offices.

5.20 However, the demographic of smokers in Lewisham is not known: as the smoker profile of Lewisham is an estimate, it is not clear how the percentage of SSS users match the profile of smokers in Lewisham. Only 6-8% of all smokers in Lewisham are estimated to use the service, and people are more likely to quit when using the service than without it.

5.21 The Department of Health (DH) measure of a successful “quit” attempt is when the service user is not smoking 4 weeks after their quit date. In 2010-11, the Lewisham SSS exceeded its set target, and recorded that a total of: 3,600 people set a “quit date”, 1,671 successfully quit, but 1,929 did not return to follow up appointments, or not did not succeed in their quit attempt.

Figure 2



5.22 The 1,72 succ

achieve number of supported

by the service. In Lewisham, 12 weeks of support is provided, to attempt to address those that find it difficult to quit, and people are able to access the service again in the future if they are unsuccessful. The Committee commends the good work done by the service to date, with its ambitious targets and attempts to take the service out to a number of workplaces in the borough.

Strategic leadership

- 5.23 Lewisham's Smoke Free Future Action Plan is the responsibility of an "action group" that includes Lyn Burton, Jo Edun, SLaM, Council representatives and voluntary sector representatives. The Director of Public Health suggested to the Committee that the effective delivery of the plan should be the responsibility of the Lewisham Strategic Partnership Board, or, when planned legislative changes come into effect, the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Director of Public Health advised the Committee that the action plan is not currently monitored outside of the action group.

Recommendation 40: The numerous relevant plans and strategies overseen by various working groups and action groups should be better co-ordinated and brought together clearly under the direct stewardship of the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board and the successor Health and Wellbeing Board, and co-ordinated into a clear "Healthy Lewisham plan". The targets, planned actions, outcomes and responsibility should be clear to, and easily accessible by, the public.

Motivation to quit

- 5.24 People's motivations for trying to quit are very varied, some report it is for health reasons and others for financial reasons. The level of motivation is a higher factor in success than the number of cigarettes smoked a day – some people who smoke 3 cigarettes a day find it impossible to stop where others who smoke 60 a day manage to quit completely. Younger children can help influence parents to stop smoking as, when they learn a lot about the dangers of smoking at school, they then discuss this and apply pressure on their parents at home to stop. This is reported as a factor in a number of parents contacting the Stop Smoking Service.
- 5.25 Legislation changes in recent years, in relation to smoking, have made a huge difference to the numbers of smokers and the numbers trying to quit. Public health professionals believe that the key way to continue to reduce smoking over time is to reduce the numbers that take it up in the first place, to ensure the messages about smoking to young people are clear, that it is not seen as a good choice to make and that smoking is not seen as "the norm".

Trading standards

- 5.26 The Council's Trading Standards team organise operations with police cadets to attempt to purchase cigarettes from shops by children that are obviously under-age (at least 2 years away from the legal age). The Trading Standards team advised the Committee that in 2008/2009 they made 26 attempts to purchase cigarettes and were sold cigarettes by 3 shops, in 2009/2010 there were 32 attempts and 1 sale, and in 2010/2011 30 attempts and 3 sales – most sellers were "repeat

offenders". The London average is 1 sale per 6 attempts so figures in Lewisham were better than average.

- 5.27 When the Young Mayor and Young Advisors spoke to the Committee about underage smoking, they advised that they felt that it was easy to purchase cigarettes in Lewisham if under-age and that a number of shops regularly sold cigarettes to under-age young people.
- 5.28 Under the 'Tobacco Advertising and Promotion (Display and Specialist Tobacconists) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2011, and the 'Protection from Tobacco (Sales from Vending Machines) England Regulations 2010'; cigarette advertising at retail premises in England will be banned from April 2012 for "large" retail premises, with smaller shops following suit in 2015. From 1st of October 2011 sales from vending machines in England have been banned.
- 5.29 A licence from the Council is not required to sell cigarettes from garages, shops etc, but, if shop owners are prosecuted for under-age sales, they can be banned for a year from selling tobacco products. There is not much evidence of widespread re-sale of duty free or counterfeit tobacco products in Lewisham; officers work with HMRC to help detect counterfeit production and sale.

Recommendation 5: The Council and Public Health in Lewisham should ensure they monitor the impact of the Tobacco Advertising and Promotion (Display and Specialist Tobacconists) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 and the 'Protection from Tobacco (Sales from Vending Machines) England Regulations 2010'.

Recommendation 6: The Council should ensure that Trading Standards continues its work to monitor and address all illegal sales of tobacco, including under-age sales, and any breach of the new regulations.

Young People

- 5.30 Most long term smokers start smoking in their teens. Experimentation is an important predictor of future use. Children who experiment with cigarettes can quickly become addicted to the nicotine in tobacco. Children may show signs of addiction within four weeks of starting to smoke and before they commence daily smoking.¹¹
- 5.31 Children who live with parents or siblings who smoke are 2 – 3 times more likely to become smokers themselves than children of non-smoking households. Every year, around 200,000 children and young people start smoking in England. In 2009, 6% of school pupils said that they smoked at least once a week¹². In 2009, 29% of pupils aged 11-15 said they had tried smoking at least once. This is lower than at any time since the young people's smoking survey began in 1982. The

¹¹ Di Franza JR et al. Initial symptoms of nicotine addiction in adolescents. Tobacco Control 2000

¹² Passive Smoking and Children: A Report by the Tobacco Advisory Group of the Royal College of Physicians March 2010

proportion of pupils who had tried smoking at least once represents a long term decline since 1982, when 53% had tried smoking. Girls are more likely than boys to have ever smoked or be regular smokers.

- 5.32 The prevalence of regular smoking increases with age, from less than 0.5% of 11 year olds to 15% of 15-year olds. The 2009 survey found that those who describe their ethnicity as mixed or black are less likely to smoke than white pupils.
- 5.33 In 2010, the Schools Health Education Survey of 3,000 Lewisham pupils found a decrease in the number of pupils who said they had ever smoked or expected to smoke when they were older, in comparison with 2008. 74% said they had never smoked at all. 74% of primary pupils said they will not smoke when they are older. 4% of Year 8 boys and 4% of Year 10 boys said they smoked 'regularly' or 'occasionally'. 5% of Year 8 girls and 5% of Year 10 girls said they smoked 'regularly' or 'occasionally'. However, 48% of pupils said that someone in their family smoked. 20% of pupils said that their mother smoked on most days, 30% of pupils said that their father did. 21% percent said that they had a close friend that smoked on most days. It is likely that pupils have under-reported smoking as they may not wish to divulge their smoking status.
- 5.34 The Young Mayor and Young Advisors advised the Committee that they felt young people needed to be taught about the consequences of smoking at an earlier age, rather than when they were at secondary school, and the message needed to be repeated regularly. They advised the Committee that those of them that knew people who had smoked, and who are suffering ill-health as a result, were more likely not to smoke and to encourage friends not to smoke. By contrast, young people who did not know people who had suffered any consequences of smoking and did not know the effects were more likely to take it up when they reached their teenage years. Therefore, they felt that quite a graphic and shocking approach, making the medical consequences of smoking clear to young people, should be used, as they felt that shocking images would make young people think twice before smoking.
- 5.35 The Committee was informed by the Director of Public Health, that the Young Mayor and Young Advisors had previously advised him that they felt that peer educator models of intervention would be a useful way to discourage smoking in teenagers, and they had also advised him that smoke free role models from across generational boundaries would be a good way to encourage young people not to take up smoking in the first place.
- 5.36 The Young Mayor and Young Advisors also spoke to the Committee about boredom and stress being a factor in taking up smoking for some young people. They advised the Committee that some schools offered support to young people in accessing Stop Smoking Services. The young people felt that information about the effects of smoking needed to be clearer and more graphic to help make teenagers think twice before taking up smoking.

Recommendation 7: Children should be taught about the consequences of smoking from a suitable age in primary school.

Recommendation 8: Teaching children about the dangers of smoking should not be done just once, but repeated at appropriate times throughout their school life, with age-appropriate levels of information about the consequences given, so that the message is re-iterated regularly and appropriately.

Recommendation 9: With older children, the messages about smoking should be delivered in the same way as those about illegal drugs; to ensure that the addictive nature and harmful effects of smoking are clear, and graphically and shockingly laid out to young people. Any anti-smoking campaign targeted at young people should also use modern technology and social media to consolidate the message and increase the reach of the campaign.

OBESITY

- 5.37 Obesity in adults and children is a growing public health issue in the UK. The prevalence of obesity in children and adults in England has more than doubled in last twenty-five years. Obesity has serious health effects; it is a risk factor for diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and many cancers. It has been projected that if there is a continued rise in obesity in the UK over the next two decades, there will be 11 million more obese adults in the UK by 2030¹³.
- 5.38 Obesity reduces life expectancy by an average of three years, or eight to ten years in the case of severe obesity (BMI over 40). Around 10% of all cancer deaths among non-smokers are related to obesity. The risk of Coronary Artery Disease increases 3.6 times for each unit increase in BMI and the risk of developing Type 2 diabetes is about 20 times greater for people who are very obese (BMI over 35), compared to individuals with a BMI of between 18 and 25. For some cancers every additional 5kg/m² in BMI increases a man's risk of, for example, colon cancer by 24% and in women endometrial cancer by 59%¹⁴.
- 5.39 Obesity increases the risk of developing a range of health problems leading to chronic and severe medical problems, shown overleaf in Table 3. As the incidence of obesity is greater at an early age it is expected that, in the future, a higher proportion of the population will live with chronic disabilities.

¹³ Swinburn B.A. et al. The global obesity pandemic: shaped by global drivers and local environments. *The Lancet*: 378, issue 9793, p804-814. Aug 2011.

¹⁴ Wang YC et al. health and economic burden of the projected obesity trends in the USA and the UK. *The Lancet*: 378, Issue 9793, p 815-825. Aug 2011.

Table 3. Relative risks of health problems associated with obesity¹⁵

Greatly increased risk (Relative risk much greater than 3)	Moderately increased risk (Relative risk 2-3)	Slightly increased risk (Relative risk 1-2)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type 2 diabetes • Insulin resistance • Gallbladder disease • Dyslipidaemia (imbalance of fatty substances in the blood, e.g. high cholesterol) • Breathlessness • Sleep apnoea (disturbance of breathing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coronary heart disease • Hypertension (high blood pressure) • Stroke • Osteoarthritis (knees) • Hyperuricaemia (high levels of uric acid in the blood) and gout • Psychological/psychological factors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancer (colon cancer, breast cancer in postmenopausal women, endometrial [womb] cancer) • Reproductive hormone abnormalities • Polycystic ovary syndrome • Impaired fertility • Low back pain • Anaesthetic risk • Foetal defects associated with maternal obesity

5.40 The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE)¹⁶ recommends that overweight and obesity are assessed using Body Mass Index (BMI). BMI is calculated by dividing a person's weight (in kilograms) by the square of their height (in metres). The calculated BMI can be compared to the thresholds recommended by the World Health Organization shown in Table 4.

Table 4. Classification of overweight and obesity among adults¹⁷

Classification	BMI (kg/m²)	Risk of co-morbidities	Co-morbidities
Underweight	Less than 18.5	Low (but risk of other clinical problems increased)	Type 2 diabetes Hypertension Stroke Coronary heart disease Cancer Osteoarthritis Dyslipidaemia
Healthy weight	18.5 – 24.9	Average	
Overweight	25 – 29.9	Increased	
Obesity - class I	30 -34.9	Moderate	
Obesity - class II	35 – 39.9	Severe	
Obesity - class III (severely or morbidly obese)	40 or more	Very severe	

5.41 For adults, NICE recommends that waist circumference is used in addition to BMI to assess health risks for those with a BMI less than 35.

¹⁵ Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives A toolkit for developing local strategies. Dr Kerry Swanton for the National Heart Forum/Cross-Government Obesity Unit/Faculty of Public Health October 2008

¹⁶ NICE. Obesity: the prevention, identification, assessment and management of overweight and obesity in adults and children. NICE clinical guidance 43. 2006.

¹⁷ Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives: A toolkit for developing local strategies. 2008

Table 5. Combining BMI and waist measurement to assess obesity and risk of type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease in adults

Classification	BMI (kg/m ²)	Waist circumference and risk of co-morbidities	
		Men: 94-102cm	Men: more than 102cm
		Women: 90-88cm	Women: more than 88cm
Underweight	Less than 18.5	-	-
Healthy weight	18.5 – 24.9	-	Increased
Overweight	25 – 29.9	Increased	High
Obesity	30 or more	High	Very high

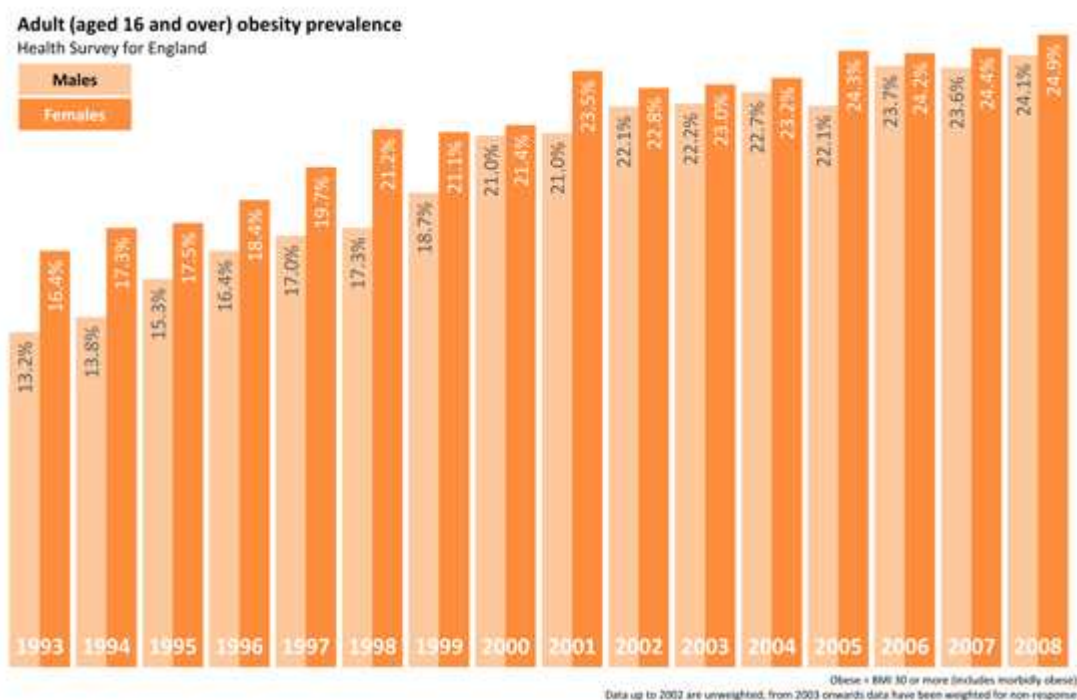
5.42 In simple terms obesity is caused by an imbalance between energy intake and energy expenditure, where intake is greater than expenditure. The reasons for the recent worldwide increase in obesity are complex: an individual’s eating and activity habits are influenced by external social and environmental factors where an abundance of food and increased sedentary behaviour is common.

The national prevalence of obesity

5.43 The prevalence of adult obesity in England has more than doubled in the last twenty five years. Although the incidence of obesity has increased in most countries worldwide, the rate of increase in England has been particularly high.

5.44 Since 1993 the proportion of men who are obese has increased from 13.2% to 24.1% in 2008 and in women from 16.4% to 24.9%. The rapid increase in obesity prevalence has resulted in only 32.8% of men and 41.2% of women in 2008 with a healthy BMI.

Figure 3. Trends in adult obesity prevalence England 1993-2008



- 5.45 Nearly 1 in 10 children in reception year and 1 in 5 children in year 6 were classified as obese in 2009/10¹⁸. A similar trend in the increase in adult obesity was observed in children, but there appears to have been a slowing in the rate of childhood obesity since 2004.
- 5.46 It is predicted that by 2050 the prevalence of obesity will increase to 60% of men, 50% of women and 25% of children¹⁹.

The local prevalence of obesity

- 5.47 Extrapolation from national data to the Lewisham adult population suggests that the prevalence of adult obesity in Lewisham (23.7%) is not significantly different to the English average²⁰. This is a modelled estimate using the Health Survey for England 2006-2008. This is similar to our neighbouring boroughs and in the top quintile for London boroughs. Local data sources however, suggest that prevalence may be higher.
- 5.48 Local maternal obesity data shows that there are more women overweight or obese in Lewisham compared with England. Data from the vascular check programme piloted in North Lewisham indicated that for those who attended screening the incidence of obesity was higher than the English average.

Recommendation 10: Maternal obesity is a growing problem in Lewisham, and a targeted approach with mothers-to-be and young families should be developed and delivered via midwives and ante-natal services.

Table 6: Prevalence of Adult Obesity in Lewisham: Estimates and Local Data

Source	Lewisham	England
Health profile 2011	23.7%	24.2%
QOF (GP registers)	7.4%	10.5%
North Lewisham vascular check pilot (2007-09)	33.4%	24.2%
North Lewisham pilot-raised waist circumference	61% women 38% men	44% women 32% men
Maternal obesity (UHL) 2010	24%	17%

¹⁸ National Child Measurement Programme. Results 2009/10

¹⁹ Foresight report, 2007

²⁰ Health Profile 2011-Lewisham , www.healthprofiles.info

5.49 Data from the National Child Measurement Programme shows that the prevalence of obesity for children in both reception and year 6 is significantly higher than the English average.

Table 7: Results of National Child Measurement Programme 2009/10

School year	Region	Overweight	Obese	Overweight & Obese
Reception	Lewisham	14.2%	13.6%	27.8%
	London	12.7%	11.6%	24.3%
	England	13.3%	9.8%	23.1%
Year 6	Lewisham	16.3%	24.4%	40.7%
	London	15.1%	21.8%	36.9%
	England	14.6%	18.7%	33.3%

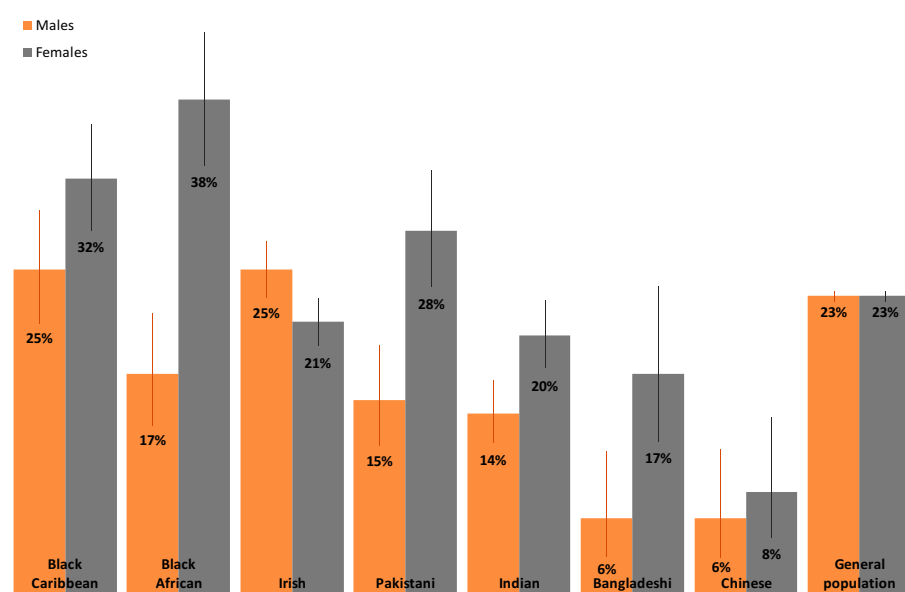
Obesity and deprivation

5.50 For children the link between childhood obesity and deprivation is well established. For adults obesity prevalence is also associated with socioeconomic status with a higher level of obesity found among more deprived groups. This association is stronger for women regardless of the deprivation measure used. For men only some measures e.g. occupation-based and qualification-based show a clear relationship between obesity and deprivation

Obesity and ethnicity

5.51 Obesity prevalence varies between ethnic groups. When using BMI as a measure, the prevalence of obesity is higher in females in Black Caribbean, Black African and Pakistani groups compared to other ethnic groups and the general population. Prevalence of obesity is lower among men from Black African, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Chinese communities compared to the general population (figure 4).

Figure 4 Prevalence of obesity in adults by ethnic groups



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Adult (aged 16+) obesity: BMI ≥ 30kg/m²

Local lifestyle

- 5.52 Several sources of information on diet and activity are available for England and these show that adults are still eating more saturated fat and sugar than the recommended levels²¹ and only a third of men and women eat the recommended 5 portions of fruit and vegetables a day²². Only 40% of men and 28% of women are meeting the recommended level of physical activity of 30 minutes, 5 days a week. These measures of diet and activity levels are based on self reported data which may be overestimations and the true values lower than that recorded.
- 5.53 Limited information is available on the local lifestyle of Lewisham residents; the Lewisham Health Profile identifies that more adults in Lewisham meet the 5-a- day target for fruit and vegetables but fewer adults meet the physical activity recommendation of 30 minutes, 5 days a week than the England average.

Tackling Obesity in Lewisham

- 5.54 The Committee heard from Sally Brothers, Head of Nutrition and Dietetics at Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust. Sally told the Committee about the range of weight loss/healthy eating support offered in Lewisham.
- 5.55 There are a range of services including community weight loss groups, primary care services and hospital based services. Patients are referred from a range of services including orthopaedics, maternity, endocrinology and cardiology. Participants are offered a choice of one-to-ones, 10-week group management and shopping tours. One-to-ones usually are a programme of monthly meetings over a 6 month period, with a target of 5% weight loss. Group weight management is held weekly over a 10 week programme, which includes a weigh in followed by discussion of a relevant topic. Over the last 3 cycles of the weight management programme, weight loss has ranged from 0.3 to 9.2 kg.
- 5.56 Nutrition information is aimed at cultural diets as appropriate, and translated as required, so for example information about balanced nutrition is available in Turkish and Tamil, depicting food from the relevant food groups that are more regularly eaten by those communities.
- 5.57 The Committee also heard from Gwenda Scott, the Healthy Weight Strategy Manager from the Public Health team about the strategic approach to tackling obesity in Lewisham. Gwenda advised the Committee that there are currently two directly relevant strategies in place: The Strategy on Childhood obesity (March 2010) and the Lewisham Food Strategy, which was launched in 2006.

Childhood Obesity Strategy

- 5.58 The Children and Young People Plan for 2009-2012 has "the reduction of childhood obesity" as a key priority. The plan states that the Council and partners will:
- Target resources and services to identified areas of the borough where need is greatest.
 - Work with families in Children's Centres and schools to promote healthy eating and physical activity.
 - Build on Healthy Schools status and extended school services activity to

²¹ National Diet and Nutrition Survey 2008/09.

²² NHS information Centre. Statistics on obesity, physical activity and diet. England 2011

promote healthy weight and healthy activity and allow targeted support to children and young people at risk of obesity.

- Increase the take up of school meals whilst delivering to the nationally set nutritional standards.
- Work with School Sports Partnership and other sport and physical activity providers to promote sport and physical activity to children and young people and their families.
- Promote national campaigns such as Change4Life to Lewisham residents.
- Implement a care pathway for children with weight management issues.
- Commission age specific and targeted weight management programmes, including programmes that support both children and their families to create sustainable lifestyle changes.
- Ensure children are as healthy as possible at birth, including promotion of breastfeeding and preparation towards Baby Friendly status across the borough.

5.59 The Strategy on Reducing Childhood Obesity is a key part of meeting the priority as set out in the Children and Young People Plan. It is part of a long term plan to promote healthy lifestyles for the whole population of Lewisham. The Committee was advised that work is currently underway to develop and expand the strategy to include adults. The current strategy focuses on children and families and encompasses prevention, treatment and management of overweight and obesity in children. Action plans have been developed for the universal services to promote healthy eating, increase physical activity and reduce sedentary behaviour.

5.60 The Committee was advised that some of the outcomes of the strategies related action plans were:

- Training on promoting healthy weight in children has been commissioned for staff working with children and families so that all are aware of the role they play in promoting healthy weight in children.
- Targeted weight management services for children and their families, Mind Exercise Nutrition Do it (MEND), and a local delivery partner have been commissioned and delivery begun. The service is now able to reach a wider age group from 5-16 years.

5.61 The Mind Exercise Nutrition Do it (MEND) programme has been very successfully working with children in Lewisham over recent months. Over the 10 week course, the child and their parent attend local sessions which are made up of a mix of fun physical activity for children such as street dance, alongside discussions, practical cookery sessions and workshops. Teaching healthy cooking skills to children and parents is considered to be a key part of the programme in instigating lifestyle changes and giving people some practical skills to develop.

Recommendation 11: The Downham Nutrition Partnership Model should be rolled out more widely across the Borough.

Recommendation 12: The MEND programme, or similar evidence based programmes, should be rolled out as widely as possible across the Borough.

- 5.62 When talking to the Young Mayor and Young Advisors, the Committee was told about different experiences of healthy options being available at different Lewisham secondary schools. Some young people advised that there were an interesting range of meals and snacks made available, and often the meals were from a range of cultures. Other young people reported that there was predominately bland, uninspiring “healthy” food available at their school, and were surprised to hear from their peers that they had access to healthy versions of jerk chicken, rice and peas and other spicy and flavoursome healthy option meals.
- 5.63 Sally Brothers, Gwenda Scott and all the young people who spoke to the Committee agreed that just knowing what food was healthy and the proportion of each food group that should make up a meal (which is often taught in schools), was not enough to increase the uptake of healthy eating. Both professionals and young people reported that people having the knowledge and cookery skills to buy fresh ingredients and prepare a healthy meal was not as widespread as it used to be, and that this was a key area for further improvement. The fact that there are a wide range of processed meals sold for convenience purposes and labelled as “healthy options” added further confusion to those trying to develop a healthier diet and reduce consumption of fast foods.
- 5.64 The Committee heard that there is a high level of accessible, affordable fruit and vegetables in Lewisham, particularly across the range of markets in the borough and the numerous local food stores. However, the knowledge and skills necessary to cook healthy meals needed to be more widely distributed to younger people and their parents to improve general healthy eating levels across the borough. There appeared to be a mis-conception that healthier food was more expensive than fast food, so understanding food preparation and food cost is an important life skill that a large number of young people need assistance in developing.
- 5.65 The young people advised the Committee that they felt unhealthy meals were much more easily accessible, and cheaper, than healthy meals. They all reported being able to buy fried chicken and chips for £2 within a very short distance of their schools.

Recommendation 13: All schools should be encouraged to promote a healthy relationship with food to all pupils in all appropriate ways, through personal, social and health education (PSHE) and all other interactions with pupils, such as school dinners and vending machines.

Recommendation 14: All schools should incorporate into the curriculum opportunities for their pupils to prepare and cook healthy meals, and at after school provision and extra-curricular activities where practicable. This should occur at all key stages.

<p>Recommendation 15: Healthy school dinners in all schools should be varied and flavoursome. All schools should follow the good example set by some Lewisham schools and ensure that a culturally diverse range of hearty, healthy meals are provided.</p>
<p>Recommendation 16: In light of recent increases in cost, pricing of school meals for secondary school children should compare as favourably as possible with the cheap fast foods available locally to the school, to encourage young people to choose the healthier meals for financial as well as health reasons. Those secondary schools that currently allow students off site at lunch time should review that policy, and consider the health benefits of keeping students on site at lunch time.</p>
<p>Recommendation 17: Although all children are taught about the need for a balanced diet and that meals should be balanced between the various food groups, opportunities to learn and develop food preparation and cooking skills to prepare quick and easy healthy snacks and meals should be offered throughout schools, not just for those taking a relevant GCSE course.</p>
<p>Recommendation 18: Parenting Support offered through the Early Intervention Programme should include nutrition, budgeting and cooking guidance as part of the support offered to parents.</p>
<p>Recommendation 19: The Committee welcomes the fact that Lewisham has a wide range of markets selling a wide range of fresh and affordable fruit and vegetables, and this should continue to be supported, encouraged and promoted.</p>

Work with fast food outlets.

- 5.66 Lewisham is now part of the “Scores on the Doors scheme”²³. Eating out has been found to account for an average 11% of an adult’s energy intake. Several London boroughs are working with their local food businesses to increase the healthy food options available to customers e.g. Tower Hamlets Food for Health Awards, Barking and Dagenham ‘Saturation Point’ planning policy and fast food takeaways.

Recommendation 20: The Committee notes the use of cumulative impact zones for alcohol, and asks officers to explore the possibility of developing a similar model in relation to fast food outlets, particularly around all Lewisham secondary schools, to develop and promote Lewisham as a healthy choices borough.

²³ www.scoresonthedoors.org.uk

Recommendation 21: The Council should explore developing explicitly, within the local development plan and in all relevant local planning policies, the encouragement of healthy food outlets, shops, businesses and facilities

Recommendation 37: A “Healthy Lewisham” promotion and awareness campaign, should be developed, building on the “Live well, live long in Lewisham” branding of this review. As part of this awareness campaign, the Council should explore developing a targeted poster campaign outside fast food shops, which outlines the consequences of eating fast food regularly.

Lewisham Food Strategy

5.67 The Lewisham Food Strategy was launched in 2006. The overall aim of the strategy is to increase the health and welfare of Lewisham people through improved access to nutritious and safe food from a more sustainable food chain. The Lewisham Food Strategy fits within the Mayor of London’s Food Strategy which is overseen by the London Food Board. Work continues throughout the borough on the four themes:

1. Food access - to reduce economic, cultural and educational barriers
2. Food, nutrition and health-to contribute to the reduction in nutrition related ill-health
3. Food safety - to ensure the safety of food produced, sold and consumed in Lewisham
4. Food sustainability - food produced, transported and sold in Lewisham

5.68 The key developments in recent years as a result of the strategy, were reported to the Committee as including:

- The development of local food co-operatives, which as in part increased the sale of low cost high quality fruit and vegetables to local residents
- Increased number of active community gardens across Lewisham
- Providing professional nutrition support to community groups in north Lewisham
- The development and delivery of the Love Food Hate Waste campaign and events across the borough
- The funding of the Downham Nutrition project

5.69 The Committee heard from Sally Brothers and Gwenda Scott that a key part of local action to tackle obesity is the roll out of the National programme of Health checks locally. The NHS Health Check²⁴ is part of a new national scheme to help prevent the onset of heart disease, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease for adults aged 40-74. The objective is to offer screening for all those eligible, around 76,000 people in Lewisham within a five year period. All adults who attend will get personalised advice on how to lower their risk and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

²⁴ www.nhs.uk/nhshealthcheck

- 5.70 About 2000 health checks have been carried out so far, which is about 30% of those invited for a health check, which can be carried out at a GP surgery or local participating pharmacy – the data from these is still to be analysed.
- 5.71 Additional support on weight management available through a new community weight management programme (Shape-Up) for overweight and obese adults (with a BMI between 25 & 35). Outcomes of the initial programmes were very positive with 80% registering a reduction in weight and reporting improvements in activity levels and emotional health.
- 5.72 A new dietetic weight management service for the NHS Health Checks is currently out to tender. This will enhance the primary care dietetic service currently available.

Recommendation 22: Within the Borough’s business awards, the Mayor should consider including an award for healthy businesses, those who encourage, promote and support healthy eating and living in their local community.

Recommendation 23: The Health Checks programme should be more widely promoted, via the Council and partner websites, GP practices, within the voluntary sector and the LINK.

Recommendation 24: Local pubs and restaurants should be encouraged to provide and promote healthy snacks and meals.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Definition of physical activity

- 5.73 Physical activity includes all forms of activity such as everyday walking and cycling to get from A to B, active play, work related activity, active recreation, dancing, gardening or playing active games as well as organised and competitive sport. Three aspects of physical activity are important when it comes to increasing fitness and reducing obesity: Duration, Intensity & Frequency.
- 5.74 Physical activity can reduce the likelihood of premature death by 20-30% and regular physical activity also reduces CVD risk by up to 50%. Physical activity increases good cholesterol, lowers bad cholesterol, reduces high blood pressure and reduces risk of stroke.
- 5.75 Start Active, Stay Active: The Chief Medical Officer guidance (April 2011) on physical activity levels emphasised the need for a life course approach and the need for physical activity at all ages, and issued guidance for levels of physical activity for Under 5’s, 5-18years, 19-64years and 65+. The guidance has a stronger recognition of the role of vigorous intensity activity and has a stronger emphasis on daily activity and limiting sedentary behaviour.

- 5.76 Adults (19-64) are advised to be active daily, doing moderate activity in 10 minutes spans to make 150 minutes per week or 30 minutes of activity 5 days a week, as well as muscle strengthening activity at least 2 days a week. All adults are advised to minimise sedentary behaviour.
- 5.77 At present, only 10% of adults in Lewisham achieve Chief Medical Officer targets of 30 minutes moderate physical activity, five times per week. An estimated 10,000 adults per year would need to get more active to reach 2020 targets of 70% doing 5 x 30mins. The current focus in Lewisham is to encourage more people to do what they already do in more active ways, with the primary focus on getting the inactive active.

Increasing Physical activity in Lewisham

- 5.78 The NHS and its partners have developed a Physical Activity Strategy which aims to increase the level of activity of inactive people. This strategy also has an annual action plan which is led by the Lewisham Physical Activity Partnership and aims to deliver the strategy. The action plan is monitored through the Physical activity partnership each quarter and evaluated annually
- 5.79 Various indicators are used to measure Physical Activity in adults via the Active People Survey (all are self reported).

Table 8: Active People Survey (Old NI8)

	2005-6	2007-8	2008-10	2009-11
Lewisham	20.3%	20.8%	18.8%	20.7%
Bromley	21.7%	21.8%	21.0%	20.7%
Greenwich	19.1%	19.1%	22.6%	19.7%
Southwark	18.4%	22.1%	21.2%	20.9%
London	21.5%	20.3%	20.8%	20.8%

- 5.80 Levels of physical activity, as reported above, vary by Gender, Age, Ethnicity and Socio-economic Status. The Committee was advised that, based on the survey in 2010:
- Males are more active than females
 - Young people more active than older people
 - Able bodied people more active than people with LTLI
 - White people slightly more active than people who are not white
 - Affluent people more active than those less affluent
- 5.81 The Committee heard much evidence about the wide range of efforts to encourage and enable people to increase their physical activity levels in Lewisham. The Committee was advised that the wide range of activities and support fall into three broad categories: Universal, Targeted and Specialist.
- 5.82 **Specialist**, are programmes of physical activity subject to strict regulation and protocol and currently include the Exercise on Referral Scheme which targets those with high BMI (body/mass index), and those with a range of health issues such as diabetes and asthma. This also includes the Active Heart programme where Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust refers patients post cardiac events to low-level exercise with specially trained instructors.

- 5.83 The Committee heard from the Director of Public Health that, according to NICE (2006) Guidance, the only physical activity intervention based in a primary care setting that has an evidence base in successfully demonstrating long-term adherence to physical activity are those based on the principles of brief intervention.
- 5.84 The Committee visited the Downham Health and Leisure Centre, and its Members spoke to NHS, Council and centre management staff about the usage of the centre, and the partnership working between the various services and organisations operating out of the Centre. The Committee was impressed with the welcoming feel of the building and the extremely positive impact close working across organisations, particularly between the Council library staff and centre management, was evidently having on local young people.
- 5.85 Members of the Committee also spoke to the local GPs at the centre and the centre management about the direct links between the two services. The Committee heard that the pathway for GP referral to exercise was currently being reviewed to try and increase its effectiveness and the monitoring of take up, as both reported some issues in the take up and completion of the full course of activities.
- 5.86 The Committee heard from Lynn Wheeler, a patient representative of the South London Cardiac and Stroke Network, who advised that she has been referred to the Active Heart Programme in Bromley. Lynn told the Committee about her experiences of using the scheme, and how important she and the other people using the scheme found a regular supportive tutor, and how important timings and group dynamics were in encouraging people to maintain their participation in activities.
- 5.87 Lynn advised that, in her experience, activities held at a suitable time of day (e.g. evening for working people daytime for older people), were important in encouraging attendance. The “heart smart” exercise classes enable people with similar experiences and conditions to exercise together. Lynn also advised that a dedicated trainer to support nervous newcomers and make the activities welcoming and achievable was a key factor in encouraging attendance, and that the activities had to be made a social activity and fun to take part in to encourage people to want to continue to take part in physical activity.

Recommendation 25: The GP referral scheme should be clearly monitored and reported, and the referring GP practice should monitor the uptake and outcomes for each patient they refer. GP practices should also help patients understand the value of the services to which they are being referred and promote uptake.

Recommendation 26: Primary Care Staff should all implement and promote the Let’s Get Moving Physical activity Care Pathway to patients with long term conditions

Recommendation 27: Leisure providers providing the GP referral exercise service should ensure that people referred are given appropriate choices of timings, and that some sessions are organised around age groups and gender groups where preferred, so that cohorts of users can be developed and supported as a group. Support to complete the course, and reduced membership subscription incentives and signposting to more activities, once the course is completed, should be offered if possible.

Recommendation 28: All people referred under the GP exercise referral scheme should be able to access the same range of activities across all borough localities.

Recommendation 29: Fusion and all other contracted providers should be encouraged to ensure that a broad range of affordable, and, where appropriate, subsidised activities are provided and promoted. Planning and promoting those activities should, in part, take direct account of the views and input of the Positive Ageing Council and seek the input of the Young Mayor and Young advisors.

Recommendation 30: Pricing information for all Lewisham Leisure centres and activities should be easily accessible on the Lewisham Council website.

- 5.88 **Targeted**, are programmes of physical activity aimed at those at risk of potentially developing health problems such as the NHS Health checks programme aimed at the 40-74 age range and the Healthy Walks programme. The health check aims to pick up those who may be at risk of CVD, and Type 2 Diabetes. Following a health check, residents can be offered these services to support any lifestyle changes they are recommended to make. Where people are unsure or ambivalent around change, a health motivator (“Change Coach”) can talk them through their options and support them to increase their activity levels. [The NHS Health Check is the only programme that currently measures the physical activity level of patients using the General Practitioner Physical Activity Questionnaire.](#)
- 5.89 The Committee also heard from Joni Blackwood, an independent fitness instructor who delivers the “Get Active” and “Check and Change” Programmes. Joni advised the Committee that there are a number of programmes offered across the borough, some funded by the NHS and some by Sport England, providing the flexibility to offer a variety of services in a wide range of locations, including schools and community centres.
- 5.90 Joni advised that some programmes are 40 weeks long, some 10 weeks long, ranging from Pilates to Zumba, from walking to boxercise. “Shape Up” is an 8 week programme over a period of 8 workshops that helps clients identify the behaviours that can stop them from achieving their health and weight loss goals, or have caused them to give up or fail in the past. The programme addresses topics like portion sizes, food labels and internal and external triggers. The aim of the

programme is for clients to leave with achievable goals and realistic lifestyle choices – the majority of clients have maintained their weight loss a year after the programme.

- 5.91 Joni gave the Committee three detailed, anonymised, case studies from programme participants who wanted the Committee to know about the positive impact the programmes have had on their lives.
- 5.92 **Universal** activities, are the broad range of activities for everybody in the borough, which include Everyday activities, Active recreation and Sport. In terms of the **'universal'** offer for general exercise and fitness, there are a variety of delivery agencies such as:
- Leisure Centres (Council run)
 - Leisure centres (privately run)
 - Community sporting centres (voluntary and private sectors)
 - Parks (Council run)
 - Playing fields (school, Council, voluntary and private sectors)
 - School facilities (Council and privately run)
- 5.93 These all provide activities at a range of prices. The Lewisham Plus Card scheme, which is a leisure discount card, operates across Council facilities. The Lewisham Plus Card scheme enables a reduction in costs for people on low income. For people over 60 years of age and for disabled residents on benefits, and carers, several activities are free of charge.
- 5.94 The Committee was advised that the Lewisham Plus Card scheme is currently being reviewed with a view to a better offer from agencies (yoga, zumba, tai chi) and it should be re-launched in the new financial year. For residents with disabilities many of the leisure centres have adapted equipment as well as a target to increase usage by people with disabilities as part of their annual plans.

Recommendation 31: The Committee welcomes the free swimming programme for under 16's and over 60's in the borough. The Committee considers the Lewisham Plus Card to be an excellent scheme that should be reviewed as planned, and then publicised and promoted widely.

- 5.95 Lewisham Council and NHS Lewisham are focusing, over the next two years, on developing industrial interventions in relation to 4 key activities in supporting more inactive people to become active. Industrial interventions are those that can impact on a large number of people, rather than targeted smaller localised initiatives and may sometimes be available through contractual arrangements with the different sectors. These are Swimming, Dance, Walking and Cycling. Sport for both young people and adults will also underpin this. Early intervention is key for future healthy lifestyles.
- 5.96 Some industrial interventions will be implemented through contractual arrangements with leisure companies. For example, in terms of Swimming, the Council has secured free swimming for children 16 and under, and people over 60 for a minimum of 15 years. This should, in time, show increased uptake in swimming, leading to improvements in health when allied to continued marketing

and promotion. In addition, Top Up Swim has been promoted for the past two years and gives the opportunity at year 7 for young people who have not learnt to swim at primary school the chance to learn in a number of half term crash courses.

Recommendation 32: The Council should carry out an audit of all sports facilities in the borough, looking at the operational status of all facilities, and the capacity and usage figures of all facilities, including schools, to enable a clear picture of capacity and usage to be developed and used to inform future provision planning and promotion.

Recommendation 33: As part of the Olympics preparation, celebration and legacy, free “taster” sessions should be organised and publicised for a wide range of sports before during and after the Olympics and Paralympics. If these can link in directly with Olympic coverage, particularly on Blackheath with the big screen coverage, that would be welcomed.

- 5.97 **Walking** - Walking has a fundamental role to play in achieving the objectives of Lewisham’s Physical Activity Plan (2010-2013) and will become one of the four key themes from 2012. The Chief Medical Officer’s physical activity guidelines (July 2011) reinforce the importance of walking, both as an effective form of physical activity in its own right and an entry point to more vigorous exercise. It offers increased opportunities for social interaction contributing to safer and more vibrant neighbourhoods, reducing traffic congestion and generating economic benefits.
- 5.98 A broad range of walking activities is available locally, including innovative programmes. Regeneration initiatives have created new opportunities for walking across the borough. There is minimal data on the numbers of residents that regularly walk in Lewisham and the Physical Activity Partnership will look at how this can be developed. A more strategic approach is planned from April 2012 with a distinct walking plan that will aim to achieve an ‘industrial’ level of engagement.
- 5.99 There are also a range of organised group environmental activities that people enjoy being a part of such as Nature’s Gym which started in June 2008 and has had over 200 different volunteers working on over 40 different sites. Other organisations, such as Friends of Park groups, also have activity days such as river clean ups or park projects. Gardening, of course, is a traditional activity and there has also been an upsurge of gardening projects like community gardens.
- 5.100 The Committee heard from Jenny Budd, Lewisham Healthy Walks Co-ordinator, and Lucreta Lapierre, a Healthy Walks volunteer, about how a programme of healthy walks have been developed across Lewisham over recent years. The programme was originally targeted at the over 50’s to increase the amount of gentle to moderate activity done by older people, primarily focused on getting the inactive active but over the last few years the programme has been extended to include all ages. A range of walks, with a range of difficulty, has been developed across the borough, all led by volunteers.

5.101 The scheme has proved popular and approximately 160 people are currently regularly taking part in the programme. Between November 2010 and November 2011 there were 252 people registered with the programme, who attended a total of 4,906 sessions. There are a total of 526 walks a years, 74% of participants are women, 26% men. A programme of Nordic walking is being developed for those that want to now increase the intensity of their walking activities. Lucreta advised the Committee that, not only did the walks provide the opportunity for people to get fitter and enjoy their local green spaces, but they also provided a powerful opportunity for local people to get to know each other socially and assisted in developing community cohesion.

Physical Activity and Young People

5.102 Since the cessation of the School Sport Partnership Funding in August 2011, the school sports landscape has changed. With the introduction of the new 'School Games', funding has been secured for 2 School Games Organisers, working across the Borough. These posts are managed by Haberdashers' Aske's Knights Academy and Prendergast Ladywell Fields College.

5.103 This new infrastructure is working closely with schools, the Lewisham Secondary Sports Association and the Council Sport and Leisure Service to provide schools with the opportunities to be part of the School Games from a local intra-school level through to a Regional London level. Local sport clubs and team are increasingly cementing their links with schools to provide exit routes for young people. All schools are encouraged to register at www.yourschoolgames.com where they will then receive additional resources, support, access to funding and rewards.

5.104 Lewisham provides a variety of play spaces from large nature sites like Honor Oak Adventure Play Ground (APG), to more inner city sites such as Deptford APG to indoor sites such as Woodpecker Youth club or Ladywell Youth village. All of the current sites provide a quality service to young people from across the borough with sites open to the public 5 days a week, 50 weeks of the year after school, weekends and school holidays.

5.105 Activities offered differ from site to site although the service is always developing. These include robust, often physically demanding, play in safe supervised settings including a range of sports, both indoor & outdoor, arts & craft projects and games. The service also supports a wide variety of residential and day trips throughout the year which gives young people opportunities to experience different activities, environments and a chance to interact with their peers without potential pressures placed upon them in their home and school environments.

5.106 The quality of these services is high. They are designed to be both fun as well as giving children and young people a chance to experience new skills. The range of activities attracts large numbers of young people who appreciate the non-prescriptive approach. Over Summer 2011 around 3,000 young people attended youth facilities with the APGs averaging over 60 users per day. The service utilises this access to young people to provide outreach specialist programmes including work around sexual health, drugs awareness and adolescent mental health.

5.107 The Committee heard from the Young Mayor and Young Advisors that not many of them were aware of the wide range of physical activity and sporting activities that were available for them to take part in across the borough. The Committee was concerned that, as a group of highly engaged young people, it was worrying that they were not very aware of any activities on offer at affordable prices.

- 5.108 The Committee also heard that enjoyment of physical activity in school was varied, with differing levels of participation, interest and not enough always done to encourage and engage young people in participation in the core requirements of the curriculum, let alone to encourage them to develop wider sporting interests and hobbies.

Recommendation 34: All schools should be strongly encouraged to make their sports and leisure facilities available for the local community and local sport and activity groups to use outside school hours, and actively promote any groups/classes/activities happening at the school to local parents and pupils.

Recommendation 35: Schools should strive to provide more than the bare minimum requirements of physical activity for children and young people, both within the curriculum and with a wide range of extra-curricular sporting activities

Recommendation 36: Physical activity within schools should harness young peoples' interests, so ways of providing opportunities to develop street dance, basket ball and skating clubs alongside more "traditional" sports, within schools should be explored.

Healthy Living in Lewisham

- 5.109 The Committee heard repeatedly, at every evidence session and on every visit, that the themes of smoking, healthy eating and physical activity were all linked, both in the people and communities for which they are a primary problem, the illnesses they cause and in the efforts to target and encourage people to lose weight and be active. Tackling obesity and the health problems it causes effectively requires healthy eating and exercise to become more widespread across the borough, with people better informed and supported to develop healthier lifestyles in Lewisham.
- 5.110 Where voluntary/community sector groups are engaged in delivering health improvement projects or initiatives, there should be support supplied by the Council to ensure awareness of project funding cycles. Where funding for a project is finite, advice and support or signposting should be provided/available to project leaders so that alternative funding to allow the project to continue can be effectively sought.
- 5.111 The Committee considers that the Council should take a lead in promoting Lewisham as a healthy place to live, work and learn by developing a workplace health scheme for Council employees, as the Director of Public Health informs the Committee that there is evidence that employers can help their employees improve their general health by taking certain effective measures and offering support programmes.
- 5.112 The Committee understands the need for a targeted approach to specific areas such as smoking. It considers that the overall approach to achieving the Sustainable Communities Priority for Lewisham of "Healthy, active, enjoyable":

where people can actively participate in maintaining and improving their health and well-being, requires the further development of a high profile joined up strategic approach to developing and promoting Lewisham as a healthy place to live, work and learn. Therefore the Committee makes the following recommendations:

Recommendation 37: A “Healthy Lewisham” promotion and awareness campaign, should be developed, building on the “Live well, live long in Lewisham” branding of this review. As part of this awareness campaign, the Council should explore developing a targeted poster campaign outside fast food shops, which outlines the consequences of eating fast food regularly.

Recommendation 38: The Healthy Lewisham campaign should include targeted information targeted at key life events where changes in peoples eating habits and physical activity levels are known to often occur. These include maternity, leaving school, retiring, starting a family and moving to a new home.

Recommendation 39: The Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board, and the successor Health and Wellbeing Board, should take a strategic lead in developing Lewisham as a healthy place to live work and learn. This approach should include setting clear targets in relation to reducing smoking (and the commencement of smoking), reducing levels of obesity, increasing levels of physical activity and increasing access to and consumption of healthy food across the borough.

Recommendation 40: The numerous relevant plans and strategies overseen by various working groups and action groups should be better co-ordinated and brought together clearly under the direct stewardship of the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board and the successor Health and Wellbeing Board, and co-ordinated into a clear “Healthy Lewisham plan”. The targets, planned actions, outcomes and responsibility should be clear to, and easily accessible by, the public.

Recommendation 41: There should be improved access to information regarding healthy living in Lewisham. In particular, the information on the Council website in relation to sport and physical activity should be reviewed so that it is comprehensive, engaging, searchable and up-to-date. All web pages, plans and information should be fully printable in a readable format from the website.

Recommendation 42: Once the website and available information has been reviewed and updated, a physical activity promotion campaign targeted at young people should be carried out, to raise awareness of and participation in the wide range of sporting activities available for young people. Such a campaign should include all available social media approaches of engaging young people, in addition to tradition promotion routes.

Recommendation 43: A brief update on the relevant recommendations (listed at appendix A) from three related previous scrutiny reviews must be included in any response to this review and, where deemed relevant by the Committee, any future update on the outcomes of this review may require a further update on those previous scrutiny review recommendations. This premature mortality review builds on the foundations of previous scrutiny work, and by bringing these previous review recommendations together with the premature mortality review, the Healthier Communities Select Committee will be able to monitor progress effectively in reducing premature mortality in Lewisham.

6. Recommendations

6.1 The Committee makes the following recommendations:

Smoking

1. All GP practices should be encouraged to offer a Stop Smoking Service, either alone or in partnership with neighbouring practices. If this is not possible for an individual practice, the GP should actively refer patients who smoke to the Stop Smoking Service.
2. The Stop Smoking Service should continue to extend its services to reach more people in more non-medical venues.
3. The Stop Smoking Service should undertake more targeted work focusing on community groups, particularly those that are currently under-represented in the service's usage figures such as South-East Asian communities and Eastern & Central European communities.
4. The Stop Smoking Service should look at developing its promotion and outreach work, to include publicising the service with posters and leaflets in relevant languages, in a wider range of locations, such as specialist food shops, betting shops, pubs and mini-cab offices.
5. The Council and Public Health in Lewisham should ensure they monitor the impact of the *Tobacco Advertising and Promotion (Display and Specialist Tobacconists) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2011* and the *'Protection from Tobacco (Sales from Vending Machines) England Regulations 2010'*.
6. The Council should ensure that Trading Standards continues its work to monitor and address all illegal sales of tobacco, including under-age sales, and any breach of the new regulations.
7. Children should be taught about the consequences of smoking from a suitable age in primary school.
8. Teaching children about the dangers of smoking should not be done just once, but repeated at appropriate times throughout their school life, with age-appropriate levels of information about the consequences given, so that the message is re-iterated regularly and appropriately.
9. With older children, the messages about smoking should be delivered in the same way as those about illegal drugs; to ensure that the addictive nature and harmful effects of smoking are clear, graphic and shockingly laid out to young people. Any anti-smoking campaign targeted at young people should also use modern technology and social media to consolidate the message and increase the reach of the campaign.

Obesity

10. Maternal obesity is a growing problem in Lewisham, and a targeted approach with mothers to be and young families should be developed and delivered via midwives and ante-natal services.

11. The Downham Nutrition Partnership Model should be rolled out more widely across the Borough.
12. The MEND programme, or similar evidence based programmes, should be rolled out as widely as possible across the borough.
13. All schools should be encouraged to promote a healthy relationship with food to all pupils in all appropriate ways, through personal, social and health education (PSHE) and all other interactions with pupils, such as school dinners and vending machines.
14. All schools should incorporate into the curriculum opportunities for their pupils to prepare and cook healthy meals, and at after school provision and extra-curricular activities where practicable. This should occur at all key stages.
15. Healthy school dinners in all schools should be varied and flavoursome. All schools should follow the good example set by some Lewisham schools and ensure that a culturally diverse range of hearty, healthy meals are provided.
16. In light of recent increases in cost, pricing of school meals for secondary school children should compare as favourably as possible with the cheap fast foods available locally to the school, to encourage young people to choose the healthier meals for financial as well as health reasons. Those secondary schools that currently allow students off site at lunch time should review that policy, and consider the health benefits of keeping students on site at lunch time.
17. Although all children are taught about the need for a balanced diet and that meals should be balanced between the various food groups, opportunities to learn and develop food preparation and cooking skills to prepare quick and easy healthy snacks and meals should be offered throughout schools, not just for those taking a relevant GCSE course.
18. Parenting Support offered through the Early Intervention Programme should include nutrition, budgeting and cooking guidance as part of the support offered to parents.
19. The Committee welcomes the fact that Lewisham has a wide range of markets selling a wide range of fresh and affordable fruit and vegetables, and this should continue to be supported, encouraged and promoted.
20. The Committee notes the use of cumulative impact zones for alcohol, and asks officers to explore the possibility of developing a similar model in relation to fast food outlets, particularly around all Lewisham secondary schools, to develop and promote Lewisham as a healthy choices borough.
21. The Council should explore developing explicitly within the local development plan and in all relevant local planning policies, the encouragement of healthy food outlets, shops, businesses and facilities.
22. Within the Borough's business awards, the Mayor should consider including an award for healthy businesses, those who encourage, promote and support healthy eating and living in their local community.

23. The Health Checks programme should be more widely promoted, via the Council and partner websites, GP practices, within the voluntary sector and the LINK.
24. Local Pubs and restaurants should be encouraged to provide and promote healthy snacks and meals.

Physical Activity

25. The GP referral scheme should be clearly monitored and reported, and the referring GP practice should monitor the uptake and outcomes for each patient they refer. GP practices should also help patients understand the value of the services to which they are being referred and promote uptake.
26. Primary Care Staff should all implement and promote the Let's Get Moving Physical activity Care Pathway to patients with long term conditions
27. Leisure providers providing the GP referral exercise service should ensure that people referred are given appropriate choices of timings, and that some sessions are organised around age groups and gender groups where preferred, so that cohorts of users can be developed and supported as a group. Support to complete the course, and reduced membership subscription incentives and signposting to more activities, once the course is completed, should be offered if possible.
28. All people referred under the GP exercise referral scheme should be able to access the same range of activities across all borough localities.
29. Fusion and all other contracted providers should be encouraged to ensure that a broad range of affordable, and, where appropriate, subsidised activities are provided and promoted. Planning and promoting those activities should, in part, take direct account of the views and input of the Positive Ageing Council and seek the input of the Young Mayor and Young advisors.
30. Pricing information for all Lewisham Leisure centres and activities should be easily accessible on the Lewisham Council website.
31. The Committee welcomes the free swimming programme for under 16's and over 60's in the borough. The Committee considers the Lewisham Plus Card to be an excellent scheme that should be reviewed as planned, and then publicised and promoted widely.
32. The Council should carry out an audit of all sports facilities in the borough, looking at the operational status of all facilities, and the capacity and usage figures of all facilities, including schools, to enable a clear picture of capacity and usage to be developed and used to inform future provision planning and promotion.
33. As part of the Olympics preparation, celebration and legacy, free "taster" sessions should be organised and publicised for a wide range of sports before during and after the Olympics and Paralympics. If these can link in directly with Olympic coverage, particularly on Blackheath with the big screen coverage, that would be welcomed

34. All schools should be strongly encouraged to make their sports and leisure facilities available for the local community and local sport and activity groups to use outside school hours, and actively promote any groups/classes/activities happening at the school to local parents and pupils.
35. Schools should strive to provide more than the bare minimum requirements of physical activity for children and young people, both within the curriculum and with a wide range of extra-curricular sporting activities
36. Physical activity within schools should harness young peoples' interests, so ways of providing opportunities to develop street dance, basket ball and skating clubs alongside more "traditional" sports, within schools should be explored.

General Recommendations

37. A "Healthy Lewisham" promotion and awareness campaign, should be developed, building on the "Live well, live long in Lewisham" branding of this review. As part of this awareness campaign, the Council should explore developing a targeted poster campaign outside fast food shops, which outlines the consequences of eating fast food regularly.
38. The Healthy Lewisham campaign should include targeted information targeted at key life events where changes in peoples eating habits and physical activity levels are known to often occur. These include maternity, leaving school, retiring, starting a family and moving to a new home.
39. The Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board and the successor Health and Wellbeing Board should take a strategic lead in developing Lewisham as a healthy place to live work and learn. This approach should include setting clear targets in relation to reducing smoking (and the commencement of smoking), reducing levels of obesity, increasing levels of physical activity and increasing access to and consumption of healthy food across the borough.
40. The numerous relevant plans and strategies overseen by various working groups and action groups should be better co-ordinated and brought together clearly under the direct stewardship of the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board and the successor Health and Wellbeing Board, and co-ordinated into a clear "Healthy Lewisham plan". The targets, planned actions, outcomes and responsibility should be clear to, and easily accessible by, the public.
41. There should be improved access to information regarding healthy living in Lewisham. In particular, the information on the Council website in relation to sport and physical activity should be reviewed so that it is comprehensive, engaging, searchable and up-to-date. All web pages, plans and information should be fully printable in a readable format from the website.
42. Once the website and available information has been reviewed and updated, a physical activity promotion campaign targeted at young people should be carried out, to raise awareness of and participation in the wide range of sporting activities available for young people. Such a campaign should include all available social media approaches of engaging young people, in addition to tradition promotion routes.

43. A brief update on the relevant recommendations (listed at appendix A) from three related previous scrutiny reviews must be included in any response to this review and, where deemed relevant by the Committee, any future update on the outcomes of this review may require a further update on those previous scrutiny review recommendations. This premature mortality review builds on the foundations of previous scrutiny work, and by bringing these previous review recommendations together with the premature mortality review, the Healthier Communities Select Committee will be able to monitor progress effectively in reducing premature mortality in Lewisham.

List of previous, relevant, scrutiny recommendations related to this review that the Committee would like an update on:

Men's health in Lewisham – HCSC in depth review 2006/07

Smoking cessation

4 It is recommended that a question on smoking is included in the next survey of residents to record smoking prevalence and to better target stop smoking services on an ongoing basis.

5 It is recommended that the Council strengthens its role and responsibility in terms of general well-being and promotes the benefits of smoke-free environments and stop smoking services to staff, service users, clients and contractors. In particular, both the Council and local NHS bodies should use their contractual powers to the fullest to influence other organisations to implement a no smoking policy on all Council and NHS sites to reinforce good practice and raise public awareness.

6 With the stop smoking services expanding their work, there is a need to raise the profile and visibility of these services in Lewisham and to focus on tackling the discrepancy in the number of men to women who are quitting via the smoking cessation services. It is recommended that targeted promotion to men and social marketing of smoking cessation services are developed and implemented.

Physical exercise

7 It is recommended that further work is carried out to assess the appropriateness of the choice and image of the exercise sessions on offer via referral from GPs so that they appeal more to men, to ensure men are being offered the services and that the benefits of taking part are promoted.

8 It is recommended that when follow-up scrutiny is carried out, council officers are asked to report back to the scrutiny body on the outcomes of visits to pubs and workplaces in Lewisham to promote physical activity and the benefits of taking part in exercise for men in relation to health promotion.

9 Only 55% of boys and 39% of girls were reaching the recommended level of physical activity, and the Council needs to do more to increase the numbers of boys and girls reaching the recommended level.

10 The Review Group welcomes the proposed establishment of a Lewisham Sports Council and recommends that the Council and PCT give their support to its successful formation.

11 It is recommended that the Council and PCT, when marketing physical activity, highlight the benefits of everyday activities such as walking and cleaning as identified in the promotion leaflet 'A bit of what you fancy'.

Diet and nutrition

12 It is recommended that, as part of the implementation of the government white paper, the promotion of healthy eating should be considered through local planning and licensing decisions. When responding to consultation on the enhanced role of the councillor and corporate councillor as part of the new government white paper, the Council could include the requirement that local

authorities should have a greater influence over planning and licensing policy and that decisions should include consideration of health implications, for example in relation to planning and licensing applications for food outlets to encourage healthy foods.

13 It is recommended that choice in school dinners should be directed at helping to encourage children and young people to eat healthily. The Review Group welcomed schools becoming more active in their involvement with the food choices that pupils bring to school as part of their lunch boxes.

14 In terms of the Healthier schools initiative, greater efforts need to be made to help encourage all schools in Lewisham to participate in the Healthy Schools initiative.

Women's Health inequalities – HCSC in depth review 2008/09

Social and Economic Determinants of Health Amongst Women in Lewisham

1. The Children and Young People Select Committee monitor how the 'Healthy Eating' initiative in schools are being delivered to help improve young women's health for the future.

2. The Healthier Communities Select Committee monitor progress of the social marketing work taking place in Evelyn Ward by Lewisham PCT in respect of smoking cessation and investigate the use of social marketing for alcohol cessation.

Cardiovascular Disease

3. The Healthier Communities Select Committee monitor the North Lewisham Plan to ensure that it delivers on its key targets, particularly in the areas of premature mortality in respect of cardiovascular disease which is a particular issue for women in the borough.

4. Lewisham PCT develop ways to improve follow-up procedures for women who have received Health Checks for early identification of those at risk of cardiovascular disease in North Lewisham.

6. Lewisham PCT should recruit cardiac instructors to ensure delivery of the Active Heart Programme.

Cancer

20. The Healthier Communities Select Committee should monitor the Council and health partners' tobacco control 'smokefree' agenda to ensure that it is effective in stopping men and women of all ages from starting to smoke, as well as an effective 'stop smoking' service.

Tackling Childhood Obesity - CYP Select Committee in depth review 2006/07

Nutrition

- There should be a hard hitting campaign initiated by the Council and PCT working together to promote health eating for families

- Schools should help to educate parents about the benefits of healthy food for their children and the dangers of junk food.
- Parents should be encouraged to sign their children up for school meals rather than providing packed lunch boxes.
- The extended schools agenda presents opportunities to teach children about healthy eating and cooking.
- The PCT should look at the scope to recruit more nutritionists to promote healthy eating in the borough (funds permitting).
- Evaluations of projects should be completed in order to assess, as far as possible, the impact of individual community health promotion campaigns.
- Vending machines in council buildings (including schools, leisure centres and community halls) should only serve healthy products. This stipulation should be included in any new contracts entered into with companies providing such services for the Council.

Sports activities

- Schools should be encouraged to meet the two-hour weekly minimum physical activity requirement as set by central government. Particular emphasis should be placed on Key Stage 1.
- It is essential that new school sports facilities provided under the Building Schools for the Future Programme, are made available for out-of-hours use for the community, and that this is promoted.
- The extended schools agenda should be used to provide additional opportunities for physical activities.
- Promote the large range of activities throughout the borough and in neighbouring boroughs - Make the information easily accessible to all.
- If possible, offer greater discounts to children and young people to use leisure facilities.
- Look at staff and resources and quality and training of staff to support and run facilities and activities.
- Establish strong links with the voluntary sector and London Thames Gateway.
- Encourage all schools to engage in inter-school competitions.
- Encourage each school to send one promising young person to the London Olympics.
- Focus on the bid for the Olympics and increase opportunities to children and young people in line with this.
- Look at providing bursaries to sponsor promising candidates.
- Organise mini-Olympics for schools including Paralympics.
- Encourage other forms of activity for those who have less interest in sport, e.g. dance and family-friendly walks or nature trails in local parks.

Additional references of key tobacco reports

Smoking Kills: A White Paper on Tobacco. TSO 1998

Healthy Lives, Healthy People: A Tobacco Control Plan for England. HM Government 2011.

Statistics on Smoking, England 2010. The NHS Information Centre for Health and Social Care 2010.

London Health Observatory: Local Tobacco Control Profiles 2010

Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2009. The Information Centre for Health and Social Care, 2010

Passive smoking and children. Royal College of Physicians, London, 2010

Breaking the cycle of children's exposure to tobacco smoke: British Medical Association 2007

School-based interventions to prevent the uptake of smoking among children. PH23. NICE 2010

Guidance on preventing the uptake of smoking by children and young people. PH14 NICE 2008

Cancer Research UK. Cancer Stats Key Facts: Lung Cancer and Smoking. November 2010

Stop Smoking Interventions in Mental Health A Systems Approach NHS 2010

Smoking & mental health. Mental Health Foundation, London, 2007.

ASH – Action on Smoking and Health. Research reports, briefings and factsheets.

Reducing Health Inequalities through tobacco control: a guide for councils. Local Government Group

'Fair Society, Healthy Lives' – (Report of the Marmot Review) UCL Institute of Health Equity 2010

Supporting the Health of Young People in Lewisham 2010

Cough up: Balancing tobacco income & costs in society. Policy Exchange 2010

Agenda Item 7

Chief Officer Confirmation of Report Submission	
Cabinet Member Confirmation of Briefing	
Report for: Mayor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Executive Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
Information <input type="checkbox"/>	Part 1 <input type="checkbox"/>
Part 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Key Decision <input type="checkbox"/>

Date of Meeting	11 th April 2011
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Title of Report	Adoption Service Update, Revised Statement of Purpose and Children's Guides to Adoption
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Originator of Report	Ian Smith	Ext. 48140
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At the time of submission for the Agenda, I confirm that the report has:

Category	Yes	No
Financial Comments from Exec Director for Resources	√	
Legal Comments from the Head of Law	√	
Crime & Disorder Implications		√
Environmental Implications		√
Equality Implications/Impact Assessment (as appropriate)		√
Confirmed Adherence to Budget & Policy Framework		√
Risk Assessment Comments (as appropriate)		√
Reason for Urgency (as appropriate)		

Signed: *Helen Khin* Executive Member

Date: 28th March 2012

Signed: *[Signature]* Executive Director
 Date: 28th March 2012

Control Record by Committee Support

Action	Date
Listed on Schedule of Business/Forward Plan (if appropriate)	
Draft Report Cleared at Agenda Planning Meeting (not delegated decisions)	
Submitted Report from CO Received by Committee Support	
Scheduled Date for Call-in (if appropriate)	
To be Referred to Full Council	

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	Adoption Service Update, Revised Statement of Purpose and Children's Guides to Adoption	
Key Decision	Yes	Item No.
Ward	n/a	
Contributors	Executive Director for Children & Young People	
Class	Open	Date: 11 April 2012

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide the Mayor and Cabinet with an overview of the work of the Adoption Service and the Adoption Panel in compliance with legislation, and to present the revised Statement of Purpose and Children's Guides.

2. Summary

- 2.1 This report sets out the work undertaken by the Adoption Service and presents the Statement of Purpose and two new Children's Guides on Adoption.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the Mayor and Cabinet notes the report of the work of the Adoption Service
- 3.2 That the Mayor and Cabinet approve the review of the Statement of Purpose (Appendix 1).
- 3.3. That the Mayor and Cabinet accepts the two new Children's Guides to Adoption (Appendix 2)

4. Policy Context

- 4.1 Lewisham is a registered Adoption Agency. Adoption Agencies are subject to the Adoption Agency Regulations (AAR) 2005 and 2011 and are subject to the National Minimum Standards (NMS) which accompany the Regulations. Standard 25.6a of the National Minimum Standards requires the Adoption Agency to produce a six monthly report to be received by the Council Executive.
- 4.2 Standard 18.3 of the National Minimum Standards requires that the Adoption Agency approves and annually reviews the Statement of Purpose and the Children's Guides.
- 4.3 The Statement of Purpose contributes to five of the key priority outcomes of Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2020:

- **Ambitious and achieving** – where people are inspired and supported to fulfil their potential
- **Safer** – where people feel safe and live free from crime, antisocial behaviour and abuse
- **Empowered and responsible** – where people are actively involved in their local area and contribute to supportive communities
- **Healthy, active and enjoyable** – where people can actively participate in maintaining and improving their health and well-being
- **Dynamic and prosperous** – where people are part of vibrant communities and town centres, well connected to London and beyond.

5. Background

- 5.1 The Adoption Service is primarily a service for looked after children and the service is committed to finding and supporting stable and secure adoption placements for children where adoption is the identified plan. The majority of children placed for adoption will have been removed from their parents through the court system. All of these children will have had their plan for adoption approved by the court.
- 5.2 Currently the Adoption Team is working with 33 looked after children, preparing them for adoption and supporting adoptive placements.
- 5.3 Between 1 October 2010 and 30 September 2011, 27 Adoption Orders were made.

	Apr to Sep 09	Oct 09 to Mar 10	Apr to Sep 10	Oct 10 to Mar 11	Apr to Sep 11
Number of adoption orders	10	13	13	13	14
Adoption orders, child placed with family approved Lewisham	7	7	7	7	4
Adoption orders, family approved by Inter-agency	3	5	6	6	10
Number of single adopters	2	3	4	5	4
Number adopted by foster carer	4	4	3	0	1
Number adopted by relative	0	0	0	0	1
Children adopted Male / Female	3/7	8/5	5/8	2/11	8/6

- 5.4 Between 1 October 2010 and 30 September 2011, 27 children were placed for adoption, that is, they were placed with approved adoptive parents prior to an adoption order being granted.

	Oct 09 to Mar 10	Apr to Sep 10	Oct 10 to Mar 11	Apr to Sep 11
Number of children placed for adoption	10	15	14	13

With families approved by Lewisham	5	8	4	7
With families through inter-agency placements	5	7	10	6
Number of children placed with single adopters	0	5	5	4
Number of children placed with gay/lesbian adopters	0	0	2	0
Number of children placed with foster carers	1	2	1	4
Male / Female	5/5	4/11	8/6	5/8
Ethnicity				
White UK	4	7	6	3
Mixed heritage (incl mixed white parentage)	4	3	3	5
Black African Caribbean	1	2	3	0
Black African	1	1	1	0
Black African Caribbean / Black African	0	0	0	4
Black other		1	0	0
White other		1	1	1

5.5 Comparison of ages at time of placement for the last two years of data.

Age of child at time of placement for adoption	Oct 09 to Sept 10	Oct 10 to Sept 11
Under 2 years	14	7
Age 2 to 3	3	10
Age 4	2	5
Age 5	3	3
Age 6	2	1
Age 7-15	1	1
Age 16+	1	0

5.6 The Adoption Panel considers a) whether a child should be placed for adoption, b) whether an applicant(s) should be recommended to become adopter(s) and c) whether a specific child/ren should be matched with an identified adoptive parent(s). The purpose of the adoption panel is to consider each matter and make clear recommendations to the agency decision maker (Director of Children's Social Care) who on behalf of the Council has the ultimate decision making authority on the cases that the panel considers. New guidance sets out that adoption agencies must not deny or delay a child an adoptive home on the grounds that they do not share the same ethnic or cultural background. Lewisham are clear that they will give due consideration to the ethnicity and cultural background of children when matching children to adoptive parents but will not delay the placing of a child. Paragraph 5.18 sets out Lewisham's performance on the timeliness of adoptions.

5.7 From 1st April 2011, new guidance on the Adoption Agency Regulations stipulate that Local Authority Adoption Panels should be drawn from a list of persons whom the agency consider have appropriate qualifications and/or experience. Members must include experienced adoption social workers, a medical adviser and other suitable persons not employed by the agency to reflect the independent nature of the panel. The panel must be chaired by a person independent of the agency and appoint a vice chair. The Lewisham

Adoption and Permanence Panel, which convenes on a fortnightly basis, will meet the requirements of these Regulations and currently consists of one member nominated by elected Members, three independent persons of whom one is an adoptee, one is an adopter, with another having personal and professional experience of adoption and fostering. All of the three social workers are employed in Children's Social Care. The Medical Adviser is a consultant paediatrician with the Lewisham Primary Care Trust. The chair is independent of the Council and has extensive experience of adoption work. The Panel is supported by a Solicitor and the Adoption Team Manager who acts as Panel Adviser.

- 5.8 National Minimum Standards specify that an Adoption Panel has a minimum of one annual joint training day with the Adoption Service. A training day took place for the Panel and the Adoption Team on the 9th February 2012, on the topic of social networking and its implications for adopters and adopted children.
- 5.9 The Permanence Planning Officer who was appointed last year continues to support and advise social workers in making permanence plans for children and assures the quality of Child Permanence Reports to the Adoption Panel. It has been noted that the quality of reports to the Panel has improved since this appointment.
- 5.10 The primary purpose of recruiting and approving any family to become an adoptive family is to meet the needs of children in Lewisham. When a person approaches an adoption agency and expresses an interest in being assessed as a prospective adopter, the adoption agency has a duty to provide all enquirers with information and counselling about adoption. If the person wishes to proceed, the agency considers whether it should provide them with an application form so that the formal process for checks, references, preparation and assessment can start. A report is provided to the Adoption Panel who recommends to the agency decision maker in Lewisham, the Director of Children's Social Care, if the prospective adopter is suitable to adopt a child.
- 5.11 Between 1 October 2010 and 30 September 2011, 19 families were approved by the panel to adopt.

	Apr 09 to Sep 09	Oct 09 to Mar 10	Apr 10 to Sep 10	Oct 10 to Mar 11	Apr to Sep 11
Number of applicants approved to adopt	12	11	6	6	13
Of these applicants, number who were heterosexual couples	9	8	3	2	9
Of these applicants, number who were single female	2	3	3	4	2
Of these applicants, number who were single male	1	0	0	0	0
Of these applicants, number who were same sex couple		0	0	0	2
Of these applicants, number who were second time adopters	4	1	1	0	3
Of these applicants, number who were kinship / foster carers	3	2	1	2	0
Ethnicity					
White UK	6	6	4	2	5
Mixed heritage (including White UK/Asian)	2	4	0	1	1
Black African Caribbean	2	1	2	1	2
Black African		0	0	2	0
Black African Caribbean / Black African		0	0	0	0
Other	2	0	0	0	5

5.12 Inter-country Adoption

Adoption in the UK is principally a service for children in the UK. A small number of applicants in the UK want to adopt a child from overseas and Lewisham, as an adoption agency, has a duty to ensure these applicants are assessed. A charge is made for these assessments. From July 2011 PACT (Parents and Children Together), a voluntary agency, has provided this service for Lewisham.

- 5.13 Between 1 October 2010 and 30 September 2011, one applicant was approved by the Panel for intercountry adoption (USA). Three families, previously approved, are currently still awaiting a child from abroad to be identified (Kazakhstan, China and Jamaica).

	Apr 09 to Sep 09	Oct 09 to Mar 10	Apr 10 to Sep 10	Oct 10 to Mar 11	Apr to Sep 11
Number of families waiting for a child to be identified	8	7	7	5	3
Countries					
China	2	1	1	1	1
Russia	2	1			
India	1	1	1		
Guatemala	1				
Kazakhstan	1	1	1	1	1
Nepal		1	1	1	
Bulgaria	1	1	1		
Thailand		1	1	1	
Jamaica			1	1	1

- 5.14 Adoption Support Services are available to adoptive families which provide a range of services to support adoptive families and their children which includes counselling, advice and information, workshops/support groups, an annual conference, financial support and links with CAMHS. The team manages all post adoption contact arrangements. Counselling is also provided to birth relatives who are losing a child to adoption and Lewisham provides an intermediary service between birth relatives and adopted adults.
- 5.15 The National Minimum Standards require that a clear written statement of purpose is available to all users of the service which sets out the aims and objectives of the Adoption Agency and describes the facilities and services that are provided and the principles to which the service adheres. The Lewisham Statement of Purpose (Appendix 1) has been updated and is presented to Mayor & Cabinet for approval. Updating has included information on staff and expanded information for birth parents and to enable the monitoring of the service.
- 5.16 The National Minimum Standards require that two Children's Guides to Adoption are produced, one for younger children and one for older children. The Guides (appendix 2) have been produced and are presented to Mayor and Cabinet for approval.
- 5.17 The Adoption Service in Lewisham is near the top of all London Local Authorities in the performance measure on the timeliness of adoption. That is, the percentage of children adopted during the year who were placed for adoption within 12 months of the decision that they should be placed. Lewisham also performs well above the national average.

National performance	72.4%
London	68.4%
Inner London	73.6%
Lewisham	84.6% (Mar 2011)

- 5.18 Of the percentage of Looked After Children who were looked after for more than 6 months, in March 2011, 9.4% were adopted against a target of 8.7% and a statistical neighbour performance of 7.4%.
- 5.19 The Adoption Service was last inspected by Ofsted in October 2009 and was found to be good with outstanding features.
- 5.20 On 14th March 2012 the Coalition Government published 'An Action Plan for Adoption: Tackling Delay'. The aim behind the publication was to speed up the adoption process. The Government aims to overhaul the system for prospective adopters and strengthen the performance regime for local authorities.
- 5.21 The Action Plan includes proposals for:
- New adoption scorecards to hold local authorities to account.
 - Revised approval process for new adopters, cutting the time to 6 months.
 - A national gateway for adoption, providing a first point of contact for anyone interested in adoption.
- 5.22 Lewisham is well placed to meet the demands of the Action Plan. As can be seen from paragraph 5.17, Lewisham is already outperforming the national average, statistical neighbours and the inner London average in timeliness of adoptions. Our performance places us within the top 10 nationally. Our rate of disrupted placements is also very low with only 2 adoptive placements breaking down in the last 10 years out of 267 adoptions. National figures are not currently collected for adoption breakdowns but research points to a figure of between 10% and 20%. Lewisham's figure of less than 1% compares very favourably.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 Lewisham provides these services pursuant to their powers and duties under the Children Act 1989 and the Adoption and Children Act 2002.

8. Crime and Disorder Implications

- 8.1 Research indicates that early adoption secures better outcomes for looked after children and improves their life chances and thereby reduces the likelihood of them becoming involved in crime or becoming victims of crime.

9. Equalities Implications

- 9.1 Looked After Children are one of the most vulnerable groups of children. They are more likely to have poorer education and health outcomes that lead to social exclusion. Looked After Children are also more likely to have special educational needs.

10. Environmental Implications

10.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

11. Conclusion

11.1 The Mayor is asked to accept the report of the Adoption Service and to approve the revised statement of purpose and the two new Children's Guides.

12. Background documents

12.1 Adoption Agency Regulations 2005 and 2011
National Minimum Standards (Adoption) 2003 and 2011

Appendix 1

Statement of Purpose

Appendix 2

Children's Guides (x2)

Lewisham Adoption Service

Statement of Purpose 2012-2013



Why does Lewisham provide a Statement of Purpose?

The National Minimum Standards for Adoption set out the requirement for adoption agencies to compile a statement detailing what services are provided, the governing principles and who manages and provides the services. The statement of purpose is for:

- children and young people
- birth relatives
- prospective and approved adoptive families
- social workers working within Lewisham and in other authorities
- Councillors
- Adoption and Permanence Panel members
- Office for Standards in Children's Services, Education and Skills (Ofsted)
- members of the public.

Our aims and objectives

The Adoption and Adoption Support teams are committed to finding and supporting stable and secure adoption placements for children where the identified plan is adoption. A comprehensive range of services is provided to meet the lifelong needs of individuals whose lives are affected by adoption. We aim to treat all parties with fairness and respect and to ensure that the services provided meet needs in relation to race, culture, ethnicity, language, disability and sexuality.

The Adoption and Children Act 2002 provides the legal framework for the service. The values that underpin the services include :

- all children are entitled to grow up as part of a stable and loving family
- where possible it is best for children to be brought up by their birth family
- the welfare of the child is the paramount consideration throughout the adoption process
- the matching of children with prospective adopters is given careful consideration in

relation to the racial, cultural, ethnic, language and special needs of each child in every case

- the teams work in close partnership with colleagues across Children's Social Care to ensure that delays in achieving permanence are avoided
- the lifelong implications of adoption require a range of services to meet the needs of individuals at different stages of the process
- adoptive parents will be supported and valued through the process of recruitment, matching, placement and beyond, based on assessed need.

All staff are provided with a thorough induction and support from experienced and skilled managers to promote these values and to work within the Council's equal opportunities policies. Staff are also provided with the Council's whistleblowing policy as part of their induction and this makes clear the responsibility for all staff to report areas of poor practice.

Policies and procedures

The policies and procedures cover all of the agency's activities for children, adopters, birth relatives, step-parent adopters and intercountry adopters and their children and are updated annually to reflect developments in practice.

Services provided by Lewisham Adoption Agency

All services provided are within the legal framework of the Adoption and Children Act 2002, Children Act 1989 and associated guidance and regulations.

A free phone line for enquiries relating to adoption is 0800 587 7392 and a website provides written information on the services www.lewisham.gov.uk/adoption. Prospective adopters receive a prompt and professional response and written information is sent out

within five working days, which outlines the process from initial enquiry to the making of an adoption order. Information evenings are held every six weeks and the recruitment of adopters is targeted to meet the needs of Lewisham's children. Lewisham is part of the South London Adoption Consortium and will provide advice to prospective applicants about the other local authorities within the consortium where applicants do not match the needs of Lewisham's children.

Prospective adopters will be assessed within eight months (from receipt of the written application to panel). Foster carers who are applying to adopt a child placed with them will be assessed within four months.

A full preparation training programme is offered to prospective adopters which runs over four days and covers a range of issues to help adopters understand the demands and rewards of adoption. The training programme focuses on the importance of building secure attachments and how to promote attachment with children who have had negative life experiences and whose histories may include parental drug and alcohol misuse, mental health difficulties or learning difficulties.

The training programme is reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that comments from attendees are taken into account to continuously improve the quality of the training. Recruitment is continually kept under review and targeted to meet the needs of the children who are identified as in need of an adoptive family.

Once approved, adopters continue to receive support from their social worker and information about children needing adoption. They are referred to the South London Adoption Consortium and the Adoption Register after three months. They also go on the database of

the Adoption Support Team so that they can receive invitations to relevant events and further training.

Adoption Support Services

The Adoption Support Team has a range of services in place to support adoptive families and their children including counselling, advice and information, workshops/support groups, an annual family day, an annual conference, a newsletter, financial support and links with CAMHS. The team manages all post-adoption contact arrangements, direct and indirect. An allocated worker provides support to birth relatives and adopters to promote contact as a positive experience for the child.

Independent counselling is provided to birth parents who are losing a child/ren to adoption. Lewisham provides an intermediary service for birth relatives and adopted adults. Some group work is organised within the consortium, e.g. for adopted adults and adopted teenagers.

Birth parents are shown and given the opportunity to comment on what is written about them or their circumstances before information is passed to the Adoption Panel or to prospective adopters.

Lewisham Council supports ongoing contact arrangements as required. The Adoption Support Service facilitates both direct and indirect contact (through our letterbox service) between birth families, children and significant others.

The manager of the Adoption Support Team is also the Adoption Support Services Advisor for Lewisham.

Non-agency (including step-parent) adoptions

Lewisham provides a comprehensive service to people pursuing a non-agency adoption (which is an adoption not arranged through the adoption agency). Cases are promptly allocated to social workers experienced in this field and court reports are filed within required timescales. Adopters are made aware of their right to access Adoption Support services.

Intercountry adoptions

A service is offered to those residents of Lewisham wishing to adopt a child from overseas. In some cases a child may be known to the applicant or be a relative. Applicants are referred to a voluntary agency called PACT (Parents and Children Together) for preparation groups. Adopters and children adopted from overseas are offered help and advice from the Adoption Support Team. Further information can be found on the websites of the Department of Education, the Home Office and the Intercountry Adoption Centre. **There are charges associated with intercountry adoption.**

The Adoption and Permanence Panel

Lewisham's Adoption and Permanence Panel is held every two weeks and is conducted in line with Government regulations and good practice guidance. The panel has an independent chair and a range of other members with different personal or professional experience of adoption and a Lewisham councillor. The panel includes a medical adviser who is a consultant paediatrician. There is a legal adviser (Principal Lawyer) to the panel who is employed by Lewisham but is not a panel member. The panel also has an Adoption Adviser who is one of the Adoption Team Managers, who provides advice and information to the panel.

The panel makes recommendations on the following issues:

- the approval of adopters
- that adoption is the best plan for a child/ren
- that a match between a child/ren and particular adopters is right for them

The panel also offers advice regarding adoption support plans, contact arrangements or any other issue of concern which it feels that the agency needs to address. The Director of Children's Social Care is the Agency Decision Maker and considers the recommendations from the panel and then makes his decision within 7 working days. The Director meets with the chair of the panel twice a year and undertakes an appraisal of the effectiveness of the chair.

Prospective adopters attend the panel when their approval is being considered, and approved adopters attend the panel meeting when a match with a specific child is being considered. Applicants are told the recommendation immediately after the panel by the chair. All applicants who attend are asked to complete a feedback form so that we can consider ways of improving the process and ensuring that everyone involved can make the best contribution to this important area of decision-making in children's lives.

Safeguarding and promoting welfare

The London Child Protection Procedures provide the procedural framework for safeguarding children in Lewisham and the adoption agency ensures that staff and managers attend child protection training and comply with good practice and guidance. Safeguarding issues are also part of the training programme for Adoption and Permanence Panel members.

Monitoring and evaluation of service provision

Targets for the Adoption Service are set on an annual basis through discussion with the Director of Children's Social Care.

A range of mechanisms are in place to monitor the performance of the service. For example:

- An annual report on the agency's performance is submitted to Councillors.
- The Director of Children's Social Care shares performance information with the lead member for children & young people.
- The Children and Young Peoples' Strategic Partnership receives a performance monitoring report at each meeting
- The service has systems to capture key milestones in the adoption process.
- Quality issues are addressed through regular supervision and file audit.
- Feedback questionnaires are sent to adopters after preparation groups and those who attend the Adoption Panel.
- On the occasion of a disruption, disruption meetings are chaired independently.
- The Adoption Panel provide independent oversight of cases.
- The Service Manager and the Director of Children's Social Care observe the Panel twice a year.

Management of the service

Overall responsibility for the Adoption Service is held by Gerry Aitken, Service Manager,

Adoption, Looked After Children & Leaving Care.

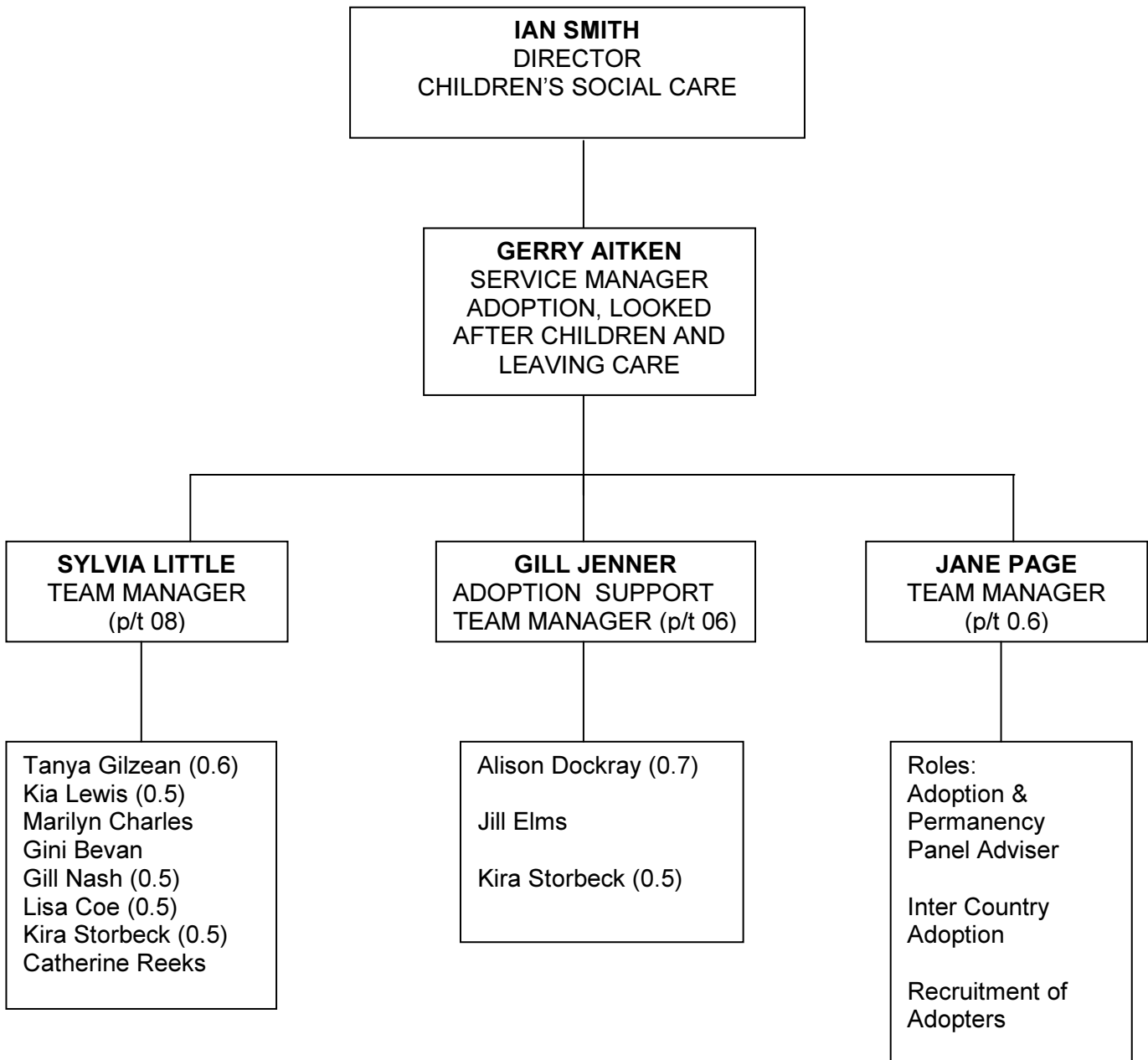
Gerry Aitken obtained a Diploma in Social Work in 1997 and is a registered social worker. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Masters degree in Development Management. He has extensive experience as a practitioner and manager in Local Authority Children's Services.

The Agency Decision Maker on behalf of the Local Authority is Ian Smith, Director of Children's Social Care.

The Adoption Service employs qualified and experienced staff as follows:-

- Three Team Managers, equivalent to two full time posts
- Team Managers are registered social workers and have extensive experience of child care and the adoption services over many years.
- Four full-time and five (full time equivalent of 2.3 posts) part-time social workers who are all qualified and experienced in adoption work.
- Three adoption support workers who are all qualified social workers who have relevant experience.
- All social workers are registered with the General Social Care Council. Three members of the team hold post qualifying awards in Child Care. Other staff have other post qualifying awards.
- Two business support staff provide administrative support to the team.

Lewisham Adoption Agency
Structure Chart



Where can we be found?

The Adoption and Adoption Support Teams are located at:

Children's Social Care
3rd Floor, Laurence House
1 Catford Road
London SE6 4RU
0208 314 6887

How to complain

Any service user can complain if they are unhappy with the service the agency provides. In the first instance, service users are encouraged to talk about the problem with the social worker to see if they can resolve the problem. If the service user is not satisfied, the formal complaints process offers three stages.

Complaints Team
Lewisham Council
3rd Floor Laurence House
1 Catford Road
London
SE6 4RU

If the complaint relates to the Adoption Panel's decision not to approve an adoptive applicant, the applicant can ask for the case to be reviewed by the Independent Review Mechanism. Details of this process will be provided on request from the Adoption Team Managers.

Independent Reviewing Officers chair Looked After Children's reviews prior to an Adoption Order being made and ensure that children and their adopters are fully informed of the complaints process. Details of the complaints procedure are included in the information packs sent to all prospective adopters.

Regulation and Inspection

Responsibility for the regulation and inspection of adoption agencies is undertaken by the Office for Standards in Education (known as Ofsted).

Concerns, complaints and allegations about registered services including adoption agencies can be directed to Ofsted particularly where it is not possible for them to be resolved directly with the agency.

For advice and information on how Ofsted can help, they can be contacted at:

Ofsted
Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

Telephone : 0300 123 1231

or via the website at www.ofsted.gov.uk

**I'M GOING TO BE ADOPTED -
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN
A GUIDE TO ADOPTION FOR CHILDREN**



This booklet will tell you more about adoption. You might want to read it with an adult such as your social worker or your carer. You can ask them any questions you may have.

WHAT IS ADOPTION

Adoption means living with another family forever when you can't live with the family where you were born.

When you are adopted you will belong to and grow up with a new family.

Being adopted means you are not 'in care' or 'looked after' any more but you are part of your new family.

HOW IS ADOPTION DIFFERENT FROM FOSTERING

Foster families usually look after children until they can move back home or on to a new adoptive family. Sometimes a foster family will look after a child until he or she is grown up.

Sometimes a foster family will adopt a child they are looking after. However, foster families do not usually look after children until they have grown up. They sometimes keep in touch with their foster children, even when they move on to their new families.

WHO ADOPTS CHILDREN

Children are adopted by all sorts of families. It may be a family with a mum and a dad or two mums or two dads, or just one mum or dad. It may be a family where there are other children or a family where you are the only child.

WHO DECIDES IF I SHOULD BE ADOPTED

Being adopted is a really big thing because it will change your life forever. We want to make sure that it is right for you. Your social worker will talk to you about it. It is important that you tell them what you are thinking and feeling. Your social worker will also talk to mum, dad and perhaps other people in your life like your nan, granddad and your carer. At special meetings called reviews we will also talk about whether you should be adopted.

When social workers, the court and maybe your mum and dad have decided that it isn't possible for you to grow up in the family where you were born, your social worker will tell an adoption panel all about you and ask them whether they think that adoption is right for you.

The panel is a group of people who understand how important it is for children to grow up in a family who loves them and where they are safe and can belong.

HOW WILL THEY FIND THE RIGHT FAMILY FOR ME

There are lots of families who want to adopt a child or young person. Your social worker will do their best to find a family that is right for you. They will be looking for a family who speaks the same language and who celebrates the same special days. If your social worker cannot find a family like this they will tell you.

Your social worker will get information on families who want to adopt someone like you. Sometimes they may put information about you in special magazines and papers that are sent to families thinking about adoption. Your social worker will go to meet different families to find out about them. After holding a meeting, they will then choose one that they think will be right for you.

Your social worker will tell the adoption panel about this family. If they also think this family is right for you then your social worker will talk to you about them. You will be able to ask any questions about the adopters and they might also send you some information about themselves such as a book or even a video or DVD.

MAKING YOUR ADOPTIVE FAMILY YOUR LEGAL FAMILY

Once you have lived with your family for a while they will ask the court, which is where judges make decisions, to make an adoption order. An adoption order means that you will legally belong in your new family. During this time a children's guardian may come to talk to you about how you are feeling.

If the judge decides that being adopted is the best thing for you, your adoptive parents will always be your legal parents and have full responsibility for you, just as if you were born to them.

WHAT ABOUT MY BIRTH FAMILY

Adoption means belonging to a new family, but it doesn't mean forgetting the people that you know and love. For some children it may be good to stay in touch with certain members of their old family. For others this might not be possible or be too upsetting. If you don't want to stay in touch with your old family that's ok too.

If there are people from your old family that you would like to see or write to, talk to your social worker who will decide if this is possible. The social worker will talk to your new family about this and arrange for you to write from time to time or see your old family if everyone says it is ok.

Even if you don't see your old family there may be an arrangement for them and your new family to send a letter to each other. This would give your old family your news and give you news about them. Your old family will not be told where you live now, where you go to school, or your new family name.

WHAT IF I'M NOT HAPPY

If you are not happy or have problems or worries you must say so. As well as your social worker, there are lots of people you can talk to who can help you sort things out. You can talk to another person who is called an independent advocate. An independent advocate is someone who can talk to you about your worries or problems and who will try to sort things out. If you would like an independent advocate, this organisation can find one for you. 📞

Advocate Worker

Rights and Participation Project

24 Deptford Broadway

Deptford

London SE8 4PA

0800 1693762

Email: rpp@childrenssociety.org.uk

OTHER CONTACTS

Or you can contact the Children's Rights Director who is called Roger Morgan. He will help to sort things out and can also offer help and advice.

Roger Morgan (Children's Rights Director)

33 Greycoat Street
London SW1P2QF
Telephone: 020 7979 2062
Email: roger.morgan@csci.gsi.gov.uk

If you or your adoptive family would like some help or support, you can contact:

The Adoption Support Team

Lewisham Council
Telephone: 020 8314 7506
Email: adoption.info@lewisham.gov.uk

If you are really unhappy and want to complain you can contact:

National Care Standards Commission

Ground Floor
4.6 Loman Street
Southwark
London SE1 OEH
Telephone: 020 703 4960
Fax: 020 7803 4996

Or you can contact Lewisham Council's Complaints Office

Senior Complaints Officer
Complaints Unit
Children's Social Care
Lewisham Council
1st Floor Laurence House
Catford
London SE6 4SW
Telephone: 020 8314 6131/8660

ADDRESSES

Here are some people who can help you:

Independent Reviewing Officer:

My Independent Reviewing Officer is:

Name: _____

Contact details

Lewisham Council Complaints Officer

3rd Floor Laurence House
1 Catford Road
London SE6 4RU
Tel: 020 8314 8276/020 8314 8298
Fax: 020 8314 3151
Email: cyp.casework@lewisham.gov.uk

Adoption Support Team

Lewisham Council
3rd Floor Laurence House
1 Catford Road
Catford
London SE6 4RU
Freephone: 0800 587 7392

Children's Rights Director

Office of Children's Rights
Director
Ofsted
Aviation House
125 Kingsway,
London WC2B 6SE
Freephone: 0800 528 0731

Independent Advocate

Lewisham Children's Rights
Service
Akwaaba Centre
Grinling Place
Deptford
London SE8 5HG
Freephone: 0800 169 3762
Email: www.barnardos.org.uk

Ofsted

Ofsted National Business Unit
Royal Exchange Buildings,
St Ann's Square
Manchester, M2 7LA
Tel: 0300 123 4666

MY JOURNEY TO ADOPTION

I can't live at home

I go to live with foster carers

My Social Worker, my Independent Reviewing Officer and my guardian think about and talk to me about where I will go to live

The Adoption Panel consider whether I should be placed for adoption

I meet my new family and get to know them

When my Social Worker finds the family, the adoption panel will consider whether this is right for me

If the Judge decides that I should be adopted, my Social Worker will talk to me about this and about looking for the right family for me

The Judge and the court listen to everyone and to what I want to happen and decide what is best for me

When my new family and I feel comfortable together, I move into my new home

My Social Worker comes to visit me to make sure that I'm alright. My Independent Reviewing Officer continues to see me at reviews

When we all feel ready, I will go with my new family to see the judge and I will be adopted

My social worker will now say goodbye to me as I have a 'forever family'.
I may still hear from my birth family and I can talk about adoption with my new family as they will understand that I may have lots of questions



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I'm going to be adopted

What does it mean?



Adoption means living with another family forever when you can't live with the family where you were born.

Who adopts children?

Children are adopted by all sorts of families. It may be a family with a mum and a dad or two mums or two dads, or just one mum or dad. It may be a family where there are other children or a family where you are the only child.

Why am I going to be adopted?

Some mums and dads grow beautiful children but can't look after them safely. Social workers, independent reviewing officers, people who know about adoption and a judge and the court then have to decide where children should live. While this is being decided, children live with foster carers.



- ♥ If everyone decides that you need a new, forever family, your social worker will find the right one for you.
- ♥ You will see pictures of your new family and then get to know them at your foster home.
- ♥ You will then move to your new home.
- ♥ Your social worker will still come to see you to make sure that you are all right.
- ♥ You will go to court and be **adopted**. You are now a part of a new family.
- ♥ If you want, you can still hear about your old family.
- ♥ Lots of children have been adopted



Here are some people who can help you:

- ♥ Independent Reviewing Officer
- ♥ Lewisham Council Complaints Officer
- ♥ Children's Rights Director
- ♥ Ofsted
- ♥ Independent Advocate
- ♥ Adoption Support Team

Chief Officer Confirmation of Report Submission
Cabinet Member Confirmation of Briefing
Report for: Mayor
Mayor and Cabinet
Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)
Executive Director
Information **Part 1** **Part 2** **Key Decision**

Date of Meeting	11 th April 2011
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Title of Report	Fostering Statement of Purpose 2012-2013 and Children's Guide - My Guide to Foster Care
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Originator of Report	Brendah Malahleka	Ext. 48730
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At the time of submission for the Agenda, I confirm that the report has:

Category	Yes	No
Financial Comments from Exec Director for Resources	√	
Legal Comments from the Head of Law	√	
Crime & Disorder Implications		√
Environmental Implications		√
Equality Implications/Impact Assessment (as appropriate)		√
Confirmed Adherence to Budget & Policy Framework		√
Risk Assessment Comments (as appropriate)		√
Reason for Urgency (as appropriate)		

Signed: *Helen Khin* Executive Member

Date: 29th March 2012

Signed: *Ante Sile* Executive Director

Date: 29th March 2012

Control Record by Committee Support

Action	Date
Listed on Schedule of Business/Forward Plan (if appropriate)	
Draft Report Cleared at Agenda Planning Meeting (not delegated decisions)	
Submitted Report from CO Received by Committee Support	
Scheduled Date for Call-in (if appropriate)	
To be Referred to Full Council	

MAYOR AND CABINET

Report Title	Fostering Statement of Purpose 2012-2013 and Children's Guide - My Guide to Foster Care	
Key decision	Yes	Item No.
Ward	All	
Contributors	Executive Director for Children and Young People	
Class	Open	Date: 11 April 2012

1. Summary of the Report

This report presents to the Mayor and Cabinet the Lewisham Fostering Statement of Purpose for 2012 – 2013 and the Children's Guide – My Guide to Foster Care for approval as required by the Fostering Regulations 2011. The Lewisham Fostering Statement of Purpose and the Children's Guide are reviewed on an annual basis, in line with Statutory requirements. The Fostering Statement of Purpose focuses on the desired outcomes for Looked After Children in line with the Every Child Matters 5 objectives. This Statement of Purpose incorporates comments made by the Inspector during the OfSTED Pilot Inspection in November 2011.

2. Purpose and Structure of the Report

The purpose of this report is to present for approval the revised Lewisham Fostering Statement of Purpose for 2012-2013 and Children's Guide – My Guide to Foster Care.

3. Recommendation

That the Mayor approves the Statement of Purpose for the Fostering Service for 2012-2013 and Children's Guide – My Guide to Foster Care.

4. Policy Context

- 4.1 The Fostering Services Regulations 2011 and National Minimum Standards 2011 require all Fostering Services to provide and review annually a written Statement of Purpose setting out the aims and objectives of the service and facilities provided.
- 4.2 The Fostering Services Regulations and National Minimum Standards 2011 require Fostering Services to produce and regularly review a Children's Guide.
- 4.3 The Lewisham Fostering Service Statement of Purpose reflects the Council's corporate priorities and contributes particularly to: Community leadership and empowerment, young people's achievement and involvement, safety, security and a visible presence, protection of children and active, healthy citizens.
- 4.4 The Statement of Purpose also contributes to five of the key priority outcomes of Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2020:
 - **Ambitious and achieving** – where people are inspired and supported to fulfil their potential
 - **Safer** – where people feel safe and live free from crime, antisocial behaviour and abuse

- **Empowered and responsible** – where people are actively involved in their local area and contribute to supportive communities
- **Healthy, active and enjoyable** – where people can actively participate in maintaining and improving their health and well-being
- **Dynamic and prosperous** – where people are part of vibrant communities and town centres, well connected to London and beyond.

5. Narrative

- 5.1 The Fostering Service primarily provides a service for Looked After Children. The service is committed to identifying and supporting stable placements for children where foster care is the identified plan.
- 5.2 Currently, the Fostering Service has 104 Lewisham foster carers with approximately 170 Looked After Children in placement.
- 5.3 The Fostering Service is required through Fostering Regulations and National Minimum Standards 2011 to undertake appropriate recruitment of Foster Carers and provide training, support and development for foster carers.
- 5.4 Fostering Regulations and National Minimum Standards 2011 require that Supervising Social Workers from the Fostering Service provide advice and support to foster carers and work in partnership with the Looked After Child's Social Worker to deliver the best possible outcomes for the child in placement.
- 5.5 The Lewisham Fostering Panel exercises the roles and functions according to the Fostering Services Regulations and National Minimum Standards, 2011. The Fostering Panel is chaired by an independent person i.e. a social worker not employed by Lewisham Council. The vice-chair can be similarly an independent social worker or other independent member of the Fostering Panel.
- 5.6 The Fostering Panel Adviser holds a key role and this is fulfilled by the Team Manager, Fostering Support & Development.
- 5.7 The Statutory Agency Decision Maker, is the Director of Children's Social Care who consults the Service Manager, Fostering Panel Chair and the Fostering Panel Professional Adviser as and when necessary.
- 5.8 In line with national good practice, foster carer annual reviews are presented for overview and scrutiny by the Fostering Panel.
- 5.9 The Lewisham Fostering Panel meets monthly on dates agreed in advance. There is the flexibility to call meetings over and above the pre-arranged dates by agreement with the Fostering Panel Members.
- 5.10 The Lewisham Statement of Purpose was last updated in March 2011. The key Ofsted Inspection Standards derive from the Children Act 2004 Every Child Matters Objectives and are the focus for achieving desired outcomes for LAC and these are as follows:
- Being Healthy
 - Staying Safe
 - Enjoying and Achieving
 - Making a Positive Contribution
 - Achieve Economic Wellbeing.

These objectives are addressed in full in the Statement of Purpose. This latest version of The Statement of Purpose incorporates the comments received from the inspector during the Ofsted Inspection in November 2011.

6. Background

Not applicable.

7. Financial implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

8. Legal Implications

Local Authorities exercise Social Services functions as required by the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970. Local Authorities have a statutory responsibility to provide appropriate services for children whom they look after.

9. Equalities Implications

The work of the Fostering Service contributes to the achievement of the Council's priority relating to the 'protection of children.' Equality & Diversity has been incorporated into the Statement of Purpose and is updated as part of the regular review of the Statement of Purpose.

10. Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

11. Conclusion

The Statement of Purpose and Children's Guide – My Guide to Foster Care inform children, young people, Lewisham foster carers and prospective carers of what they can expect from the Lewisham Fostering Service. This supplements the Foster Carer Handbook, which gives more detail of expectations, policies and procedures governing the direct care of Looked After Children.

These two documents ensure that children, their parents, foster carers, staff are clear about the aims and objectives of the Fostering Service and what services and facilities it provides. The Fostering Service is required to meet the aims and objectives in the Statement of Purpose.

The Lewisham Statement of Purpose and Children's Guide are reviewed and updated annually.

12. Background Papers

None.

If there are any queries on this report, please contact Brendah Malahleka on 020 8314 8730.

Appendix 1

Fostering Statement of Purpose

Appendix 2

Children's Guides – My Guide to Foster Care

Lewisham Fostering Service

Statement of Purpose 2012 - 2013



1. Policy Context.

- 1.1 The Fostering Services (England) Regulations 2011 require all fostering services to provide a written Statement of Purpose setting out the aims and objectives of the service and the facilities and services provided. This document is made available to foster carers, Fostering Panel members, staff, prospective foster carers, any child placed by the service and the parent of any child placed.
- 1.2 The Fostering Service ensures that Equal Opportunities are integrated into all aspects of service delivery and that all foster carers are effectively assessed and supported, taking into account the needs of the individual child/young person

2. Statement of Purpose.

- 2.1 To provide quality foster care placements for *looked after* children and young people aged 0 – 18 years, where it is not possible for them to remain with or return home to their parents or wider family. To ensure suitable assessments are undertaken and that children and carers are supported throughout. This includes in respect of respite care and reunification (if appropriate), as well as short, medium, and long-term care for looked after children. Parent and child placements are provided which offer support, supervision and assessments within public law court proceedings.
- 2.2 This Statement of Purpose is reviewed and approved by the Mayor and Cabinet of Lewisham Council on an annual basis.

3. Management.

- 3.1 Brendah Malahleka has been the Service Manager for Fostering since 2008. Brendah has extensive social work experience spanning several decades, 25 years of which have been within various Senior Management roles. Brendah has an MBA in Management (Distinction-1993), MA (criminology-1997) and BA (Hons) Social Sciences. Brendah has been a qualified Social Worker (CQSW) since 1980 and an NVQ Assessor (D32-33) since 2002.
- 3.2 Cornelia Tierney, Fostering (Assessment and Kinship) Team Manager, has a Diploma in Applied Social Science (1986) and has achieved a Postgraduate Certificate in Health and Social Care Management in 2006. Cornelia is responsible for the team that assesses family-and-friends foster carers (as well as other capacity to care assessments including Special Guardianship). Cornelia has worked in Lewisham Fostering Service since January 1997 during, which time she has held different management roles.
- 3.3 Bryan Edmands, Fostering (Support and Development) Team Manager, a role he has held since February 2010. Bryan has a Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Social Studies and CQSW (1992), the Practice Teacher Award (1996), and achieved a LLM (Commendation) in Child Law in 2008. Bryan is responsible for the team that supervises and supports Lewisham foster carers and is the Fostering Panel Advisor.

- 3.4 All social work managers, senior practitioners and social workers hold a social work qualification and have relevant child care experience. Managers and all qualified social workers are registered with the General Social Care Council (GSCC).
- 3.5 Lewisham Fostering Service is committed to post-qualification training. Three Social Workers have gained their Practice Teachers Award, and two have completed the Post Qualifying Award. An additional three Social Workers will be undertaking the new Post Qualifying Award in Specialist Social Work this year: 2012-2013.
- 3.6 The teams are culturally and racially diverse, consisting both of workers with extensive experience in fostering and workers who have joined fostering more recently but bring with them vast experience from other areas of children's social work.
- 3.7 The Service Manager is responsible for several services and these are: Business Strategy (including business and finance process teams); Fostering, Placements & Procurement Services, Community Service Volunteers (CSV) and Multi-Dimensional Treatment Foster Care (MTFC).
- 3.8 The integration of Fostering with Placements & Procurement has afforded greater synergies in particular improved matching of Lewisham foster carers with Looked After Children. An integrated single duty system has been introduced which has streamlined referral processes and decision making. The integration with the business and finance teams has afforded greater efficiency including more timely and accurate payments to foster carers.
- 3.9 The Service Manager is also responsible for establishing and strategic management of the Multi-Dimensional Treatment Foster Care (MTFC). This programme is jointly funded with the Department of Education. MTFC originates from America and has been running nationally in this country for 10 years under the auspices of the Department of Education. The success of MTFC has been demonstrated both in America and in this country. This is an intensive support programme to enable LAC who would otherwise be placed in residential care, to be placed with Lewisham Foster Carers with round the clock intensive support from a team of highly skilled professionals, therapists, social workers, teachers and skills coach.



3.10 Organisation Structure

Brendah Malahleka
Service Manager
 Business Strategy, Fostering,
 Placements & Procurement.

**Community Service
 Volunteers (CSV)**
Sue Gwaspari – Director Part
 Time volunteering
Jill Williams – UK
 Development Director
Charlie Evans – Project Mgr

**Business
 Manager**
 JOY AHWIEH

**Business
 Process
 Mgr**
 STEWART
 EDWARDS

**Standards
 Improvement
 & Panel
 Officer**
 MAXINE GINN

**Finance
 Process
 Mgr**
 KOKUI
 BINNS

**Support &
 Development
 Team Manager**
 BRYAN
 EDMANDS

**Assessment &
 Kinship Team
 Manager**
 CORNELIA
 TIERNEY

**Placements &
 Procurement
 TM**
 JULIE
 FOSTER

**Multi-Dimensional Therapeutic
 Foster Care (MTFC)**

Programme Manager

Programme Supervisor

Foster Carer Supporter

Family Therapist

Skills Coach

Individual Therapist

Education Worker

**Business
 Process
 Officers:**
 Barbara Moonan
 Caren Davies
 Chris Chivers
 Christie Mills
 Kem Okuwobi
 Sheila Traile
**Business Data
 Officer:**
 VACANT

**Finance
 Process Officers:**
 Catherine
 Adebusuyi
 Laura Graham
 Lesley Barwick
 Lorna Houston
 FPO - VACANT

BSO Trainees:
 Deanna Chung
 Ekow Binev

Social Workers:
 Andrea Distant
 Ola Aregbesola
 Sadie Simpson
 Shaidah Jahi
 Sonia Thompson
 Zanele Mukonyora

**Senior Social
 Workers:**
 Isabel Aragoneses-
 Solano

**Senior Social
 Workers:**
 Jeannice Williams-
 Fatodu
 Jessica Diaz
 Marina Kalli
 Shahnaz Khan

Social Workers:
 Jenny Westney
 Julie Jenkins
SWA: Paulette
 Burgess-Williams

**Placements &
 Procurement
 Officers:**
 Angella Billy
 Carole Hogbin
 Sunin Rumble

4. Services Provided.

- 4.1 **Mainstream Foster Carers** – Foster carers who provide placements for children and young people aged 0-18, whose care plan is either to return to their birth family or move to a permanent placement. Placements with Mainstream carers can vary between one day to some years in the placement. Bridging placements help prepare children for adoption, long term or permanent placements and rehabilitation to the care of one of their family members.
- 4.2 **Permanence or Long-Term Foster Carers** - who make a commitment to care for a child or young person, until they reach independence.
- 4.3 **Short Break Carers (Family Based Respite Care)** - where carers are 'linked' to families with children with a disability to enable them to have regular, planned breaks during the year.
- 4.4 **Family and Friends Foster Carers (Kinship)** - are approved to look after a specific child or children. These are family members or friends who already know of the child or children before they moved to live with them. Viability assessments are carried out on family and friends who indicate a preference to obtain a Special Guardianship Order (SGO) followed by a full SGO assessment where appropriate.
- 4.5 **Emergency Placements** - are approved carers who offer emergency care and accept unplanned placements and provide 24 hour, 7 days a week crisis care for children who require an immediate placement outside of normal office working hours. The Emergency Duty Team is the team that provides cover between 6 pm and 9 am during the normal working week, and

throughout weekends and Bank Holidays.

This team responds to children in need of safeguarding and as necessary places them with approved and experienced Emergency Placements foster carers.

4.6 **Parent and Child arrangements with foster carers**

As required under the new Fostering Services (England) Regulations 2011, a written policy has been prepared which is intended to safeguard children placed with foster parents from abuse or neglect. This policy will include a statement of measures to be taken to safeguard children placed with foster parents before making parent and child arrangements with the foster parents.

Foster carers who may wish to offer such placements should ordinarily have discussed the matter with their supervising social worker and this should be considered as part of the annual review.

The Foster Care Agreement entered into by the foster carer with the Fostering Service should show that the foster carer is approved for this type of arrangement.

Matters to be considered when making a proposed parent and child arrangement include:

- Is the parent an adult or below the age of 18 years.
- If below 18 years of age, is the parent (or to be) looked after themselves.
- Is the child to be considered a looked after child.
- Purpose of the parent and child placement.
- Likely duration.
- Criminal history.
- Risk assessment of parent.

5. Principles.

- 5.1 Each child is unique and their welfare paramount.
- 5.2 The child's family is the preferred place for children to live wherever possible.
- 5.3 Where a child needs to be looked after outside their family there is no compromise to the provision of high quality individualised care.
- 5.4 Children have a right to feel safe, be protected, be treated with respect and dignity, be encouraged, nurtured, supported, helped, looked after, have their heritage valued, be consulted, considered, be helped towards a personal sense of worth, well-being and independence.
- 5.5 The parents, carers and relatives of looked after children have a right to be kept informed, involved and consulted as appropriate. They have the right to be treated as individuals with respect and without being judged.
- 5.6 Individual care planning is imperative from the outset of each placement followed by regular reviews to ensure all the needs of the child are met.
- 5.7 Children are entitled to receive education which will promote their general culture and enable them, on a basis of equal opportunity, to develop their abilities, individual judgement, and a sense of moral and social responsibility, and to become useful members of society.
The best interests of the child shall be the guiding principle of those responsible for their education and guidance; that responsibility lies in the first place with the parents and/or with the Local Authority as Corporate Parents.
- 5.8 Each Looked After Child is an active, informed participant in the process of their own health care, incorporating confidentiality and choice and appropriate to her or his age and understanding. A full health assessment is carried out for each Looked After Child over the age of 5 years once a year and twice a year for those under the age of 5. A health plan is drawn up in consultation with health professionals, this is reviewed in light of the regular health assessment. The Lewisham Children and Young People's plan incorporates strategies to reduce health inequalities and improve the health of Looked After Children.
- 5.9 Children have the right to expect the very best professional care from foster carers. Therefore, Lewisham is committed to the provision of quality support, supervision, advice, consultation and training to enable carers to meet the child's needs. In addition there is 24-hour telephone support available to carers from Fostering staff and an emergency duty team where social work input is required outside of normal office hours.
- 5.10 Staff make a major contribution to the service and receive a good standard of structured supervision, support and training in order to facilitate best practice in all of their activities.
- 5.11 Lewisham Fostering Service is committed to working in partnership with all who have an involvement in a child's life.
- 5.12 Lewisham Fostering Service is committed to the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy and to working in a manner that is anti-discriminatory in practice. The Fostering Service ensures that Equal Opportunities are integrated into all aspects of service delivery and that all foster carers are effectively assessed and supported, taking into account the needs of the individual



child/young person, including specifically their culture, ethnicity, race, religion, class, sexual orientation and disability.

5.13 Lewisham Fostering Service actively self-regulates its work and maintains openness to ongoing critical evaluation. It welcomes comment from the children / young people, parents, carers, staff, independent workers, Panel members and any who have a contribution to make.

5.14 Lewisham Fostering Service has a commitment to keeping abreast of developments in Fostering and is committed to change when that is required, appropriate and delivers improvement in service.

6. Foster Carers and Approvals.

6.1 All foster carers are specifically approved for a specific number of children or sibling groups, a specific child, or the approval is specific to the age and/or gender of the Looked After Child, or a parent and baby arrangement.

6.2 As at March 2012 there were 104 foster carers, including family and friends foster carers, approved by Lewisham.

7. Number of children in placement.

7.1 As at March 2012 there were approximately 170 Looked After Children placed with Lewisham foster carers or family and friends foster carers.

8. Complaints and Outcomes.

8.1 A booklet titled "Allegations, Complaints, Serious Cause for Concern - A Guide for Lewisham Foster Carers" is available and has been specifically designed to guide carers through the process of the

investigation of an allegation, complaint or serious cause for concern.

8.2 This booklet ensures compliance with: London Child Protection Procedures, Fostering Services Regulations and the National Minimum Standards 2011. Lewisham Council complaints procedure sets out the processes in relation to Stage One, Stage Two and Stage Three complaints.

9. Procedures & Processes for Foster Carer Recruitment & Approval.

9.1 In November 2009 Lewisham entered into an innovative partnership with the third sector on the basis of four year contract with Care UK to recruit and assess new foster carers for the service. Care UK sold the Fostering business to CareTech Foster Care in December 2010 who have been operating this contract since then.

9.2 Applicants are invited to express an interest in fostering through an ongoing public relations campaign and are initially processed through a dedicated CareTech administrative system, then telephone contact is made and an initial home visit is undertaken.

9.3 Applicants are invited to attend the "Skills to Foster" training as part of their initial assessment and introduction to fostering.

9.4 If applicants are successful in completing the "Skills to Foster" training, a qualified Social Worker will complete a full assessment based upon the British Association for Adoption and Fostering (BAAF) Form F. This will involve a series of home visits to collect information regarding household members and their experience and skills relating to looked after children.

9.5 Statutory checks and required references are undertaken.

9.6 On completion of the assessment, the assessing social worker will

prepare a report detailing applicant suitability, including the Form F, to Lewisham's Fostering Panel. The content of the Form F report (excluding references) are shared with the applicant, who signs the report to acknowledge that they have read the report. Applicants must attend the Fostering Panel.

- 9.7 Following the Fostering Panel recommendations, a decision is taken by the Director of Children's Social Care as decision-maker. Decisions are formally communicated to the applicant verbally by telephone and in writing.
- 9.8 On approval as Lewisham foster carers, individuals are enrolled on the fostering professional development and training programme which is linked to the Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) Standards.

10. Foster Carer Training.

- 10.1 A comprehensive training programme is in place and sent to all foster carers. The programme covers a wide variety of subjects from basic to advanced level, including the opportunity to study for NVQ level 3 Caring for Children & Young People, and meets the requirements of the CWDC Standards. Training is an effective opportunity to meet other carers, social workers, and to develop skills and learning at the same time.
- 10.2 We encourage foster carers to participate in training courses alongside social workers and Fostering Panel members. Foster carers are required to undertake further development opportunities similar to social workers and other professionals in the Children and Young People's Directorate.
- 10.3 Since April 2008, all new foster carers are required to achieve the Training, Support and Development (CWDC)

Standards for Foster Care within 12 months of their approval. Every foster carer has a Personal Development Plan and is expected to keep a portfolio where they record evidence of their learning against the CWDC Standards. The Service Manager has personally driven the CWDC Standards from the beginning of 2010 working directly with the foster carers. There is an ongoing programme of workshops for the completion of CWDC Standards for new foster carers and attendance is compulsory. At the time of the latest revision of the Statement of Purpose in March 2012, 100% of foster carers who have been fostering for Lewisham for several years have successfully completed their Portfolios for the CWDC Standards. Once a foster carer has successfully achieved the CWDC Standards they are required to continue their development and to keep the skills they have up to date through the Lewisham Foster Carers rolling programme of training and development.

- 10.4 All new foster carers are required to complete a Core Training Programme which aims to provide the basic skills and information that new carers need to perform their fostering tasks. Basic training is a requirement under the National Minimum Standards and the CWDC framework. Carers should complete the core training within one year of approval.
- 10.5 Lewisham involves foster carers in co-facilitating training events, and to enable them to do this we also offer a Training the Trainers qualification. This is an important way of learning from each other, promoting partnership working between foster carers and social workers. For example on 13 March 2012, a group of 20 social workers and foster carers attended Secure Base Model Training for Trainers by Professor Gillian Schofield of the University of East Anglia.



10.6 In addition, specialist training is also provided. From April 2012 specific specialist training will be provided for social workers and foster carers as part of the introduction of the MTFC Programme and Social Pedagogy.

- Fostering Service Development Days for foster carers, Panel members and staff.
- Dedicated Lewisham fostering website-Fosternets.

Annual Reviews.

11.2 Lewisham reviews foster carers at least once a year to ensure looked after children are safeguarded and foster carers remain supported to provide high-

11. Supporting and Reviewing Carers.

11.1 Carers are provided with a range of support to promote placement stability and improve the outcomes of Looked After Children, for example:

- An allocated supervising social worker.
- Regular home visits, minimum 1 per month.
- 24-hour telephone support (out-of-hours support and advice from service manager and team managers and social work input available from EDT).
- Access to Therapeutic Support (CAMHS).
- Reflective practice sessions for foster carers run by CAMHS Therapists.
- Application of the Secure Base Support Model for carers provided in partnership with the LAC Service.
- Themed Support Groups: Mainstream, Male Carers Group and New Carers Group.
- Lewisham Mentoring Scheme: support and advice from an experienced carer.
- Lewisham Carers Supporting Carers Scheme (LCSC): practical support e.g. looking after LAC whilst carer attends training.
- Rolling programme of training.
- Financial Support.
- Membership of the Fostering Network.
- Buddy Arrangements – required for all newly approved carers.

quality care. Additional reviews can also be held if there has been a significant change in circumstances or if concerns arise.

11.3 The foster carer annual review will consider:

- The foster carer's previous year of fostering.
- Training attended and training needs.
- Looked After Children's views and the views of the independent reviewing officers.
- Carer's views regarding the Fostering Service.
- Statutory checks i.e. CRB, medical, Police and health & safety.

11.4 Foster Carer Annual Review are generally carried out in the carer's home by the supervising social worker. A competence-based model is used in relation to annual reviews, and carers are expected to give examples of how they have met the competencies in their practice and training attended, and reflection on learning and development needs.

11.5 All Foster Carer Annual Review are presented to and considered by the Fostering managers.

11.6 All Foster Carer Annual Reviews of the first 12 months following foster carer approval are presented to the Fostering Panel and the carer is required to attend.

11.7 All subsequent foster carer annual reviews are also presented to the Fostering Panel and where a significant matter is proposed, such as a change of approval or serious concern then again the carers are invited to attend. Where there are no issues then these reviews receive a quality assurance and overview scrutiny from the Fostering Panel. Foster Carer Agreements are also considered and signed off annually.

12. Guidance for Children & Young People.

12.1 Age appropriate guidance has been produced for Looked After Children: My Guide To Foster Care.

13. The Work of the Fostering Service.

13.1 Lewisham Fostering Service continually strives to improve outcomes for Looked After Children. Lewisham Fostering Service is committed to continuous improvement in order to promote and achieve the desired outcomes for Looked After Children in line with the Every Child Matters Framework.

13.2 The following sections provide evidence against each of the five Every Child Matters Outcomes:

- Being Healthy.
- Staying Safe.
- Enjoying and Achieving.
- Making a Positive Contribution.
- Achieving Economic Wellbeing.



LEWISHAM WILL:

Promote Physical Health

Promote Emotional Health

Promote Sexual Health

Encourage Healthy Lifestyles

Discourage substance misuse, including tobacco and alcohol

- To support the LAC through the mentoring programme to promote safe behaviour and reduce risk taking behaviour and encourage healthy lifestyles.
- To continue providing services through the specialist LAC 'one stop' clinic offering support on a range of health issues.
- Looked After Children's health is regularly assessed by health professionals to ensure they receive appropriate treatment where applicable. Lewisham works in close partnership with the PCT to ensure qualified health professionals conduct regular health assessments and provide quality advice where necessary.
- Lewisham works in partnership with the PCT to provide a monthly drop-in clinic to encourage older children (16+) of the importance in valuing their health and support their need for professional advice. This is run by qualified health professionals to advise on immunisations, dental screening and sexual health.
- Children are registered with a GP, dentist and optician. This is checked monthly during monthly home visits to foster carers by the supervising social worker.
- Lewisham takes a flexible and responsive approach to engage children with health professionals by facilitating health assessments to be undertaken where children feel most comfortable e.g. at their placement, GP or with the Looked After Children's nurse.
- Children's emotional wellbeing is promoted through training of foster carers and promoting the accessible, specialist advice and support provided by the Child and Mental Health Service (CAMHS) for therapeutic input.
- A specialist drug team is accessible to provide information and support to children and carers.
- Lewisham keeps young people informed with factual information to encourage appropriate decision making. A leaflet is sent to young people of an appropriate age and/or understanding with information and access to sexual health advice to safeguard their sexual health and development.
- Young people are involved in service provision where appropriate. Care Leavers are involved in the quality assurance monitoring of Preferred Providers.
- To ensure carers are physically and mentally fit to care for and support looked after children, all prospective carers are required to have a full medical which is regularly reviewed. Our foster carers are provided with a range of training on how to promote the health and wellbeing of Looked After Children.

LEWISHAM WILL:

Provide a Safe & Secure placement
Regularly Review placements & practice
Promote anti bullying
Promote Safety in the Community
Promote e-safety

- Children are placed according to a rigorous matching process. This is a detailed assessment of key aspects for example, behaviour, disabilities and any risks.
- Support is provided for 'fragile placements' and engage multi-agency support to prevent placement breakdown.
- Robust commissioning contracts are in place to ensure that providers support foster carers to have the skills to look after more children with challenging behaviour.
- Foster Carers are thoroughly assessed before children/young people are placed with them.
- The Fostering Panel maintains rigorous scrutiny of approvals, reviews and contributes significantly to raising standards in the Fostering Service.
- Prior to approval, prospective foster carer homes are subject to a health and safety assessment which is updated annually.
- Regular visits/checks are undertaken by the Supervising Social Workers as part of both their planned and unannounced visits.
- Foster carers have regular training regarding safe care practices, including training on positive discipline strategies, safe holding and physical restraint.
- Ensure carers receive training in restorative approaches when poor behaviour is an issue.
- Children and young people are provided with a safe environment.
- Lewisham works in partnership with families, foster carers and other professionals to provide children with stable placements.
- The Fostering Team actively involves children in making decisions concerning their future.

LEWISHAM WILL:

**Promote School Attendance
Support Young People's Education
Celebrate Young People's Achievements**

- Lewisham's Looked After Children are given the highest priority to get their first preference of school.
- Lewisham's Looked After Children are expected to attend school daily and every effort is made to maintain children in their existing schools and to actively support their educational needs, including targeting children through a case by case approach to removing barriers to going to school.
- Continue to implement educational initiatives to close the school achievement gap between Looked after Children and their peers.
- Looked After Children in years 9, 10 & 11 are provided with additional tuition.
- Foster carers have support from the Advisory Teacher for Looked After Children.
- Children from 3 to 16 years of age have a Personal Education Plan (PEP) which is regularly reviewed.
- Ensure that schools operate a no exclusion policy for Looked after Children and work with other local authorities to ensure similar treatment for Out of Borough Looked after Children
- A Looked After Achievement Awards ceremony is conducted annually to acknowledge and celebrate young people's achievements. Evidence is provided by the foster carer and school.
- There is an active group of young people who produce a quarterly magazine which is distributed to all Looked After Children. Young people who are members of the Corporate Parenting Group are able to put across their concerns and make suggestions for improving the service. Where it can, the Council responds quickly.
- Providing an opportunity for a group of Looked After Children and Care Leavers to visit South Africa to promote understanding and confidence and maintain links with similar welfare organisations.

LEWISHAM WILL:

**Engage Young People in Decision Making
Promote Social Activities**

- Foster carers are encouraged and supported to maintain relationships with Looked After Children's families. The Fostering Service has established Lewisham Carers Supporting Carers scheme to promote positive contact between birth families and foster carers. The scheme helps Lewisham foster carers to support each other in supervising contact arrangements and other areas e.g. school runs, providing care to allow foster carers to attend training sessions.
- Lewisham Looked After Children have the opportunity to attend an annual activity holiday. Foster carers have reported that this has benefited the children they foster.
- Barnado's Lewisham Children's Rights Service provides an effective advocacy service to all children in care to help them understand their rights, information, help with making a complaint, support them with meetings, help them have their say and help them make good decisions.
- Looked After Children have been trained in recruitment and selection to develop their involvement in the appointment of staff including social workers and personal advisers.
- Care Leavers are involved in Quality Assurance and evaluation of Preferred Providers as part of the Preferred Provider Framework tendering process and annual contract monitoring visits. This ensures that providers' competence is also judged by those who have direct experience of care.
- Young adults are also members of the Fostering Panel, this includes a young person who is the birth child of a foster carer.
- Lewisham's Looked After Children and those Leaving Care are involved in the Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP) programme. The programme is specifically targeted to meet the needs of young people who are looked after and those leaving care by enabling them to participate in activities during school holidays, access mainstream activities throughout the year and engage in learning and employment.
- Lewisham's Children-in-Care Council welcomes and encourages all looked after children to participate in the shaping of services; and has distributed the Looked After Children's Pledge to all foster carers.

LEWISHAM WILL:

**Promote further education, employment or training
Provide Life Skills to Promote Independence
Provide Suitable Placements**

- Children are carefully matched to foster carers with the experience, knowledge and skills to meet their individual and diverse needs.
- Support is provided for young people who are most vulnerable to being not in education, employment and training (NEET).
- We use a range of strategies to ensure that Care Leavers are in suitable accommodation.
- Young people who have left school are encouraged and helped to attend further education, a training scheme place, or employment.
- A dedicated Connexions funded careers advice team is available to Care Leavers.
- Young people benefit from the flexible Supported Lodgings Service which enables them to remain in family placements after the age of eighteen.
- The Fostering Service has a range of approved carers with the experience, professional background and competence which effectively prepares young people for independence.
- Foster carers assist children emotionally and with practical skills including cooking, daily living and budgeting.
- Young people are provided with work experience and apprenticeship opportunities.
- Foster carers support university and other further education opportunities.



We welcome and encourage expressions of interest to foster from all walks of life, because Lewisham is a great place to live, work and play!

14. How to Contact Lewisham Fostering Service.

Brendah Malahleka
Service Manager – Fostering Service
1st Floor Laurence House
1 Catford Road
London
SE6 4RU

Email brendah.malahleka@lewisham.gov.uk
Telephone 020 8314 8730

For other formats, including Braille, large print, audio tape or computer disc please contact us.

Visit www.lewisham.gov.uk for all the latest news and information about your Council's services, and the range of job opportunities we currently have on offer.

15. Regulation and Inspection.

Details of the Office for Standards in Education & Skills (Ofsted):

Ofsted
Aviation House
125 Kingsway
London
WC2B 6SE

Telephone Number: 0800 528 0731/0300 123 1231

Reminder

Who can I talk to and who can help?

Foster carer

Their telephone number:

Social worker

Their telephone number:

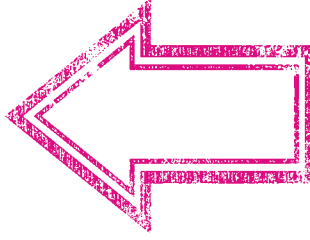
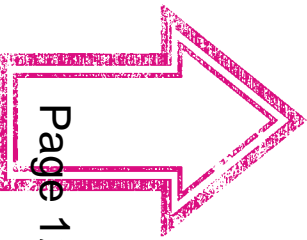
School teacher

Their telephone number:

Lewisham Council

Their main number: 020 8314 6000

Lewisham Council complaints: 020 8314 7435



MY GUIDE TO FOSTER CARE



If you have difficulty understanding this document in English please call the number below.

Për të marrë informacion mbi këtë dokument, ju lutemi telefononi numrin e mëposhtëm.

Albanian

Pour plus d'informations sur ce document, veuillez appeler le numéro ci-dessous.

French

更多有关本文件的信息，
请拨打如下电话。

Mandarin

Sidii aad u hesho macluumaad ku saabsan dokumentigaan fadlan soo wac lambarka hoos ku qoran.

Somali

இப் பத்திரத்திலுள்ள தகவல் தேவையானால் தயவுசெய்து கீழேயுள்ள எண்ணில் தொடர்புகொள்ளவும்.

Tamil

Bu doküman hakkında bilgi için lütfen aşağıdaki numarayı arayınız.

Turkish

Để biết thêm thông tin về tài liệu này, quý vị hãy gọi số điện thoại sau.

Vietnamese

020 7253 7700

Also call this number for other formats, including Braille, large print, audio tape, BSL or computer disc. Email: lewisham@pearllinguistics.com Typetalk 18001 020 7253 7700

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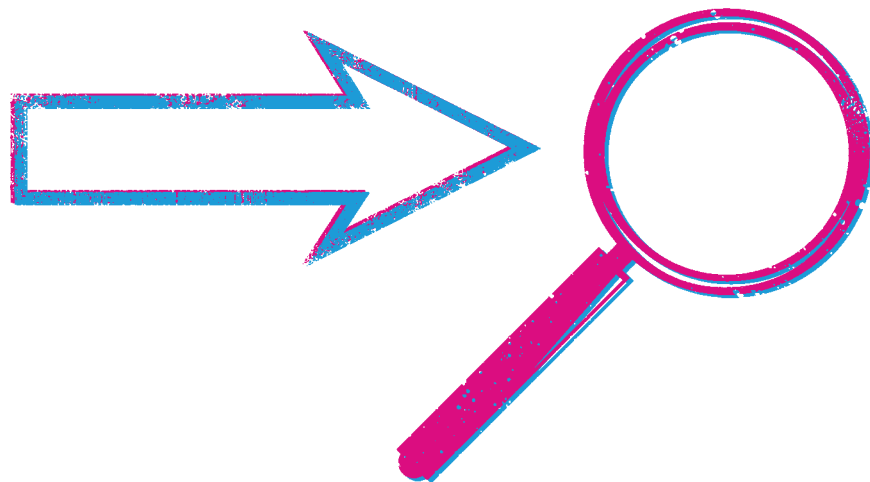
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Who is this booklet for?

If you are going to live with foster carers – or are already in foster care – then this booklet is for you.

It is a useful guide to your future in foster care. Keep it. Make good use of it.

So what's in my guide to foster care?

There is information about who is going to look after you and what happens next.

The booklet also explains how you can keep in touch with your family and what will happen about school.

It tells you how you can help us to get your care needs right.

What is foster care?

If you cannot live with the family you were born into, you may go and stay with another family. We call this going into foster care.

Thousands of children across the country are looked after in foster care. They can be any age. Some are only babies. Some go into foster care with relatives or friends of their family. Of course, all children are different, but many other children have been through the same things that you are going through now.

Let's meet two people who want to help – your social worker and your foster carer.

Tell me about my social worker

Social workers try to help children and families with serious problems. They will keep in contact with you as long as you are in foster care or are being 'looked after'. They will give advice and support. They will always make sure your views are heard and you know what is to happen next.

My social worker is:

I can contact

on:



Tell me about foster carers

They are people who look after children when they have to live away from home. Foster carers are specially trained and they have to be approved by the Council or by a fostering agency.

A fostering panel decides who should be foster carers. On the fostering panel are people who have looked after children themselves, social workers and others who have worked with children for a long time.

The panel meets to decide if those who want to be foster carers can do the job of looking after children properly.

Sometimes the panel helps match a child with the right foster family. This may be when fostering is to be for a long time.

Your foster carer will treat you as if you were part of their family. If there are other children in that family, they will be your foster brothers and foster sisters.

Why do children need to go into foster care?

All children need to grow up in a family with a parent, or parents who will love them and look after them. Parents should support their children all the time they are growing up.

But children can't always live with the families they were born into. Things can go wrong. Perhaps your parents are ill, or they have problems that make it difficult for them to look after you. Perhaps they even hurt you.

Sometimes going to live with a foster carer is called 'going into care' or being 'looked after'.

How can foster care work for me?

Many children find that spending time with foster carers can be good, even if they weren't sure about going in the first place.

You may be in foster care for a few weeks. You may be with foster carers for longer, for months or even years. It will all depend on what you and everyone involved with your care thinks is right for you.

To help us, we draw up a plan that sets out how we hope foster care will help you. This is called a care plan.

What is a care plan?

Your care plan is about your future – and you take part in making all the decisions. The care plan sets out how you should be cared for, how long you will be looked after and what extra help you may need. It explains how we can tackle your problems together. Make sure you talk about your care plan with your social worker and foster carer. Tell them what you think.

Getting ready for a new start

Going to live with foster carers can be hard at first. It's a big change. It may not be easy for you – you have to get used to your foster carer. They have to get used to having someone new in their home.

Everyone must help to make things work. That includes you as well as your foster carer.

Finding the right foster carer

Your social worker will do their best to find a foster carer and family where you will fit in and settle down well. Your foster carer and family should speak the same language as you do, respect the same religious celebrations and share a similar culture.

Moving in

Before you move to your foster carers, or as soon as possible after your move, you will take part in a meeting to talk about the day-to-day arrangements. This is called a placement meeting.

You will be there. So will your foster carer, your social worker and your birth parents. What food you like, where you go to school, if you have to take any medicines – all the details will be written down for you.

Usually, before you move in, you will visit your foster carer's home and meet everyone in the family living there. Sometimes this isn't possible – for instance, if you have to leave home quickly. But you will still be able to take things with you, such as your favourite toys, books and photographs.



Living away from home

Going to live with a foster carer is a big change.

Try not to worry if you think you don't fit in at first. That's how many children feel. If you can, try and talk to someone about it.

It isn't easy to live in someone else's house. Perhaps they do things in a different way. They may have rules you are not used to. Perhaps they eat at different times. They may not watch the TV programmes you are used to.

But your foster carer is there to look after you. She or he will make sure you have your meals, and help you get to school and back again. Your foster carer will be there to talk to you, watch television and play with you. They will treat you as part of their family.

Many children feel a bit scared about living away from home. If you are anxious about anything then remember to talk about your worries to someone. Your social worker and your foster carer are ready to help.

It's good to talk

Who will I talk to when I am living away from home?

Talk to your social worker, your foster carer, your teacher or any of us at Lewisham's Fostering Service if you have any worries or problems. We can all help – perhaps more than you think.

There may be things about your foster care that you are not happy about. For example, the rules set by your foster carer or the arrangements for meals or for going out on trips. If some things are not how you would like them to be then we will do our best to help improve them for you.

What if I am ill?

If you feel ill talk to your foster carer straight away. They will help.

When you first move in with your foster carer you will also go and see a doctor for a 'health assessment'. Your social worker may call this your 'medical'. The doctor will make sure you are well and healthy.

A health record will be filled in for you – and you will have another 'health assessment' every year, if you stay 'looked after'.

Remember, staying healthy is important for all of us. We can help ourselves by eating good food, taking part in games and exercise and by keeping clean.

My family

Can I keep in touch with my family while I am with my foster carer?

Usually you will be able to keep in touch with your family and friends – even if things have been difficult at home.

Living with foster carers does not mean you must lose touch. Talk to your social worker. If it is not possible for you to contact your family he or she will explain the reasons.

Everyone can keep in touch in their own way. You may want to see some of your family a lot – others you may like to meet up with now and then.

Perhaps you would prefer to talk to some of them on the phone.

Some you may not want to see at all.

Remember too that it's OK to get to like your foster carers. You don't love your own family any less and you can care for your carers and your family without having to choose between them.

The story of my life

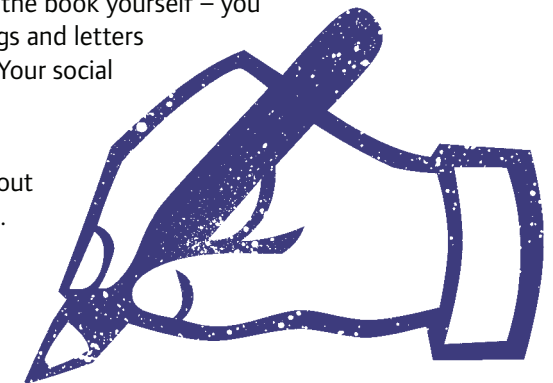
You and your life are the most important thing for your social worker, your foster carer and other people helping to make the best plans for your future.

So your social worker and foster carer will work with you on your life story – all about you, your family and everything that has happened to you.

What is a life story book?

Your life story book is your own special book and tells your story in pictures and in words. You will make the book yourself – you can put your own photographs, drawings and letters in it and write down special memories. Your social worker will help you.

Everything that matters to you can be included – and you can add in more about your stay in foster care as time goes on.



Going to school

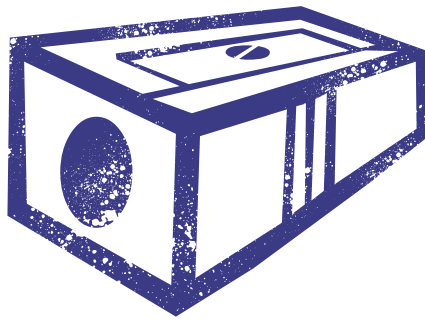
What will happen about school?

Your school and education are essential for your future and one of your foster carer's most important jobs is to be sure you can get to school and back again safely.

Remember, you spend a lot of time at school. You are the same as any other child – you may have problems at school that those who care for you and who look after you know nothing about.

If anything is worrying you, try to make sure you have someone you can talk to about it. Talk it through with a teacher, your foster carer, or social worker.

You should also tell your foster carer or your social worker about your worries. They may be able to help sort out school problems.



any worries or complaints about where you are living, or who you are living with, or anything else that you might want to tell them – good and not so good. Their job is to make sure the review makes a good plan for you.

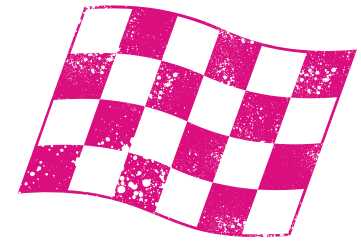
All the decisions will be written down in your care plan.

When fostering ends

Going to live with foster carers can be hard – it's a big change. But when you come to leave your foster carers it can be just as hard.

If you are going home to your parents you will plan the move with your social worker. First you will just go for visits. Then stay for a night. When your parents are able to look after you properly you will move back in with them. Your social worker will collect your clothes, toys, games, any new presents, photos and your life story book.

You will be able to keep in touch with your foster carer if you wish.



Useful things you should know about fostering

There are different foster care arrangements:

- short term – a few weeks or months
- short breaks – sometimes disabled children can take a break from home for a weekend or a week
- kinship – when your foster family is a relative or friend
- long term or permanent fostering – when children stay with a foster family until they are grown up.

How is fostering different from adoption?

If you are not able to go back to your family, your social worker may look for a family who will look after you until you are grown up. They will foster you long term.

If you can't go home to your family, the carers looking after you may want to adopt you. If that is agreed – and you will be asked about what you want – your carers will become your new legal parents. Then you will not be 'in care' or 'looked after' any more. But perhaps the foster carers will look after you until the right people who can look after you forever – adopt you – are found. You will be told about the plan, so you would know about this before it happened!

Planning my future

What can I do to make my life better?

Talk to people about how you feel and tell them what you want.

Get involved in planning for your future.

Think about getting an advocate – someone who can speak up for what you want. Your social worker will be able to give you more information about this.

If you don't have anyone close in your family to keep in touch with then ask about an independent visitor.

An independent visitor is someone who will come to talk to you who is not connected with your foster carer.

Many children and young people don't find it easy to talk about things. But when you're away from your family you may want to have someone you feel comfortable talking to.

Reviewing how you are getting on

While you are in foster care we will hold regular meetings to find out how you are getting on. These are called review meetings.

You will be invited along. Your parents, foster carers and your social worker should be there, perhaps your teacher from school as well. A person called an Independent Reviewing Officer will talk to you before the meeting, and encourage you to be there too. They will also ask you on your own if you have

Who else makes fostering decisions?

Sometimes a judge in court will be asked to decide where you are to live and whether you should be 'looked after' in the care of Lewisham Council Children's Services – that includes your social worker and the Fostering Service.

The supervising social worker

The supervising social worker is the link person between your foster carer and the fostering service; and visits regularly to provide support and guidance.

What is a children's guardian?

A children's guardian tells the judge in court what you think about where you should live. The guardian has the job of finding out your views, your thoughts and your feelings – and making sure the judge hears about what you want.

How foster children can get more help

Who else can I have on my side if things are not going well?

When you have problems, when things are not going right for you – get in touch with your social worker:

.....

If they are not available to help, you can speak to:

.....

who also works for Lewisham Children's Social Care. The telephone number is:

Tel:.....



Tell them about
your problems.
They can help you.

Can I talk to someone who is not from the Council?

Yes. We understand that you may still want to call in someone else – an independent advocate – to help you. Your advocate will not work for our fostering team or for Lewisham Council.

You can talk to someone at:

Lewisham Children's Rights Service

Freephone: 0800 169 3762

You can also talk to:

National Youth Advocacy Service

Freephone: 0800 616 101

Children's Legal Centre

Telephone: 01206 873 820

Website: www.childrenslegalcentre.com



What if I still have worries and problems with fostering

We will do the best that we can to help but you may still have problems. You may even want to make a complaint.

First, make sure you tell your social worker how you feel. Then you can talk to us at the Council. You can make a complaint to

Lewisham Children's Social Care

Their telephone number is: 020 8314 7435,

or email talk2us@lewisham.gov.uk

They will send you a leaflet that tells you exactly how you can make your complaint and what we will do to help.

An organisation called Ofsted checks the work of fostering. They have a dedicated website for children and young people. This is also the website for the Children's Rights Director who will also listen to any complaints you may have.

You can contact them on:

Telephone: 0800 528 0731

Website: www.rights4me.org.uk

Address: Ofsted, Aviation House, 125 Kingsway, London WC2B 6SE

Agenda Item 9

Chief Officer Confirmation of Report Submission	
Cabinet Member Confirmation of Briefing	
Report for: Mayor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Executive Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
Information <input type="checkbox"/>	Part 1 <input type="checkbox"/>
Part 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Key Decision <input type="checkbox"/>

Date of Meeting	11 th April 2011
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Title of Report	Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding & Looked After Children
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Originator of Report	Ian Smith	Ext. 48140
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At the time of submission for the Agenda, I confirm that the report has:

Category	Yes	No
Financial Comments from Exec Director for Resources		X
Legal Comments from the Head of Law		X
Crime & Disorder Implications		X
Environmental Implications		X
Equality Implications/Impact Assessment (as appropriate)		X
Confirmed Adherence to Budget & Policy Framework		X
Risk Assessment Comments (as appropriate)		X
Reason for Urgency (as appropriate)		X

Signed:  Executive Member

Date: 28th March 2012

Signed:  Executive Director

Date: 28th March 2012

Control Record by Committee Support

Action	Date
Listed on Schedule of Business/Forward Plan (if appropriate)	
Draft Report Cleared at Agenda Planning Meeting (not delegated decisions)	
Submitted Report from CO Received by Committee Support	
Scheduled Date for Call-in (if appropriate)	
To be Referred to Full Council	

MAYOR AND CABINET

Report Title	Result of Ofsted's Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children's Services		
Key Decision	No		Item No.
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director for Children and Young People		
Class	Open	Date: 11 April 2012	

1 Purpose

- 1.1 This report and attachment informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the results of Ofsted's Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children's Services.

2 Background

- 2.1 The inspection was carried out between the 6th – 17th February 2012 and is part of the arrangements for Ofsted's inspection of Local Authority services for Safeguarding and Looked After Children. The inspection was a joint inspection between Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission. The London Borough of Lewisham received two weeks notice of the inspection during which time a number of reports and audits needed to be completed for the inspectors to read when they were on site. The two week inspection period itself consisted of four inspectors from Ofsted being on site for two weeks and an inspector from the Care Quality Commission being on site for the first week. The process was that the inspectors carried out 85 focus groups with elected members, staff, parents and young people. They also spent time examining our procedures and policies as well as a review of 71 case files.
- 2.2 The attached report is the report of the findings of the Inspection.
- 2.3 In order to reach their judgement about the quality of services within Lewisham the inspectors graded on 22 different areas. 10 of these areas are for safeguarding and 12 for Looked After Children. They then provided an overall grade for the overall effectiveness of our safeguarding services and our services for Looked After Children. A full summary of the gradings can be found on page 41 of their report. Services were graded on whether they are inadequate, adequate, good or outstanding.

2.4 The outcome for Lewisham was that the inspectors found that our services for safeguarding children are outstanding. Our services for Looked After Children are good. Of the 22 judgements that they made 12 of them were outstanding. Inspectors were particularly impressed by many aspects of safeguarding practice and also by the strength of our partnerships and the general involvement of our young people in the borough. The report is a credit to front-line workers, including our social workers and those who work to intervene early in our schools and health services.

2.5 At the time of writing this report only two other authorities in the country have been given an outstanding for their safeguarding services. No authority in the country has received an outstanding for the Looked After Children's Services.

3 Recommendation

3.1 The Mayor is asked to note the results of the inspection of safeguarding and Looked After Children's Services by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission as detailed in the report attached to this report.

4. Recommendations arising from the inspection

4.1 The report is very positive about our services overall as can be seen by the grades awarded. 11 formal recommendations were made by the inspectors and these are set out on pages 7 and 25 of the report. Actions relating to these recommendations are already in hand and will be monitored through the performance management structures of the Children and Young People's Partnership, including the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board and the Lewisham Safeguarding Children Board.

5 Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications from this report.

6 Legal Implications

6.1 This inspection was carried out under the Children Act 2004.

7 Equalities Implications

7.1 There are no direct equalities implications from this report.

8 Crime and disorder Implications

8.1 There are no direct or indirect Crime and Disorder implications arising from this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1 Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children's Services
London Borough of Lewisham report published 23rd March 2012.

If there are any queries on this report, please contact Ian Smith on 0208 314
8140.

Inspection of safeguarding and looked after children services

London Borough of Lewisham

Inspection dates: 6 – 17 February 2012

Reporting inspector: Chris Sands HMI

Age group: All

Published: 23 March 2012

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About this inspection

1. The purpose of the inspection is to evaluate the contribution made by relevant services in the local area towards ensuring that children and young people are properly safeguarded and to determine the quality of service provision for looked after children and care leavers. The inspection team consisted of four of Her Majesty's Inspectors (HMI) and one inspector from the Care Quality Commission. The inspection was carried out under the Children Act 2004.
2. The evidence evaluated by inspectors included:
 - discussions with children and young people and parents receiving services, front line staff and managers, senior officers including the Director of Children's Services and the Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board, elected members and a range of community representatives
 - analysing and evaluating reports from a variety of sources including a review of the Children and Young People's Plan, performance data, information from the inspection of local settings, such as schools and day care provision and the evaluations of a serious case review undertaken by Ofsted in accordance with '*Working Together To Safeguard Children*', 2010
 - a review of 71 case files for children and young people with a range of need. This provided a view of services provided over time and the quality of reporting, recording and decision making undertaken
 - the outcomes of the most recent annual unannounced inspection of local authority contact, referral and assessment services undertaken in November 2010
 - interviews and focus groups with front line professionals, managers and senior staff from Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust and South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust.

The inspection judgements and what they mean

3. All inspection judgements are made using the following four point scale.

Outstanding (Grade 1)	A service that significantly exceeds minimum requirements
Good (Grade 2)	A service that exceeds minimum requirements
Adequate (Grade 3)	A service that only meets minimum requirements

Inadequate (Grade 4)	A service that does not meet minimum requirements
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Service information

4. Lewisham has a population of 274,900. One in four residents (approximately 64,500) are aged under 19 years, making up 24.5% of the Borough's population compared to 22.4% for inner London and 24.4% nationally. Lewisham has 37,812 pupils within its 89 schools. The population in Lewisham is forecast to grow by 49,000 people over the next 20 years. The projected change in population stems mostly from an increase in birth rate.
5. Lewisham has 89 schools, comprising two nursery schools; 65 primary schools, including one converter academy, 15 secondary schools which include one 16-19 school, four all-age schools, three academies; six special schools and one pupil referral unit.
6. Based on Greater London Authority 2012 projections, 41% of residents are from a minority ethnic background (rising to 75.5% in schools), with over 170 languages spoken in the Borough. On the specific indicator of income deprivation affecting children, 38 (out of 166) of Lewisham's super output areas are in the 10% most deprived. The rising numbers of children and young people in Lewisham is a significant issue requiring extra provision within schools and increasing demand on services for children, young people and families across the partnership.
7. Lewisham has had a multi-agency Children and Young People's Partnership since 2002. The Partnership is one of six thematic partnerships of the Lewisham Strategic Partnership and has a top level Board to provide leadership and direction across agencies. The Lewisham Safeguarding Children Board has been chaired independently since 2009 and includes a range of organisations working with children, young people and families in the area to provide safeguarding services. Five task groups support the Board, focusing on monitoring and service improvement, policies, procedures and training, communications, child death overview and serious case reviews.
8. Early intervention and support services are currently being refocused to offer a range of targeted interventions through 19 children's centres across four children's services areas. Safeguarding and social care services consist of five referral and assessment teams, seven family support and intervention teams, a children in need service for children with complex needs, three looked after children teams, three leaving care teams and adoption and fostering services. Lewisham does not have its own children's homes. The emergency duty team is a generic out of hours service based in central Lewisham.

9. Health services are provided by Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust which provides community services, hospital and other specialist services. Primary care services are provided by NHS Lewisham. The full range of acute general hospital medical, surgical and emergency services are provided by Lewisham Hospital. Child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) and adult mental health and substance misuse services are provided by the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust. Joint commissioning arrangements are in place in Lewisham with all children's community health services commissioned through the joint commissioning team in the local authority.
10. The voice of young people in Lewisham is represented through the Young Mayor, the Young Advisers and the Lewisham Young Citizens' Panel of which the current membership is in excess of 900 young people. Approximately £900,000 of youth provision is commissioned directly by a group of Young Commissioners.
11. At the time of the inspection, 495 children and young people were being looked after by the local authority. They comprise 97 children under five years of age, 322 children of school age (5-16) and 76 post-16 young people. There were 250 care leavers (18-24). At the time of the inspection there were 207 children subject to child protection plans, of whom 184 are age unborn to 11 years. The local authority currently has 102 fostering households, including kinship and short break foster carers. Residential care is provided through individually commissioned provider services with 46 children currently placed in residential provision. Of those children placed in either fostering or residential provision, 58% are placed outside the local authority area. However, the vast majority are placed within 20 miles of the council boundary.

Safeguarding services

Overall effectiveness

Grade 1 (Outstanding)

12. The overall effectiveness of the council and its partners is outstanding. Children and young people in Lewisham are very effectively safeguarded through a combination of initiatives lead by partner agencies and some directly influenced by young people. Most children and young people whom inspectors spoke to and who responded to the surveys indicated a strong feeling of being safe. Some exceptionally good initiatives to improve safeguarding outcomes have been developed by young people and between partners to promote safety.
13. Partnerships between agencies are strong and mature with a robust focus on improving outcomes for children and young people in all aspects of their safeguarding and child protection work. The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership demonstrates a strength and maturity combined with an energetic drive for innovation to achieve improved outcomes. A wide range of partners are involved at all levels resulting in good outcomes for children and families.
14. The local authority has been rated 'excellent' in the past three children's services assessments. No priority actions were identified within either of the two unannounced inspections preceding the safeguarding and looked after children inspection. A strong focus has been maintained to address the areas for development following the more recent unannounced inspection in November 2010. Inspectors saw clear evidence of these areas having been fully addressed and embedded within practice.
15. Statutory requirements set out in '*Working Together to Safeguard Children*', 2010 are well met through a combination of a rigorous audit system, a clear set of standards applied to safeguarding practice and comprehensive training opportunities. At the time of the inspection there were no unallocated cases and no cases were referred to senior managers during the course of the inspection due to child protection concerns not being appropriately managed or addressed. Child protection referrals are responded to appropriately and within timescales. Of particular note is the quality of service response to professional referrers and the good use of case summaries at the beginning of case records. However, whilst there have been clear demonstrable improvements in child protection practices, the same drive is now required to improve services provided by the children with disabilities team and, in the family support and intervention teams, through more targeted and measurable children and young people's plans.
16. No services are deteriorating and most areas of development identified by inspectors were already known with action plans in place to drive forward improvements. There have been no recent serious case reviews. Actions

from previous serious case reviews have been completed and were evidenced to have been embedded in practice.

17. Highly ambitious and energetic leadership is demonstrated by the senior management team, supported by the partnership, with a relentless focus on improving outcomes. The well founded principle of early identification of vulnerable siblings in families known to, or previously known to, agencies is clearly understood and articulated across the partnership. Services are exceptionally well targeted and deliver clear, specified and improved outcomes for families. The move to outcome focused commissioning of children's centres and payment by results informed by comprehensive local profiling is an excellent example of working with providers on a challenging agenda. Robust arrangements are in place for effective joint commissioning to drive forward new initiatives and ensure the most effective use of combined resources. Financial resources are being very effectively allocated to achieve the maximum impact from a diminishing grant settlement through the early intervention service reconfiguration.

Capacity for improvement

Grade 1 (Outstanding)

18. The local authority and partners have an outstanding capacity to improve. They have already developed a strong track record of improvement and have a strong vision for the future. The focus on developing child protection services and practice is delivering demonstrable improvements. Performance targets are set ambitiously within the top quartile with the direction of travel in most indicators showing positive progress.
19. Innovation, ambition and aspiration for high quality services are supported by a clear focus on improving outcomes. Services are effective and can demonstrate good and improving outcomes. Highly effective practice is evidenced across most of the areas evaluated which contributes to robust safeguarding arrangements. For example, the early intervention and prevention service is showing initial signs of excellent success. Multi-agency planning for children with disabilities is showing positive outcomes achieved through good partnership working. Thresholds are clearly understood and the rigorous approach to embed the common assessment framework (CAF), supported by a wide range of local support services, is delivering some very positive results for children and families.
20. The council's decision to protect children's services as a priority supports the plans for continued and sustained development and improvement of services. Effective use of resources has resulted in children's services operating within its allocated budget, whilst developing services and maintaining high levels of permanently appointed staff through a very effective recruitment and retention strategy.

21. Through a rigorous and extensive audit and quality assurance framework including evaluations of services and initiatives, the council and its partners have a very accurate understanding of their strengths and areas for development.

Areas for improvement

22. In order to improve the quality of provision and services for safeguarding children and young people in the London Borough of Lewisham, the local authority and its partners should take the following action.

Within three months:

- strengthen the use and quality of social care children in need casework plans through clearer identification of measurable actions and outcomes
- work with police and health partners to ensure domestic violence notifications are sent through to health visitors and school nurses as a matter of routine.

Within six months:

- develop a protocol with the police on the use of police powers of protection and the interface with children's social care service out of hours
- improve practice consistency in supervision through measurable actions
- improve support to young carers through increasing the number of schools signing up the agreed protocol and embedding practice which gives appropriate consideration to the needs of young carers.

Safeguarding outcomes for children and young people

Children and young people are safe and feel safe

Grade 1 (Outstanding)

23. Safeguarding outcomes for children and young people are outstanding. The identification and management of allegations against people who work with children are robust, and especially good in schools. The service provides high-quality support to a range of agencies in ensuring that children and young people are properly safeguarded. Good work is being undertaken to promote the function of the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and to ensure that agencies understand safe practices. However, low rates of referral from some agencies, in particular the police, should be investigated to ensure the role is being properly utilised. Decision making is rigorous, robust and effectively tracked. Links to the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) and other authorities are appropriately in place.
24. Complaints are resolved in a timely manner. The complaints system is well structured and decisions are made appropriately as to whether a complaint should be accepted. Good use of local resolution has addressed almost half of the complaints received without recourse to formal processes. More robust procedures have been established recently to ensure consistency of decision making. However, whilst there has been an impressive record of addressing complaints at the most local level, the council does not have a system for recording whether complainants were satisfied with the response.
25. Processes to ensure safe recruitment are sound, clear and effective. Training for staff taking part in recruitment and selection panels is applied diligently and attendance is reported to the Local Safeguarding Children Board.
26. The definition and thresholds relating to missing children are agreed and well understood by all relevant professionals. Safeguarding and child protection needs of missing children and young people are identified and responded to effectively and in a timely manner. The Missing Persons Unit (MPU) has established robust multi-agency arrangements that show effective working and an efficient flow of information between agencies, including a shared database of all missing children. A range of strategies supported by a designated contact for missing children within Lewisham's children's social care services have been successful in reducing numbers of missing children. All young people are offered a return interview by a designated social worker and information gained is used to inform prevention, such as the identification of themes that underpin children's reasons for going missing.

27. The emergency duty team (EDT) for adults and children is staffed by experienced and appropriately qualified social workers and maintains good links with the referral and assessment teams. Emergency placements are provided through delegated responsibilities vested in the out of hours service team manager. The service has ready access to senior managers and legal advice and full access to the electronic information systems. Where referrals for support are received relating to a child with disabilities, these are referred to an independently commissioned provider with specialist knowledge of disabled children which is excellent. The use of police powers of protection is appropriately applied. However, prior consultation by the police with the EDT is not routine, resulting in the EDT having to be reactive in their response. Appropriate adult arrangements are provided by an independent provider. There are no formal reporting mechanisms for the EDT and therefore information and activity is not utilised for service oversight or for the identification of patterns and trends.
28. The very effective community safety partnership is driving a well coordinated crime reduction strategy and a significant reduction in robbery and street crime has been achieved through targeting specific, identified individuals involved in gang related crime. Youth victimisation is addressed very effectively using the methodology of the adult multi-agency risk assessment conference (MARAC) to support young people who have been the victim of serious violence (Youth MARAC). Good sharing of information with the safer neighbourhood team about all young people living in their area who are, or were, subject to a protection plan provides an added safeguarding safety net for vulnerable children and their families. A wide range of initiatives, such as youth groups, Duke of Edinburgh schemes and voluntary sector partnerships contribute to an effective diversion from crime programme.
29. Children and young people confirm findings from surveys in that they report feeling very safe in schools and in other settings for learning and the large majority feel safe when going to and from school. They have significant influence in shaping policy and practice for safeguarding and value this involvement. An annual safeguarding audit of all schools and comprehensive training and information, including for governing bodies, contributes to this good provision, as do clear thresholds for the referral of child protection concerns. Case tracking for children and young people in need and for children subject to child protection plans, including disabled young people, shows safe and appropriate educational placements. Settings are highly alert to child protection concerns and make prompt referrals.
30. The prevention of bullying, including cyber-bullying, is supported exceptionally well by comprehensive guidelines, clear guidance for schools, and findings from the monitoring of termly incident reporting.

Schools are highly alert to bullying and pupils are encouraged strongly to report incidents through the use of an anonymous email system. A wide range of proactive interventions including curriculum materials, peer mediators and a highly successful restorative approach to managing behaviour reduce incidents of bullying. Agencies working in schools target vulnerable pupils and information received prior to transfer to secondary school identifies vulnerable siblings. High quality multi-agency training for practitioners and parents provides good awareness of safeguarding in young people's use of the internet and of cyber-bullying.

31. Effective work by the fair access panel has contributed to a significant reduction in numbers of children missing from education. Schools and agencies are clear about their roles and responsibilities for safeguarding and enact these well. Vulnerable groups are identified early, through excellent partnerships between schools and the police, and through knowledge of siblings. Truancy patrols and safer community teams ensure young people are in school and comprehensive procedures secure the safeguarding of younger children who are not collected regularly at the end of the school day. Tenacious follow-up of absence and good advice to schools from a dedicated attendance and welfare officer also contributes to safeguarding, as do youth support services in re-engaging young people in accredited learning.
32. Attendance at school has improved and persistent absence has reduced, although remaining above the national average in secondary schools. Targeted work to further reduce persistent absence is in place and includes a forum for the sharing of best practice. No pupils of primary school age, or with a statement of special educational need, have been permanently excluded for several years. Despite increasing numbers of permanent exclusions from secondary schools, effective support prevents exclusion for many. Specialist outreach work, that includes young people with autism, is rated very highly by head teachers. This has developed the capacity of schools to divert challenging and disaffected young people from exclusion and helped to re-engage reluctant pupils in learning. Young people attending the pupil referral unit who have been excluded from school or at risk of exclusion have outstanding facilities for vocational learning. Very high expectations for their achievement and targeted support for their well-being is exceptionally successful in re-engaging them in learning, helping them to gain qualifications and securing transition to further learning or work. A well considered 'managed moves' policy also prevents exclusion from school, as does targeted support for young people returning to school following intensive intervention programmes.
33. A comprehensive policy and clear, robust procedures assure the safety of children who are educated at home, including those with statements of special educational need. Agencies are alert to early identification. Checks on previous contacts with services trigger investigation and robust

monitoring, and regular review of children causing concern secures their safeguarding. Full and helpful guidance for parents and carers clarifies their responsibilities. Good advice and signposting to services secures good educational provision and proactive work with providers of further education promotes continuance in learning for young people after the age of 16.

34. Good attention to equality and diversity and positive educational outcomes are effective in safeguarding children and young people. Success in closing gaps in educational attainment for vulnerable groups, and for those at risk of underachievement and exclusion has secured their continuation in learning. As a result, more young people are in education, training or employment than in similar areas and nationally, and this has been the case for several years.
35. A robust system is in place to assess and support families who do not have recourse to public funds. Social workers undertaking the assessment exercise a good understanding of these families and are alert to potential child protection issues. Good oversight and decision making is provided through the fortnightly panel which reviews and monitors progress of families with no recourse to public funds.
36. Children and young people have exceptionally good opportunities to make their views known on a wide range of safeguarding topics and have been effective in having their voice heard. Innovative and very effective work is being undertaken by young citizen group members such as City Safe Haven project, and the full participation by young people in the planning and building of a new youth facility helps young people feel safe in Lewisham. Those children and young people seen by inspectors knew where and how to access help and advice if they needed it.
37. The very large majority of primary schools are judged by Ofsted as good or better for staying safe, as are all secondary and special schools and children's centres. The local authority adoption and fostering services have been judged good in staying safe with some areas judged as outstanding.
38. The majority of children's services that were inspected are graded good or outstanding for staying safe. The few childminders and childcare settings that are inadequate receive prompt intervention. An ongoing publicity campaign about private fostering has resulted in a slight increase in notifications. The numbers are similar to statistical neighbouring authorities and higher than in others. A good service for children identified as being privately fostered ensures their needs are being met.

Quality of provision

Grade 2 (Good)

39. The quality of provision is good. Early preventative services that safeguard children and divert them from statutory provision are a significant

strength. Continued investment in early intervention is based strongly on preventing escalation of need. This includes the early identification of siblings of previously known families and who are then targeted at an early stage. Strategic priorities for the reconfiguration of preventative services as well as the commissioning of children's centres and voluntary and community groups are informed very well by population profiling that identifies hard-to-reach families and particularly vulnerable groups, such as young women at risk of teenage pregnancy.

40. Multi-agency assessment using the common assessment framework (CAF) is well embedded in practice across the partnership and is increasingly effective in preventing referral to statutory services. Processes are clear to agencies, and families are engaged well. CAFs are of generally good quality and show that agencies know the needs of children and parents very well. Goals from assessments are mostly clear but the corresponding plan to carry these out, the professionals responsible and the identification of outcomes to measure success are less strong, as is the recording of the contributions of parents and their consent for the sharing of information. Nevertheless, referrals are appropriate, timely and result in some outstanding outcomes for families. Professionals value highly the considerable support and advice that is readily available to them, in particular from multi-agency forums for practitioners. Thresholds to services are understood well across agencies. Robust monitoring informs service provision and sign-off by managers includes assurance of processes and outcomes. Review meetings are effective in decreasing reliance on services as families increase their capacity to manage independently.
41. Effective multi-agency Team Around the Child (TAC) and Team Around the Family (TAF) arrangements are showing considerable success in preventing escalation of need. Well coordinated support, that also targets siblings, improves outcomes for particularly vulnerable groups, such as for families with histories of substance misuse and domestic violence, stabilises family relationships, improves education and health outcomes and secures suitable housing. A range of targeted services that support positive parenting also demonstrates success in increasing the resilience of families, strengthening attachment and improving school readiness.
42. In children's centres, a very wide range of preventative services for adults and children that include the voluntary and community sector, excellent local knowledge of services from professionals, and highly productive multi-agency partnerships show some outstanding support for families and result in excellent outcomes. Parents identify strong and competent lead professionals, thorough assessment, prompt signposting to suitable services, rapid referrals and flexible, well coordinated support that has changed their lives. Those that were once isolated and depressed forge strong friendships and support others through volunteering, while some are engaged in accredited learning as a pathway to employment.

43. Use of the CAF on transfer to primary school secures smooth transition and contributes to the narrowing of the gap in achievement. CAFs are also used to secure continuing support to children in need and for those who are no longer require child protection plans. For older children, intensive work with families prevents family breakdown. Targeted youth support services engage older young people in positive activities that encourage continuation in learning after the age of 16, contributing to low levels of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET). Highly successful sports programmes that provide interventions to enable young people to gain qualifications as sports leaders have improved attendance and reduced exclusion from school.
44. Young carers aged eight years and above have access to an appropriate range of information, social and support opportunities through the Lewisham Carers Service. Whilst there is no data on the effectiveness or outcomes from the work by the carers service, young carers report a number of positive differences, such as developing their confidence, and most importantly coping with their lives and being proud of what they do. Good engagement with adult services and other settings has raised the profile and built firm links with professionals in all settings to increase awareness of the needs of young carers. Fifteen schools have now signed up to the young carers' charter, however young carers report variability in the sensitivity of schools to their individual needs.
45. Rigorous systems are in place to ensure robust judgements are made about the outcomes of contacts and referrals to the children's social care teams. Thresholds for services are clear, agreed, understood and consistently applied by agencies. Social workers are appropriately experienced and their work is systematically overseen by managers to ensure that decisions are robust and that work is progressed in a timely manner. Where thresholds are not met, contacts are properly signposted to other appropriate services and feedback is routinely given to referrers. Professionals from other agencies report being appreciative of the informal advice that they can obtain from the specialist link workers and staff within the social care duty team prior to making referrals.
46. All cases of children in need and those identified as requiring protection are allocated promptly to appropriately qualified and experienced social workers. Child protection services are correctly targeted at children at most risk of harm and workers are appropriately skilled to undertake this work. Investigations about children and young people who are at immediate risk of harm are carried out in a timely manner and strategy discussions are properly undertaken and recorded.
47. Initial and core assessments are undertaken in a timely manner. The quality of all initial and core assessments seen by inspectors was at least adequate and the majority were good. Most contain sufficient information and give good consideration to risk factors and needs, in particular within

child protection assessments and reports. Practice has improved recently to ensure that the role of fathers in children's lives is effectively considered. In a small number of cases seen, social workers had incorporated findings from research into assessment and planning. The council has recognised the need to improve the recording of the voice of the child in assessments and planning. Rigorous monitoring and auditing has resulted in demonstrable improvements in the quality of initial child protection case conference reports, review conference and core assessments.

48. In the majority of cases, recording is of a good standard and up to date with the exception of some chronologies. The use of case summaries on the front sheet of the electronic system is a particularly good example to ensure consistency of approach by covering workers and those engaged in out of hours service responses. However, considerable variability is evident across the service in the quality of plans. A large number of cases held within the children with disability service do not have children in need plans underpinning their care packages. However, plans in child protection work, including those undertaken in the children with disability social care team, are good and comprehensive. Through a combination of a robust action plan and the introduction of the special educational needs pathfinder programme, new arrangements are being introduced to secure more effecting planning and reviewing for children with disabilities and their families. Equality and diversity issues are recorded in all cases seen by inspectors and their impact is given good consideration in planning. Interpreter and translation services are readily accessible and used when necessary.
49. Child protection conferences mainly take place within established timescales. Where initial child protection conferences are held outside the established timescale, these are for good reason. Conference chairs are experienced and, in the vast majority of cases, see parents before the meeting. Multi-agency working is well established in child protection. Child protection conferences are quorate and the resultant protection plans are comprehensive, time bound with clear outcomes and lead professional responsibilities. Good attention is given to contingency planning in child protection planning but this is not always clear in the written plans. Between conferences, children and young people are recorded as seen alone and often more frequently than outlined in the child protection plan. The majority of core groups are timely and well attended by partner agencies.
50. Supervision and management oversight is, in most cases, effective in driving cases forward and improving outcomes for children. Monitoring by child protection chairs show that the large majority of child protection plans are being progressed successfully. In the small number of instances where this is not the case, there is proper management oversight, no drift, suitable use of legal planning meetings and further work undertaken to

engage parents. However this was less apparent in some children in need cases where, for example, timescales to complete actions were not always recorded and it was less clear about what progress was being made. Reflective supervision is being developed for all workers and its use is firmly embedded with newly qualified social workers.

51. Good use is being made of the 'strengthening families' approach in child protection conferences. Feedback from parents shows that they have a greater understanding of identified risk with increased clarity about the presence or absence of protective factors in their lives, and they were more able to contribute to the conference and felt that their contribution was listened to.
52. Parents seen by inspectors, whose children were or had been on a child protection plan, were overwhelmingly positive about their experiences. They appreciated the support and help offered to them from a range of professionals. They acknowledged that they had found child protection processes daunting, especially conferences, but that on most occasions they felt their efforts to work with professionals to improve their children's lives were acknowledged.
53. Children seen were generally positive about their social workers, and other professionals who were working with them, and considered that they were listened to. They were clear about who to turn to for help and advice and commented that social workers made things easier for them.

The contribution of health agencies to keeping children and young people safe **Grade 1 (Outstanding)**

54. The contribution of health agencies to keeping children and young people safe is outstanding. Health partners are highly committed to partnership working to ensure that children and young people in Lewisham are safe and well protected. Attendance by health practitioners at child protection meetings is good and is closely monitored and reported on by the LSCB and increasingly by the provider organisations as part of their board assurance framework.
55. An effective and appropriately constituted Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) is established as a sub group of the LSCB and chaired by a Consultant in Public Health. Recently the CDOP have influenced local training on the risks of co-sleeping, especially where babies are breastfed. Additional funding has been obtained to improve bereavement support for families within primary care.
56. The NHS Lewisham, South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust and the Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust Boards exercise good quality, effective assurance of safeguarding practice supported well by clear

governance structures. The South London & Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust has an impressive assurance framework on safeguarding children. Robust audit programmes are in place across the health partnership. Arrangements for the line management and accountability to the Trust Board for designated and named professionals are appropriate and highly effective and meet the requirements of *'Working Together To Safeguard Children'*, 2010.

57. Health partners are well represented on the Children's Trust Partnership and the LSCB. A long history of partnership working is highly successful in meeting local challenges.
58. Impressive progress has been made in ensuring that staff across the health partnership are appropriately trained in safeguarding children. Learning from serious case reviews and serious incidents is incorporated well into training plans. Exemplary arrangements are in place for the community staff supervision, with a range of approaches used to promote best outcomes for staff and families with whom they are working. Clear processes are in place to escalate concerns where there have been professional disagreements.
59. Awareness on safeguarding and child protection within primary care is very good and well embedded. Significantly, the majority of general practitioners (GPs) have completed training at Level 2 and are on target to complete Level 3 training by March 2012. Named GP safeguarding leads have been identified in all GP practices and are well supported by regular meetings as well as access to supervision. This is exceptionally good practice. Effective meetings take place regularly between GPs and health visitors to share information on vulnerable families, ensuring coordination of primary care services in safeguarding children.
60. Highly effective arrangements are in place to ensure child protection medicals are carried out quickly and by appropriately trained staff. Medical examinations following allegations of sexual abuse are carried out in the local 'Haven' facility at Kings College.
61. The healthy child programme is delivered effectively using skill mix within the health visiting service. Targeted visits are made to vulnerable families to provide additional support. Good arrangements are in place to transfer families from health visiting service to the school nursing service. Very high rates of completion of new entry into school questionnaires help ensure that the health needs of children new into school are known well with appropriate health plans in place for continued monitoring and review by school nurses.
62. School nurses provide an effective and extensive range of services including drop in sessions at each secondary school and small groups to support young people with specific needs. School nurses offer an extended role in accompanying young people to contraceptive and sexual

health services. All schools and nurseries have named child protection nurses.

63. Good support from the children's community nursing service enables children and young people with complex needs to access life opportunities such as attending school, going on school trips and participating in other leisure activities. The children's community nursing service also provides successful training to universal services to provide care, for example, EpiPens and gastronomy feeds.
64. Well established processes in accident and emergency (A&E) services support highly effective safeguarding practice. Children attending urgent care are checked for repeat attendance and whether a child protection plan is in place. Best practice extends to the use of flags on records that indicate other concerns such as national alerts on missing children and those children with complex care needs. A comprehensive assessment is carried out on all children attending the A&E which takes into account the child's condition and whether there are any safeguarding or child protection concerns. This assessment exceeds the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidance in terms of best practice.
65. Highly efficient and effective use of paediatric liaison ensures that all attendances of children up to age 16 are screened with notifications sent promptly to GPs, health visitors and school nurses.
66. Young people up to the age of 18 who attend A&E following an incident of self harm are supported very well by CAMHS. Any young person under 16 is admitted to the paediatric ward for a short period in line with NICE guidance. Older adolescents are either admitted to the A&E short stay unit or discharged following consultation with CAMHS.
67. Attendance of pregnant women at A&E is routinely notified to maternity services. Midwives have clear and effective processes in place to identify vulnerabilities in women when they book their pregnancy, with further opportunities to assess risk throughout the pregnancy through scheduled routine ante-natal appointments. Very good arrangements are in place to support women who require peri-natal mental health support as well as those women who have substance misuse or alcohol problems. Regular, well attended multi-agency meetings take place in A&E and in maternity services to consider vulnerable families. These meetings ensure that families are receiving appropriate support through either Team Around the Child, CAF or through the involvement of social care.
68. Teenage parents-to-be have timely access to good support from the teenage pregnancy midwife and from the key worker service. Ante-natal clinics for young people are held regularly, with one of the clinics running a multi-agency drop in support service alongside the clinic to offer the young people support with housing, benefits, returning to work or education. Young dads have access to the working with men 'Young

Fathers' programmes that support young men either through regular group work or on a one to one basis. These services are highly valued by the young people.

69. Good progress is being made in tackling the high number of teenage conceptions in Lewisham, with the reduction in conceptions being significantly higher than either local or national rates. Effective sex and relationship education (SRE) is provided by the school nursing services, with good support from the contraceptive and sexual health (CASH) service outreach team, including the effective use of mock clinics to build up confidence of young people to attend CASH clinics in the future.
70. Young people have good access to a range of contraceptive and sexual health services from four integrated clinics across the council area including 24 hour access to emergency contraception. Comprehensive assessments on all children aged 16 and under and for vulnerable young people under 18 help identify vulnerability and risk associated with exploitation or trafficking. The assessments also help to identify any unmet need that local services can provide support with, such as substance misuse or emotional health and well-being services.
71. An effective programme of education and support is available to children and young people around substance and alcohol misuse. The drug and alcohol team provide bespoke packages of education tailored to the needs of the individual school or college. The Crime Reduction Initiative (CRI) team works with children and young people from the age of 10 to 21 and offer a number of treatment options, though either group sessions or one to one interventions, depending on their need and choice. The CRI worker based in the Youth Offending Team works through assertive outreach and her work is evaluated well by former clients. An increasing number of young people are completing their care plans and leaving the service in a planned way, this is being carefully monitored by commissioners to ensure that the service continues to meet the needs of children and young people.
72. Families have good access to highly effective child and adolescent mental health services. All referrals are triaged daily to ensure a prompt response where necessary. A number of core CAMHS staff provide services across Lewisham, including those that work as part of the multi-disciplinary team based in primary care. Young people who are acutely unwell are very well supported and, where possible at home, through the Lewisham young people's service that operates a five day week service. As a result, inpatient care is avoided appropriately. In patient care, however, is available locally if required. Of note is the policy of the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust not to admit young people under 18 onto an adult ward.

73. Transition into adult mental health services is timely and well planned. Quarterly multi-agency transition meetings start to discuss future care needs of young people when they are 16 to ensure that their needs are known and planned for effectively.
74. Good and increasing awareness on the potential impact of parents' mental health on children is well supported by the SLAM approach to 'Think Family'. The trust uses a child need and risk form that is completed for any child that belongs to the family of the adult service user, as well as for any child with whom they have contact. All requests to attend case conferences are well considered to ensure appropriate attendance and information is provided.
75. Families have access to effective therapy services including speech and language therapy (SALT) to support children and young people. However, the change in delivery arrangements to improve the speech and language therapy services for school age children has not been communicated well to some parents. The multi-agency panel offers a key worker to coordinate the care of those children and young people with the most complex care needs and this supports those families well. Access to equipment is now through a recently pooled budget between health, social care and education and it is too soon to comment on the impact of this change.
76. Health partners are well engaged in the domestic violence agenda across Lewisham with good support from all key areas. A&E are reporting an increasing number of young people to the Youth MARAC and are positive and enthusiastic about the benefit of this work in relation to gang activity and in making Lewisham a safer place to live. Public health nurses no longer routinely receive police notifications following their attendance at a domestic violence incident where there are children in the family and this means that they are unable to consider the impact of this with the families they are working with. This is being discussed by the partnership to negotiate how this information can be shared appropriately.

Ambition and prioritisation

Grade 1 (Outstanding)

77. Ambition and prioritisation are outstanding. Protecting children's services is a key element within the council's intentions to maintain a focus on local priorities and improve outcomes and the lives of the most vulnerable in Lewisham. The track record of the council and partners acting on local priorities is well established, demonstrated through their response to unsatisfactory performance for example, immunisations and human papillomavirus (HPV), teenage pregnancy, core group attendance, community safety – all of which are showing demonstrable improvements.
78. Listening to the voice of children and young people is integral to the council's processes and through which initiatives are exceptionally well supported. The council's ambition is particularly strongly promoted

through the Children and Young People's Plan, the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and the engagement of young people, notably the Young Mayor, the Young Advisers, Young Commissioners and the My Space project. High ambition is therefore shared and was clearly evidenced during the inspection across the council and young people in their daily roles.

79. Robust and appropriate scrutiny and challenge is provided by the Children and Young People's Select Committee to ensure services being delivered meet the high expectations and standards of the council. The Committee's work plan appropriately includes a combination of standing items, for example; performance data and annual reports combined with a flexible approach to scrutiny of emerging issues; missing children, youth services, specialist service provision and the SEN Green paper.
80. The role of the Chief Executive is effective in oversight and improvement of children's services. A key feature is the regular direct reporting mechanisms set up specifically by the Chief Executive for both the Executive Director of Children's Services and the Director of Children's Social Care Services.

Leadership and management

Grade 1 (Outstanding)

81. Leadership and management are outstanding. The workforce strategy is outstanding and has been highly effective in recruiting and retaining well qualified and motivated social workers. The council has demonstrated its commitment to maintaining a well trained social care workforce through various initiatives including a bursary scheme with Goldsmiths College and the newly qualified social work programme. Working with the Children's Workforce Development Council and in partnership with two other councils, the council has introduced a 'Step Up to Social Work' programme, an employment based training route for graduates leading to a Master's degree in social work. Similarly, the same principle for workforce development is well evidenced in the aspirant leadership programme to support succession planning in schools. Newly qualified social workers are very well supported through the newly qualified social work programme
82. The workforce planning for children's social care demonstrates an exceptionally clear focus on supporting continuing professional development through a comprehensive training programme and a highly successful and comprehensive recruitment and retention strategy. The children's social care workforce is suitably reflective of the local population with 57% of social workers from minority ethnic communities.
83. At present, there is an absence of multi-agency strategic oversight of the workforce development strategy. As a result, this does not promote a partnership approach to oversight of appropriately trained and qualified

staff within the wider children's services workforce. The council recognises this and has plans to reintroduce effective multi-agency oversight.

84. The profile of children and their families in the local area is very well known and this knowledge has been used very effectively to inform local service provision and commissioning supported by very detailed and impactful comprehensive equality impact assessments. Financial resources are used to good effect, and commissioning of early intervention services is very effective with some initial indicators of excellent success. The coherence of the early intervention service model with a wide range of services is a particular strength. A very good range of user engagement opportunities are provided by the council to gather the views of service users and to consult with them.
85. The complaints system is well established with very good use being made of local resolution. This has resulted in no Stage 2 complaints during 2010-11. All children and young people spoken to knew either how to make a complaint or knew who to go to if they had concerns or worries.
86. Overall, this is a council which knows itself well. Weaknesses in services are well understood with appropriate action planning being put in place.

Performance management and quality assurance

Grade 2 (Good)

87. Performance management and quality assurance are good. Ambitious targets are set by the council within the national top quartile preferring to monitor the direction of travel to achieve these high standards rather than accept a lower standard. There is a solid performance framework which runs throughout the council from the corporate to individual level. Robust and regular monitoring of performance is undertaken at all levels, including elected members. The culture for joint responsibility to support performance improvement is evident with examples such as placement stability and the engagement of CAMHS targeting their service specifically to support this and the immunisation and HPV programme with good engagement by schools.
88. The audit process within children's social care is well established using a methodology of themed and case file audits. Clear demonstrable outcomes from this can be seen in a significant improvement in the timeliness of core groups being held and the improvements overall in child protection practice in particular. Almost all the multi-agency audits undertaken of the selected case files were an accurate and critical reflection of the case clearly supported by the existing culture of audit and scrutiny. Where learning points arose, these were well defined with specific actions set out to address. However, the internal audits undertaken had not identified some aspects of children in need planning as a weakness.

89. Review and evaluation of services and initiatives is routine to confirm their effectiveness and informs commissioning of new services where gaps are identified. Equality impact assessments are of a very high quality and comprehensive thus ensuring disadvantage is identified and minimised wherever possible during the reconfiguration of service provision.
90. The council has a clear supervision policy. New recruits receive supervision fortnightly and after two months, monthly. Cases seen by inspectors confirmed regularity of supervision. However, in many instances, the actions identified within supervision did not have specified timescales.

Partnership working

Grade 1 (Outstanding)

91. Partnership working is outstanding with strong and mature arrangements in place. The council demonstrates its commitment to partnership working through a designated post to engage with, co-ordinate and liaise with voluntary, community and independent providers. A cabinet member for the third sector provides added robustness to the partnership arrangements. The strength of the community partnerships promotes excellent opportunities for capacity building and a joint responsibility on which to manage and plan for current and future demands and challenges.
92. The Community Service Volunteer scheme is very effective in supporting families where children are on a child protection plan, leading to plans to double capacity. Through the support of the CAF coordinators, the CAF is becoming well embedded within the third sector.
93. An extensive range of groups represent the views of service users to influence service development. Partnership arrangements extend to young people with the outstanding examples of the level of trust and confidence placed in them to administer the positive activities funding grant and the active engagement in the My Place project. Safety in the community is a key priority and the City Safe Haven campaign is exemplary in involving young citizens in their local communities, notably in gaining the advocacy of local shopkeepers to offer their premises as safe places for children and young people who feel unsafe.
94. Partnerships with schools are very strong. Outstanding partnerships between schools and the police promote effective safeguarding, such as in the judicious and sensitive use of 'weapon wandering' that is highly valued by young people and their parents.
95. Strong and effective leadership is provided by the LSCB for safeguarding children and young people in schools and other settings for learning. Head teachers are suitably represented. Independent schools are engaged well in safeguarding concerns. The LSCB has also been highly influential in working with the Metropolitan Police to address gang related activity.

96. The significant effectiveness of the Community Safety Partnership is contributing to positive outcomes, for example the impressive reduction in robbery and street crime by 40% last year and 20% this year through targeting specific, identified individuals involved in gang related crime. Through sound partnership arrangements promoted by the domestic and sexual violence strategy group, a very wide range of agencies are involved in MARAC and other domestic violence initiatives. Effective multi-agency planning is resulting in a demonstrable reduction in incidents of domestic abuse following MARAC interventions. The MARAC arrangements are robust with all aspects being rated as being fully met by the coordinated action against domestic abuse (CAADA) review in October 2011.

Services for looked after children

Overall effectiveness

Grade 2 (Good)

97. Overall effectiveness of services for looked after children is good, attributable to the energetic and ambitious direction and leadership by elected members and the senior management team supported by well motivated staff.
98. Rigorous and routine performance management is strengthened by a wide range of audit activity. Close scrutiny of performance combined with audits has revealed areas for development in the service from which action plans have been developed in most instances. However, during the inspection, the quality of pathway plans were identified as a weakness (although outcomes for care leavers were in the main very good) and this had not been identified by the council. Whilst placement stability has been improving, the ability to monitor progress effectively is hindered by a lack of measurable actions and objectives in case work plans. Positive progress is being made against most performance indicators and is generally at least in line with statistical neighbours if not better.
99. A very effective workforce strategy supported by a comprehensive recruitment and retention strategy means that the service and service users are benefiting from consistency of staff, low turn over and very few agency workers. Training opportunities and good support ensure that staff are appropriately qualified and skilled to carry out their work.
100. Good access to advocacy for looked after young people and care leavers is provided by a third sector organisation. The LADO arrangements are robust and responsive. The use of 'viewpoint', recently introduced, is being used to good effect to capture the views of young people.
101. High rates of satisfaction with the service were expressed by the majority of looked after children and young people in the Care4Me survey. They have good access to leisure opportunities and when placed out of the council area, have equal opportunities to take part in the activities and initiatives provided within Lewisham.

Capacity for improvement

Grade 1 (Outstanding)

102. The capacity for improvement is outstanding. Clear vision, drive and high aspirations is demonstrated by the council and its partners for their looked after and leaving care services. Of significant strength is the relentless focus on outcomes. Good outcomes for looked after young people and care leavers are improving and in some cases being significantly advanced. Outcomes for care leavers are good. Over 40 now attend university and there has been a sustained higher rate of care leavers in education, training or employment over the past three years compared

with statistical neighbours. Additionally, more care leavers aged 16-18 years of age are in education, training and employment than similar aged young people in Lewisham. Stability of adoptive placements is outstanding. For children and young people adopted, out of 137 adoptions over the past five years, there has been only one adoption breakdown.

103. Through exceptionally well managed commissioning and needs analysis, the introduction of the early intervention service is already showing early signs of exceptional success which, if continued, will impact positively upon the numbers of children becoming looked after and good support for children to return home.
104. Effective service user engagement is promoted predominantly through the Children in Care Council (CiCC) and the corporate parenting group. However, the council also has a strong and appropriate ambition that looked after young people should also have opportunities to take part in the more universal young people's groups such as Young Advisers, Young Commissioners and as such, looked after young people and care leavers are actively encouraged to join these dynamic groups.

Areas for improvement

105. In order to improve the quality of provision and services for safeguarding children and young people in the London Borough of Lewisham, the local authority and its partners should take the following action.

Within three months:

- make arrangements for the local substance misuse screening tool to be used as an integral part of the annual health reviews for looked after young people
- data to be collected on the timeliness of initial health assessments to enable effective oversight of activity
- undertake an audit of pathway plans to inform a robust multi-agency plan for action and improvement to address the key learning issues arising from this inspection
- establish a rigorous audit and quality assurance focus on care plans supported by training to address the variability of the quality of care plans.

Within six months:

- establish a mechanism to routinely report to elected members and senior managers the learning from the participation of looked after

children and young people and to consolidate this learning at a strategic level in a structured way

- establish a process for the children in care council and the corporate parenting group to be consulted by the council prior to any significant decisions being made or considered which relate to looked after young people and care leavers.

How good are outcomes for looked after children and care leavers?

Being healthy

Grade 2 (Good)

106. Health outcomes for looked after children and care leavers are good. Arrangements for the line management, resourcing and supervision for designated professionals for looked after children are appropriate. The designated nurse for looked after children is new in post and is employed full time. This post is well supported by appropriate time allocations of the designated doctor and fostering and adoption medical adviser time.
107. Initial health assessments are carried out by appropriately registered medical practitioners on all children and young people coming into care. Whilst not all initial medicals are carried within the 28 days, they are of high quality and fully detail the health of the child or young person as well as outlining their future needs in a comprehensive health plan. Good follow up processes by the designated nurse are in place with young people aged over 16 years who refuse their health assessments.
108. Health reviews are carried out by the looked after children health team, school nurses or health visitors depending on the age and complexity of their needs. The reviews are effective and inform the development of appropriate health action plans. However, school nurses do not use the local substance misuse screening tool as part of the review process to help identify risk. This means that there is a missed opportunity to carry out a comprehensive assessment of risk on potential alcohol and substance misuse. The numbers of looked after children who misuse substances is relatively low for the population.
109. Good progress is now being made in ensuring that the health needs of looked after children and young people are met. The looked after children health team has been through a period of instability and only very recently has there been the opportunity to consolidate the team and introduce new systems to ensure a more timely approach in carrying out initial health assessments and health reviews. Current unvalidated data shows that their own challenging targets are expected to be met for immunisations and vaccinations as well as those children that have had dental check ups

this year, supported by an improving trend on the timeliness of health reviews.

110. Health visitors and school nurses receive good training by the designated nurse for looked after children in the health needs of looked after children and how to carry out effective health assessments. The designated nurse also meets with any new public health nurse as part of their induction and this ensures that practitioners carrying out health reviews are competent. Children and young people are having their health needs properly addressed and identified through good oversight of all initial health assessments, health reviews and health plans are undertaken by either the designated nurse or the designated doctor for looked after children.
111. There are very good and highly effective arrangements in place to meet the emotional health needs of looked after children and young people. All young people entering the care system are assessed through completion of the strengths and difficulties questionnaire (SDQ). These are reviewed by Symbol, by the designated CAMHS for looked after children. The Symbol team continues to work with young people up until they are 21 as well as, where appropriate, those young people who are out of the council area. There are a number of innovative approaches to their work including a therapeutic yoga group and the film and photography project for migrant looked after children.
112. Satisfactory arrangements are in place to ensure the health needs are met of children placed out of the council area. Health partners are on the complex care commissioning panel and the designated looked after children nurse makes direct arrangements with the looked after children teams of the receiving authority for health reviews and in some cases initial assessments. However, despite the best efforts of the looked after children nurse, there can be delays in the reviews taking place as they are not seen as a priority in other local authorities.
113. A wide range of services, including health promotion, some contraceptive and sexual health advice and services and opportunities for any outstanding immunisations or vaccinations, is available specifically for looked after young people through a regular drop in clinic. Looked after young people are also able to access universal contraception and sexual health (CASH) and substance misuse services. Additional support is available from the substance misuse link worker for looked after young people. For young women that wish to continue with their pregnancy they are able to access support from either the family nurse partnership or through the teenage midwife. However, there is no identified multi-agency pathway that all partners are signed up to in order to ensure that services work together to provide support to this highly vulnerable group of teenage mothers.

114. A pilot project is underway to provide young people with a summary of their healthcare when they leave care. Some foster carers who look after a range of young people of different ages have been asked to trial the completion of a "green" book. This will be evaluated by foster carers and young people. However, in the interim, current provision is weak. The arrangements for health practitioners involved in the ongoing health assessments to participate in the pathway planning process for when a young person leaves care is an area for development.
115. The involvement of the designated looked after children nurse, the Symbol team, the substance misuse and CASH services in providing support and training to foster carers, social workers and other professionals is good. In addition, the Symbol team works with foster carers to support them if a young person is not in a stable placement or if a young person refuses to engage with their service. This helps the foster carer to understand and manage behaviours thereby contributing to placement stability.

Staying safe

Grade 1 (Outstanding)

116. Safeguarding arrangements for looked after children and young people are outstanding. Very effective reviewing by the care planning panel ensures that close scrutiny is given to all initial placement requests, that all appropriate alternatives have been considered before children and young people come into care and that preventative services have been offered to support families and divert them from care.
117. An exceptionally well managed placements and procurement service suitably identifies placements, using both in house resources and external providers who are subject to rigorous safeguarding requirements under the preferred provider framework.
118. High quality placement information requests result in swift identification of placements that are both appropriate and safe. Over half the placements made are currently out of the council area. However, only a very small minority of those are at a distance of more than 20 miles from the council area and these have been made for particular reasons such as a move to connected persons or for the need for distance for added safeguarding reasons. As a result, most children are able to retain their school placements and social contacts. Detailed and culturally appropriate placement plans and agreements are completed in the early stages of the placement and those seen by inspectors were of a high quality.
119. A robust system of placement support meetings identifies the additional support required to avoid breakdown where plans and agreements are challenged, for example by a young person's behaviour, and use of these has been a significant factor in the recent improvement in placement stability.

120. Rigorous monitoring of plans and placements by the care coordinator for senior managers and legal advisers through a comprehensive case tracking mechanism ensures that children continue to be appropriately placed and planning drift is avoided.
121. The council's adoption and fostering provision has been judged by Ofsted inspections to be good. The vast majority of looked after children and young people who responded to the Ofsted Care4Me survey and those spoken to by inspectors during the inspection said that they felt safe.
122. Effective arrangements for the recruitment of foster carers are delivered through a service commissioned from a private provider, and are subject to an exacting screening process through contract monitoring. Foster carers spoken to during the inspection reported that this arrangement had significantly improved the service by reducing the waiting time between application and approval.
123. High aspirations and standards are demonstrated by the council and its partners and only placements that have been judged by Ofsted as being good or outstanding are procured. Where existing placements are subsequently judged to be below this standard, a sound system of risk assessment is in place to ensure that the child's placement needs can continue to be met and that the placement remains in the child's best interests.
124. Effective multi-agency arrangements ensure that there is an efficient flow of information between agencies regarding looked after children who are missing. The partnership is aware of, and has effective strategies in place to deal with, risks to missing children of being sexually exploited. Return interviews are offered to all young people by the designated worker for missing children and the information gained is used to inform care planning. This work is another significant strand in improving placement stability.
125. Robust LADO arrangements are extended to foster carers. Allegations are rigorously investigated and foster carers' continuing suitability is appropriately considered.

Enjoying and achieving

Grade 2 (Good)

126. Outcomes for enjoying and achieving are good. Ensuring that children and young people who are looked after by the council have the same life chances and achieve as well as their peers is embedded in the good provision and support for their education. Aspirations for their achievement are very high, including for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and those in educational placements outside the council area.

127. Case tracking shows the needs of looked after children are known very well and that they are in suitable and safe educational placements. Well trained designated teachers in schools, alongside well targeted and effective multi-agency work contributes to mostly good educational outcomes.
128. The virtual governing body that includes two care leavers, champions, coordinates and scrutinises provision and outcomes for looked after children and their carers diligently and allocates resources to support their learning as required. Oversight that is informed by comprehensive management information, such as data on educational achievement and attendance at school, is used very effectively to provide highly personalised support for learning, including for young people educated outside the council area and those who are looked after by other councils and attend schools in Lewisham. This contributes to narrowing gaps in attainment and securing continuance in learning after the age of 16.
129. The virtual governing body has been active and mostly effective in preventing permanent exclusion from school and in challenging schools locally and elsewhere to secure prompt admission and regular attendance. Attendance at school is about the same as in similar areas. Absence for those placed both in and out of the council area is reported daily, monitored weekly and followed up rapidly by two dedicated officers. Data gained from patterns of attendance and fixed term exclusions are used very well to trigger prompt and personalised multi-agency interventions such as intensive mentoring that has been successful in improving both, as has targeted work with young males and their families. Although this support has reduced persistent absence in secondary schools, this remains much higher than in similar areas and nationally and above the target set.
130. Targeted multi-agency support and in-class assistance prevents exclusion from school for some looked after children, and carers are helped to manage challenging behaviour from older children through direct access to CAHMS consultation. This has contributed to a reduction in fixed term exclusions in primary schools, and no looked after children have been permanently excluded. However, in secondary schools, fixed term exclusions have risen and, after many years, one young person placed out of the council area was permanently excluded in 2011, despite strong representation from the council.
131. Not all personal education plans (PEPs) are central to the education of looked after children, although young people know that they have one. Internal audits show improved quality although those sampled were adequate at best and show some concerning weaknesses. Crucially, targets, actions, timescales and responsibilities are often unclear, the involvement of young people is generally minimal and opportunities for recreation and leisure are not secured. However, high quality individual learning plans from schools and other settings secure learning and

progress well. Recent audits have already exposed these weaknesses and they are being addressed rapidly. Adoption of the Pan London PEP is imminent.

132. Most looked after children rate provision and help for their education very highly and value the celebration of their achievements. At the age of 11, attainment in English and mathematics is mostly above similar areas and nationally. In 2011, the proportion of 16 year-olds gaining five or more higher grade GCSEs including English and mathematics, was broadly in line with similar areas and nationally, although achievement was below the local target set. Closing gaps in achievement is a key priority that shows success in some areas. For 11-year-old looked after children gaps are closing in English but not in mathematics. Good progress has been made in closing gaps for one or more A*–G grades at GCSE and in English at the age of 14. However, for higher grade GCSEs, the performance gap with all young people of the same age in Lewisham shows little sign of closing over the past four years. Young people who are predicted to achieve higher grade GCSEs are supported well and their progress is monitored closely. Targeted provision, such as a well-attended homework club that includes specialist tutors in English and mathematics, pupil ambassadors, personal tutoring and additional classes have helped to close gaps in their learning. Young people on accredited courses as a pathway to employment are also supported well.
133. All looked after children in the final year of primary education, both in and outside of the council area, have access to a tutor to help with literacy and numeracy, and to other tailored support packages and those working below national expectations receive additional support. Targeted year groups demonstrate gains in reading through materials that are regularly posted out to them. Support for young people in secondary schools includes additional tuition for those in their first year as well as at other key times, and home tuition that prepares them well for independent learning.
134. Comprehensive data shows good analysis of outcomes for looked after children who are educated outside the council area and they also receive personalised and well targeted support that enables them to achieve well.
135. Looked after children and care leavers, including those placed outside of the council area and those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, access a wide range of high quality universal and targeted recreation and leisure activities. Consultation with children and young people informs provision, such as the commissioning for sports clubs, positive activities for young people and the design of accessible adventure playgrounds. Many young people take up good opportunities available for volunteering to provide peer mentoring and wider initiatives.

136. The personal and social needs of young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are met very well through a good range of provision for short breaks and high quality and safe weekend, holiday and evening activities. Good attention is given to the needs of blind, partially sighted and hearing impaired young people through accessible specialist provision. Access is secured through door to door transport and good use of communication passports for some, although not all trips are wheelchair-friendly. Work to improve access to information on short break services is underway, in particular for families with English as an additional language.
137. Positive action overcomes barriers to the participation of looked after children in education. They receive well targeted and successful support for transition to secondary school from a multi-agency group that includes CAHMS professionals, and personalised support for looked after young women who are pregnant to continue in learning has shown considerable success in enabling them to gain qualifications.

Making a positive contribution, including user engagement Grade 2 (Good)

138. Arrangements for making a positive contribution are good. Children and young people are actively involved in matters affecting their care through an effective range of participation processes. The recently introduced 'viewpoint' system is a creative way for children to participate by responding to an online survey prior to their review. Responses are appropriately monitored by the quality assurance service and any individual issues identified are immediately dealt with, particularly those involving safety and risk. A comprehensive overview report is prepared which provides a full analysis of issues, including equality issues affecting looked after children and themes arising are discussed and addressed at the service manager audit team (SMAT).
139. The children's rights and advocacy service is commissioned from a third sector organisation and this works closely with the council's participation officer. The service is well used and provides advocacy to 30 young people per quarter. The effectiveness of this service reduces the numbers of formal complaints, although a complaints service is in place which meets the council's statutory requirements.
140. Looked after children and young people are kept suitably informed and involved through the widely distributed 'Making it Better' magazine which is of high quality and covers a wide range of matters.
141. An effective Children in Care Council (CiCC) meets regularly to discuss issues affecting the care of looked after children. The positive impact of this group was clearly evident. The group had been involved in a range of activities such as contributing to elected members training as corporate parents, attending the all party parliamentary group for looked after

children to talk direct to MPs, and being involved in the recruitment of staff. Whilst the group articulated well their plans for the future, there is an absence of a forward plan from which progress and impact can be formally measured. Additionally, the CiCC is not built in to decision making processes in a structured way and although effective, their involvement is reactive.

142. The CiCC uses a variety of creative methods to maintain their profile amongst the care population, including a Facebook page, a successful awards evening and a wide range of social activities. However, not all children and young people spoken to during the inspection were aware of the CiCC and of what it did. A comprehensive pledge has been developed and published in partnership with the CiCC. However, not all young people spoken to during the inspection were aware of it.
143. Participation processes are well managed through the quality assurance service and the lessons learnt are effectively addressed through the SMAT. However, there is no formal mechanism in place to routinely report the outcomes from participation processes to elected members and senior managers and to consolidate the learning at a strategic level in a structured way.
144. A wide range of effective initiatives are in place to divert looked after young people from crime resulting in positive outcomes. The percentage of looked after young people offending in Lewisham has increased from 8% to 12% and is significantly above the national average and their own previous performance. Effective monitoring and tracking of placements has identified this specific increase in offending rates to be the result of a Metropolitan Police campaign on gang related crime in London following civil disturbance. This has resulted in an increase of young offenders within the care population and although numerically small, this group has had a negative impact not only on offending rates but also a number of other key performance indicators such as missing children, placement stability and complaints. The council demonstrates good awareness of this issue, its causes and effects. The looked after children and youth offending services are working effectively together to address the offending behaviour of the young people who are remanded into care as a result of gang related activity.
145. Effective tracking of this group has also led to an exceptionally good procurement practice, where an analysis of these young people's needs was collated and presented to the preferred providers, two of whom developed a bespoke service to meet their specifically identified needs. Placements are made in the light of information and advice received from Trilogy, the police's dedicated local unit on gang related criminal activity.

Economic well-being**Grade 2 (Good)**

146. Outcomes for economic well-being are good. The council's aspirations for care leavers are high, as are the aspirations of care leavers for themselves. A proactive and committed multi-agency care leaving team and close oversight by the virtual governing body contributes strongly to improved well-being, secures continuity in learning and provides good opportunities to gain employment.
147. Care leavers receive effective support to access a wide range of options that enable them to continue in education or training after the age of 16, or to enter employment. Numbers in education, training or employment are well above those in similar areas and nationally, as has been the case for the past three years. More are in full time education and fewer are unemployed after the age of 16 than nationally and about the same as in similar areas. Strong challenge to learning providers both in and outside of the council area, alongside good advice and guidance from dedicated careers advisors, as well as tailored packages of support, secures well-matched and achievable learning pathways and opportunities for work.
148. Provision shows good take-up of a wide range of suitable and accredited learning qualifications and good opportunities for apprenticeships, work experience and volunteering. Evening and day study support that includes young people from both in and outside the council area taking GCSEs, alongside those studying at university, are attended well. These sessions also include students undertaking degrees who are trained as learning mentors and show considerable success in securing good educational outcomes and continuance in learning. Young people who were previously not in education, employment or training (NEET) gain adult literacy and numeracy qualifications. In 2011, about half entered employment or continued in learning.
149. Six care leavers have gained apprenticeships in the council's apprenticeship programme and the CiCC has been influential in securing places for young people in placements outside the council area. Increasing numbers of care leavers attend university with good support to promote successful outcomes. Bursaries help to support 40 care leavers studying for first degrees and four working at Masters' level.
150. Good casework with care leavers shows clear goals for their learning and well-being that move them towards independence. However, the quality of pathway plans seen was mostly weak. In effect, young people value the good support that they receive more highly than the plans that map their future so these have become subsidiary and confusing. As a consequence, plans do not specify clear goals and actions to meet identified need, nor timescales for the review of progress. They show little involvement of young people or of agreement from key professionals. Not all care leavers responding to a recent survey knew of their plans. Of those that did,

about half did not feel sufficiently involved in the discussion underpinning it. A new multi-agency planning pathway shows well coordinated multi-agency action supported by thorough review processes that serve to secure smooth transition from child to adult social care services.

151. All care leavers, including disabled young people with complex needs, receive good support during transition to adulthood from an award winning scheme that involves volunteer mentors. Suitable financial support is available along with good advice from a range of accessible services. In addition, weekly leaving care preparation and after care groups of care leavers provide practical advice on a good range of issues. Work with 16 to 18 year-old young women in crisis prepares them well for independent living and shows good success in re-engaging them in education. Work with young people who misuse substances or have mental health issues shows similarly good success.
152. Support for asylum seeking young people provides them with effective help to confirm their status and links established with community groups both inside and outside the council area reduce isolation, and liaison with providers of further education secures continuing education and good outcomes.
153. Foster carers and supported lodgings provide good preparation for independence, including for young people with learning difficulties, and continuity for care leavers at university. Those who need more time to prepare for independence can remain in their placement beyond the age of 18. Strong and trusting relationships that young people form with their social workers and personal advisors result in an excellent record of keeping in touch with care leavers.
154. Care leavers have prompt access to a good range of high quality permanent and affordable accommodation that meets their needs well. Almost all are in suitable accommodation, as has been the case for several years, and none have been placed in bed and breakfast accommodation for several years. Good support means most succeed in their tenancies. Those who do not are given a valuable second chance. Considerable success in family mediation prevents homelessness for 16 and 17 year-olds.

Quality of provision

Grade 2 (Good)

155. The quality of provision is good. Thresholds for admitting children to care are well understood by partner agencies and these are regularly reviewed through partnership arrangements. As a result, supported by the effectiveness of the early intervention programme, the council has not seen the rise in the care population that has been experienced by their neighbours and nationally.

156. Intensive intervention to families in crisis is offered. Highly effective parenting assessments leading to positive outcomes were evident on visits by inspectors to children's centres. The parenting group spoken to demonstrated a high level of insight into the parenting assessment that they were undertaking, appropriate to their individual understanding and circumstances.
157. Some high quality initial and core assessments were seen of children who had recently come into care. They comprised an effective summary of their circumstances and a detailed and insightful analysis of their needs. Core assessments seen of children well known to the service that were updated as a result of care proceedings were of a very high quality. Consideration is given to the views of children and young people in core assessments. In one assessment very sensitive consideration had been given to balancing a young person's safety, cultural and identity needs.
158. Successful partnership working with parents on care plans for looked after children was evident. Parents spoken to by inspectors said that initially they had been too angry but through time, social workers had been able to develop a working relationship with them. A parental advocacy service previously commissioned from a third sector organisation to facilitate this relationship between parents and the council has been decommissioned. This role is planned to be picked up through an existing commissioning arrangement with Community Service Volunteers. However the current gap in services was perceptible for this vulnerable group of people.
159. Exceptionally clear care planning processes and highly effective use of the tracking mechanism means that cases are kept under continuous review and the most appropriate care plans for children are identified and resourced. All staff spoken to by inspectors had a strong understanding of the planning process and of their role in its efficient delivery.
160. The council's well resourced legal team are fully and actively involved in providing legal advice at all stages of planning for children. Where legal planning meetings are required they are held swiftly, according to a standard format and demonstrated appropriate consideration of whether legal intervention was required, with due regard to the no order principle and to relevant legal processes.
161. Regular reviews are held within statutory timescales in all cases scrutinised by inspectors, and examples were seen of IROs appropriately undertaking their new responsibilities under the revised care planning arrangements and monitoring developments between reviews.
162. Looked after children are routinely seen alone during visits that take place according to a pattern at least within the statutory minimum and often more regularly. All looked after children and young people are allocated to a qualified social worker and children and young people spoken to during

the inspection had an age appropriate understanding of the role of the social worker and saw them as a significant figure in their life.

163. Visits are recorded promptly, to a very high standard and sometimes an exceptionally high standard, with detailed accounts which clearly link to progress in the care plan. However the quality of written care plans on those cases reviewed is highly variable and range from being excellent to very weak in quality. This is not conducive to good planning or to effective monitoring by managers and IROs.
164. A clear plan for permanence is developed at permanence planning meetings which are held at the latest by the second statutory review and often earlier in cases such as pre-birth assessments of families well known to the service. Those cases reviewed by inspectors showed that plans for permanence are effectively pursued in parallel to care proceedings where appropriate.
165. Effective parallel planning and tracking by the adoption service, which is also responsible for progressing special guardianship orders, results in exceptionally swift and effective family finding following the making of a placement order. Examples were seen of children placed with families for adoption three and four months after a placement order was made.
166. High quality direct work is undertaken by allocated adoption workers with children to prepare them for adoption, sometimes in collaboration with birth parents or with dedicated CAMHS support, during an extensive period following placement for adoption, prior to the application being lodged. The very effective use made of this time has contributed to there being only one disrupted adoption out of a total of 134 children adopted since 2006.
167. Effective adoption support plans sustain adoptive placements for their first three years and these frequently continue as letterbox agreements to keep birth parents in touch with their children's progress.

Ambition and prioritisation

Grade 2 (Good)

168. Ambition and prioritisation for looked after children and care leavers are good. A clear understanding of the needs of looked after children and a commitment to the delivery of high quality children's services is demonstrated by the council and its partners. High aspiration, ambition and prioritisation are well communicated and transparent by elected members, within the service and across the partnership. In a challenging economic environment the Council has effectively protected the budget for services to looked after children. The senior management team of the council has effectively ring fenced services to vulnerable children by improving responsiveness through the care planning panel, ensuring that the right children are in care and avoiding an increase in figures

experienced by other authorities, and by improving procurement so that children are placed in the safest, most cost effective placements.

169. The concerns of children in care are understood and embedded as a key priority of the council as a result of the clear line of accountability which exists from the Elected Mayor and Chief Executive and individually to the Executive Director and Director of Children's Social Care Services. Outcomes for looked after children and care leavers are good and in some cases, very good.
170. Arrangements for the overview of children's services by elected members are good. A regular corporate parenting meeting takes place between elected members and looked after children. The effectiveness of this group has been seen in the reversal of the decision to remove mobile phones from social workers and the opportunity for looked after young people to raise issues of concern directly with elected members who will then champion their cause as appropriate. However, there is no clear link between the corporate parenting group, the CiCC and the council's formal decision making processes through which looked after children and young people and care leavers are proactively involved and consulted about issues specifically related to services.

Leadership and management

Grade 1 (Outstanding)

171. Leadership and management of services for looked after children are outstanding. Commissioning is a significant strength of the council and its partners and includes a fully integrated approach to joint commissioning with health. Promoted by a very strong business ethic, highly effective commissioning for services for looked after children takes place at a strategic level according to an established model, and this results in a mixed economy of care for looked after children, where services are provided by the most efficient and economic means possible. Value for money is a key driver leading to high appreciation of costs across the full range of services.
172. Several examples have been seen of highly effective commissioning in practice, such as the multi-dimensional treatment foster care for adolescents in which an exceptionally thorough and well presented needs analysis resulted in the identification of a gap in services and the resulting procurement of an appropriate service.
173. Arrangements to place children in safe and appropriate external placements are exceptionally well managed. Placements procured through the preferred provider framework meet exacting standards and are rigorously monitored to ensure that costs are controlled but standards are maintained. Positive partnership working through the preferred provider framework has enabled the council to successfully negotiate a reduction in unit costs to reflect the reductions within the overall children's social care budget.

174. The council is currently recommissioning early intervention services according to a robust specification and aims to build upon existing provision and target services on vulnerable families; including families whose children are on the edges of care. Early indications of outcomes suggest very successful support services are being provided, thus removing, where appropriate and safe to do so, the need for a young person to become looked after.
175. The Care4Me survey indicates a very high satisfaction with services being provided. Most young people who responded to the survey thought that where they were living was the right place for them and the vast majority rated the care they were getting as being good or very good. Almost all families consulted during the inspection had positive experiences to relate, particularly where periods of consistent intervention by a named social worker had resulted in visible improvements and children remaining with their parents. A strong partnership with housing has ensured very good housing provision for care leavers resulting in almost all young people living in appropriate accommodation.

Performance management and quality assurance

Grade 2 (Good)

176. Performance management and quality assurance are good. The council is data rich and uses this information to good effect to maintain a close oversight of progress. Positive progress is being made against the majority of performance targets with most being comparable to statistical neighbours or better.
177. Accurate performance information has been used to support commissioning processes based upon effective needs analysis which have identified unmet need. For example, the requirement for providers on the preferred provider framework to provide a greater number of carers locally and for a private company that recruits foster carers to recruit a greater number of culturally appropriate carers in the north of the council area.
178. A robust and rigorous system of auditing and its effective management through the service manager audit team has resulted in most practice deficits being identified and action plans put in place to address them, for example to improve the standard and quality of planning on case files. However, the standard of pathway planning was an area of weakness which had not been identified. Additionally, whilst the partnership has been aware of the delays in carrying out initial health assessment and reviews, timely action has not been taken to resolve this.
179. Management oversight through supervision is regular with some examples seen of reflective sessions. Supervision is not always sufficiently well recorded although management observations and decisions are always entered on to individual children's case files. Increased scrutiny to case

oversight is effectively undertaken by IROs who undertake routine checks on progress of cases between formal reviews meetings and who provide clear direction within case notes where required.

Record of main findings:

Safeguarding services	
Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
Capacity for improvement	Outstanding
Safeguarding outcomes for children and young people	
Children and young people are safe and feel safe	Outstanding
Quality of provision	Good
The contribution of health agencies to keeping children and young people safe	Outstanding
Services for looked after children	
Ambition and prioritisation	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Performance management and quality assurance	Good
Partnership working	Outstanding
Equality and diversity	Outstanding
How good are outcomes for looked after children and care leavers?	
Overall effectiveness	Good
Capacity for improvement	Outstanding
Being healthy	Good
Staying safe	Outstanding
Enjoying and achieving	Good
Making a positive contribution, including user engagement	Good
Economic well-being	Good
Quality of provision	Good
Services for looked after children	
Ambition and prioritisation	Good
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Performance management and quality assurance	Good
Equality and diversity	Outstanding

Chief Officer Confirmation of Report Submission			
Cabinet Member Confirmation of Briefing			
Report for:	Mayor	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Mayor and Cabinet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Executive Director	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Part 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Part 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Key Decision

Date of Meeting	11th April 2012
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Title of Report	Nursery, Primary, Secondary and Sixth Form Admissions Arrangements and School Admissions Limits For 2013/14
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Originator of Report	Linda Fuller	Ext. 46212
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At the time of submission for the Agenda, I confirm that the report has:

Category	Yes	No
Financial Comments from Exec Director for Resources	√	
Legal Comments from the Head of Law		n/a
Crime & Disorder Implications		n/a
Environmental Implications		n/a
Equality Implications/Impact Assessment (as appropriate)		n/a
Confirmed Adherence to Budget & Policy Framework		n/a
Risk Assessment Comments (as appropriate)		n/a
Reason for Urgency (as appropriate)		n/a

Signed:  Executive Member

Date: 28th March 2012

Signed:  Executive Director

Date 28th March 2012

Control Record by Committee Support

Action	Date
Listed on Schedule of Business/Forward Plan (if appropriate)	
Draft Report Cleared at Agenda Planning Meeting (not delegated decisions)	
Submitted Report from CO Received by Committee Support	
Scheduled Date for Call-in (if appropriate)	
To be Referred to Full Council	

MAYOR AND CABINET			
Report Title	Nursery, Primary, Secondary and Sixth Form Admissions Arrangements and School Admissions Limits for 2013/14		
Key Decision	Yes		Item No.
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director for Children and Young People		
Class	Part 1	Date: 11 April 2012	

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To seek the Mayor's approval for the authority's admissions arrangements for community schools for the academic year 2013/14. The report also seeks approval for Lewisham's co-ordinated schemes for primary and secondary transfer and in-year (casual) admissions and the admission limits for all maintained mainstream schools for 2013/14.

2. Policy Context

- 2.1 The Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998, as amended by the Education Act 2002 and the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the relevant Regulations, requires admission authorities to consult annually on their proposed admissions arrangements. Consultation must be complete by 1 March each year. The Education (Determination of Admission Arrangements) Regulations 1999 states that admission arrangements must be determined by 15th April of the year preceding the year of admission. This means that the admission arrangements for 2013/14 must be determined by 15th April 2012.
- 2.2 The operation of a fair and equitable system for the admission of children into school supports Lewisham's Corporate priority to raise educational attainment, skills levels and employability. The Admissions Forum has a key role in monitoring and ensuring that children, particularly vulnerable groups e.g. Children in Care, have a speedy admission into school.
- 2.3 This report contributes to the delivery of the 2009-12 Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) and in particular to the following priorities:
- Raise educational standards for all
 - Close the attainment gap between underachieving groups and their peers
 - Continue to improve school attendance.

- 2.4 The CYPP 2009-12 underpins 'Shaping Our Future – Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2020'. The CYPP sets out how partnership agencies working with children, young people and their families support the delivery of the borough's priorities for the wider community which are set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

3. Recommendations

3.1 Admissions arrangements

It is recommended that the nursery, primary, secondary and sixth form admission arrangements for Lewisham's community schools as set out in appendices A to F be agreed.

3.2 Admissions Limits

It is recommended that the admission limits for the academic year 2013/14 as detailed in Appendix G be agreed.

It should be noted that the creation of Trinity Primary School, including the admissions limit, was subject to separate consultation. The determined admissions number is included with the determined numbers for clarity.

3.3 The Admissions Schemes

It is recommended that the Pan London Admission Schemes for reception and secondary transfer and the local scheme for in year admissions as detailed in Appendix H be agreed.

4. Background

4.1 Education Act 2002

The Education Act 2002 requires all Local Authorities (LA) to introduce co-ordinated schemes for primary admissions with effect from 2006 and secondary admissions with effect from 2005. These schemes enable parents to express a number of preferences which, although ranked by parents, are treated equally by the schools involved. This widens the scope for parents and pupils and tackles the problem of multiple offers which used to clog the transfer system. Lewisham, like all London authorities, participates in the Pan London Admissions scheme which facilitates cross-border applications and sharing of information. Since September 2010 the Authority has been required to co-ordinate all phases of admission and London boroughs operate a Pan London scheme for both primary (reception) and secondary transfer. This impacts on resources both in terms of staffing and use of the Pan London Register (the computer system used to electronically exchange applicant details and admissions decisions).

A revised School Admissions Code came into force in February 2012. The previous Code required all Local Authorities to co-ordinate admissions centrally to all phases of education including in year (casual) admissions and co-ordinating admissions is no longer required. However the view of the Admissions Forum and the majority of primary and secondary school headteachers is that this function should continue

to be centralised. No objections to this specific proposal have been made.

4.2 As is the usual practice, Lewisham LA consulted governors during the autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012. For this particular round the consultation was published on Lewisham's web site and a public notice placed in a local news paper .

4.3 The consultation included:

- The admissions policies for community schools,
- The admissions policy for community sixth form,
- An admission limit for each maintained school.

5. Responses to the Consultation

5.1 By 1 March when the consultation on Lewisham's admissions arrangements for community schools and the admissions limits for all maintained schools in the borough ended, no written response had been received.

6. Provision of school places

6.1 In response to the increasing demand for primary school places in the borough the Local Authority is reviewing its existing provision.

6.2 The Local Authority is currently managing the increased demand for primary places by; creating permanent increases, bulge classes where capacity allows and new provision. Planning for school places is subject to separate reports.

7 Financial implications

7.1 Co-ordinated Admissions

The requirement to co-ordinate all phases of school admission and the implementation of the pan London reception scheme has increased the workload of the Admissions Team. There is also requirement to pay additional costs for the Pan London Register which enables the electronic exchange of pupil applicant data. These extra resources will be found from within existing budgets.

8. Legal Implications

8.1 These are contained in the body of the report.

9. Equalities implications

9.1 The purpose of the School Admissions Code is to ensure that places in maintained schools and Academies are allocated and offered in an open and fair way. Admission authorities must ensure that criteria are fair, clear and objective. This includes ensuring that parents are easily able to understand how places for a particular school will be allocated.

- 9.2 Admission authorities must act in accordance with the Code, the School Admissions Appeal Code, other laws relating to admissions and relevant human rights and equalities legislation. Authorities must also ensure that their arrangements will not disadvantage, either directly or indirectly, 'a child from a particular social or racial group, or a child with a disability or special educational need' (Code, paragraph 1.8).
- 9.3 Looked After Children are redefined in the Code to include children who were previously looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted, or became subject to residence orders or special guardianship orders.
- 9.4 The Code lists various factors that admission authorities must not take into account when formulating their arrangements. These include the practical or financial support parents may be able to give to a school, or children's past behaviour, attendance, attitude or achievement, or that of any other child in the family.
- 9.5 Lewisham's arrangements comply with these requirements and vigilance is embedded in our processes. The Admissions Forum also serves an important function in monitoring the content of admission policies and their impact. Any instances of poor practice would be challenged and referred to the Schools Adjudicator if necessary.
- 9.6 The adoption of the admissions arrangements including the co-ordinated admissions schemes complies with the Authority's equality assessment duties

10. Environmental implications

- 10.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

11. Background Papers

None

If you have any questions on this paper, please contact Linda Fuller, Team Leader – Admissions & Appeals, 3rd Floor, Laurence House, SE6 4RU (telephone 0208 314 6212 or email linda.fuller@lewisham.gov.uk).



APPENDIX A

Lewisham's determined admissions criteria for nursery schools and nursery classes in community primary schools (children starting nursery during the academic year 2013/2014)

Where there is over-subscription, places will be offered to:

1 Children in Public Care (details must be supplied by the allocated social worker or foster carer). This means a child who is in care to a local authority or who is provided with accommodation by that authority as well as children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).

2 In exceptional circumstances there is discretion to admit children on the grounds of their or their family's severe medical or social need for that particular school and who would not otherwise qualify for admission. The application must be supported by a letter from a hospital consultant, social worker or similar professional, setting out the reasons why the nursery is the only one able to meet the child's needs, before an admission decision is made. The admission decision will be made by the headteacher who may consult with the Executive Director for Children and Young People. Supporting documentary evidence must be provided with the application;

3 Applicants whose brother or sister is on the roll of the main school when the application is made and is expected to be on the roll of the school, or of the junior school in the case of separate infant and junior schools, at the intended date of admission. If the school is over-subscribed entirely with siblings, priority will be given to those

- i) with exceptional social or medical need and then to those
- ii) living closest to the school

Children applying for a place at Clyde or Chelwood Nurseries will only qualify for a place under the sibling criteria if their older sibling is on the roll of the nursery when the application is made and is expected to be on the roll of the nursery at the intended date of admission. Children in Year 6 of a mainstream primary school and who will have transferred to secondary school by the time the younger child is admitted to the nursery do not confer sibling priority.

Siblings include all blood or adoptive siblings, half-siblings, foster siblings of Looked After Children and step siblings. Siblings must all live at the same address as the child applying. Proof of the sibling relationship may be required.

4 Children who live closest to the school.

All distances will be measured in a straight line, using digitised mapping software of the area, from the home to the nearest gate nominated by the school. If more than one applicant lives in a multi-occupancy building (e.g. flats) priority will be given to the applicant whose door number is the lowest numerically and/or alphabetically.

Waiting lists will be held in the same order as the admission criteria.

Tie break - on the rare occasion where two or more children live at the same address and tie for the last available place, lots will be drawn to decide which child is offered the place.

Head teachers will have discretion over the balance of three- and four-year olds in their nurseries, and the ratio of part-time and any full-time places offered.

Priority will be given to Lewisham residents.

An existing childminder's address, instead of the home address, may only be used to determine "nearness" if the child has a medical or social need for that particular school. The child's home address must also be in Lewisham.

Three terms is regarded as the minimum time that children should spend in a nursery school or nursery class. The maximum is five terms.

Applications to nursery schools or classes are not dealt with through a co-ordinated scheme and there is no set closing or decision date. Applications are made direct to the nursery. Parents who arrive in the area after the normal time of admission in September should contact the Children's Information Service, which will have details of current vacancies in each nursery.



APPENDIX B

Lewisham's determined admissions criteria for community primary school reception classes (children born between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2009) and who will start school in September 2013

When there is over-subscription, places are offered to:

1 Children in Public Care (details must be supplied by the allocated social worker or foster carer). This means a child who is in care to a local authority or who is provided with accommodation by that authority as well as children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).

2 In exceptional circumstances there is discretion to admit children on the grounds of their or their family's severe medical or social need for that particular school and who would not otherwise qualify for admission. The application must be supported by a letter from a hospital consultant, social worker or similar professional, setting out the reasons why the school is the only one to meet the child's needs, before an admission decision is made. The admission decision will be considered in consultation with sub groups of the Admissions Forum which includes teaching and medical professionals. Medical professionals provide advice on applications made under medical conditions and teaching professionals advise on applications made for social or special reasons. Supporting evidence must be provided before the closing date for applications.

3 Children whose brother or sister is on roll of the school on the closing date for applications and is expected to be on the roll of the school (or of the junior school in the case of separate infant and junior schools*), at the intended date of admission. Children in Year 6 who will have transferred to secondary school by the time the younger child is admitted do not confer sibling priority. If the school is over-subscribed entirely with siblings, priority will be given to those with an exceptional social or medical need (see 2 above) and then to those who are permanently living nearest to the school (see 4 below).

** this applies to children attending Sandhurst Infant and Junior Schools, Stillness Infant and Junior Schools and Torridon Infant and Junior Schools.*

Siblings include all blood siblings, adoptive siblings, half-siblings, foster siblings of Looked After Children and step siblings. Siblings must all live at the same address as the child. Proof of the sibling relationship may be required.

4 Children living nearest to the school.

All distances will be measured in a straight line, using digitised mapping software or Ordnance Survey maps of the area, from the home to the nearest gate nominated by the school. If more than one applicant lives in a multi-occupancy building (e.g. flats) priority will be given to the applicant whose door number is the lowest numerically and/or alphabetically.

Twins, triplets and other multiple births– where twins, triplets or children from other multiple births qualify for the last school place to be allocated Lewisham will admit all of the qualifying siblings in excess of the published admissions limit and they will be considered as ‘excepted pupils’.

Tie break - on the rare occasion where two or more identical applications tie for the last available place, lots will be drawn to decide which qualifying child is offered the place.

Waiting lists - Requests to be placed on a waiting list for a community school must be made via the home LA. In accordance with the pan London agreement, and to ensure Lewisham meets its duty to continue to co-ordinate admissions beyond offer date and comply with the parents’ highest possible preference, Lewisham will ensure that waiting lists do not contain lower ranked preferences except where it (or the home LA) has agreed to a parental request to change the order of preferences. In such cases, where there is a parental request to change the order of preferences, the original application, including any offer made under co-ordination, will be withdrawn and the applicant will be required to re-apply. Waiting lists will be held for the reception year only. Those wishing to be considered for a place beyond the reception year will be required to make an in year application.

Waiting lists for Lewisham’s community schools will include those who have moved to the area and were unable to make an ‘ontime’ application. Parental enquiries about waiting list positions or appeal procedures for community schools in the borough should be directed to Lewisham’s Admissions Team.



APPENDIX C

Lewisham's determined admissions criteria for community secondary schools for pupils transferring from primary to secondary school in September 2013 (children born between 1 September 2001 and 31 August 2002)

Where there is oversubscription places will be offered to:

- 1 Children in Public Care (details **must** be supplied by the allocated social worker or foster carer). This means a child who is in care to a local authority or who is provided with accommodation by that authority as well as children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
- 2 In exceptional circumstances there is discretion to admit children on the grounds of their or their family's severe medical or social need for that particular school and who would not otherwise qualify for admission. The application must be supported by a letter from a hospital consultant, social worker or similar professional, setting out the reasons why the school is the only one to meet the child's needs before an admission decision is made. The admission decision will be considered in consultation with a sub group of the Admissions Forum, teaching and medical professionals. Medical professionals provide advice on applications made under medical conditions and teaching professionals advise on applications made for social or special reasons. Supporting evidence **must** be provided before the closing date for applications.
- 3 Applicants whose brother or sister is on roll of the school on the closing date for applications and will still be on the roll of the school at the intended date of admission. If the school is over-subscribed entirely with siblings, priority will be given to those living nearest and to those with exceptional social and medical need. Siblings include all blood siblings, adoptive siblings, half-siblings, foster siblings of Looked After Children and step siblings. Siblings must all live at the same address as the child. Proof of the sibling relationship may be required.
- 4 Applicants who live nearest to the school. All distances will be measured in a straight line, using digitised mapping software or Ordnance Survey maps of the area, from the home to the main school entrance. If more than one applicant lives in a multi-occupancy building e.g. flats, priority will be given to the applicant whose door number is the lowest numerically and/or alphabetically.

Twins, triplets and other multiple births– where twins, triplets or children from other multiple births qualify for the last school place to be allocated Lewisham will admit all of the qualifying siblings in excess of the published admissions limit and they will be considered as ‘excepted pupils’.

Tie break - on the rare occasion where two or more identical applications qualify for the last available place lots will be drawn to decide which qualifying child is offered the place.

When a school is over-subscribed, any vacancy which arises as a result of the withdrawal of a successful application will be offered to the next child on the waiting list in that band. If a school cannot fill all places available in a particular band, applicants from adjoining bands will be offered the places until the school is full.

Waiting lists - Requests to be placed on a waiting list for a community school must be made via the home LA. In accordance with the pan London agreement, and to ensure Lewisham meets its duty to continue to co-ordinate admissions beyond offer date and comply with the parents’ highest possible preference, Lewisham will ensure that waiting lists do not contain lower ranked preferences except where it (or the home LA) has agreed to a parental request to change the order of preferences. In such cases, where there is a parental request to change the order of preferences, the original application, including any offer made under co-ordination, will be withdrawn and the applicant will be required to re-apply. Waiting lists will be held for the first academic year (Year 7) of admission only. Those wishing to be considered for a place beyond Year 7 will be required to make an in year application.

Waiting lists for Lewisham’s community schools will include those who have moved to the area and were unable to make an ‘ontime’ application. Parental enquiries about waiting list positions or appeal procedures for community schools should be directed to Lewisham’s Admissions Team.



APPENDIX D

Lewisham's determined arrangements for In Year Admissions to Lewisham community schools

Applications for places at a maintained school in Lewisham community primary or secondary schools in a year group other than the normal year of entry to primary (Class R to Year 6) and secondary school (Year 7 to Year 11), will be treated as an In Year admission. These applications should be made on a Lewisham In Year Admission Common Application Form (iCAF) and returned direct to the School Admissions and Appeals Team 3rd Floor Laurence House SE6 4RU.

From the autumn term of the admission year places for all year groups to a Lewisham community primary or secondary school will be offered to children in the following order:

- a) Children in Public Care (details must be supplied by the allocated social worker or foster carer). This means a child who is in care to a local authority or who is provided with accommodation by that authority as well as children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
- b) children who are newly arrived in the borough and do not have a school place and have not been offered an alternative school place within a reasonable distance from the family home (ie 2 miles for children in Key Stage 1 and 3 miles for children in Key Stages 2, 3 and 4).
- c) children with severe social and medical need for that particular school and who would not otherwise qualify for admission. The application must be supported by a letter from a hospital consultant, social worker or similar professional setting out the reasons why the school is the only one to meet the child's needs.
- d) siblings of children already on the roll of the school.
- e) children who live nearest the school, the distance being measured in a straight line using digitized mapping software.

Generic protocols for admitting children under the In Year Admissions Arrangements

- Parents wishing to make an In Year application to any maintained school including faith and foundation schools and Academies in Lewisham should do so by completing a Lewisham iCAF. Community schools will not hold separate waiting lists and are required to inform Lewisham of their current vacancies.
- As the co-ordinating authority for in year admissions across both primary and secondary phases Lewisham LA will decide which school or federation of schools to approach about an individual admission. In most cases this will be at one of the schools named by the parent on their iCAF. Where it is not possible to offer a place at the school named and where the child is not on roll of a local primary school Lewisham will offer the next nearest school to the family home with a vacancy. The parent will also be notified of their statutory right of appeal if the preferred school(s) is (are) full.
- Where the application is for a community school Lewisham will inform the parent of the school to be offered and will determine the date the child will be added to the school's roll. In turn schools must respond to the applicant within 5 school days of the notification and arrange the admission by the date specified.
- Where an application is made for a voluntary aided or foundation school or an Academy Lewisham will refer the applicants details to the school who will be required to confirm within 10 school days whether a place can be offered or not. Once a decision has been taken the school will inform Lewisham's Admissions and Appeals Team of the outcome and, where a place can be offered, contact the applicant direct to inform them of this. The Admissions Authority must inform unsuccessful applicants of their right of appeal.
- Schools must place the child on roll by the date agreed with the School Admissions and Appeals Team.
- Children transferring from one local school to another may not transfer to the new school until the start of the following half term unless both the home school and receiving school agrees.
- Federations will have an important role in apportioning admissions among the schools in the federation.
- If an admission is disputed by a school, the case must be referred to the Admissions Team giving detailed reasons within 5 school days. The child's placement will be discussed at the next Fair Access Panel. Lewisham reserves the right to direct admission if necessary.
- Details will be shared with schools termly about the numbers of admissions taking place. There should not be a disproportionate impact on any school.

Transfers between schools

Children who request a transfer from their current school do not take priority over those who qualify under the Fair Access or In Year Admissions arrangements as detailed above. Applicants will be referred to their home school. These children may require a managed move. Please refer to the Managed Moves Policy.



APPENDIX E

Generic admissions arrangements

Reception

Timing of Admission – Lewisham will operate one point of entry for reception class. Children born between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2009 will be expected to accept a full time reception place starting in September 2013.

Deferred admission to primary school - Lewisham offers early admission in reception class to children before they are of statutory school age. Parents/carers have the option of deferring their child's admission to reception class to a later term eg the start of the spring or summer term providing the child is admitted to school during the reception year or they may ask for their child to be admitted on a part time basis up to the point they become of statutory school age. Parents may not defer their child's admission beyond reception year or after the beginning of the term after their child's fifth birthday.

Children who attend a nursery class in a primary school frequently transfer to the main school, however there is no automatic transfer and children attending the nursery are not given priority. Parents of nursery children **must** complete a Common Application Form to apply for a place in the reception class. Applications from parents of children on the roll of the nursery will be considered with other applicants at the appropriate time.

Completing the Common Application Form: parents may make an online application via Lewisham's web site at www.lewisham.gov.uk or www.eadmissions.org.uk by 15 January 2013.

Secondary Transfer

Children born between 1 September 2001 and 31 August 2002 will be expected to transfer to secondary school in September 2013.

Completing the Common Application Form: parents may make an online application via Lewisham's web site at www.lewisham.gov.uk or www.eadmissions.org.uk by 31 October 2012.

Early transfer: In very exceptional circumstances Lewisham will consider a request for an early transfer for a younger child (ie born after 31 August 2002) providing that

- The application is supported by the child's primary headteacher and an educational psychologist confirming that the child is academically outstanding and sufficiently physically and emotionally mature to cope with the demands of secondary school
- The parent agrees that their child will transfer to secondary school with the earlier cohort regardless of the outcome of their applications and will not qualify to participate in the transfer scheme the following year.

In cases described above parents must consider the implications of an early transfer.

Later transfer: In very exceptional circumstances Lewisham will consider a request for a deferred transfer. Requests must be supported by the child's primary headteacher, supported by an educational psychologist, confirming that the child has a learning delay or difficulty and their social maturity is well below that of his or her peers.

In cases described above parents must consider the implications of deferred transfer.

The Education and Skills Act 2008 increased the minimum age at which young people in England can leave learning. From 2013 this requires them to continue in education or training to the age of 17. Children who have transferred to secondary school a year earlier than their peers will be required to stay in full-time education, undertake work-based learning such as an Apprenticeship, or part-time education or training if they are employed, self-employed or volunteering for more than 20 hours per week until they are 17.

Lewisham's banding arrangements: Community maintained secondary schools, Addey and Stanhope, Prendergast Vale College and Trinity Lewisham CE voluntary aided schools operate the same banding arrangements to ensure as far as possible a comprehensive intake ensuring there is an equal number of places available in each band. Pupils at Lewisham primary schools sit tests in June of year 5. These are currently the optional year 5 QCA tests in English and maths. The results of the tests place each pupil in one of five bands (1a, 1b, 2a, 2b and 3), with the aim of producing balanced intakes to secondary schools. Band 1a encompasses pupils who show aptitude in all areas tested and band 3 encompasses pupils who may need additional support to help them reach their potential.

Prendergast Hilly Fields will use Lewisham's banding but the proportion of places available will be determined by the proportion of applicants in each band of ability. This is known as school based banding.

Pupils living outside Lewisham, or attending primary schools outside Lewisham, may still apply for Lewisham schools, via their home LA. Such pupils will be banded according to their score in the optional year 5 QCA tests (if they take them), or according to an assessment by their primary head teacher, usually based on the child's National Curriculum achievement levels. Children for whom a band cannot be determined from either of the above will be placed in the middle band 2a.

Academies which operate a different banding arrangement will make their own arrangements to test and band applicants.

Secondary school visits: Each Lewisham secondary school will be open on set days early in the autumn term to enable parents to visit and discuss the educational opportunities available. A list of visit dates and arrangements will appear in the "Secondary Schools in Lewisham" booklet.

Alternatively parents of pupils attending Lewisham primary schools will have the opportunity to meet their primary head teacher discuss their preference of schools. Appointments will be made for parents who need assistance in completing their Common Application Form. The on line application or paper Common Application Form must be returned to the Admissions Team by the closing date.

Making an Application – Nursery, Primary and Secondary

All applicants will be required to demonstrate that the address they are applying from is their permanent home address and that they have parental responsibility and therefore eligible to apply for a school place for the child. Applications from children who are not on the roll of a Lewisham primary school and whose documentation has not been previously verified must be accompanied by the applicants Council Tax bill to establish permanent home address as well as the child benefit letter or child tax credit letter to establish that the applicant is in receipt of benefit for the child.

Parents may state the reasons why they wish their child to attend a particular school, including whether there is a sibling already attending the school. If there are exceptional social and/or medical reasons affecting the child or their family why s/he should attend a particular school, these must be supported by documentation from a hospital consultant or social worker, or similar professional, at the time of application. For community schools, these cases will be considered by a sub group appointed by Lewisham's Admissions Forum.

Shared care arrangements: Lewisham is aware that some parents share the care of their child. Lewisham will normally accept that the child lives with the parent who has parental responsibility and who is in receipt of child benefit and child tax credit. Documentary evidence may be required.

Permanent home address: Proof of permanent home address will be required and will include current Council Tax statements, the most recent child benefit or child tax credit letters. In addition Lewisham may require copies of utility bills, residence orders or other court orders. If a false address has been given and an offer made on the basis of that information, the offer of a place may be withdrawn.

Lewisham is aware that some parents rent a property close to a popular school to increase the likelihood of their child gaining admission. To establish an applicant's permanent rather than temporary home address the following will be required;

- 1 closing accounts for the original property,
- 2 official confirmation of the end of tenancy or house sale for the original property,
- 3a tenancy agreement via a commercial letting agency for a period of 12 months or more. The period of the tenancy must extend beyond the start of the academic year in which the child is due to be admitted or

3b solicitors' confirmation of the completion of the purchase of the new property

In establishing permanent home address Lewisham may also check records held within the Council as well as other external agencies.

Where the tenancy or ownership of the original property has not been surrendered, Lewisham will accept this address as the permanent home address.

Appeals: Appeals for statutory school phases will be heard in accordance with the provisions of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and the Education Act 2002, together with the School Admissions Appeals Code. Parents will have the right of appeal to any school that has refused their child a place. Appeals for reception and secondary transfer phases for community schools will be heard during May and June in the summer term.

Parents who have appealed unsuccessfully for a school will not be able to apply and subsequently appeal again for a place at the same school in the same academic year unless there are significant and material changes to the child or family's circumstances. Documentary proof of such changes will be required from the appropriate professional(s) working with the family.



APPENDIX F

Lewisham's determined admissions arrangements for community school Sixth Forms

In the event of the school being over-subscribed (having more applications than places available) places will be offered to the following:

- 1 Children in Public Care (details must be supplied by the allocated social worker or foster carer). This means a child who is in care to a local authority or who is provided with accommodation by that authority as well as children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
- 2 Applicants who have an exceptional social or medical need for a place at the school, supported by professional documentation from a hospital consultant, social worker or similar. Decisions on these cases will be taken in consultation with the Executive Director for Children and Young People or her delegated representative.
- 3 Applicants who at the time of application are on roll of Conisborough College and Prendergast Ladywell Fields will be given priority at Crossways Academy.
- 4 Applicants who at the time of application are on roll of Forest Hill or Sydenham schools will be given priority at Sydenham and Forest Hill Sixth Form (SFH6).
- 5 Applicants who can best demonstrate their suitability for the course involved (factors taken into account will be attendance and previous academic performance).
- 6 If the school is over-subscribed with applicants from the feeder schools only, priority will first go to applicants from those schools with professionally-supported social or medical cases (see above), and then to those who can best demonstrate their suitability for the course involved. For the latter, factors taken into account will be attendance and previous academic performance.
- 7 If two identical applicants qualify for the last available place, home to school distance will be used as a tie break. If the applicants live the exact distance from the school lots will be taken to determine which applicant is offered the remaining place.

Any minimum standards required for entry will be published in the school's prospectus. In the event that an applicant fails to meet such requirements, the school will review the case in the light of reports from the original school.

Lewisham is required to publish the number of places (if any) expected to be available to students not on roll of the feeder schools. For SFH6 it is expected that a maximum of 10 places per school (20 in total) will be available to children attending other schools.

There will be the right of appeal against any refusal of a place at the school, and the appeal will be heard in line with the provisions of the Education Act 2002.

The sixth forms will publish a closing date for receipt of applications and the date of notification of the outcome of their applications. Late applicants will only be considered if there are places unallocated at the time of application.

Shared care arrangements: Lewisham is aware that some parents share the care of their child. Lewisham will accept that the permanent home address is that which is held by the secondary school. Lewisham will normally accept that the child lives with the parent who has parental responsibility and who is in receipt of child benefit and child tax credit. Documentary evidence may be required.

Permanent home address:

Proof of permanent home address will be required and will include current Council Tax statements, utility bills, residence orders or other court orders. If a false address has been given and an offer made on the basis of that information, the offer of a place may be withdrawn.

Lewisham is aware that some parents rent a property close to a popular school to increase the likelihood of their child gaining admission. To establish an applicant's permanent rather than temporary home address the following is required;

- 1 closing accounts for the original property,
- 2 official confirmation of the end of tenancy or house sale for the original property,
- 3a tenancy agreement via a commercial letting agency for a period of 12 months or more. The period of the tenancy must extend beyond the start of the academic year in which the child is due to be admitted or
- 3b solicitors' confirmation of the completion of the purchase of the new property

Where the tenancy or ownership of the original property has not been surrendered, Lewisham will accept this address as the permanent home address.

In establishing permanent home address Lewisham may also check records held within the Council as well as other external agencies.



APPENDIX G

PROPOSED ADMISSIONS LIMITS 2013/14

Primary Schools	Admissions Number
Adamsrill	60
All Saints	30
Ashmead	30
Athelney	60 (includes any admissions to the ASD resource base)
Baring	30
Brindishe Lee	30
Brindishe Green	90
Beecroft Gardens (previously known as Brockley)	60
Childeric	60
Christ Church	30
Coopers Lane	60 (including admission to the Hearing Unit)
Dalmain	60
Deptford Park	90 (including admission to the ASD resource base)
Downderry	60
Edmund Waller	60
Elfrida	60
Eliot Bank	60
Fairlawn	60
Forster Park	60
Good Shepherd	30
Gordonbrock	90
Grinling Gibbons	30
Haseltine	60
Holbeach	60
Holy Cross	30
Holy Trinity	30
Horniman	30
John Ball	60
John Stainer	30
Kelvin Grove	90 (including admissions to the ASD resource base)
Kender	60
Kilmorie	90 (including admission to the SEN resource base)

Primary Schools	Admissions Number
Launcelot	60
Lee Manor	60
Lucas Vale	60
Marvels Lane	60
Myatt Garden	60
Our Lady & St Philip Neri	45
Perrymount	26 (+ 2 wheelchair users)
Rangefield	60
Rathfern	60
Rushey Green	60 (including admission to the Hearing Unit)
Sandhurst Junior	90
Sandhurst Infant	90
Sir Francis Drake	30
St Augustine's	30
St Bartholomew's	60
St James Hatcham	30
St John the Baptist	30
St Joseph's	30
St Margaret's	30
St Mary's	30
St Mary Magdalen	30
St Michael's	30
St Saviour's	30
St Stephen's	30
St William of York	30
St Winifred's Junior	45
St Winifred's Infant	45
Stillness Junior	90
Stillness Infant	90
Tidemill Academy	60 (including admission to the Speech and Language resource base)
Torridon Junior *	90 (including admission to the ASD resource base)
Torridon Infant	90 (including admission to the ASD resource base)
Turnham	66

Secondary Schools	Admissions Number
Addey and Stanhope	120 (including admission to the

	Speech and Language Resource)
Bonus Pastor	155
Conisborough College	180 (+ 7 SEN resourced places)
Deptford Green	234 (including admission to the SEN resource base)
Forest Hill	240
Prendergast Hilly Fields College	116
Sedgehill	306 (including admissions to the Hearing Unit)
Sydenham	240

All-age Schools

The published admissions number for all-age schools is set for the reception intake. Admissions to Year 7 for new applicants will depend on the number of children automatically transferring from the Academy in Year 6

	Reception	Total Year 7 admissions
Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham College	60	208
Haberdashers' Aske's Knights Academy	60	208
Prendergast Ladywell Fields College **	60	240
Prendergast Vale College	30	120
St Matthew Academy	60	180
Trinity **	60	120

** Proposals to create all through schools at Prendergast Ladywell Fields and Trinity Schools will be subject to separate consultation.



APPENDIX H

PAN-LONDON CO-ORDINATED ADMISSION SYSTEM

Template Pan London Schemes for Co-ordination of Admissions to Year 7 and Reception in Maintained Schools and Academies in 2013/14 and the LA Scheme for In Year Admissions 2013/14

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Template LA Schemes for Co-ordination of Admissions to Year 7 and Reception in
2013/14

Definitions used in the template schemes

“the Application Year”	the academic year in which the parent makes an application (i.e. in relation to the academic year of entry, the academic year preceding it).
“the Board”	the Pan-London Admissions Executive Board, which is responsible for the Scheme
“the Business User Guide (BUG)”	the document issued annually to participating LAs setting out the operational procedures of the Scheme
“the Common Application Form”	this is the form that each authority must have under the Regulations for parents to use to express their preferences, set out in rank order
“the Equal Preference System”	the model whereby all preferences listed by parents on the Common Application Form are considered under the over-subscription criteria for each school without reference to parental rankings. Where a pupil is eligible to be offered a place at more than one school within an LA, or across more than one participating LA, the rankings are used to determine the single offer by selecting the school ranked highest of those which can offer a place
“the Highly Recommended Elements”	the elements of the Template Scheme that are not mandatory but to which subscription is strongly recommended in order to maximise co-ordination and thereby simplify the application process as far as possible
“the Home LA”	the LA in which the applicant/parent/carer is resident
“the LIAAG Address Verification Register	- the document containing the address verification policy of each participating LA
“the Local Admission System (LAS)”	the IT module for administering admissions in each LA and for determining the highest offer both within and between participating LAs
“the London E-Admissions Portal”	the common online application system used by the 33 London LAs and Surrey County Council
“the Maintaining LA”	the LA which maintains a school to which an applicant/parent/carer has applied

“the Mandatory Elements”	those elements of the Template Scheme to which authorities must subscribe in order to be considered as ‘Participating Authorities’ and to benefit from use of the Pan-London Register
“the Notification Letter”	the agreed form of letter sent to applicants on the Prescribed Day which communicates any determination granting or refusing admission to a primary or secondary school, which is attached as Schedule 2
“the Prescribed Day”	the day on which outcome letters are posted to parents/carers. For secondary schools: 1st March in the year following the relevant determination year except that , in any year in which that day is not a working day, the prescribed day shall be the next working day. For primary schools: A date determined annually by the Board.
“the Pan-London Register (PLR)”	the database which will sort and transmit application and outcome data between the LAS of each participating LA
“the Pan-London Timetable”	the framework for processing of application and outcome data, which is attached as Schedule 3
“the Participating LA”	any LA that has indicated in the Memorandum of Agreement that they are willing to incorporate, at a minimum, the mandatory elements of the Template LA Scheme presented here.
“the Qualifying Scheme”	the scheme which each LA is required to formulate in accordance with the School Admissions (Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) Regulations 2008 for co-ordinating arrangements for the admission of children to maintained primary and secondary schools and academies.

Template Scheme for Co-ordination of Admissions to Year 7 in 2013/14

Applications

1. Lewisham LA will advise home LAs of their resident pupils on the roll of its maintained primary schools and academies who are eligible to transfer to secondary school in the forthcoming academic year.
2. Applications from Lewisham residents will be made on its Common Application Form, which will be available and able to be submitted on-line. This will include all the fields and information specified in Schedule 1 to this Template LA Scheme. These will be supplemented by any additional fields and information which are deemed necessary by Lewisham LA to enable the admission authorities in the area to apply their published oversubscription criteria.
3. Lewisham LA will take all reasonable steps to ensure that every parent/carer who is resident in the borough and has a child in their last year of primary education within a maintained school, either in Lewisham or any other maintaining LA, receives a copy of Lewisham's admissions booklet and Common Application Form, including details of how to apply online. The admissions booklet will also be available to parents/carers who do not live in Lewisham, and will include information on how they can access their home LA's Common Application Form.
4. The admission authorities within Lewisham will not use supplementary information forms except where the information available through the Common Application Form is insufficient for consideration of the application against the published oversubscription criteria. Where supplementary information forms are used by the admissions authorities within Lewisham, the LA will seek to ensure that these only collect information which is required by the published oversubscription criteria, in accordance with paragraph 1.83 of the School Admissions Code 2010.
5. Where supplementary information forms are used by admission authorities in Lewisham LA, they will be available on Lewisham's website. Such forms will advise parents that they must also complete their home LA's Common Application Form. Lewisham LA's admission booklet and website will indicate which schools in the borough require supplementary forms to be completed and where they can be obtained.
6. Where an admission authority in Lewisham receives a supplementary information form, Lewisham LA will not consider it to be a valid application unless the parent/carer has also listed the school on their home LA's Common Application Form, in accordance with paragraph 15(d) of the School Admissions Code 2012.
7. Applicants will be able to express a preference for six maintained secondary schools or Academies within and/or outside the borough (and any City Technology College that has agreed to participate in their LA's Qualifying Scheme).
8. The order of preference given on the Common Application Form will not be revealed to a school within Lewisham LA. However, where a parent resident in Lewisham LA expresses a preference for schools in the area of another LA, the order of preference for that LA's schools will be revealed to that LA

in order that it can determine the highest ranked preference in cases where an applicant is eligible for a place at more than one school in that LA's area.

9. Lewisham LA undertakes to carry out the address verification process as set out in the admissions arrangements and its entry in the Business User Guide. This will in all cases include validation of resident applicants against Lewisham LA's primary school data and the further investigation of any discrepancy. Where Lewisham LA is not satisfied as to the validity of an address of an applicant whose preference has been sent to a maintaining LA, it will advise the maintaining LA no later than 14 December 2012.
10. Lewisham LA will confirm the status of any resident child for whom it receives a Common Application Form stating s/he is a 'Child Looked After' and will provide evidence to the maintaining LA in respect of a preference for a school in its area by 14 November 2012.
11. Lewisham LA will advise a maintaining LA of the reason for any preference expressed for a school in its area, in respect of a resident child born outside of the correct age cohort, and will forward any supporting documentation to the maintaining LA by 14 November 2012.

Processing

12. Applicants resident within Lewisham LA must return the Common Application Form, which will be available and able to be submitted on-line, to this LA by 31 October 2012. However, this LA will publish information which encourages applicants to submit their application by 26 October 2012 (i.e. the Friday before half term), to allow it sufficient time to process and check all applications before the mandatory date when data must be sent to the PLR.
13. Application data relating to preferences for schools in other participating LAs will be up-loaded to the PLR by 14 November 2012. Supplementary information provided with the Common Application Form will be sent to maintaining LAs by the same date.
14. Lewisham LA shall, in consultation with the admission authorities within this LA's area and within the framework of the Pan-London timetable in Schedule 3A, determine and state its own timetable for the processing of preference data and the application of published oversubscription criteria.
15. Lewisham LA will accept late applications only if they are late for a good reason, deciding each case on its own merits up until 13 December 2012.
16. Where such applications contain preferences for schools in other LAs, Lewisham LA will forward the details to maintaining LAs via the PLR as they are received.
17. The latest date for the upload to the PLR of late applications which are considered to be on-time within the terms of Lewisham LA's scheme is 14 December 2012.
18. Where an applicant moves from one participating home LA to another after submitting an on-time application under the terms of the former home LA's scheme, Lewisham LA will accept the application as on-time up to 14

December 2012, on the basis that an on-time application already exists within the Pan-London system.

19. Lewisham LA will participate in the application data checking exercise scheduled between 17 December 2012 and 2 January 2013 in the Pan-London timetable in Schedule 3A.
20. All preferences for schools within Lewisham LA will be considered by the relevant admission authorities without reference to rank order. When the admission authorities within Lewisham LA have provided a list of applicants in criteria order to Lewisham, this LA shall, for each applicant to its schools for whom more than one potential offer is available, use the highest ranked preference to decide which single potential offer to make. This is the 'Equal Preference System'.
21. Lewisham LA will carry out all reasonable checks to ensure that pupil rankings are correctly held in its LAS before uploading data to the PLR.
22. Lewisham LA will upload the highest potential offer available to an applicant for a maintained school or academy in this LA to the PLR by 4 February 2013. The PLR will transmit the highest potential offer specified by the Maintaining LA to the Home LA.
23. Lewisham's LAS will eliminate, as a Home LA, all but the highest ranked offer where an applicant has more than one potential offer across Maintaining LAs submitting information within deadline to the PLR. This will involve exchanges of preference outcomes between the LAS and the PLR (in accordance with the iterative timetable published in the Business User Guide) which will continue until notification that a steady state has been achieved, or until 15 February 2013 if this is sooner.
24. Lewisham LA will not make an additional offer between the end of the iterative process and 1 March 2013 which may impact on an offer being made by another participating LA.
25. Notwithstanding paragraph 24, if an error is identified within the allocation of places at a school in Lewisham, this LA will attempt to manually resolve the allocation to correct the error. Where this impacts on another LA (either as a home or maintaining LA) Lewisham LA will liaise with that LA to attempt to resolve the correct offer and any multiple offers which might occur. However, if another LA is unable to resolve a multiple offer, or if the impact is too far reaching, Lewisham LA will accept that the applicant(s) affected might receive a multiple offer.
26. Lewisham LA will participate in the offer data checking exercise scheduled between 18 and 22 February 2013 in the Pan-London timetable in Schedule 3A.
27. Lewisham LA will send a file to the E-Admissions portal with outcomes for all resident applicants who have applied online no later than 25 February 2013. (33 London LAs & Surrey only).

Offers

28. Lewisham LA will ensure, so far as is reasonably practical, that each resident applicant who cannot be offered a preference expressed on the Common Application Form, receives the offer of an alternative school place. Usually this will be the closest school to the applicants home address which has a vacancy after the allocation of school places.
29. Lewisham LA will inform all resident applicants of their highest offer of a school place and, where relevant, the reasons why higher preferences were not offered, whether they were for schools in Lewisham or in other participating LAs.
30. Lewisham LA's outcome letter will include the information set out in Schedule 2.
31. On 1 March 2013, Lewisham LA will send by first class post notification of the outcome to resident applicants.
32. Lewisham LA will provide its primary schools with destination data of its resident applicants via the School Admissions Module (SAM) which will be available from 2 March 2013.

Post Offer

33. Lewisham LA will request that resident applicants accept or decline the offer of a place by 15 March 2013, or within two weeks of the date of any subsequent offer.
34. Where an applicant resident in Lewisham LA accepts or declines a place in a school maintained by another LA by 15 March 2013, Lewisham LA will forward the information to the maintaining LA by 22 March 2013. Where such information is received from applicants after 15 March, Lewisham LA will pass it to the maintaining LA as it is received.
35. When acting as a maintaining LA, Lewisham LA will inform the home LA, where different, of an offer for a maintained school or Academy in this LA's area which can be made to an applicant resident in the home LA's area, in order that the home LA can offer the place.
36. When acting as a maintaining LA, Lewisham LA and the admission authorities within it, will not inform an applicant resident in another LA that a place can be offered.
37. When acting as a home LA, Lewisham LA will offer a place at a maintained school or Academy in the area of another LA to an applicant resident in its area, provided that the school is ranked higher on the Common Application Form than any school already offered.
38. When acting as a home LA, when Lewisham LA is informed by a maintaining LA of an offer which can be made to an applicant resident in this LA's area which is ranked lower on the Common Application Form than any school already offered, it will inform the maintaining LA that the offer will not be made.

39. When acting as a home LA, when Lewisham LA has agreed to a change of preference order for good reason, it will inform any maintaining LA affected by the change. In such cases, paragraphs 37 and 38 shall apply to the revised order of preferences.
40. When acting as a maintaining LA, Lewisham LA will inform the home LA, where different, of any change to an applicant's offer status as soon as it occurs.
41. When acting as a maintaining LA, Lewisham LA will accept new applications (including additional preferences) from home LAs for maintained schools and academies in its area.

PAN- LONDON CO-ORDINATED ADMISSIONS SYSTEM

Template LA Scheme for Co-ordination of Admissions to Reception in 2013/14

Applications

1. Applications from residents of Lewisham LA will be made on Lewisham LA's Common Application Form, which will be available and able to be submitted on-line. This will include all the fields and information specified in Schedule 1 to this Template LA Scheme. These will be supplemented by any additional fields and information which are deemed necessary by Lewisham LA to enable the admission authorities in Lewisham to apply their published oversubscription criteria.
2. Lewisham LA will take all reasonable steps to ensure that every parent/carer who is resident in Lewisham and has a child in a nursery class within a maintained school, either in this LA or any other maintaining LA, receives a copy of Lewisham's starting school booklet and Common Application Form, including details of how to apply online. The starting school booklet will also be available to parents/carers who do not live in Lewisham, and will include information on how they can access their home LA's Common Application Form.
3. The admission authorities within Lewisham will not use supplementary information forms except where the information available through the Common Application Form is insufficient for consideration of the application against the published oversubscription criteria. Where supplementary information forms are used by the admissions authorities within Lewisham, the LA will seek to ensure that these only collect information which is required by the published oversubscription criteria, in accordance with paragraph 15(d) of the School Admissions Code 2012.
4. Where supplementary information forms are used by admission authorities in Lewisham, they will be available on its website. Such forms will advise parents that they must also complete their home LA's Common Application Form. Lewisham's starting school booklet and website will indicate which schools in Lewisham require supplementary forms to be completed and where they can be obtained.
5. Where a school in Lewisham LA receives a supplementary information form, Lewisham will not consider it to be a valid application unless the parent/carer has also listed the school on their home LA's Common Application Form.
6. Applicants will be able to express a preference for up to six maintained primary schools or academies within and/or outside the Home LA .
7. The order of preference given on the Common Application Form will not be revealed to a school within Lewisham. However, where a parent resident in Lewisham LA expresses a preference for schools in the area of another LA, the order of preference for that LA's schools will be revealed to that LA in order that it can determine the highest ranked preference in cases where an applicant is eligible for a place at more than one school in that LA's area.
8. Lewisham LA undertakes to carry out the address verification process set out in the admissions arrangements and its entry in the Business User Guide. This will include validation of resident applicants against Lewisham LA's maintained nursery and primary school data and the further investigation of any

discrepancy. Where Lewisham LA is not satisfied as to the validity of an address of an applicant whose preference has been sent to a maintaining LA, it will advise the maintaining LA no later than 15 February 2013.

9. Lewisham LA will confirm the status of any resident child for whom it receives a Common Application Form stating s/he is a 'Child Looked After' and will provide evidence to the maintaining LA in respect of a preference for a school in its area by 1 February 2013.
10. Lewisham LA will advise a maintaining LA of the reason for any preference expressed for a school in its area, in respect of a resident child born outside of the correct age cohort, and will forward any supporting documentation to the maintaining LA by 1 February 2013.

Processing

11. Applicants resident within Lewisham LA must return the Common Application Form, which will be available and able to be submitted on-line, to Lewisham LA by 15 January 2013.
12. Application data relating to preferences for schools in other participating LAs will be up-loaded to the PLR by 1 February 2013. Supplementary information provided with the Common Application Form will be sent to maintaining LAs by the same date.
13. Lewisham LA shall, in consultation with the admission authorities within this LA's area and within the framework of the Pan-London timetable in Schedule 3B, determine its own timetable for the processing of preference data and the application of published oversubscription criteria.
14. Lewisham LA will accept late applications only if they are late for a good reason, up until 14 February 2013 deciding each case on its own merits.
15. Where such applications contain preferences for schools in other LAs, Lewisham LA will forward the details to maintaining LAs via the PLR as they are received. Lewisham LA will accept late applications which are considered to be on time within the terms of the home LA's scheme.
16. The latest date for the upload to the PLR of late applications which are considered to be on-time within the terms of the home LA's scheme is 15 February 2013.
17. Where an applicant moves from one participating home LA to Lewisham LA after submitting an on-time application under the terms of the former home LA's scheme, Lewisham LA will accept the application as on-time up to 15 February 2013, on the basis that an on-time application already exists within the Pan-London system.
18. Lewisham LA will participate in the application data checking exercise scheduled between 18 February and 1 March 2013 in the Pan-London timetable in Schedule 3B.
19. All preferences for schools within Lewisham LA will be considered by the relevant admission authorities without reference to rank order. When the admission authorities within Lewisham LA have provided a list of applicants in criteria order to Lewisham LA, this LA shall, for each applicant to its schools for

whom more than one potential offer is available, use the highest ranked preference to decide which single potential offer to make. This is the 'Equal Preference System'.

20. Lewisham LA will carry out all reasonable checks to ensure that pupil rankings are correctly held in its LAS before uploading data to the PLR.
21. Lewisham LA will upload the highest potential offer available to an applicant for a maintained school or academy in this LA to the PLR by 18 March 2013. The PLR will transmit the highest potential offer specified by the Maintaining LA to the Home LA.
22. Lewisham's LAS will eliminate, as a Home LA, all but the highest ranked offer where an applicant has more than one potential offer across Maintaining LAs submitting information within deadline to the PLR. This will involve exchanges of preference outcomes between the LAS and the PLR (in accordance with the iterative timetable published in the Business User Guide) which will continue until notification that a steady state has been achieved, or until 22 March 2013 if this is sooner.
23. Lewisham LA will not make an additional offer between the end of the iterative process and the 17 April 2013 which may impact on an offer being made by another participating LA.
24. Notwithstanding paragraph 24, if an error is identified within the allocation of places at a school in Lewisham, this LA will attempt to manually resolve the allocation to correct the error. Where this impacts on another LA (either as a home or maintaining LA) Lewisham LA will liaise with that LA to attempt to resolve the correct offer and any multiple offers which might occur. However, if another LA is unable to resolve a multiple offer, or if the impact is too far reaching, this LA will accept that the applicant(s) affected might receive a multiple offer.
25. Lewisham LA will participate in the offer data checking exercise scheduled between 25 March and 11 April 2013 in the Pan-London timetable in Schedule 3B.
26. Lewisham LA will send a file to the E-Admissions portal with outcomes for all resident applicants who have applied online no later than 12 April 2013.

Offers

27. Lewisham LA will ensure, so far as is reasonably practical, that each resident applicant who cannot be offered a preference expressed on the Common Application Form, receives the offer of an alternative school place. Usually this will be the closest school to the home address where there is still a vacancy after the allocation of places.
28. Lewisham LA will inform all resident applicants of their highest offer of a school place and, where relevant, the reasons why higher preferences were not offered, whether they were for schools in Lewisham LA or in other participating LAs.
29. Lewisham LA's outcome letter will include the information set out in Schedule 2.

30. Lewisham LA will, on 17 April 2013, send by first class post notification of the outcome to resident applicants. (In subsequent years, this date will be substituted for the date prescribed by the Board, which will be set taking into account the statutory requirement for data to be exchanged between LAs by 31 March and the dates set for public holidays and the school holiday period).
31. Lewisham LA will provide its nursery and primary schools with destination data of its resident applicants by the School Admissions Module (SAM) which will be available after 18 April 2013.

Post Offer

32. Lewisham LA will request that resident applicants accept or decline the offer of a place by 2 May 2013, or within two weeks of the date of any subsequent offer.
33. Where an applicant resident in Lewisham LA accepts or declines a place in a school maintained by another LA by 2 May 2013, Lewisham LA will forward the information to the maintaining LA by 16 May 2013. Where such information is received from applicants after 2 May, Lewisham LA will pass it to the maintaining LA as it is received.
34. When acting as a maintaining LA, Lewisham LA will inform the home LA, where different, of an offer for a maintained school or Academy in Lewisham LA's area which can be made to an applicant resident in the home LA's area, in order that the home LA can offer the place.
35. When acting as a maintaining LA, Lewisham LA and the admission authorities within it, will not inform an applicant resident in another LA that a place can be offered.
36. When acting as a home LA, Lewisham LA will offer a place at a maintained school or Academy in the area of another LA to an applicant resident in its area, provided that the school is ranked higher on the Common Application Form than any school already offered.
37. When acting as a home LA, when Lewisham LA is informed by a maintaining LA of an offer which can be made to an applicant resident in this LA's area which is ranked lower on the Common Application Form than any school already offered, it will inform the maintaining LA that the offer will not be made.
38. When acting as a home LA, when Lewisham LA has agreed to a change of preference order for good reason, it will inform any maintaining LA affected by the change. In such cases, paragraphs 36 and 37 shall apply to the revised order of preferences.
39. When acting as a maintaining LA, Lewisham LA will inform the home LA, where different, of any change to an applicant's offer status as soon as it occurs.
40. When acting as a maintaining LA, Lewisham LA will accept new applications (including additional preferences) from home LAs for maintained schools and academies in its area.

PAN-LONDON CO-ORDINATED ADMISSIONS SCHEME
SCHEDULE 1

Minimum Content of Common Application Form for Admissions to Year 7 and
Reception in 2013/14

Child's details:

Surname
Forename(s)
Middle name(s)
Date of Birth
Gender
Home address
Name of current school
Address of current school (if outside home LA)

Parent's details:

Title
Surname
Forename
Address (if different to child's address)
Telephone Number (Home, Daytime, Mobile)
7 Email address
Relationship to child

Preference details (x 6):

Name of school
8 Address of school
Preference ranking
Local authority in which the school is based

Additional information:

Reasons for Preferences (including any medical or social reasons)
Is the child a 'Child Looked After'? Y/N
9 If yes, name of responsible local authority
10 Surname of sibling
Forename of sibling
DOB of sibling
Gender of sibling
Name of school sibling attends

Other:

Signature of parent or guardian
Date of signature

* Lewisham guarantees that no stated pupil details will be sent via the PLR.

PAN-LONDON CO-ORDINATED ADMISSIONS SCHEME

SCHEDULE 2

Template Outcome Letter for Admissions to Year 7 and Reception in 2013/14

From: Home LA

Date: 1 March 2013 (sec)
17 April 2013 (prim)

Dear Parent,

Application for a Secondary / Primary School

I am writing to let you know the outcome of your application for a secondary/primary school. Your child has been offered a place at X School. The school will write to you with further details.

I am sorry that it was not possible for your child to be offered a place at any of the schools which you listed as a higher preference on your application form. For each of these schools there were more applications than places, and other applicants has a higher priority than your child under the school's published admission criteria.

Offers which could have been made for any schools which you placed lower in your preference list, were automatically withdrawn under the co-ordinated admission arrangements, as a higher preference has been offered.

If you would like more information about the reason that your child was not offered a place at any higher preference school, you should contact the admission authority that is responsible for admissions to the school within the next few days. Details of the different admission authorities for schools in the borough of X are attached to this letter. If the school is outside the borough of X, the admission authority will either be the borough in which the school is situated, or the school itself.

You have the right of appeal under the School Standards & Framework Act 1998 as amended by the Education Act 2011 against the refusal of a place at any of the schools for which you have applied. If you wish to appeal, you must contact the admission authority for the school within the next few days to obtain the procedure and the date by which an appeal must be received by them.

Please would you confirm that you wish to accept the place at X School by completing the reply slip below. If you do not wish to accept the place, you will need to let me know what alternative arrangements you are making for your child's education.

You must contact this office if you wish to apply for any other school, either in this borough or elsewhere.

You can also request that your child's name is placed on the waiting list for a school which was a higher preference on your application form than the school you have been offered. Please use the enclosed reply slip and return it to this office.

Please return the reply slip to me by 15 March 2013 (sec) / 2 May 2013 (prim). If you have any questions about this letter, please contact me on _____.

Yours sincerely

PAN-LONDON CO-ORDINATED ADMISSIONS SCHEME
SCHEDULE 3A

Timetable for Admissions to Year 7 in 2013/14

Fri 26 Oct 2012	Published closing date (Friday before half-term)
Wed 31 Oct 2012	Statutory deadline for receipt of applications
Wed 14 Nov 2012	Deadline for the transfer of application information by the Home LA to the PLR (ADT file).
Fri 14 Dec 2012	Deadline for the upload of late applications to the PLR.
Mon 17 Dec 2012 – Wed 2 Jan 2013	Checking of application data
Mon 4 Feb 2013	Deadline for the transfer of potential offer information from Maintaining LAs to the PLR (ALT file)
Fri 15 Feb 2013	Final ALT file to PLR
Mon 18-Fri 22 Feb 2013	Checking of offer data
Mon 25 Feb 2013	Deadline for on-line ALT file to portal
Fri 1 Mar 2013	Offer letters posted.
Fri 15 Mar 2013	Deadline for return of acceptances
Fri 22 Mar 2013	Deadline for transfer of acceptances to maintaining LAs

PAN-LONDON CO-ORDINATED ADMISSIONS SCHEME
SCHEDULE 3B

Timetable for Admissions to Reception in 2013/14

Tue 15 Jan 2013	Statutory deadline for receipt of applications
Fri 1 Feb 2013	Deadline for the transfer of application information by the Home LA to the PLR (ADT file)
Fri 15 Feb 2013	Deadline for the upload of late applications to the PLR.
Mon 18 - Fri 22 Feb 2013	Checking of application data
Mon 18 Mar 2013	Deadline for the transfer of potential offer information from the Maintaining LAs to the PLR (ALT file).
Fri 22 Mar 2013	Final ALT file to PLR
Mon 25 Mar-Thur 11 Apr 2013	Checking of offer data
Fri 12 Apr 2013	Deadline for on-line ALT file to portal
Wed 17 April 2013	Offer letters posted.
Thurs 2 May 2013	Deadline for receipt of acceptances
Thurs 16 May 2013	Deadline for transfer of acceptances to maintaining LAs

LEWISHAM'S SCHEME FOR THE CO-ORDINATION OF IN-YEAR
ADMISSIONS FOR MAINTAINED SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES IN
LEWISHAM 2013/14

Section 1: Applications

1. Applications from Lewisham and non-Lewisham residents for schools in Lewisham will be made directly to Lewisham's admission team. The in-year application forms will be available from Lewisham's admission team. The primary in year application form will be available from primary schools in the borough and the secondary in year application form will be available from secondary schools in the borough. Both forms can be downloaded from our website at www.lewisham.gov.uk
2. Lewisham residents applying for places at maintained schools and academies outside Lewisham will need to apply directly to the LA in whose area the school is situated.
3. The admission authorities in Lewisham will not use supplementary forms except where the information available through the Common Application Form is insufficient for consideration of the application against the published oversubscription criteria. Where supplementary forms are used by the admissions authorities within Lewisham, Lewisham's admission team will seek to ensure that these only collect information which is required by the published oversubscription criteria, in accordance with the School Admissions Code.
4. Where supplementary forms are used, they will be available from the school concerned and available on Lewisham's website. Any supplementary forms must advise parents that they must also complete Lewisham's in-year application form. Lewisham's admission booklet and website will indicate which schools in Lewisham require supplementary forms to be completed and where they can be obtained. Parents will be advised that they should complete the supplementary form so that the Governing Body can fully consider their application.
5. Where an admission authority school in Lewisham receives a supplementary form, it will not consider it to be a valid application until the parent has also listed the school on Lewisham's In-Year Application Form.
6. Applicants will be able to express a preference for up to three maintained primary/secondary schools or Academies in Lewisham.
7. The order of preference given on the In-Year Application Form will not be revealed to the schools listed on the In-Year application form.
8. Lewisham undertakes to carry out address verification for each application made to a maintained school or academy in Lewisham. Where Lewisham is not satisfied as to the validity of an address of an applicant it will advise the admission authority schools.

9. Lewisham will satisfy itself that each applicant's date of birth is correct.
10. Lewisham will check the status of any applicant who is a 'Looked After or was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order.'

Section 2: Processing

11. Lewisham will enter each pupil's preferences onto the admissions data base. This information will be available to admission authority schools via the School Admissions Module (SAM) to enable them to consider the application in accordance with their published oversubscription criteria. Admissions authority schools should respond to an application within 10 school days.
12. For all applicants, Lewisham will provide schools with the information contained in the In-Year Application Form (see Schedule 1 below).
13. Where an application is not fully completed, Lewisham will not treat the application as valid until all information is received.
14. If a pupil is currently on roll at a school in Lewisham or a school in a neighbouring borough, the parent will be advised to discuss the transfer with the Headteacher or senior Teacher at the school.
15. In other cases, Lewisham, if appropriate, will request background information from the current/previous school to support the enrolment meeting.

Section 3: Offers

16. If a school has a vacancy/vacancies, Lewisham will be expected to offer the place(s) within 10 school days of the vacancy arising to the next child entitled to a place in accordance with the published oversubscription criteria. The school must make reasonable attempts to contact the parent. If a school receives fewer applications than places available, places must be offered to all of the children unless the pupil has had a permanent exclusion from the last school.
17. Lewisham's admission team will write to parents who have not been offered places at their preferences schools giving reasons and informing them of their right of appeal to an independent appeal in accordance with the School Standards and Framework Act 1988.
18. Lewisham will notify the Home LA of the outcome of applications for their residents

18. When Lewisham is notified that a pupil has been offered a place at a higher preference school, the lower ranking preferences will be withdrawn and the schools concerned notified.
19. Schools must place the child on roll by the date agreed with the School Admissions and Appeals Team.
20. Children transferring from one local school to another may not transfer to the new school until the start of the following half term unless both the home school and receiving school agrees.
21. Federations will have an important role in apportioning admissions among the schools in the federation.
22. If an admission is disputed by a school, the case must be referred to the Admissions Team giving detailed reasons within 5 school days. The child's placement will be discussed at the next Fair Access Panel. Lewisham reserves the right to direct admission if necessary.
23. When Lewisham is notified that a pupil has been offered a place at a lower preference school, the higher preferences will also be withdrawn unless the parent indicates otherwise.
24. Acting as Home LA, where an applicant who is out of school cannot be offered a place at one of their named preferences, Lewisham will offer an alternative school place.
25. Parents will be expected to accept or decline the offer of a place from a school as soon as the offer has been made.
26. Where Lewisham is informed that another LA is able to offer a place from the waiting list to one of its residents, Lewisham's database will be updated accordingly.
27. Parents will be asked to confirm at the end of each school year whether they wish their child to remain on any waiting lists for the next school year.

SCHEDULE 1

This LA's In-Year Application Form will contain the following fields.

Child's details:

- Surname
- Forename(s)
- Middle Name(s)
- Home Address
- Date of Birth
- Gender
- Name, address and dates of attendance of current/previous school(s)
- If currently in school, reason for transfer
- Date place is required
- Permanent exclusions
- Does the applicant have a statement of SEN?
- Is the child Looked After?

Parent's/Carer's details:

- Title
- Initials
- Forename
- Surname
- Address (if different to child's address)
- Telephone Number(s)
- Relationship to Child
- Parental Responsibility?

Preference details (minimum of 3):

- Name and DCSF number of school
- Preference ranking
- Local Authority in which the school is based
- Sibling Details
- Reasons for Preference (including any medical or social needs)

Other:

- Declaration including consequences of providing false information
- Signature of parent or carer
- Date of signature
- Data Protection notice
- Checklist including advice about completing supplementary forms

1 Chief Officer Confirmation of Report Submission	
2 Cabinet Member Confirmation of Briefing	
3 Report for:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Executive Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
Information	<input type="checkbox"/>
Part 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Part 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>


Date of Meeting	11 April 2012
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Title of Report	Proposals to consult on the provision of additional permanent primary places
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Originator of Report	Chris Threlfall	49971
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At the time of submission for the Agenda, I confirm that the report has:

Category	Yes	No
Financial Comments from Exec Director for Resources	√	
Legal Comments from the Head of Law	√	
Crime & Disorder Implications		√
Environmental Implications	√	√
Equality Implications/Impact Assessment (as appropriate)	√	
Confirmed Adherence to Budget & Policy Framework		
Risk Assessment Comments (as appropriate)		
Reason for Urgency (as appropriate)		

Signed:  Executive Member

Date: 28th March 2012

Signed:  Executive Director
Service

Date 28th March 2012

Control Record by Committee Support

Action	Date
Listed on Schedule of Business/Forward Plan (if appropriate)	
Draft Report Cleared at Agenda Planning Meeting (not delegated decisions)	
Submitted Report from CO Received by Committee Support	
Scheduled Date for Call-in (if appropriate)	
To be Referred to Full Council	

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	Proposals to consult on the provision of additional permanent primary places	
Key Decision	Yes	Item No.
Ward	Lee Green, Crofton Park, New Cross	
Contributors	Executive Director Children & Young People, Executive Director Resources & Regeneration, Head of Law	
Class	Part 1	11 April 2012

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of two consultations on proposals to increase the supply of permanent places in Primary schools and makes recommendations to the Mayor to take both schemes forward.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Mayor agrees that the following project should be taken forward to increase permanently the supply of primary school places from September 2013:

Publish a Statutory Notice to lower the age of entry at Prendergast Ladywell Fields College so that it offers 2 forms of entry from Reception to Year 6 and retains its current 8 forms of secondary entry

- 2.2 That the Mayor notes that the Governors of Trinity Lewisham Church of England School have agreed admission criteria of 80% open places and 20% faith-based places for the proposed primary phase. The Statutory Notice to enlarge the school will therefore be published as agreed by the Mayor in April 2011.
- 2.3 That the Mayor notes the decision of Torridon Junior School Governing Body not to proceed with the option of enlarging to offer 2 forms of entry at the Mornington Centre and agrees that the Executive Director for Children Young People continue to explore options to extend provision;

3 Policy Context

- 3.1 The proposals within this report are consistent with '*Shaping Our Future: Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy*' and the Council's corporate priorities. In particular, they relate to the Council's priorities regarding *young people's achievement and involvement*, including *inspiring and supporting young people to achieve their potential*, the *protection of children and young people* and *ensuring*

efficiency, effectiveness and equity in the delivery of excellent services to meet the needs of the community

- 3.2 The Local Authority has a duty to ensure the provision of sufficient places for pupils of statutory age and, within financial constraints, accommodation that is both suitable and in good condition.
- 3.3 In aiming to improve on the provision of facilities for primary education in Lewisham which are appropriate for the 21st century, the implementation of a successful primary places strategy will contribute to the delivery of the corporate priority *Young people's achievement and involvement: raising educational attainment and improving facilities for young people through partnership working*.
- 3.4 It supports the delivery of Lewisham's *Children & Young People's Plan* (CYPP), which sets out the Council's vision for improving outcomes for all children and young people, and in so doing reducing the achievement gap between our most disadvantaged pupils and their peers. It also articulates the objective of improving outcomes for children with identified SEN and disabilities by ensuring that their needs are met.

The Primary Capital Programme (PCP) and Lewisham's Primary Strategy for Change

- 3.5 When preparing the Primary Strategy for Change (PSfC), the Local Authority was prudent in taking account of the pressure on places already evident through its then most recent projections (March 2008). It therefore made one of its criteria for PCP investment in the first tranche of funding the provision of sufficient places at the right time to meet future needs within and between Primary Places Planning Localities (PPPLs) in the Borough. As articulated in Lewisham's June 2008 PSfC:

"Ensuring that sufficient places are provided in localities at the right time will take precedence over significant investment in schools where the rectification of conditions and suitability issues will not produce additional places. "

- 3.6 Dependent upon future central government decisions on capital delivery, it is proposed that the borough's 2011 – 2014 PCP will continue to be governed by the following criteria as set out in the 2008 PSfC:
- Provide sufficient places at the right time to meet future needs within and between planning localities in the Borough
 - Improve conditions and suitability of schools in order to raise standards
 - Increase the influence of successful and popular schools

- Maximise the efficient delivery of education in relation to the size of the school, removing half-form entries and promoting continuity of education
- Enable school extended services for pupils, parents and communities
- Optimise the Council's capital resources available for investment.

School Organisation Requirements

3.8 Proposals to establish additional provision on a permanent basis must comply with the provisions set out in *The Education and Inspections Act 2006 (EIA 2006)* and *The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007*. These set out the statutory process for making changes to a school, and statutory guidance on making changes to a maintained school indicates 5 stages to making a prescribed alteration to a maintained school. These are:

- 1) Consultation
- 2) Publication of a Statutory Notice
- 3) Representation period
- 4) Decision making
- 5) Implementation

3.9 There are statutory timescales for stages 2, 3 and 4. Stages 1 and 5 are for local determination.. In order to establish additional permanent provision by 2013 on the sites listed in Paragraph 2, the Local Authority will need to reach a decision by July 2012.

4. Background

4.1 School expansion

4.1.1 The Mayor and Cabinet have received regular reports detailing the pressure on Primary School places and the measures taken to increase supply. The following table summarises the additional places that have been opened since 2008:

Year	Permanent Places opened	Temporary Places opened
2008/09		60 (2FE)
2009/10		255 (8.5FE)
2010/11		555 (18.5 FE)
2011/12		564 (19 FE)
2012/13	180 (6FE)	474 ¹ (16FE)

4.1.2 The majority of places have been added as temporary increases ("bulge" classes). The allocation of £12.7m to meet Basic Need in

¹ Based on on-time applications received. Late applications continue to be received and provision may need to be reviewed

2011/12 has meant that the authority has been able to launch a programme to increase the supply of places on a permanent basis, using existing council-owned buildings, developing existing school sites and by taking the opportunity to get rid of half forms of entry

4.1.3 Projections are reviewed at least annually as the information on live births, applications to schools and the uptake of places across each year becomes available.

4.1.4 The most recent update (August 2011) indicates that the demand for places will remain high and measures continue to be required to increase the supply of places through a mixture of permanent and temporary enlargements tailored to meet the needs of each area. Figures are set out in the following table.

	Reception Places	Reception Demand	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
2011/12	3152	3663	3568	3301	3074	2939	2767	2634
2012/13	3332	3914	3668	3575	3291	3056	2927	2765
2013/14	3332	3783	3936	3691	3581	3288	3060	2943
2014/15	3332	4026	3816	3970	3708	3587	3302	3087
2015/16	3332	4029	4062	3854	3989	3717	3602	3331

*shading denotes demand in excess of supply of permanent places

4.2 Further Additional Requirement – Borough Wide

	Additional Requirement
2012/13	582 (19.4 forms of entry)
2013/14	451 (15 forms of entry)
2014/15	694 (23 forms of entry)
2015/16	697 (23 forms of entry)

4.2.2 The following table sets out the schools which have opened additional temporary classes

School	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Primary Place Planning Locality 1 Forest Hill & Sydenham					
Adamsrill		√	√	√	√
Christ Church			√		
Dalmain		√	√	√	Expanded
Eliot Bank					√
Fairlawn			√		
Haseltine					√
Horniman				√	
Kelvin Grove			√	√	Expanded
Kilmorie		√	√	√	Expanded
Perrymount			√		
Rathfern				√	√
St Bartholomew's					√
St Will. of York				√	

Primary Place Planning Locality 2 Lee Green					
Brindishe Lee			√		
John Ball		√		√	
Lee Manor			√		
Primary Place Planning Locality 3 Brockley, Lewisham & Telegraph Hill					
Ashmead			√		√
Brockley	√				Expanded
Edmund Waller			√		
Gordonbrock				√	Expanded
Holbeach	√	√			
John Stainer		√			
Lucas Vale				√	
Myatt Garden				√	
St Stephens CE					√
Turnham				√	√
Primary Place Planning Locality 4 Catford, Bellingham & Grove Park					
Athelney			√	√	
Baring			√		
Coopers Lane				√	√
Elfrida					√
Forster Park		√	√		√
Rushey Green			√	√	
Sandhurst		√	√	√	Expanded
Torridon			√		
Primary Place Planning Locality 5 Deptford and New Cross					
Deptford Prk		√	√		
Grinling Gibbons				√	√
Kender			√	√	Expanded
St Josephs				√	√
Primary Place Planning Locality 6 Downham					
Downderry					√
Good Shepherd				√	
Launcelot			√		
Haberdashers Aske's Knights Temple Grove					√
Rangefield				√	

4.3 Additional Requirement – Brockley, Lewisham & Telegraph Hill

4.3.1 Primary Place Planning Locality 3 (Brockley, Lewisham & Telegraph Hill) shows a continuing increase in the numbers of young children in the population.

Births

Births September 1 st 2000 to August 31 st 2001	877
Births September 1 st 2008 to August 31 st 2009	1083
Births September 1 st 2009 to August 31 st 2010	1181
Increase 2000/01 to 2009/10	34%
Increase 2008/09 to 2009/10	9%

4.3.2 It is anticipated that this will translate into the following demand for places in the area

Projected Demand for Reception Places

Reception	Permanent Places	High Projection	Additional Requirement
2012/13	756	810	54 (2FE)
2013/14	756	809	53 (2FE)
2014/15	756	883	127 (4.5 FE)
2015/16	756	888	132 (4.5 FE)

4.3.3 In order to meet this demand the Mayor agreed (January 18th 2012) that there should be consultation with stakeholders on the proposal to extend provision at Prendergast Ladywell Fields College so that it becomes an all-age school offering 2 forms of entry in the primary phase whilst retaining its current 8 forms of secondary entry.

4.4 Additional Requirement – Lee Green

4.4.1 In common with most parts of the borough, the number of births to families resident in the Lee Green area have increased by over 30% in the last decade.

Births

Births September 1 st 2000 to August 31 st 2001	317
Births September 1 st 2008 to August 31 st 2009	399
Births September 1 st 2009 to August 31 st 2010	440
Increase 2000/01 to 2009/10	39%
Increase 2008/09 to 2009/10	10%

4.4.2 As a result of a short-lived slow-down in the number of births in recent years, projections based on local population suggest that there will be a temporary surplus of places.

Projected Demand for Reception Places

Reception	Permanent Places	Projection	Additional Requirement
2012/13	315	301	-14
2013/14	315	286	-29
2014/15	315	323	8
2015/16	315	323	8

4.4.3 However, 436 first preference applications have been received for places for schools in the area for entry in September 2012. This may mean that projections have under-estimated local demand.

4.5 All-age schools

4.5.1 As set out in greater detail in Section 7 below, there is no legal prohibition on providing primary and second education in the same school, and indeed Lewisham sees significant advantages in offering all-age schools within the mix of parental choice of schools. There are an increasing number of all-age state funded schools. In Lewisham the St Matthew Academy opened in 2007, Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham College became an all-age Academy in 2008 and Haberdashers' Knights Academy followed in 2011. Prendergast – Vale College opened in 2011 as the third school in the Leathersellers Prendergast

Federation. Drumbeat, an all-age school for children with autistic spectrum disorder (ASD), is also planned to open in September 2012.

- 4.5.2 In terms of Lewisham's pursuit of choice for parents from a range of primary provision, these proposals still leave a large majority of primary schools available to parents in the Borough, along with a small number of separate infant and junior schools. Parents in general want their children to attend a school close to where they live. Of Faith schools, those of the Roman Catholic denomination tend to draw on a wider catchment, as is the case for St Matthew Academy, based in Blackheath. Providing new Church of England primary provision further south in the Lee Green locality is likely to prove very popular with its local community given the high demand for places and that the large majority of admissions will not be Faith based.
- 4.5.3 In the Central Lewisham locality, parental support for Prendergast-Vale College is indicated by its 2:1 oversubscription for September 2012. New primary provision at a Prendergast-Ladywell Fields all-age school on the southern edge of the same locality and bordering Catford will provide much needed additional places for both localities.
- 4.5.4 The range of secondary provision available for Lewisham parents has to be considered on a South-London sub-regional basis. In Lewisham, in addition to those schools already mentioned above, Haberdashers' offers all-age provision in the north east of the Borough (New Cross/Deptford) and in the South-East (Downham/Bellingham). Both schools are oversubscribed at age 11. The proposals in this report for Trinity CoE and Prendergast Ladywell Fields College to become all-age complement existing all-age provision geographically, and do not detract from choice of secondary schools on a sub-regional basis. These include mixed, single sex, voluntary aided, Faith and Community schools, and academies.
- 4.5.5 All-age schools offer significant advantages at the usual transition points for those pupils who remain in the school through the primary and secondary phases. The curriculum and teaching can be better tailored in an all-age school to the needs of pupils irrespective of their age. The secondary phase can provide excellent resources from the to enable specialist subject teaching in the primary phase, especially at the top end of Key Stage 2, and there is no artificial point of transfer for those pupils with special educational needs who will benefit from the continuity of support. In addition primary expertise can be used to the benefit of children at the lower end of Key Stage 3.
- 4.5.6 We are required also to consider the negative aspects of all-age education. Some feel that a new start at 11 allows children to develop new skills. Concerns are sometimes raised about the management issues of having older and younger children in the same school. The risk of some bullying of younger children by older ones is sometimes raised as an issue. It needs to be stressed that the majority of pupils do not engage in bullying and can provide support and positive

influences upon the younger pupils. New buildings can be designed to enable provision for younger pupils to be located in separate areas from the upper school and with appropriately separated play space.

- 4.5.7 Officers' views are that the positives outweigh the negatives, in particular because there remains sufficient choice for parents across schools in the borough.

5 RESULTS OF CONSULTATIONS:

Brockley, Lewisham & Telegraph Hill (PPPL 3)

5.1 Proposal to lower the age of entry at Prendergast Ladywell Fields College so that it offers 2 forms of entry from Reception to Year 6 and retains its current 8 forms of secondary entry

5.1.1 Consultation Process

- 5.1.1.1** Having received Mayor & Cabinet approval on 18th January 2012 to proceed with consultation, Lewisham developed the proposal for a formal consultation and in line with DfE school organisation guidance, the consultation has taken place over a seven week period between 1 February and 20th March 2012.
- 5.1.1.2** The following stakeholder groups received copies of the consultation documents:
- Staff and governors at Prendergast Ladywell Fields College
 - Parents of pupils at Prendergast Ladywell Fields College.
 - Residents of Ewhurst Road
- 5.1.1.3** The following stakeholder groups were notified of the proposal by letter:
- Neighbouring authorities of Greenwich, Southwark and Bromley
 - Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of local schools
 - Councillors
 - Lewisham's Members of Parliament
 - Diocesan bodies
 - Trade Union representatives
- 5.1.1.4** The following stakeholder meetings were held:
- Parents of children attending Prendergast Ladywell Fields College (9th February 2012) and local residents
 - Prendergast Ladywell Fields College staff; (8th February 2011)
- 5.1.1.5** The Governing Body of the Leathersellers Federation of Schools had received a full presentation of the proposal in January 2012 and had confirmed their support for the proposal
- 5.1.1.6** All the consultation documents were placed on the Lewisham web site along with an on-line opportunity to complete the consultation response form.

Numbers of responses by category

Category of Respondent	Numbers	For	Against	Not sure
Parent/Carer	9	7	2	0
School staff	3	3	0	0
Pupil	1	0	0	1
Local Community	3	1	2	0
Other Primary school	1	0	1	0
TOTAL	17	11	5	1

For/Against numbers and percentages

Overall 65% of responses were in favour, 6% not sure and 29% against. Most responses (53%) were received from parents. 78% were in favour, 0% were not sure and 22% were against.

5.1.2 Summary of responses to the consultation

Governing Body

The Governing Body has considered the proposal and supports the proposed enlargement of the school. The Prendergast Federation of schools currently includes Prendergast Vale College. The Federation considers that there are significant educational advantages because of the opportunities to tailor provision to the needs of the individual child and to share the expertise of staff across all key stages.

Written responses (a list of respondents is attached as Appendix 1).

17 written responses were received including a petition (attached as Appendix 2) from 32 residents of Ewhurst Road.

9 were from parents, 3 were from members of staff, 1 was from a pupil, 1 from the Governing Body of a local school, and 2 were individual responses from a local residents. In addition, two local residents telephoned their responses.

Summary of responses at stakeholder meetings

Staff meeting

The meeting was held at the end of the school day and was attended by over 25 staff, representing both teaching and non-teaching staff. Staff were supportive of the proposal. They recognised the opportunities that expansion offers to the school in terms of developing pedagogy across the key stages. They also felt that it would help to develop a “family” ethos with older and younger siblings being part of the same school.

Parents’ meeting

The meeting was attended by approximately 30 parents, together with some staff and some neighbours of the school. Many people recognised the opportunities that this offered to the school, and that there is a need for an increase in school places to serve the local community. However, there was considerable concern amongst some local residents about the impact that increased pupil numbers would have on neighbouring roads particularly if children were dropped by car. In addition, two local residents phoned to discuss possible

measures to control additional traffic resulting from enlarging the school.

5.1.3 Summative analysis of written responses

In Favour

Parents who supported the proposal recognised the value of using the space on the site and the educational benefits of an all-through school. Some respondents commented that they felt they would have benefited from an all-through schooling and would not have lost valuable time at transition.

Unsure

One respondent was unsure but gave no other comment.

Against

Parents who were against the proposal were concerned by the potential disruption to children already at the school and expressed the view that older and younger children needed to learn separately. The Governing Body of John Stainer Primary school responded opposing the idea of an all-through school but supporting the idea of a primary school on a shared site but with no linked admission arrangements. Local residents re-iterated their concern about the impact of traffic

5.1.4 Response

The Local Authority welcomes the many positive endorsements of both the concept of all-through education and of the leadership of Prendergast Ladywell Fields College.

Potential disruption to pupils on-site

The build period for the proposed Primary school will be approximately 30 weeks. No demolition will be required. Similar buildings are being installed at Kender Primary School in close location to the existing school and education has continued with minimal disruption to the site. Work will be scheduled so that the most disruptive activities take place out of school hours. The site will operate during normal working hours so that residents are not inconvenienced. The experience of establishing a primary school on site would be different from increasing the numbers of Year 7 pupils as they would not share the same facilities for dining.

Separate education for Primary & Secondary age

This is also addressed at paragraph 4.5

A primary phase would add to the variety of educational opportunities in the area, and with 14 other Primary-only schools in the area parents who preferred this style of education would still be able to choose it for their children. Parents of children in the Primary phase would not be required to take up their guaranteed place in the secondary phase but would still be able to apply for a place in a secondary-only school.

Traffic management

Should this proposal go ahead, considerable thought and attention would need to be given to traffic management in the area. Traffic analysts have monitored the current patterns of vehicle movement, but

it is likely that there would be a different pattern associated with primary age pupils. Evidence from other Primary sites in the borough shows that around 74% of children walk, not all are accompanied by parents and some adults would have more than one child. The potential to open additional entrances into Ladywell Fields is under consideration with the Green Space Regeneration Manager in the Parks Department. The Primary phase would build incrementally, allowing the opportunity to review strategies to mitigate the impact on local residents.

Loss of space

Work on the design proposal for a possible primary school has included an evaluation of the overall site of Prendergast Ladywell Fields College. Parts of the site are currently under-utilised. The landscaping will include work to bring these areas into use. If the primary school is agreed to go ahead it will also present an opportunity to work with the current Facilities management company to improve the external environment.

Lee Green (PPPL 2)

5.2 Proposal to lower the age of entry at Trinity CE so that it offers 2 forms of entry from Reception to Year 6 and retains its current 4 forms of secondary entry.

5.2.1 At the Mayor & Cabinet meeting held April 20th 2011, the Mayor agreed the recommendation to publish a Statutory Notice to lower the age limit for entry to Trinity School through use of the site of the former Ennersdale Primary School on Leahurst Road, so that it becomes an all-age school offering 2 forms of entry in the primary phase, whilst retaining its current 4 forms of secondary entry, subject to agreement from the school and Diocese that 80% of the places should be open rather than faith places.

5.2.2 The Governing Body of Trinity School and the Diocese have agreed to this for entry into a Primary phase in 2013 . The Governing Body has consulted on this basis during the current consultation on admission policies for 2013. The policy will be determined by April 15th 2012.

5.2.3 Agreement has been reached on financial support for the new school as numbers build.

5.2.4 The proposals for the modification of the Leahurst Road site have been endorsed by Governors. Work will commence in April 2013 when Drumbeat move from Leahurst Road to their new accommodation.

5.3 Deptford and New Cross (PPPL 5)

Proposal to enlarge Torridon Junior School on the site of the Mornington Centre

5.3.1 After a period of stakeholder consultation, the Governing Body of Torridon Junior School has voted against the proposal to enlarge the school. We remain in discussion with the school at the time of writing and the Executive Director will continue to develop options to ensure that provision is developed to meet need. .

- 5.3.2 Demand is projected to continue to exceed supply by 4 forms of entry until 2015/16 and is then expected to increase again.

6. Financial Implications

Capital Finance Implications

- 6.1.1 Approximately £6.9m will be carried over from 2011-12 Basic Need allocation of £12.6m announced on 13th December 2010
- 6.1.2 In July 2011 the Government announced that a further £500m would be allocated nationally to meet the demand for pupil places. In November 2011 the borough was notified of an allocation of £12.8m.
- 6.1.3 On December 13th 2011 the DfE announced capital allocations for 2012/13. Lewisham received £12.657m for Basic Need and £5.404m for capital maintenance.
- 6.1.4 A further £600m is to be allocated to authorities facing school place pressures. Amounts for individual boroughs have been expected since the end of the calendar year and are expected early in the new financial year.

6.2 Available Capital Resources

- 6.2.1 On the basis of known Government announcements the total basic needs allocation available to 31 March 2013 is £32.5 million including £6.9 million of the 2011-12 allocation not yet applied. This funding must meet the cost of any required temporary classes In addition to the estimated cost of the projects to deliver additional places at Prendergast Ladywell Fields and Trinity CE Primary. These projects will be delivered over two financial years, 2012 – 2014.
- 6.2.2 At this stage the basic need allocations set out above are insufficient to cover this programme. It is therefore proposed to cover the shortfall by using an equal sum from the capital maintenance allocation of £5.404m. Any subsequent reports to the Mayor recommending award of the contract for each proposal will include projected costs and confirmation of the capital funding for the schemes.

6.3 Revenue Finance Implications

Pump priming funding has been agreed in principle to enable Heads of Schools to be appointed by September 2012. This will be met from the Dedicated School Grant.

7 Legal Implications

- 7.1 The Human Rights Act 1998 safeguards the rights of children in the Borough to educational provision, which the Council is empowered to provide in accordance with its duties under domestic legislation.
- 7.2 Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 obliges each local authority to ensure that there are sufficient primary and secondary schools

available for its area i.e. the London Borough of Lewisham, although there is no requirement that those places should be exclusively in the area. The Authority is not itself obliged to provide all the schools required, but to secure that they are available.

7.3 In exercising its responsibilities under section 14 of the Education Act 1996 a local authority must do so with a view to securing diversity in the provision of schools and increasing opportunities for parental choice.

7.4 Section 14(6)(a) of the Education Act 1996 provides that “In exercising their functions under this section, a local authority shall in particular have regard to –

a) the need for securing that primary and secondary education are provided in separate schools;...”

This is not a prohibition on providing primary and secondary education in the same school, nor is it a mandatory obligation to “secure” the same. The relevant sub-section imposes an obligation to “have regard to the need for securing that primary and secondary education are provided in separate schools” when exercising functions under section 14 of the Education Act 1996. In other words, the local authority must have regard to any difficulties /negative aspects of educating primary age children with those of secondary age.

7.5 The Education and Inspections Act 2006 places requirements on Authorities to make their significant strategic decisions concerning the number and variety of school places in their localities against two overriding criteria:

- to secure schools likely to maximise student potential and achievement;
- to secure diversity and choice in the range of school places on offer.

Section 19 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 provides that where a local authority or the governing body of a maintained school proposes to make a prescribed alteration to a maintained school and it is permitted to make that alteration, it must publish proposals.

7.6 The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 provide that proposed enlargements of school premises which would increase the capacity of the school by more than 30 pupils and by 25% or 200 pupils (whichever is the lesser), or changes to the age limit of a school are prescribed alterations which means that statutory proposals have to be published, and there must be a period of four weeks for representations before a decision is made. This does not apply to temporary enlargements where it is anticipated that the enlargement will be in place for less than 3 years, or a rise in the number anticipated to last only one year.

7.7 The Council, before making any decision regarding the expansion of a school, must ensure that capital funding is in place, interested parties have been consulted, the statutory notice is published and there has

been a four week period for representation.

7.8 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) brings together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act includes a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty), replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011. The new duty 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.

7.9 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.

7.10 As was the case for the original separate duties, the new 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.

7.11 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) brings together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act includes a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty), replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011. The new duty 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.

7.12 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.

7.13 As was the case for the original separate duties, the new 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.

- 7.14 The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) issued guidance in January 2011 providing an overview of the new public sector equality duty, including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. The guidance covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty including steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guidance was based on the then draft specific duties so is no longer fully up-to-date, although regard may still be had to it until the revised guide is produced by the EHRC. The guidance can be found at <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/new-equality-act-guidance/equality-act-guidance-downloads/>.
- 7.15 The EHRC guidance does not have legal standing, unlike the statutory Code of Practice on the public sector equality duty which was due to be produced by the EHRC under the Act. However, the Government has now stated that no further statutory codes under the Act will be approved. The EHRC has indicated that it will issue the draft code on the PSED as a non statutory code following further review and consultation but, like the guidance, the non statutory code will not have legal standing.
- 7.16 A further report will be brought to the Mayor and Cabinet on the results of the publication of the Statutory Notices and full legal implications associated with those proposals will be set out in that further report.

8 Crime and Disorder Implications

- 8.1 There are no crime and disorder implications.

9 Equalities Implications

- 9.1 This report supports the delivery of the Council's Equalities programme by ensuring that all children whose parents/carers require a place in a Lewisham school will be able to access one.
- 9.2 Should the Mayor agree to one or more of the recommendations at Paragraph 2.2, an Equalities Impact Assessment will be included along with the subsequent report on any representations resulting from the publication of statutory notice(s).

10 Environmental Implications

- 10.1 Every effort will be made to enhance rather than detract from school environments in the solutions to providing additional primary places.

11 Risk assessment

- 12.1 There are financial risks if insufficient funding is allocated to support the programme There are also significant reputational risks to the Council if it does not meet its statutory requirement to ensure sufficient primary school places are made available.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1 Prendergast Ladywell Fields College Consultation
Appendix 2 Petition against Prendergast Ladywell Fields College using Ewhurst Road as an entrance to facilitate the extra pupils and footfall expected in planned school expansion

Mayor & Cabinet April 19th 2011 Consultation On Provision Of Additional Permanent Primary Places

If there are any queries on this report, please contact Chris Threlfall, Head of Education Infrastructure on 02083149971

APPENDIX ONE PRENDERGAST LADYWELL FIELDS COLLEGE

	DESCRIPTION	SCHOOL	RESPONSE	AGE GROUP	SEX	ETHNICITY	COMMENTS
1.	Parent	PLFC	Yes	25-29	Female	White-British	I am a mother of three and although the memories I had of Primary school are ones of joy I remember in the last days of my time there I remember feeling very anxious or unsure of what was ahead. After my first few weeks at secondary I remember wishing I was back at that place. I felt a longing for my old school. The change was so dramatic it made my time at secondary a struggle. Speaking to my daughter and many other family members and friends they have felt the same. I feel if as a child I started and finished at the same school I would have had a much more content experience in the upper years than I had and would more than likely resulted in a better outcome.
2.	Parent	PLFC	Yes	35-39	Female	European	Prendergast Ladywell Fields College is a lovely learning environment and would certainly benefit younger children too. It also would be easier for parents having siblings attending the same school. I don't think that the education of the children already in the school would be compromised but would instead encourage them to set the example for primary aged children and would benefit primary aged children to see what are the expectations as they grow older
3	Parent	PLFC	Yes	35-39	Female	Black / Black-British African	
4	Parent	PLFC	Yes	40-44	Female	Black / Black-British	1) A positive move in the infrastructure of Education in England

						Caribbean	for families and young people, also for the Lewisham Borough 2) An increase of Primary schools, thus offering a variety of choice for parents
5	Parent	PLFC	Yes	45-49	Female	Bulgarian	I think it will be great to offer additional places for pupils
6	Parent	PLFC	Yes	45-49	Female	White-British	Saves space which is in short supply Will guarantee year 7 pupils a place in their "own" school instead of having to go through the process of choosing schools that are potentially unreachable Will provide a easier transition from primary to secondary and provide more stability for the children
7	Parent	PLFC	Yes	65+	Male	Black / Black-British African	It is profoundly surprising that this concept is not in place decades ago. It seems so natural, like birth, life and eventually passing away. No separation.
8	Parent	PLFC	No	35-39	n/k	Black / Black-British Caribbean	We believe the school grounds are too small to house both a primary and secondary school. Building a new school would not only disrupt the children's education but will also greatly reduce the outdoor playing areas. We don't believe that a "through" school has any benefits to our child who is currently in Year 8, nor will benefit our child who will be starting in September 2012, and although we understand that Lewisham needs to find places for children of primary school age this should not be at the detriment of other children's education. Expanding Primary sites would better suit these plans. We also believe there is a lot to be gained from moving from primary to secondary school, with new buildings, new teachers and new friends. This is lost in "through school" education. Finally if we had known about these plans previously we would not have sent our children to PLFC. Housing the Vale on site

							was bad enough, with problems faced during lunch times and some behavioural problems noted by our child but we looked at these as temporary problems. This proposal, we believe, has many negatives that outweigh the positives.
9	Parent	PLFC	No	50-54	Female	Turkish Cypriot	Small and young children need separate education from older children
10	Staff	PLFC	Yes	40-44	Female	French	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure continuity through keystages • To build healthy relationships with parents i.e. gaining their trust • Make the “correct” provisions from an early age • Enhances partnerships between leaders from key stages
11.	Staff	PLFC	Yes	30-34	Female	White-British	I would really look forward to working with Primary school and would fully support the change. I would look forward to working alongside or either working in a primary school
12	Staff	PLFC	Yes	65+	Male	Black / Black-British African	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will provide continuity of support for families • It will reduce the amount of travelling the child has to make • The child(s) has reduced trauma during transition from primary to secondary school
13	Pupil	PLFC	unsure	Under 18	n/k	Chinese	
11	Member of local community	PLFC	Yes	65+	Female	White-British	<p>It will be good that parents do not move away to be sure of a good school place.</p> <p>There are serious issues having a large school in a narrow fully residential road (with a bus route)</p> <p>In this connection I see <u>Ladywell Fields open land</u> as a <u>big plus</u> (for pedestrian access)</p> <p>Dedicated <u>crossing rights</u> so pupils can cross in safety.</p>

							<p>I don't think a pedestrian zebra would work. Mrs Whitfield makes this school run smoothly. If she left/was absent there needs to be systems for safe dispersal. The PCSOs/SN team are always on hand but with teens who enjoy running away /being chased. There needs to be options for alternative access and egress away from bus stops and Ewhurst / Sevenoaks Road. <u>Opening access into the park</u> would help this.</p> <p>Need to ensure an improved 284 bus service – or even a dedicated no. of buses at the end of school for students only. This is long overdue. The ongoing needs of the secondaries is not overlooked in the planning for Y1s. They have struggled to get home, often with great patience, for years.</p>
15	Member of local community	PLFC	No	45-49	Female	White-British	<p>We oppose this view of PLFC being a “through” school due to the years of experience we have had and continue to have with the size of the current school. We have lived on Ewhurst Rd for over 15 yrs and in that time we (the local community) have had problem after problem. Parents arriving with cars, blocking the road, blocking us into our drives and then the abuse (verbal) we get from them. This will only get worse, The traffic flow in this cul-de-sac is currently more than this road can handle but it is worse at open days/evenings throughout the year. Making PLFC a “through school” will make it far worse all year round at all times of the day.</p> <p>The main school entrance is already an issue and problem for residents. If the views and opinions of the local community are ignored and this goes ahead, the school will have to make promises to us, the community, that it will use all of its available gates and entrances. The flow of traffic in the whole area will be hugely effected as well as the added noise pollution from the</p>

							school.
16	Petition from 39 Members of the local community	PLFC	Not stated				Petition against Prendergast Ladywell Fields College using Ewhurst Road as an entrance to facilitate the extra pupils and footfall expected in planned school expansion (see folloing document fro full text)
17	Governing Body of John Stainer Primary School	PLFC	Against				In respect of the proposed enlargement of Prendergast Ladywell Fields, the governors are not in favour of 3 - 18 educational provision as in our experience of the Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham 3-18 provision, it has a negative impact on community cohesion and has the potential to adversely affect other local primaries. That said, the governors have nothing against primary schools co-existing on the sites of secondary schools where there is no linked admissions criterion.

APPENDIX TWO

**PETITION AGAINST PRENDERGAST LADYWELL FIELDS COLLEGE
USING EWHURST ROAD AS AN ENTRANCE TO FACILITATE THE
EXTRA PUPILS AND FOOTFALL EXPECTED IN PLANNED SCHOOL
EXPANSION**

Dear Resident of Ewhurst Road

RE: Petition against Prendergast Ladywell Fields College using Ewhurst Road as an entrance to facilitate the extra pupils and footfall expected in planned school expansion

On 9/02/12 the **Prendergast Ladywell Fields College** of Ewhurst Road held a meeting at the school to gauge local opinion to their proposal for a new building on the existing site for over 400 additional pupils from ages 5-11.

There were many dignitaries present including the Executive Head Teacher, Head Teacher, Council employees including planners etc, councillors and the builders. They are adamant it needs to be built irrespective of any traffic impact it will have on local residents. Our concern is that none of the obvious traffic logistical problems have been considered by these educated people.

Generally and at present, 11-17 year olds get themselves to and from school on their own. The proposal to introduce a primary faculty with 400 young children will cause an additional nightmare to traffic at Ewhurst and Manwood Road. Young children will need to be delivered personally into school grounds, that's 800 people (child plus one parent) all being transported through on entrance on Ewhurst Road.

Should the proposal go ahead, the footfall into the school will double that at present. The road will be affected forever. To get in and out of Ewhurst Road will become a nightmare.

One proposal suggested by the school is to make Ewhurst Road a controlled parking zone. This would reduce the amount of parking spaces and charge the residents. This is not the solution, as young children would continue to be dropped off and picked up, irrespective of controlled parking, and would do nothing to facilitate the extra vehicle and pedestrian footfall 800 bodies would create.

In the past many residents have had issues with parents and parking during the school run. Imagine how much worse it will get?

The junction of Manwood and Ewhurst Rd is currently just about tolerable. The proposed additional traffic on this junction due to the new primary school is not acceptable to the residents of Ewhurst Rd and should not go ahead.

Please sign the petition if you agree that the extra footfall on Ewhurst Road will be detrimental to the area and unacceptable.

Signed by 32 residents

Agenda Item 12

Chief Officer Confirmation of Report Submission
Cabinet Member Confirmation of Briefing
 Report for: Mayor
 Mayor and Cabinet
 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)
 Executive Director
 Information Part 1 Part 2 Key Decision

Date of Meeting	11th April 2012
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Title of Report	The Lettings Plan
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Originator of Report	Genevieve Macklin	Ext. 46649
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At the time of submission for the Agenda, I confirm that the report has:

Category	Yes	No
Financial Comments from Exec Director for Resources	X	
Legal Comments from the Head of Law	X	
Crime & Disorder Implications	X	
Environmental Implications	X	
Equality Implications/Impact Assessment (as appropriate)	X	
Confirmed Adherence to Budget & Policy Framework	X	
Risk Assessment Comments (as appropriate)		
Reason for Urgency (as appropriate)		

Signed: *Gosm Wise* Executive Member

Date: 27th March 2012

Signed: *[Signature]* Director/Head of Service

Date: 28/3/2012

Control Record by Committee Support

Action	Date
Listed on Schedule of Business/Forward Plan (if appropriate)	
Draft Report Cleared at Agenda Planning Meeting (not delegated decisions)	
Submitted Report from CO Received by Committee Support	
Scheduled Date for Call-in (if appropriate)	
To be Referred to Full Council	

Mayor and Cabinet			
Report Title	Annual Lettings Plan 2012/13		
Key Decision	Yes		
Wards	All		
Contributors	Executive Director, Customer Services		
Class	Open	Date	11 April 2012

1. Summary and Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report sets out the proposed content of the annual Lettings Plan for 2012/13. The changes to the plan are proposed in order to achieve strategic Council priorities as laid out in the Housing, Homelessness Prevention and Youth Homelessness Strategy. The priorities include, reducing under occupation and severe overcrowding, moving single vulnerable households on from supported accommodation to independence, supporting the regeneration of designated housing estates and sustaining the reduction in the number of homeless households in temporary accommodation. This report seeks approval for the Lettings Plan proposed for the coming year.
- 1.2 This report also presents the final lettings outcomes for 2010/11 and the position for the first three quarters of 2011/12 (to the end of December 2011). It also shows the current demand position on the housing register. This reflects performance in supply and demand management since April 2010 and informs the proposed lettings plan for 2012/13.

2. Recommendations

The Mayor is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the lettings outcomes for 2010/11 and 2011/12 and the position on the housing register.
- 2.2 Agree the proposed Lettings Plan for 2012/13.

3. Background

- 3.1 Housing Allocations schemes are governed by legislation which requires housing authorities to determine and publish a lettings scheme setting out how it will prioritise applications for social housing. It is a requirement that certain groups are given "reasonable preference" within the policy. These groups are:

- People who are homeless
- Those living in unsatisfactory housing, e.g. overcrowded or lacking amenities
- Those who need to move on medical grounds
- Those who need to move to a particular locality within the district where it would cause hardship if they were unable to do so

- Those owed a duty under other relevant legislation such as a closing order on a property.
- 3.2 Allocations policies must give preference to these groups above others. There is no requirement to give an equal weighting to all of the reasonable preference categories.
- 3.3 A key element of the allocations scheme is the Annual Lettings Plan which should be agreed by Members each year. This outlines the distribution between applicants with differing needs of the supply of lettings expected over the coming year.
- 3.4 Lewisham extensively reviewed its Housing Allocation Scheme during 2009 to ensure it focused on service priorities, complied with the latest legislative and case-law developments, was transparent and clear. The policy was approved by Mayor & Cabinet in July 2009 and implemented in November 2009. Some further amendments were approved at Mayor & Cabinet on 10th February 2010 and September 2011.
- 3.5 The government has made a number of changes to the approach to allocations and homelessness in the Localism Act. In January 2012 they also published a new draft Code of Guidance on Allocations for consultation and a draft statutory instrument on former members of the armed forces. The new statutory guidance on homelessness and a statutory instrument of the suitability of private rented offers in discharge of the homelessness duty are due to be issued for consultation shortly. We expect that the Department for Communities and Local Government will bring the allocations and homelessness provisions of the Localism Act into force some time from April 2012. In summary the core legislative changes involve:-
- The power to change the housing register, so as to only register households that have a recognised housing need, either as a result of that need being amongst the statutory reasonable preference categories or as a local need recognised within the Authority's own allocations scheme
 - The introduction of a national mobility scheme
 - Dealing with social housing transfers with no recognised need outside of the allocations scheme
 - Allowing the duty to homeless households to be discharged into the private rented sector rather than by a social housing offer
 - Awarding additional preference to former members of the armed forces within 5 years of them leaving service and relaxation of the local connection provisions for this group
 - Encouraging authorities to consider awarding preference within their allocations scheme on the grounds of community contribution, which could include employment and volunteering in the community
- 3.6 The introduction of new Affordable Rents and Flexible Tenancies is also bringing about changes to the nature of social housing allocations and has an impact on the achievement of the Lettings Plan. Few properties have currently been advertised on these new terms, but this will pick up pace now that housing providers have formally signed off on their development agreements with the Homes & Communities Agency. Indications are that mobility could be affected for tenants with target rent levels and secure or assured tenancies and this may lead to less re-

lets overall and more of those re-lets being made available at the new rent levels and on Flexible tenancies with fixed terms.

- 3.7 The Mayor of London is also launching a new Pan London Mobility scheme, *housingmoves*, during 2012. Lewisham intends to participate in *housingmoves* and has indicated this to the Greater London Authority (GLA). Implementation was planned for the end of January but has now been postponed by the GLA to 21st May 2012. Lewisham's initial predicted contribution was 61 lets across 1-3 bed units (pro rata for the period of a year in the scheme). However the GLA has recently asked boroughs to recalculate their contribution based on 2010/11 lets rather than 2009/10. This will make only a minor difference to numbers. The contribution will offer an opportunity for Lewisham applicants to obtain the same number of lets to properties elsewhere in London. There will be no net loss in available lettings to Lewisham applicants. Priorities for moves, include employment and under-occupation, which are also key priorities for Lewisham.
- 3.8 In the light of all the above changes we are undertaking a review of Lewisham's Allocations scheme, which will be presented to Mayor and Cabinet in May 2012. . Details of the consultation process were presented to Housing Select Committee in February 2012. All changes are currently being consulted upon.
- 3.9 A draft lettings plan was presented for comment to Housing Select Committee in February 2012.

4. Lettings Outcomes 2010/11 and 2011/12

- 4.1 A summary of the main outturn results in lettings is shown below.

	2010/11	2011/12 (projected)
General needs lets	1466	1526
Special lets *	424	287
Total lets	1890	1813 (1509 re-lets; 304 new build)

(*Note - special lets include, sheltered lets, disabled units and temporary to permanent tenancy sign ups)

The projected outturn for 11/12 is 1813, only 77 below the previous year. Re-let supply seems likely to hold up, with 1509 of the 1813 units delivered, higher than projections. New build lets in the final quarter should escalate to see 304 units let in 11/12 in total.

- 4.2 An analysis of the overall percentage of lettings to each band shows the following:

	Percentage of lets 10/11	Percentage of lets Apr-Dec11
Band 1	10%	12%
Band 2	17%	20%
Band 3	37%	43%
Band 4	14%	8%
Special lets*	22%	17%

(*Note - special lets include, sheltered lets, disabled units and temporary to permanent tenancy sign ups)

The increase in lets to band 1 and 2 in 2010 2011/12 is in line with the policy

objective to ensure more properties go to households in the highest priority bands. Lets to band 4 were all in the bedsit and one bed category and where properties that either did not receive bids from the higher bands or were refused by those in the higher bands.

- 4.4 In 2011/12 five priorities were set from all the categories in the 4 bands. These priorities were where we decided to target a number of allocations in order to ensure a minimum level of rehousing from these groups. The remainder of allocations went to the other categories within the banding scheme.
- 4.5 Overall it is projected the letting plan for 2011/12 will perform broadly to target. Decants are the main area performing below target given the revised timescale for the start of the decant of Milford Towers. This delay means that the lets factored into the plan for this scheme have not been required in 11/12 and will instead feature in 2012/13 when a high number of decants will be required as a result. Generally there has been better than expected performance against the lettings plan targets from homeless households and seriously overcrowded households who have achieved a high number of lettings.
- 4.6 An analysis of waiting times for lettings broken down by the various categories of need is shown at Appendix 4 and 5. The shortest waiting time in 10/11 was in band 1 and in the current year is in band 2, which reflects the under performance of decants and under occupiers and the relative over performance of serious overcrowded cases. So far in 11/12 the overall average wait for 1 bed needs across all bands is 125 weeks and for 4 or more bedrooms is 272 weeks. This analysis also provides a framework for advice to housing applicants. The average wait for each category of applicant for different bedroom requirements representing a guide to future rehousing prospects.

5 Proposed Plan for 2012/13

- 5.1 The current housing register has 17,423 households. However 68% (11,849) of those registered are currently in band 4, assessed with no recognised housing need. One bed or bedsit need represents 44% (7,719) of all those registered and 36% (6,329) of those registered are one bed or bedsit need in band 4. 845 households registered require four or more bedrooms, which is a concern given the small number of available lettings in this bedroom size and the future difficulties with developing new build properties of this size.
- 5.2 There are 479 households registered in band 1 as under occupiers. Increasing the number of lettings to this group in order to release larger homes remains a key priority for 2012/13.
- 5.3 There are currently 133 cases registered with a decant need. The number of decants needing rehousing next year is high and will require a higher percentage of lettings than in 2011/12 to account for future phases on several of the council's major regeneration schemes on Excalibur, Heathside & Leathbridge and Milford Towers. The lettings plan targets in the proposed plan for the coming year reflect the significant increase in decant need expected next year.
- 5.4 There is also a continuing need to decant single vulnerable households from a number of supported housing schemes in 12/13 as a number of services are

decommissioned as a result of not getting on the supporting people framework. The need to ensure schemes are not silted up also makes this a continuing priority particularly given the challenges of the welfare benefit changes in moving younger single households into the private rented sector if they require self contained homes, Currently 123 households are registered as supported housing move on..

- 5.5 There are 465 serious overcrowded cases who lack 2 or more bedrooms registered, a significant reduction on the position last year when over 700 were registered. Targets will however still be set for this group in 12/13 as it remains a priority area.
- 5.6 There were 1032 households in temporary accommodation at the end of January 2012. it is proposed to retain targets for this group given the real pressures on homelessness as a result of the economic downturn, the market for private renting and the welfare benefit changes. Whilst the council will have the power to discharge the homeless duty into the private rented sector in 2012 a cautious approach is being taken given the difficulties with procuring private rented accommodation currently and the possibility of increased homeless approaches and acceptances. The Lettings Plan proposed is set out at Appendix 1. It projects a decrease in the overall supply of accommodation taking into account an expected reduction in re-lets, assumed at 25% for 12/13. New build completions are projected to perform at a higher level, than 2011/12 given that a number of 2011/12 schemes will be handed over in year but will not be let until 2012/13. This can be seen in the tables below:-

Lets to December 2011

	New build delivered to Dec 11	Re-lets to Dec 11	All lets to Dec 11
0 bed	0	90	90
1 bed	21	432	453
2 bed	54	414	468
3 bed	36	155	191
4 bed	12	41	53
	123	1132	1255

Projected lets including new build in quarter 4

	Total Projected New Build 2011/12	Total projected re-lets 11/12	All lets to 11/12
0 bed	0	120	120
1 bed	45	576	621
2 bed	126	552	678
3 bed	68	206	274
4 bed	65	55	120
	304	1509	1813

Projected lets 12/13 broken down by re-lets and new build

	Total Projected New Build 2012/13	Total projected relets 12/13	Total projected lets
0 bed	0	90	90
1 bed	112	432	544
2 bed	225	414	639
3 bed	156	154	310

	Total Projected New Build 2012/13	Total projected relets 12/13	Total projected lets
4 bed	42	41	83
	535	1131	1666

5.7 Five priority areas (in no priority order, below) have been identified for the plan:

- Decants – based on projected need from schemes due to go on site imminently, in order to ensure schemes start on time and the council maximises the benefit from funding secured for current regeneration schemes
- Under-occupation – a national priority, there are a high number of under occupiers registered. Targeting allocations to this group will work in conjunction with further discussion with registered housing providers to identify other ways to reduce the levels of under-occupation in social housing stock.
- Severe overcrowding (2 bedrooms or more)– a key local and national priority
- Move on from supported housing schemes – to cater for the need to decant a number of supported schemes, moving vulnerable households into independent homes and to free up supported housing bed spaces for those with support needs waiting for accommodation
- Homeless households in temporary accommodation – in order to sustain the numbers in temporary accommodation at a manageable level and ensure that possible pressures from homeless demand as a result of the welfare benefit changes being introduced are contained

5.8 The retention of these 5 priorities reflects a continuing need to focus on these groups and ensure rehousing in these areas is supported. The remaining lets not targeted to these groups have been spread across bands 1-3 to ensure that we maximise rehousing opportunities to those in the highest need. Groups in bands 1-3 who will benefit from the remaining lets include emergency cases, for example we agreed to move as a result of violence, care leavers, homeless prevention, medical needs and households who are one bedroom overcrowded.

5.9 The introduction of a detailed lettings plan, targeting a range of priorities in each band is a more proactive and focused way of addressing lettings priorities. It is however more administratively intensive and requires ongoing monitoring of performance against targets in order to ensure that targets within the plan are reached. It is proposed to formally review progress against the lettings plan targets at six months, given the uncertainty around housing supply and the possibility that re-lets reduce by a greater level than the projected 25% and the potential for substantial increases in homelessness.

6 Financial Implications

6.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with the proposed changes to the allocations policy. There are significant costs associated with housing generally, including managing the allocations service, managing the provision of council housing and providing services to those experiencing homelessness. All of these are affected over time by the demand for housing. However, the allocations policy per se is merely the means by which that demand is allocated to existing properties, and so changes to it do not have direct financial implications.

7 Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 7.1 Section 159(1) of the Housing Act 1996 requires a local authority to comply with Part 6 of the Act (sections 159 to 174) in allocating housing accommodation. Section 159(7) provides that “subject to the provisions of this Part, a local housing authority may allocate housing accommodation in such manner as they consider appropriate.” Section 169 provides that, when exercising their functions under Part 6 of the 1996 Act, as amended by the 2002 Homelessness Act, local housing authorities “shall have regard to such guidance as may ...be given by the Secretary of State” when carrying out their role in allocating social housing.
- 7.2 In compliance with section 167,(1) (of the 1996 Act,) Lewisham Housing Authority has an Allocations Policy, “... for determining priorities,...” which sets out the procedure to be followed when allocating housing accommodation.
- 7.3 The statutory guidance on social housing allocations 2009 entitled “Fair and Flexible” has encouraged local authorities to make greater use of existing flexibilities to “...prioritise needs specific to their local areas ...” . It expressly encourages the use by local authorities of local lettings policies.
- 7.4 The ‘Allocation of accommodation; guidance for local housing authorities in England’ which is currently being consulted upon, expressly reinforces the need for local authorities to adopt a more flexible approach to allocations.
- 7.5 The Localism Act 2011 received royal assent on 15th November 2011. The Localism Act 2011 introduces a number of significant amendments to Part 6 of the 1996 Act . Of particular relevance here are the following provisions: Section 160ZA replaces s.160A in relation to allocations by housing authorities. Social housing may only be allocated to ‘qualifying persons’ and housing authorities are given the power to determine what classes of persons are or are not qualified to be allocated Housing (s.160ZA(6) and (7)).
- 7.6 Section 166A requires housing authorities in England to allocate accommodation in accordance with a scheme which must be framed to ensure that certain categories of applicants are given reasonable preference for an allocation of social housing. Section 166A(9) includes a new requirement for an allocation scheme to give a right to review a decision on qualification in s.160AZ(9), and to inform such affected persons of the decision on the review and the grounds for it. This is in addition to the existing right to review a decision on eligibility.
- 7.7 Section 166A(12) provides that housing authorities must have regard to both their homelessness and tenancy strategies when framing their allocation scheme. The requirement for an allocation scheme to contain a statement of the authority’s policy on offering a choice of accommodation or the opportunity to express preferences about their accommodation is retained. (s.166A(2)). However, the requirement to provide a copy of this statement to people to whom they owe a homelessness duty (under s.193(3A) or s.195(3A) of the 1996 Act) is repealed by s.148(2) and s.149(3) of the Localism Act 2011. This is because, following the changes to the main homelessness duty made by the Localism Act 2011, there can no longer be a

presumption that the homelessness duty will be brought to an end in most cases with an allocation under Part 6.

- 7.8 The European Convention on Human Rights states in Article 8 that “Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and correspondence”. The Human Rights Act 1998 incorporates the Convention. Whilst it does not, however, necessarily mean that everyone has an immediate *right* to a home, (because Article 8 is a “qualified” right and therefore is capable in certain circumstances, of being lawfully and legitimately interfered with,) the provision by an Authority of a relevant proactive Allocations Policy and Lettings Plan does assist to reinforce the Article 8 principles.

8 Crime and Disorder Implications

- 8.1 The allocations scheme recognises the importance of housing in responding to the needs of victims of crime who can be awarded emergency priority where their life is in danger and their case is supported by the police. These include applicants under the witness protection programme. Furthermore, the scheme contributes to reducing offending and awards priority for offenders (dependent upon the nature of their offence), imprisoned for over 13 weeks who relinquish their existing social tenancy.

9 Equalities Implications

- 9.1 An assessment of the equalities issues arising from the Lettings Plan has been carried out in order to comply with the council’s duties under the Equalities Act 2010.
- 9.2 The lettings plan priorities have generally positive impacts, covered in point 5 above and reflect the need to focus targets on key local and national priorities around housing need. The allocation of targets to each band ensure that all groups with priority under the allocations scheme receive a percentage of lettings.
- 9.3 Applicants who join the housing register are asked to complete monitoring in relation to their gender, age, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation and religion or belief. Appendix 6 and 7 show the ethnic profile of lettings by bedroom size for 2010/11 and 2011/12 so far.
- 9.4 The lettings outturn for different ethnic groups showed a similar profile to previous periods and there were no significant increases or reduction across groups. The number of households not disclosing their ethnicity remains. Future plans for using an assisted completion approach to completing applications in band 1-3 should improve performance in this area.

10 Environmental Implications

- 10.1 There are no environmental implications.

11 Conclusion

- 11.1 It is proposed that the outcomes data and proposed lettings targets for the coming

year are noted.

12 Background documents and originator

- 12.1 There is background documents to this report showing the housing register analysis and another document the equalities issues associated with the plan.
- 12.2 If you require more information on this report please contact Genevieve Macklin, Head of Strategic Housing on 0208 314 6057.

Appendix 1 – Draft Lettings Plan 2012/13

Band and Priority reason								
	Bedsit	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed	Total	%age of all lets	%age general let
Band 1								
Decants	0	151	70	32	10	263	15.8	19.1
Under occupiers	0	30	50	15	0	95	5.7	6.9
All other band 1	0	40	81	31	14	166	10	12.0
Total band 1	0	221	201	78	24	524	31.5	38.0
Band 2								
Supported housing move on	53	102	0	0	0	155	9.3	11.2
Serious overcrowding	0	0	55	73	18	146	8.8	10.5
All other band 2	1	41	44	52	15	153	9.2	11.1
Total band 2	54	143	99	125	33	454	27.3	32.9
Band 3								
Homeless in temporary accommodation	15	60	189	62	25	351	21.1	25.4
All other band 3	4	13	20	13	1	51	3.06	3.7
Total band 3	19	73	209	75	26	402	24.1	29.1
Band 4								
All other band 4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Total band 4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Total general lets*	73	437	509	278	83	1380	82.8	100
							%age of all lets	%age special lets
Temp to perm (2010) sign up	0	1	108	17	0	126	7.6	53.6
Sheltered								
Under occupiers	0	5	0	0	0	5	0.3	2.1
Medical High	0	5	0	0	0	5	0.3	2.1
General sheltered need	10	64	0	0	0	74	4.4	31.6
Disabled adapted								
Decants	0	2	2	0	0	4	0.2	1.7
Medical High	0	5	6	6	0	17	1.02	7.2
General disabled need	0	2	0	2	0	4	0.2	1.7
Total special lets**	10	84	116	25	0	235	14.1	100
Contribution to Pan London Mobility	7	23	14	7	0	51	3.1	
Overall total lets*+**	90	544	639	310	83	1666	100.0%	

Appendix 2 - Total Lettings – 2010/11

Band and Priority Reason	Bed size need					
	Studio	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed	Total
Band 1						
Decant		8	4	6		18
Emergency Panel Priority		3	11	13	2	29
Exceptional Homeless (PSL lease end)			22	5	2	29
Care Leaver		48	9			57
Adapts - no longer required		1				1
Succession		5	2			7
Retiring LBL staff in tied accommodation			1			1
Hospital discharge						0
Under Occupier		29	19	1		49
Total band 1		94	68	25	4	191
Band 2						
Homeless Prevention		8	17	7		32
High Medical Need		18	11	7		36
Serious overcrowding			40	68	12	120
Former social tenants discharged from institutions						0
Supported housing move on	6	122				128
Total band 2	6	148	68	82	12	316
Band 3						
Welfare Need	1	1				2
Medical Low	11	124	12			147
Overcrowded By 1 Bed	4	74	61	14		153
EHO recommendation						0
Homeless	3	92	212	85	5	397
Total band 3	19	291	285	99	5	699
Band 4						
No Rehousing Reason	110	146	4			260
Total band 4	110	146	4			260
Total general lets	135	679	425	206	21	1466
Special Lets						
Sheltered	11	76	1			88
Disabled adapted		5	14	8		27
Temp to perm (2010) sign up	0	11	220	70	8	309
Total special lets	11	92	235	78	8	424
Overall total lets	146	771	660	284	29	1890

Appendix 3 – Total Lettings April 2011 – December 2011

Band and Priority Reason	Bed size need					
	Studio	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed	Total
Band 1						
Decant		16	13	16	2	47
Emergency Panel Priority		4	4	5	4	17
Exceptional Homeless (PSL lease end)			9		2	11
Exceptional medical		1				1
Care Leaver		26	5			31
Adapts - no longer required		1				1
Succession		2		1	1	4
Retiring LBL staff in tied accommodation		1				1
Hospital discharge						0
Under Occupier		15	23	2		40
Total band 1	0	66	54	24	9	153
Band 2						
Homeless Prevention		8	54	11		73
High Medical Need		13	8	13	1	35
Serious overcrowding			25	65	26	116
Former social tenants discharged from institutions						0
Supported housing move on	8	63		1		72
Total band 2	6	76	71	79	17	249
Band 3						
Welfare Need						0
Medical Low	18	76	26	2		122
Overcrowded By 1 Bed	10	52	46	22		130
EHO recommendation						0
Priority Homeless	4	40	140	38	12	234
Total band 3	32	168	212	62	12	486
Band 4						
No Rehousing Reason	40	65				105
Total band 4	40	65				96
Total general lets	80	383	353	176	48	1040
Special Lets						
Sheltered	7	47	1	0	0	55
Disabled adapted	0	11	7	5	1	24
Temp to perm (2010) sign up	1	6	107	9	4	127
Total special lets	10	71	115	15	5	215
Overall total lets	90	453	468	191	53	1255

Appendix 4 - Average waiting times based on lettings outcomes (weeks) 2010/11

Band and Priority Reason	Bedroom	Need				
	Studio	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed	All
Band 1						
Decant		59.0	237.1	198.8		145.2
Emergency Panel Priority		23.1	48.2	89.6	244.6	78.7
Temporary Accommodation Ending (lease expiry)			70.3	91.9	101.8	76.2
Exceptional Homeless Prevention			48.2			48.2
Care leaver		106.4	118.5			108.3
Adapts - no longer required		29.1				29.1
Succession		81.7	62.4			77.9
Retiring LBL staff in tied accommodation			87.8			87.8
Succession - Property too large		42.1	129.8			85.9
Under occupier		217.3	302.7	53.9		247.0
Total band 1		131.3	148.8	114.8	173.2	136.3
Band 2						
Homeless Prevention		75.0	60.2	270.7		109.9
High Medical Need		54.1	86.1	164.6		85.4
Serious overcrowding			108.2	199.7	368.1	186.0
Supported housing move on	24.0	230.0				220.3
Total band 2	24.0	200.2	92.6	202.7	368.1	180.8
Band 3						
Welfare Need	53.4	25.9				39.6
Medical Low	114.6	95.9	233.9			108.5
Overcrowded By 1 Bed	59.8	123.5	235.7	338.9		186.3
Priority Homeless	59.5	83.9	169.9	154.1	308.2	147.5
Total band 3	91.1	98.9	186.7	180.2	308.2	147.5
Band 4						
No Rehousing Reason	256.4	331.4	1537.5			318.2
Total band 4	256.4	331.4	1537.5			318.2
Total general lets	222.8	175.5	178.3	181.3	316.7	183.5
Special Lets						
Sheltered	33.5	119.5	15.5			107.5
Disabled adapted		34.5	222.3	75.7		144.1
Total special lets	33.5	114.2	208.5	75.7		116.1
Overall total lets	208.6	168.9	179.3	177.3	316.7	178.6

Note – excludes temp to perm sign ups and temporary accommodation lets

Appendix 5 - Average waiting times based on lettings outcomes (weeks) – April 11 –Dec 11

Band and Priority Reason	Bed	Size				
	Studio	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed	Total
Band 1						
Decant		78.1	111.7	82.9	78.7	89.0
Emergency Panel Priority		9.0	30.8	34.6	112.1	45.9
Temporary Accommodation Ending (lease expiry)			122.1		237.1	143.0
Exceptional Medical		17.2				17.2
Care leaver		118.0	86.1			112.8
Adapts - no longer required		105.2				105.2
Succession		10.1			66.0	38.0
Retiring LBL staff in tied accommodation		24.2				24.2
Succession - Property too large		9.8		207.2		108.5
Under occupier		226.7	234.2	335.0		236.4
Total band 1		120.0	157.2	99.0	127.3	130.3
Band 2						
Homeless Prevention		13.1	25.2	119.9		38.2
High Medical Needs		70.6	106.8	126.8	116.1	101.1
Serious Overcrowding			95.2	77.1	341.0	140.2
Supported housing move on	18.4	23.8		19.6		23.2
Total band 2	18.4	30.1	52.8	88.9	332.7	81.9
Band 3						
Medical Low	51.7	91.7	221.3	273.0		116.4
Overcrowded By 1 Bed	65.2	90.8	240.3	411.6		196.0
Priority Homeless	93.0	87.7	153.6	136.9	245.8	143.3
Total band 3	61.0	90.4	180.7	238.8	245.8	150.6
Band 4						
No Rehousing Reason	225.5	368.3				313.9
Total band 4	225.5	368.3				313.9
Total General Lets	139.0	129.5	145.6	143.1	272.5	144.6
Special Lets						
Sheltered		199.0	138.5	133.0	286.4	170.8
Disabled adapted	32.3	73.8	951.4			81.9
Total special lets	32.3	97.2	240.1	133.0	286.4	108.2
Overall total lets	128.2	124.8	147.7	142.7	272.8	141.7

Note – excludes temp to perm sign ups and temporary accommodation lets

Appendix 6 – Ethnic monitoring of lettings 10/11	Studio		1 beds		2 beds		3 beds		4+ beds		All Lettings	
	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age
ARAB	0	0.00%	1	0.06%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	0.06%
BANGLADESHI	0	0.00%	3	0.19%	1	0.06%	0	0.00%	1	0.06%	5	0.32%
BLACK AFRICAN	20	1.27%	113	7.15%	60	3.80%	55	3.48%	8	0.51%	256	16.19%
BLACK CARIBBEAN	22	1.39%	144	9.11%	64	4.05%	33	2.09%	1	0.06%	264	16.70%
BLACK OTHER	7	0.44%	23	1.45%	18	1.14%	6	0.38%	1	0.06%	55	3.48%
CHINESE	1	0.06%	6	0.38%	3	0.19%	1	0.06%	0	0.00%	11	0.70%
ESTONIA	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	0.06%	0	0.00%	1	0.06%
INDIAN	0	0.00%	1	0.06%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	0.06%
IRISH	0	0.00%	3	0.19%	1	0.06%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	4	0.25%
LATVIA	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	0.06%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	0.06%
NOT DISCLOSED	58	3.67%	225	14.23%	169	10.69%	73	4.62%	6	0.38%	100	6.33%
OTHER	6	0.38%	23	1.45%	15	0.95%	10	0.63%	3	0.19%	57	3.61%
OTHER ASIAN BACKGRND	2	0.13%	6	0.38%	1	0.06%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	9	0.57%
OTHER EEA NATIONAL	0	0.00%	2	0.13%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	2	0.13%
OTHER MIXED	1	0.06%	7	0.44%	2	0.13%	1	0.06%	0	0.00%	11	0.70%
TURKISH	0	0.00%	5	0.32%	6	0.38%	1	0.06%	0	0.00%	12	0.76%
TURKISH CYPRIOT	0	0.00%	6	0.38%	0	0.00%	4	0.25%	0	0.00%	10	0.63%
VIETNAMESE	1	0.06%	6	0.38%	5	0.32%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	12	0.76%
WHITE	6	0.38%	40	2.53%	46	2.91%	18	1.14%	1	0.06%	111	7.02%
WHITE & ASIAN	1	0.06%	2	0.13%	2	0.13%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	5	0.32%
WHITE BRITISH	16	1.01%	99	6.26%	30	1.90%	5	0.32%	0	0.00%	150	9.49%
WHITE IRISH	0	0.00%	7	0.44%	0	0.00%	1	0.06%	0	0.00%	8	0.51%
WHITE OTHER BACKGRND	1	0.06%	18	1.14%	10	0.63%	3	0.19%	0	0.00%	32	2.02%
WHITE&BLACK AFRICAN	1	0.06%	2	0.13%	0	0.00%	2	0.13%	0	0.00%	5	0.32%
WHITE&BLACK CARIBBEAN	2	0.13%	17	1.08%	4	0.25%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	23	1.45%
WHITE&OTHER BACKGRND	1	0.06%	1	0.06%	2	0.13%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	4	0.25%
Total of Ethnic Origin	146	9.23%	760	48.07%	440	27.83%	214	13.54%	19	1.20%	1581	100.00%

Appendix 7- Ethnic Monitoring of lets April-Dec 11	Studio		1 bed		2 bed		3 bed		4+bed		All Lettings	
	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age
BLACK AFRICAN	12	1.06%	61	5.41%	46	4.08%	39	3.46%	5	0.44%	163	14.45%
BLACK CARIBBEAN	15	1.33%	83	7.36%	67	5.94%	32	2.84%	3	0.27%	200	17.73%
BLACK OTHER	4	0.35%	13	1.15%	9	0.80%	6	0.53%	1	0.09%	33	2.93%
BRITISH IRISH	1	0.09%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	2	0.18%
CHINESE	0	0.00%	5	0.44%	2	0.18%	2	0.18%	0	0.00%	9	0.80%
CHINESE OTHER	0	0.00%	2	0.18%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	2	0.18%
CZECH REPUBLIC	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	1	0.09%
ENGLISH	0	0.00%	2	0.18%	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	3	0.27%
INDIAN	1	0.09%	3	0.27%	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	2	0.18%	7	0.62%
IRISH	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	1	0.09%
LATVIA	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	0.09%
LITHUANIA	0	0.00%	2	0.18%	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	3	0.27%
NORTHERN IRISH	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	0.09%
NOT DISCLOSED	31	2.75%	143	12.68%	135	11.97%	58	5.14%	27	2.39%	394	34.93%
OTHER	5	0.44%	10	0.89%	11	0.98%	6	0.53%	4	0.35%	36	3.19%
OTHER ASIAN BACKGRND	0	0.00%	6	0.53%	3	0.27%	4	0.35%	1	0.09%	14	1.24%
OTHER EEA NATIONAL	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	2	0.18%
OTHER MIXED	0	0.00%	2	0.18%	1	0.09%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	4	0.35%
PAKISTANI	1	0.09%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	1	0.09%	4	0.35%
POLAND	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	3	0.27%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	5	0.44%
SCOTTISH	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	0.09%
TURKISH	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	2	0.18%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	4	0.35%
TURKISH CYPRIOT	0	0.00%	2	0.18%	2	0.18%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	4	0.35%
VIETNAMESE	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	4	0.35%	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	6	0.53%
WHITE	4	0.35%	20	1.77%	20	1.77%	7	0.62%	1	0.09%	52	4.61%
WHITE & ASIAN	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	2	0.18%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	3	0.27%
WHITE BRITISH	8	0.71%	65	5.76%	37	3.28%	9	0.80%	2	0.18%	121	10.73%
WHITE IRISH	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	1	0.09%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	3	0.27%
WHITE OTHER BACKGRND	1	0.09%	7	0.62%	7	0.62%	5	0.44%	0	0.00%	20	1.77%
WHITE & BLACK AFRICAN	1	0.09%	4	0.35%	1	0.09%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	7	0.62%
WHITE & BLACK CARIBBEAN	3	0.27%	7	0.62%	7	0.62%	4	0.35%	0	0.00%	21	1.86%

WHITE & OTHER BACKGRND	0	0.00%	1	0.09%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	0.09%
Total of Ethnic Origin	89	7.89%	447	4.17%	361	32.00%	182	16.13%	49	4.34%	1128	100.00%

Agenda Item 13

Chief Officer Confirmation of Report Submission		
Cabinet Member Confirmation of Briefing		
Report for: Mayor		<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)		<input type="checkbox"/>
Executive Director		<input type="checkbox"/>
Information <input type="checkbox"/>	Part 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part 2 <input type="checkbox"/>
Key Decision		<input type="checkbox"/>


Date of Meeting	11 th April 2012
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Title of Report	Local Listing of former Boone's Almshouses, 372 – 374, 378 – 380, Lee High Road.
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Originator of Report	Rebecca Lamb/Phil Ashford
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At the time of submission for the Agenda, I confirm that the report has:

Category	Yes	No
Financial Comments from Exec Director for Resources	X	
Legal Comments from the Head of Law	X	
Crime & Disorder Implications	X	
Environmental Implications	X	
Equality Implications/Impact Assessment (as appropriate)	X	
Confirmed Adherence to Budget & Policy Framework	X	
Risk Assessment Comments (as appropriate)		
Reason for Urgency (as appropriate)		

Signed:  Executive Member

Date: _____

Signed:  Director/Head of Service

Date: 26-03-2012

Control Record by Committee Support

Action	Date
Listed on Schedule of Business/Forward Plan (if appropriate)	
Draft Report Cleared at Agenda Planning Meeting (not delegated decisions)	
Submitted Report from CO Received by Committee Support	
Scheduled Date for Call-in (if appropriate)	
To be Referred to Full Council	

Mayor and Cabinet			
Report Title	Local Listing of former Boone's Almshouses, 372 – 374, 378 – 380, Lee High Road		
Key Decision	Yes		Item No.
Ward	Lee Green		
Contributors	Head of Planning and Head of Law		
Class	Part 1	Date: 11 April 2012	

1 Summary

- 1.1 The former Boone's Almshouses are a Victorian almshouse complex built in 1875 to the design of the Architect Edward L'Anson. No longer almshouses, they have been owned by the Emmanuel Pentecostal Church since 1962. This report considers whether the buildings should be locally listed and concludes that the buildings do merit local listing.

2 Purpose

- 2.1 To provide the information needed to enable Mayor and Cabinet to decide whether to locally list the former Boone's Almshouses.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 The Mayor is recommended to approve the addition of the former Boone's Almshouses and associated original front wall and piers to the Local List. Illustrated on the plan in appendix 1.

4 Policy Context

- 4.1 The contents of this report are consistent with the Council's policy framework. It supports the achievements of the Sustainable Community Strategy policy objective 'Clean, green and liveable', and the corresponding clean green and liveable policy priority, notably improving environmental management and promoting a sustainable environment. Consistency with the Council's Local Development Framework is explained below.
- 4.2 The Council's Core Strategy, adopted in 2011, policy 16 states;
- 4.3 "The Council will ensure that the value and significance of the borough's heritage assets and their settings, which include...non-designated assets such as locally listed buildings, will continue to be monitored, reviewed, enhanced and conserved according to the requirements of government planning policy

guidance, the London Plan policies, local policy and English Heritage best practice.”

- 4.4 The Council has a saved policy, URB20, from the Unitary Development Plan (July 2004) that proceeded the Core Strategy, specifically relating to locally listed buildings;
- 4.5 “The Council will seek to ensure and encourage the preservation and enhancement of Locally Listed Buildings of townscape merit and will use its powers, where possible to protect their character and setting”
- 4.6 Government Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5) identifies locally listed buildings as non-designated heritage assets. With regards to non-designated heritage assets PPS5 states;
- 4.7 “Regional and local planning authorities should ensure that they have evidence about the historic environment and heritage assets in their area and that this is publicly documented.” (HE2.1)

5 Background

- 5.1 Lewisham’s ‘Local List’ of buildings of architectural or historic interest that contribute towards local distinctiveness was first adopted in 1973 and has been subsequently updated several times. The most recent review being carried out in March 2011. Criteria for local interest buildings was adopted by Mayor and Cabinet in 2009. These criteria are attached as appendix 2.
- 5.2 The local list does not afford any legal protection for buildings, unlike buildings on the statutory list, produced by central government on advice from English Heritage and which grades buildings as Grade II, Grade II* and Grade 1. These are protected from demolition and other unauthorised works. Whilst the buildings on the local list may not meet the criteria for statutory listing which is based on national importance, they add to the local distinctiveness of Lewisham.
- 5.3 Placing a building on the Local List places no statutory responsibility on the property owner, in terms of maintenance, repair or re-instatement of features.
- 5.4 The former Boone’s Almshouses have been used as part of the Emmanuel Pentecostal Church since 1962. In 1984 there was a successful application for an extension to the front elevation and in 2010 another successful application for two temporary classrooms sited to the rear. Also in 2010, the Emmanuel Pentecostal Church approached Lewisham Council with a pre-application submission to redevelop and create a new church and residential complex. This was followed by a formal application in May 2011 which at time of writing is yet to be determined. The proposals involve the demolition of all buildings on site including the almshouses. As part of the consultation process on the planning application, the Lee Manor Society requested the almshouses and chapel be considered for local listing and the Council carried out a Heritage Assessment. This Heritage Assessment identified the buildings met the criteria for local

listing (see appendix 3) and this was fed back to the applicant as part of the development management process.

6 The case for Local Listing

- 6.1 **History** - The almshouses were built in 1875 by the Merchants Taylors' Company (MTC) on behalf of the Christopher Boone's Charity. They were built to replace earlier almshouses situated about half a mile west of the site on the northern side of Lee High Road next to the Boone's Chapel.
- 6.2 Christopher Boone (ca. 1615/16 - 1686) was a wealthy London wool merchant, philanthropist and member of the Merchant Taylors Company. In 1668 he bought Lee Place and relocated with his wife Mary to Lee, which at that time was a small rural village in Kent. Around 1680 they bought further land in the parish and in 1682 had four almshouses and a chapel constructed at their own costs. The almshouses were to house six poor elderly people of the parish and a School Mistress for the education of twelve poor children.
- 6.3 To ensure its long-term future, the Christopher Boone's Charity was placed in the trust of the MTC – it laid the foundations for the company's more than 300 years long connection with Lee.
- 6.4 The MTC is one of the Twelve Great City Livery Companies surviving from Medieval times. The Company was at first a guild, an association of Tailors and Linen Armourers, and later traders. By the end of the 17th century, its connection with the tailoring trade had virtually ceased and it became what it is today, a mainly charitable organisation. It administers many charitable trusts created by past Members and benefactors.
- 6.5 When the Boone's estate was sold by the family in 1824, the MTC acquired large parts north of the turnpike road (Lee High Road) and built their own almshouses to the north of the existing Boone's Almshouses. The MTC had managed their own almshouses since the 15th century at various locations in the city. In contrast to Boone's almshouses, which were built for the relief of local people, the new MTC almshouses were for the widows of freemen belonging to the company.
- 6.6 The two charities were run independently but the residents shared the Chapel. In 1858 plans commenced to replace Boone's almshouses, by then nearly 200 years old. The new site further east along Lee High Road at the corner with Lampmead Road was bought in 1872 and the new almshouses and chapel built to the designs of the architect Edward B L'Anson. In 1876, the resident's of the old Boone's almshouses were moved to the new houses and the old almshouses were subsequently demolished in 1877.
- 6.7 In 1962, the complex was sold to the Emmanuel Pentecostal Church. The proceedings of the sale were used to built 30 new almshouses in Belmont Park. The 1876 almshouses have since been used as a church and offices for its administration, and housing.

- 6.8 **Architect** - Edward L'Anson (1812-1888) was a renowned Victorian architect practising mainly in London and the South East. His legacy includes the Royal Exchange (1838, internal works only), the Corn Exchange and the Medical School of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, all of which are listed, but also smaller parish churches such as St Luke's in Grayshott (Grade II listed) and Christ Church in South Nutfield, Surrey.
- 6.9 L'Anson was partly educated at the Merchant Taylors' School and for many years was surveyor to the company, for which he also designed the south and east range of the Merchant Taylors' Hall in Threadneedle Street (Grade II* listed).
- 6.10 He was elected a fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1840, and was chosen president in 1886.
- 6.11 **Description** - The almshouses are set in a formal arrangement to both sides of the chapel, which is placed in the centre. Originally, the chapel stood detached with the apse facing the street and the access via the south porch from Lampmead Road. In the late 1970s the apse was demolished and replaced with the present entrance building that features a glass frontage and a peculiar conical-shaped roof.
- 6.12 The two residential ranges are built in a domestic Tudor style with two-light stone-mullioned windows with drip moulds. They have cross wings to the outer ends, one forward projecting gable to the centre and one to the rear to the inner ends (towards the chapel). Although currently somewhat spoilt, each range forms an attractive composition of prominent gables, square bays (to the rear), mullioned and transomed windows and impressive central ridge stacks, of which one has remained complete. The buildings were originally red brick faced with simple but effective brick and stone detailing. The appealing colour contrast is currently lost as a result of the rendering of the brickwork and painting of the stone but can still be appreciated in the front boundary wall which has remained comparatively unchanged. The windows were originally timber casement but have been replaced in uPVC in a pattern that seems to reflect the original. Features that have survived are the roof and ridge tiles, shaped stone copings, canopies above the doors, and one of the chimney stacks.
- 6.13 The chapel is built in an Early English style in red brick with a stone band at sill level, a drip-mould course and dentilled cornice. It has lost its bell turret and the apse, which has been replaced with a modern entrance building, but otherwise the exterior seems relatively unchanged and in a good condition.
- 6.14 The buildings are set back from the street via a large forecourt. Historic pictures show that this once formed the front garden and green setting to the houses with mature planting and trees. It has been tarmaced and is used for car parking, which has created a much more urbanised setting. The attractive surrounding boundary wall with piers and stone copings has survived to the front.

- 6.15 It is unlikely that the almshouses and chapel would meet the national criteria for statutory listing due to the unsympathetic alterations that have been made to the buildings and their setting. However, the buildings are of social, architectural and historic interest to the Borough, as described previously, and fulfil the Council's criteria for local listing on the following accounts:
- 6.16 **Historic Interest:** The buildings have historic interest for their association with Christopher Boone and the work of the MTC in Lee. The almshouses were designed by an distinguished architect of its time whose involvement in Lee can only be explained by his associations with the MTC. As almshouses they are of special social historic interest to Lee, giving evidence of social attitudes to the destitute and poor in past centuries. Prior to the creation of a state welfare system, which is essentially a 20th century achievement, the care for the aged was largely the preserve of the church, individual parishes and private benefactors. The tradition of private charity ran side by side with the municipal welfare provisions and, by the eighteenth century, almshouses were powerful emblems of corporate status and private munificence and remained so well into the twentieth century.
- 6.17 **Architectural Interest:** The almshouses have special architectural interest as a distinctive building type. Despite the alterations to the buildings, they can be recognised in plan form, architectural detail, and the emphasis on formality as almshouses. The conservative style and domestic proportions are typical for almshouses and are part of their appeal.
- 6.18 **Rarety:** The almshouses are comparatively rare, nationally as well as locally. Within the Borough of Lewisham, there are only two other surviving almshouse complexes, both of which are listed – the above mentioned Merchant Taylors' Almshouses and the Thackerey Almshouses on Lewisham High Street. The almshouses in Deptford were demolished in the early 20th century.
- 6.19 For the purposes of development management, a locally listed building is a material consideration in the determination of subsequent planning applications involving the building.
- 6.20 The full Heritage Assessment undertaken by Officers is attached as appendix 3.

7 Consultation

- 7.1 It is the Council's normal practice to notify the building owners of the officers intention to report to the Mayor on local listing. In response, the owners have submitted a report and a 'Heritage Impact Assessment' that detail their objection to the proposed local listing of the almshouse for the following reasons:
- The historic and aesthetic value of the buildings is low. They do not represent buildings of special social, economic, cultural or architectural interest to Lewisham, and as such they do not fulfil the Council's criteria for local listing.

- The Heritage Assessment is inaccurate - The Almshouses were established for members of the City of London institutions or associated benefactors rather than for the destitute or poor for the parish of Lee, as claimed.
- The buildings are not a well preserved example of almshouses in Lewisham – There are two other Almshouse complexes in Lewisham, which are listed buildings and are better preserved examples.
- Although the Architect, Edward L'Anson is of renown, the almshouses are not representative of his work.
- Local Listing will not stop the deterioration of the buildings as there is no requirement on owners to repair, maintain or re-instate features to a building. Therefore, Local listing will not secure the structural integrity of the buildings which require considerable investment.
- The Council's Local List policy, URB 20 does not preclude demolition of Local List Buildings, subject to the quality of the replacement building.
- Previous applications for two temporary classrooms in 2010 and an extension to the front elevation in 1984 did not identify the building as a heritage asset. These buildings were also not identified as a heritage asset during pre-application discussions for the site in 2010.
- There is ambiguity in the origins and justification for the request for local listing by Lee Manor Society

7.2 The Lee Manor Society supported local listing for the following reasons;

- Important local building with strong historical link to Boone's Chapel (Grade I listed building) which was recently restored with funding from, among others, Lewisham Council.
- The historic significance means the buildings could be included on the Lee Historical Trail.
- It is an attractive building

7.3 The Lee Manor Society also requested the building be the subject of an Article 4 Direction, to remove permitted development rights to demolish the building without the need for planning permission.

7.4 The Council also requested an opinion from the Victorian Society, the national body concerned with Victorian architecture, once the architect was established to be Edward L'Anson. They supported the proposal for local listing.

8 Response

8.1 The former almshouses have been assessed in detail and are considered to fulfil the Council's criteria for local listing. Officers have clearly outlined in para 6 how the buildings meet the Council's adopted criteria for local listing.

8.2 There was a misunderstanding by the owner about the historical accuracy of the Heritage Assessment (appendix 3). This has been re-worded for clarity in para.6.6 of this document and clearly states that Boone's almshouses were for the relief of local people. The Boone's Charity was established for the relief of the poor of the parish of Lee and its work in the area has continued up to the

present day. The MTC's almshouses were for the widows of the members of the Company.

- 8.3 The significance of the buildings as works of the architect Edward L'Anson is more by associations rather than as outstanding representatives of his work.
- 8.4 The state of repair of a building is not a relevant consideration when deciding whether a building meets the criteria for local listing. This conforms with the principles for the selection of statutory listed buildings. The buildings are internally in a good condition and provide four comfortable homes, a reception area and an office to the Church.
- 8.5 Local Listing status cannot make the owner undo any unsympathetic alterations and to invest in the repair of these properties. However, this does not invalidate the heritage significance of the buildings nor would it justify their loss. If locally listed their preservation and enhancement would be a material consideration in the determination of any planning application.
- 8.6 The heritage significance of the almshouses has been identified through a detailed heritage assessment, requested at a time when the prospect of total demolition and loss called for greater scrutiny of the heritage value embodied in these buildings. PPS 5 (HE7.1) allows for the identification of heritage assets, such as this, to take place as late as during the decision-making process. The possibility of last-minute identification exists and is even enshrined in the heritage designation system which allows for the spot-listing of threatened buildings.
- 8.7 With regard to the possible reasons for the Lee Manor Society's request for local listing, the Council specifically invites members of the public to put forward candidates for local listing. Their reasons for doing so are not a consideration in the Heritage Assessment and do not influence the assessment as to whether a building or structure fulfils the criteria for local listing. In this particular case, the Society's request proved valid.
- 8.8 It is considered that only the almshouses and the associated boundary wall and pier to the front would satisfy the Council's criteria for local listing. Although the chapel forms part of the original design, in terms of its size it was not built as a house chapel to the benefactors of the Boone's Charity, but served a wider congregation. It is as such not a rare example of its type, nor distinctive or of any outstanding architectural treatment that would merit its local listing. The integrity and plan form of the buildings has also been affected by the loss of the apse and the addition of the 1970s entrance building.
- 8.9 While the purpose of this report is not to consider the request for an Article 4 Direction in detail, as requested by the Lee Manor Society, officers are firmly of the view that an Article 4 direction to withdraw permitted development rights for demolition is not appropriate at this time. This is because the building is not under imminent threat of demolition and is occupied. There could potentially be significant financial implications for the Council in the application of an Article 4

direction and these have not been assessed in detail at this time. Therefore, an Article 4 direction is not being proposed.

9 Financial Implications

- 9.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from this report. The local list is non statutory and does not provide any legal protection for buildings. The list is intended to recognise and highlight buildings that are not statutorily protected. The costs of carrying out the Heritage Assessment were covered from the Planning Service revenue budget.
- 9.2 Should an article 4 direction be required at a later date then this could result in significant financial implications and would be the subject of a further report to M&C.

10 Legal Implications

- 10.1 The local list is a non-statutory list of buildings compiled by the Council. The local list is intended to recognise buildings which are not statutorily protected so that they can be properly considered when development proposals are submitted to the Council for determination. The Local List reinforces the Council's efforts to preserve the character and appearance of the buildings that are included on it. In adding a building to the list the Council is able to rely upon its well being powers.
- 10.2 As at the date of writing this report Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 (amendments are pending as a result of the Localism Act 2011 at a date yet to be appointed) provides that every local authority has the power to do anything which they consider is likely to achieve any one or more of the following objects:
- the promotion or improvement of the economic well-being of their area,
 - the promotion or improvement of the social well-being of their area, and
 - the promotion or improvement of the environmental well-being of their area
- 10.3 In determining whether or how to exercise the power set out above the Council is required by Section 2(3) to have regard to the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy. Such considerations are included in the body of this report.
- 10.4 There are no significant human rights implications associated with local listing given the limited effect of local listing and that it does not confer legal protection for buildings so listed.

Equalities

- 10.5 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) brings together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act includes a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty), replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011.

The new duty 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.

As was the case for the original separate duties, the new 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 Equality and Human Rights Commission issued guides in January 2011 providing an overview of the new equality duty, including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. The guides cover what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guides were based on the then draft specific duties so are no longer fully up-to-date, although regard may still be had to them until the revised guides are produced. The guides do not have legal standing unlike the statutory Code of Practice on the public sector equality duty, However, that Code is not due to be published until later in 2011. The guides can be found at: <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-duties/new-public-sector-equality-duty-guidance/>

11 Crime and Disorder Implications

11.1 There are no direct crime and disorder implications.

12 Equalities Implications

12.1 The environmental benefits arising from this report are of equal benefit to all, otherwise there are no direct equalities implications.

13 Environmental Implications

13.1 The principle implicit in conservation management is to repair and maintain existing building elements rather than requiring the replacement and disposal of serviceable items to landfill. This reduces environmental impacts by retaining items and their embodied energy and not causing carbon dioxide emissions necessary for the manufacture and transportation of new items.

14 Conclusion

14.1 The case for local listing has been made in para 6 and appendix 3. The landowners have objected to the local listing status and their objections, addressed in section 8, are not considered to outweigh the case for local listing. In conclusion, officers therefore consider that the former Boone's Almshouses meet the criteria for local listing and recommend their addition to Lewisham's Local List.

Background documents and originator

Short Document	Title	Date	File Location	File Reference	Contact Officer	Exempt
PPS5 and Guidance		2010	Laurence House	Urban Design and Conservation	Phil Ashford	No
The London Plan		2004	Laurence House	Urban Design and Conservation	Phil Ashford	No
The Core Strategy		2011	Laurence House	Planning Policy	Brian Regan	No
UDP		2004	Laurence House	Planning Policy	Brian Regan	No
Applicant's 'Response to proposed local listing' and 'Heritage Impact Assessment'		2011 and 2012	Laurence House	Urban Design and Conservation	Phil Ashford	No
Letters from Lee Manor Society		2011 and 2012	Laurence House	Urban Design and Conservation	Phil Ashford	No
Email from Victorian Society		2011	Laurence House	Urban Design and Conservation	Phil Ashford	No

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Phil Ashford, 5th floor Laurence House, 1 Catford Road, Catford SE6 4RU – telephone 020 8314 8533

Appendix 1 – Site Plan



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Scale 1:1250

This plan forms no part of a planning application

Appendix 2 - Criteria for local listing, as adopted January 2009

Historic Interest: buildings that are of special social, economic or cultural interest to Lewisham, and/or have proven affiliation with locally important people and events, or other community associations (particularly important local architects);

Architectural Interest: buildings that are of special architectural interest to Lewisham for reasons of their vernacular, aesthetic, type (*i.e. form and function*), style, plan, technology, townscape, unity, or association with important local architects;

Age or Rarity: buildings that are:

- a) Legibly pre-1700 in interest
- b) Of appreciable interest from between 1700 to 1840
- c) Of a high level of interest following 1840
- d) Of an outstanding interest and less than 30 years old

Appendix 3 – Heritage Assessment

Former Boone's Almshouses, 372-376 Lee High Road, Lee Heritage Assessment

Summary

The following report assesses the heritage value of the former Boone's Almshouses in Lee High Road, following a request by the Lee Manor Society to the Council to locally list these buildings.

The former Boone's Almshouses are a Victorian almshouse complex built in 1875 to the design of the architect Edward L'Anson to replace an earlier complex located half a mile further west in Lee High Road.

The assessment establishes that the almshouses would fulfil the Council's criteria for local listing on grounds of their architectural, historic and social interest. Their significance as a work of a renowned Victorian architect needs further investigation and may establish significance in a national context.

It is recommended to locally list these buildings.

History

The almshouses were built in 1875 by the Merchants Taylors Company on behalf of the Boone's Charity. They were built to replace earlier almshouses situated about half a mile west of the site on the northern side of Lee High Road next to the Boone's Chapel.

Christopher Boone (ca. 1615/16 - 1686) was a wealthy London wool merchant, philanthropist and member of the Merchant Taylors Company. In 1668 he bought Lee Place and relocated with his wife Mary to Lee, which at that time was a small rural village in Kent. Around 1680 they bought further land in the parish and in 1682 had four almshouses and a chapel constructed at their own costs. The almshouses were to house six poor elderly people of the parish and a School Mistress for the education of twelve poor children.

To ensure its long-term future, the Boone's Charity was placed in the trust of the MTC – it laid the foundations for the company's more than 300 years long connection with Lee.

The MTC (MTC) is one of the Twelve Great City Livery Companies surviving from Medieval times. The Company was at first a guild, an association of tailors and Linen Armourers, and later traders. By the end of the 17th century, its connection with the tailoring trade had virtually ceased and it became what it is today, a mainly charitable organisation. It administers many charitable trusts created by past Members and benefactors.

When the Boone's estate was sold by the family in 1824, the MTC acquired large parts north of the turnpike road (Lee High Road) and built their own almshouses to the north of the existing Boone's Almshouses. The MTC had managed their own almshouses since the 15th century at various locations in the city. In contrast to the Boone's almshouses, the new almshouses were not built for the relief of local people but for the widows of freemen belonging to the company.

The two charities were run independently but the residents shared the Chapel. In 1858 plans commenced to replace the Boone's almshouses, by then nearly 200 years old. The new site further east along Lee High Road at the corner with Lampmead Road was bought in 1872 and the new almshouses and chapel built to the designs of the architect Edward B L'Anson. In 1876, the resident's of the Boone's almshouses were moved to the new houses and the old almshouses were subsequently demolished in 1877.

In 1962, the complex was sold to the Emmanuel Pentecostal Church. The proceedings of the sale were used to built 30 new almshouses in Belmont Park. The 1876 almshouses have since been used as a church and offices for its administration, and housing.

The Architect

Edward L'Anson (1812-1888) was a renowned Victorian architect practising mainly in London and the South East. His legacy includes the Royal Exchange (1838, internal works only), the Corn Exchange and the Medical School of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, all of which are listed, but also smaller parish churches such as St Luke's in Grayshott (Grade II listed) and Christ Church in South Nutfield, Surrey.

L'Anson was partly educated at the Merchant Taylors' School and for many years was surveyor to the company, for which he also designed the south and east range of the Merchant Taylors' Hall in Threadneedle Street (Grade II* listed).

He was elected a fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1840, and was chosen president in 1886.

Description

The almshouses are set in a formal arrangement to both sides of the chapel, which is placed in the centre. Originally, the chapel stood detached with the apse facing the street and the access via the south porch from Lampmead Road. In the late 1970s the apse was demolished and replaced with the present entrance building that features a glass frontage and a peculiar conical-shaped roof.

The two residential ranges are built in a domestic Tudor style with two-light stone-mullioned windows with drip moulds. They have cross wings to the outer ends, one forward projecting gable to the centre and one to the rear to the inner ends (towards the chapel). Although currently somewhat spoilt, each range forms an attractive composition of prominent gables, square bays (to the rear), mullioned and transomed windows and impressive central ridge stacks, of which one has remained complete. The buildings were originally red brick faced with simple but effective brick and stone detailing. The appealing colour contrast is currently lost as a result of the rendering of the brickwork and painting of the stone but can still be appreciated in the front boundary wall which has remained comparatively unchanged. The windows were originally timber casement but have been replaced in uPVC in a pattern that seems to reflect the original. Features that have survived are the roof and ridge tiles, shaped stone copings, canopies above the doors, and one of the chimney stacks.

The chapel is built in an Early English style in red brick with a stone band at sill level, a drip-mould course and dentilled cornice. It has lost its bell turret and the apse, which has been replaced with a modern entrance building, but otherwise the exterior seems relatively unchanged and in a good condition.

The buildings are set back from the street via a large forecourt. Historic pictures show that this once formed the front garden and green setting to the houses with mature planting and

trees. It has been tarmaced and is used for car parking, which has created a much more urbanised setting.

The attractive surrounding boundary wall with piers and stone copings has survived to the front.

Significance

It is unlikely that the almshouses and chapel would meet the national criteria for statutory listing due to the unsympathetic alterations that have been made to the buildings and their setting. However, the buildings are of social, architectural and historic interest to the borough and fulfil the criteria for local listing on several accounts.

Historic Interest:

The almshouses have historic interest for their association with Christopher Boone and the work of the MTC in Lee.

Social Interest:

Prior to the creation of a state welfare system, which is essentially a 20th century achievement, the care for the aged was largely the preserve of the church, individual parishes and private benefactors. The tradition of private charity ran side by side with the municipal welfare provisions and, by the eighteenth century, almshouses were powerful emblems of corporate status and private munificence and remained so well into the twentieth century. As such, the almshouses have significance as evidence of social attitudes to the destitute and poor in past centuries.

Architectural Interest:

Despite the alterations to the buildings, they are distinctive in plan form and architectural detail as almshouses and emphasis on formality. The conservative style and domestic proportions are typical for almshouses and part of their appeal.

As a building type, almshouses are comparatively rare, nationally as well as locally. Within the Borough of Lewisham, there are only two other surviving almshouse complexes, both of which are listed – the above mentioned Merchant Taylors' Almshouses and the Thackerey Almshouses on Lewisham High Street. The almshouses in Deptford were demolished in the early 20th century.

The appearance of the houses has been spoilt by later alterations which has affected their townscape merit. However, their form and integrity has remained intact and their historic character could relatively easily be revealed by removing the paint from the stone detailing and the re-instatement of the timber windows and chimneys.

The almshouses were designed by an distinguished architect of its time which adds to their architectural interest. Further research is needed to establish their significance within the overall work of L'Anson. The Victorian Society has been informed.

Recommendation

The almshouses fulfil the Council's criteria for local listing on grounds of their architectural and social interest as a rare building type, their historic interest deriving from the association with the Boone's family and the MTC, and the renowned Victorian architect L'Anson.

It is recommended to put them forward to Mayor and Cabinet for adoption as a Building of Local Interest to be added on the Council's Local List.

Sources:

Boone's Chapel: History in the making, by Madeleine Adams and Charlie MacKeith, 2010.

Edward L'Anson: Dictionary of National Biography, 1885-1900, Vol. 28, by [Lionel Henry Cust](#), [http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/1%27Anson,_Edward_\(DNB00\)](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/1%27Anson,_Edward_(DNB00))

Health and welfare buildings: Designation listing selection guide, by English Heritage (2011).

Merchant Taylors' Company: About the company, http://www.merchant-taylors.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=2&Itemid=2

Merchant Taylors' Almshouses, Lee: Conservation Assessment Report, 2009, by Feilden + Mason.

Royal Exchange, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Exchange,_London

Pictures



The Boone's Almshouses in a historic drawing of 1876 (source: Boone's Chapel: History in the making, by Madeleine Adams and Charlie MacKeith, 2010).



The former Boone's Almshouses, October 2011



The Boone's Almshouses in a photograph of 1908



The almshouse complex seen from Lee High Road, undated (early 20th century)



Chapel to the almshouses at Lampmead Road, October 2011



Boone's Almshouses, south range, seen from Lee High Road, October 2011



Boone's Almshouses, south range rear elevation, seen from Lampmead Road, October 2011

Chief Officer Confirmation of Report Submission			
Cabinet Member Confirmation of Briefing			
Report for: Mayor			<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)			<input type="checkbox"/>
Executive Director			<input type="checkbox"/>
Information <input type="checkbox"/>	Part 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Key Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Date of Meeting	11 th April 2012
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Title of Report	Mayoral Response to the Comments of the Housing Select Committee on Social Housing Options
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Originator of Report	Genevieve Macklin	Ext.	46649
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At the time of submission for the Agenda, I confirm that the report has:

Category	Yes	No
Financial Comments from Exec Director for Resources	x	
Legal Comments from the Head of Law	x	
Crime & Disorder Implications	x	
Environmental Implications	x	
Equality Implications/Impact Assessment (as appropriate)	x	
Confirmed Adherence to Budget & Policy Framework	x	
Risk Assessment Comments (as appropriate)		
Reason for Urgency (as appropriate).		

Signed: *Lois Macklin* Executive Member

Date: 27th March 2012

Signed: *[Signature]* Director/Head of Service

Date 29-03-2012

Control Record by Committee Support

Action	Date
Listed on Schedule of Business/Forward Plan (if appropriate)	
Draft Report Cleared at Agenda Planning Meeting (not delegated decisions)	
Submitted Report from CO Received by Committee Support	
Scheduled Date for Call-in (if appropriate)	
To be Referred to Full Council	

Mayor and Cabinet			
Report Title	Mayoral Response to the Comments of the Housing Select Committee on Social Housing Options		
Key Decision	No	Item No.	
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration Executive Director for Customer Services		
Class	Part 1	Date: 11 April 2012	

1. Purpose

- 1.1 February 2012 the report "Social Housing Options – development of new affordable housing" was presented to Housing Select Committee (HSC). The report was considered and comments were made to Mayor and Cabinet (M&C) later that month. This report is the draft response by M&C to the HSC comments.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Mayor considers the draft response and agrees that the draft response can be reported to HSC.

3. Housing Select Committee Views reported to M&C on 22 February 2012

- 3.1 The Housing Select Committee considered a report providing information on the costs involved in building new social housing; the potential land available in the borough; and the various funding models that might be used.
- 3.2 The Committee notes that a New Homes Bonus was introduced by the Government in April 2011 as an incentive to local communities to support new housing development in their areas. The bonus consists of match funding the additional council tax raised for any new homes and empty properties brought back into use, with an additional amount for affordable homes. The bonus forms part of the Council's overall capital budget, meaning that housing projects are considered alongside other competing Council priorities when it comes to deciding how the bonus should be used. However, it is the Committee's view that the Council should ring-fence the bonus so it is used exclusively for the provision of new social housing.

4. Draft response from Mayor and Cabinet

- 4.1 The Mayor notes the comments of the Housing Select Committee
- 4.2 The New Homes Bonus is designed to create an effective fiscal incentive to encourage local authorities to facilitate housing growth. It is intended to help deliver the vision and objectives of the community and the spatial strategy for the area.

- 4.3 The scheme commenced in April 2011, and provides local authorities with a New Homes Bonus, equal to the national average for the council tax band on each additional property and paid for the following six years as an unringfenced grant. There is an enhancement for affordable homes.
- 4.4 Currently the amount of grant relating to an additional council tax band D property will be £1,439 per annum or £8,634 over six years with an enhancement of a £350 per annum for each additional affordable home
- 4.5 The nature of the scheme means that the payment for year 1 (2011/12) is relatively small and we will receive more over each of the first 6 years. For 2011/12, Lewisham received £705,698. The 2012/13 Allocations indicate that Lewisham will receive £958,188 for Year 2 (2012/13) which includes an affordable homes premium of £180,950. The total sum paid in 2012/13 for years 1 and 2 is £1,663,886.

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Cumulative
Yr 1	£705,698	£705,698	£705,698	£705,698	£705,698	£705,698		£4,234,188
Yr 2		£958,188	£958,188	£958,188	£958,188	£958,188	£958,188	£4,790,940
Yr 3								
Yr 4								
Yr 5								
Yr 6								
Yr 7								
Total	£705,698	£1,663,886						£1,663,886

- 4.6 The Bonus is paid as an unringfenced grant. The grant is currently being held as an unallocated reserve and the strategy for how to use the funding will be developed alongside the 2013/14 Budget process.

5. Legal Implications

There are no specific implications relating to this report.

6. Crime and Disorder Implications

There are no specific implications relating to this report.

7 Equalities Implications

There are no specific implications relating to this report.

8. Environmental Implications

There are no specific implications relating to this report

9. Financial Implications

Any financial implication have been included in the content of the report

10. Conclusion

The New Homes Bonus is an unringfenced grant. A decision has not yet been made on the strategy for Lewisham to use the funding. The strategy will be developed by the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration alongside the 2013/14 Budget process.

For further information on this report please contact:

Janet Senior
Heather Day

Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration
Accountant – Budget Strategy

Chief Officer Confirmation of Report Submission			
Cabinet Member Confirmation of Briefing			
Report for:			
	Mayor		
	Mayor and Cabinet	X	
	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)		
	Executive Director		
Information	Part 1	Part 2	Key Decision x

Date of Meeting	11 April 2011
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Title of Report	Formation of the Brent Knoll and Watergate Co-operative Trust; outcome of the consultation on the rebuilding of Brent Knoll School; and implications of the Trust arrangements in relation to land transfer
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Originator of Report	Charly Williams	Ext. 47013
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At the time of submission for the Agenda, I confirm that the report has:

Category	Yes	No
Financial Comments from Exec Director for Resources	X	
Legal Comments from the Head of Law	X	
Crime & Disorder Implications	X	
Environmental Implications	X	
Equality Implications/Impact Assessment (as appropriate)	X	
Confirmed Adherence to Budget & Policy Framework	X	
Risk Assessment Comments (as appropriate)	X	
Reason for Urgency (as appropriate)		

Signed:  Executive Member
 Date: 29th March 2012

Signed:  Executive Director
 Date: 29th March 2012

Control Record by Committee Support

Action	Date
Listed on Schedule of Business/Forward Plan (if appropriate)	
Draft Report Cleared at Agenda Planning Meeting (not delegated decisions)	
Submitted Report from CO Received by Committee Support	
Scheduled Date for Call-in (if appropriate)	
To be Referred to Full Council	

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	Formation of the Brent Knoll and Watergate Co-operative Trust; outcome of the consultation on the rebuilding of Brent Knoll School; and implications of the Trust arrangements in relation to land transfer	
Key Decision	Yes	Item No.
Ward	All	
Contributors	Executive Director of Children and Young People Head of Law Head of Access and Support Services Head of Education Development Head of Resources (CYP)	
Class	Open	Date: 11/04/12

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 This report outlines the consultation process and outcome regarding the proposal to rebuild Brent Knoll Special School on the old Greenvale School site (at 69 Perry Rise, London, SE23 2QU), as part of the Council's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Programme. The Mayor's approval is sought to proceed with the proposal.
- 1.2 The implications of the formal agreement by the governing bodies of Brent Knoll School and Watergate School to become trust schools and form a co-operative trust are considered alongside the proposal to rebuild Brent Knoll School on the old Greenvale School site in relation to the requirements regarding land transfer. The proposed implementation date for the establishment of the trust is 2 April 2012.

2. Recommendations

That the Mayor:-

- 2.1 having noted the positive response to the consultation, gives approval for Brent Knoll School to be rebuilt and relocated on the old Greenvale School site (69 Perry Rise, London, SE23 2QU) as part of the Council's BSF Programme, subject to all necessary consents and approvals under the BSF programme being obtained;
- 2.2 notes that there is no statutory requirement to publish a public notice in relation to the proposed relocation of Brent Knoll School as the proposed new site for the school is located within two miles of the existing site (as per the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007);

- 2.3 notes the formal agreement of the governing bodies of Brent Knoll and Watergate Schools to become foundation schools (trust schools) with an implementation date of 2 April 2012;
- 2.4 notes that, in accordance with Regulation 2 of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007), the existing sites for Brent Knoll and Watergate School will be treated as having transferred to the trustees of the school on the implementation date;
- 2.5 authorises officers to proceed to complete the legal transfer of the existing Watergate School site to the trustees of the school for nil consideration as soon as possible following the implementation date and delegates authority to the Director of Asset Strategy & Regeneration, in consultation with the Head of Law, to finalise the terms of the transfer;
- 2.6 notes that, subject to the Mayor's approval at 2.1 of the proposal to re-site Brent Knoll on the old Greenvale Site, officers propose to defer the legal transfer of the existing Brent Knoll site to the trustees of the school.

3. Background

Brent Knoll School rebuild

- 3.1 On 3 October 2007 the Mayor received a report on the public consultation for the Lewisham Programme 'Strengthening Specialist Provision for Children with Special Educational Needs' (SSP). This identified a range of proposals aimed at improving the educational experience of pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN). One of the key proposals to achieve this aim was to redevelop Brent Knoll Special School.
- 3.2 The original proposal was that Brent Knoll should be relocated and redeveloped as a special school for secondary age and post 16 young people. This was in response to demand for improved site facilities for the school and for additional post 16 places for young people with SEN in the borough. The primary provision would be phased out and replaced by specialist resource bases in mainstream schools. However, the significant increase in the primary population experienced since this time has led officers to review the assumptions on which this recommendation was made.
- 3.3 The demand for primary places has grown substantially since 2007. The resulting pressure for mainstream primary school sites meant that the decision was taken to retain the Leahurst Road site (Ennersdale Primary School), to which Brent Knoll would have been relocated, as a primary school site. Additionally, there has been a significant increase in the number of primary places now required at Brent Knoll with funding allocated to the school to provide temporary classrooms for this purpose.

- 3.4 A report entitled *The Use of Leahurst Road Site for Primary Mainstream Educational Provision*, was taken to Mayor and Cabinet on 14 July 2010 requesting that Brent Knoll remain on its current site and with its current intake until there had been further opportunity to investigate the demand for places and funding issues for redevelopment. With the primary population still rising, there is a need to retain the primary element of Brent Knoll.
- 3.5 There is still a need to rebuild Brent Knoll as part of the BSF Programme, as planned from the outset. It should be noted that the existing building does not meet current standards by a significant margin. Previous feasibility studies for the redevelopment of Brent Knoll indicated that redeveloping the school on the existing site would not provide good value for money, nor meet current guidelines. This is because the building is in poor structural condition, does not meet the required functional standards, and presents poor energy conservation characteristics.
- 3.6 A new feasibility study was commissioned by the BSF Programme Team in early 2011 to examine better value options for rebuilding the school on a new site. This was completed with a feasible and viable option identified which utilises the old Greenvale School site, located within ½ km (approximately) of the existing school.
- 3.7 Use of the old Greenvale site as the new permanent home for Brent Knoll will result in the site no longer being available as a potential capital receipt on disposal. Following a recommendation in the report of 5 October 2011 *Proposed Bids to the Priority School Building Programme*, included in appendix 6, the Mayor agreed to a bid to the DfE for the establishment of 2 FE primary provision on the site of Brent Knoll if it becomes available due to the re-siting of Brent Knoll. The local authority (LA) is still awaiting the outcome of the resulting bid.
- 3.8 A report was submitted to Mayor and Cabinet on 13 July 2011 seeking approval to begin consultation on the proposal to rebuild Brent Knoll School as part of the BSF Programme. A copy of this report can be found in appendix 1. Approval was given and consultation began on 4 January 2012.
- 3.9 In the 13 July 2011 report, it was stated that the consultation period would be followed by the publication of a statutory notice and a representation period (Appendix 1: Paragraph 6.2). However, following subsequent legal advice, it has been determined that there is not a statutory requirement to publish a public notice or undertake a representation period in relation to the proposed relocation of Brent Knoll School as the proposed new site for the school is located within two miles of the existing site. In view of the positive outcome of the consultation, during which no responses were received against the proposal, it is anticipated that this will not prove problematic.

- 3.10 Progress by the BSF Team on the redevelopment of the school will recommence once the consultation has been completed following the Mayor's approval to proceed. Significant progress on the design was made in 2011 when, in consultation with the school, LEP, LA and other stakeholders, an 'Education Vision into Design' brief and 'Project Definition' document were developed and agreed. These documents were subsequently used to brief a concept architect who prepared options for stakeholder consideration. The options were refined in response to the views of stakeholders and a proposed concept design was established. Testing the commercial viability of the proposed concept design on the construction market, it was determined that the project could be delivered within budget and to the required standard. The Stage 0 report to PfS for the outline scheme was approved on 7 December 2011. No work beyond this stage has been undertaken as the Mayor's decision on the consultation is awaited. However, the concept proposals are still valid and will be used to form the basis of a robust detailed design proposal to move the project through Stage 1/2, the development of the Financial Business Case and into construction.

Development of Brent Knoll and Watergate Co-operative Trust

- 3.11 On 15 December 2011, the governing bodies of Brent Knoll School and Watergate School agreed formally to a change of status to become foundation schools and to proceed together to form a co-operative trust. This followed a consultation period which ran from 9 November to 9 December 2011 and resulted in an 80 per cent approval for the proposal. A statutory notice was subsequently published on 13 January in order to give notice of the change to a foundation category of school and adopt trust status. No representations were received in response to the statutory notice. Following the end of the statutory notice period the governing bodies met on 6 March 2012 to approve the change to a foundation school with a trust and to agree the composition of their governing body.
- 3.12 The implementation date for the trust is 2 April 2012. The name of the foundation will be Brent Knoll and Watergate Co-operative Trust. The proposed partners of the trust are Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust, Wide Horizons Trust, Greenwich University, Lewisham Local Authority and the Co-operative Movement.
- 3.13 In terms of the resulting implications in relation to land transfer, any transfer of land required for Watergate School should take place as soon as possible. However, if the proposal to rebuild Brent Knoll on the old Greenvale site goes ahead, the school will move to the new school being provided on that site. It is therefore proposed to defer the legal transfer of the existing Brent Knoll site to the trustees, with a view to the Council then only needing to complete the legal transfer of the new site to the trustees should the proposals for the new school go ahead.

- 3.14 As stated in the legal implications, there are no implications for the school if the formal legal transfer of the existing Brent Knoll site does not take place as it is treated for all purposes as being the owner of the site following the implementation date. Upon moving to the new site, the school will give the existing site back to the Council and relinquish any interest it may have in the existing site, but without having to formally transfer it back to the Council. This will simplify the arrangements and save legal costs, as well as avoiding the need for the school to have to legally transfer the existing site back to the Council. Any delay in undertaking this at that time could also interfere with the Council's proposals for the existing site. The school has indicated that they are agreeable to proceeding on this basis.

4. Policy context

- 4.1 The proposal within this report is consistent with 'Shaping Our Future: Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy' and the Council's corporate priorities. In particular, it is related to the Council's priorities regarding young people's achievement and involvement, the protection of children and inspiring efficiency, effectiveness and equity.
- 4.2 Lewisham's Children and Young People's Plan sets out our vision for improving outcomes for all children. It articulates the need to improve outcomes for children with SEN and disabilities by ensuring that their needs are met.
- 4.3 The LA has a duty under the Education Act 1996 to secure a sufficient number of school places to meet the needs of the local child population. In particular, it requires the LA to have regard to the need to ensure that special educational provision is made for pupils with SEN. Section 315 requires LAs to keep their arrangements for SEN provision under review.
- 4.4 The Government's SEN Green Paper contains many important elements for the LA to respond to over the coming months and years. Of particular relevance to this proposal is the focus on ensuring that there is a range of good quality educational settings available locally to meet the needs of all children with SEN.

5. The proposal

- 5.1 The proposal is to locate the school on the old Greenvale School site close to the existing Brent Knoll school site. The close proximity of the proposed new site to the existing site is of particular benefit in terms of the re-location process and the school's permanent position. It is proposed that the newly built school will offer 154 places for children aged 4-16 years with SEN.
- 5.2 According to the proposed timescale, the newly built school will be ready for its first intake by September 2014. This is based on a 54 week construction period using a 'volumetric' type construction. This is

considered the most appropriate design solution for the school, offering the greatest value in terms of quality, cost, time and space within the tight budgetary constraints governing the project.

- 5.3 The new building will offer almost twice the space per pupil as the existing school accompanied by enhanced external areas in terms of space and quality. The building will be attractive, robust and high quality, equivalent in terms of standards to the other schools developed as part of the BSF Programme. The proposal will deliver greatly improved and updated provision to support the ongoing educational and social needs of pupils.

6. The consultation

- 6.1.1 The consultation took place from 4 January to 2 February 2012. This is later than the original target of Autumn 2011 due to the need to confirm affordability before beginning consultation. This was confirmed in time for the consultation to begin in January 2012, with feasibility work to date indicating that the project can be delivered within the capital resources allocated as part of the BSF funding envelope.
- 6.1.2 A **consultation leaflet** describing the proposal and including a feedback form for completion was provided to all relevant stakeholders by post, email and online on the Lewisham Council website and Brent Knoll School website. Stakeholders included parents, school staff and governors, other Lewisham schools, LA and health professionals, unions, local MPs and Councillors, voluntary and community organisations, neighbouring local authorities and the Archbishop of Southwark. A copy of the leaflet can be found in appendix 2.
- 6.1.3 Of the 52 returned feedback forms, 48 were in agreement with the proposal, 3 were unsure and 1 circled both that they were in agreement with the proposal and unsure. One letter was also received in response to the consultation leaflet.
- 6.1.4 Officers ran **consultation events** with the school governing body on 17 January 2012, the school staff on 14 October 2011 and 4 January 2012 and parents/ members of the public on 10 January 2012. Consultation was undertaken with pupils during lessons dedicated for this purpose throughout the consultation period.
- 6.1.5 The responses were positive at all events held. The responses to the consultation are summarised below, according to each stakeholder group:

Brent Knoll school governors

- 6.2.1 Two school governors returned **feedback forms**, both of whom agreed with the proposals.

- 6.2.2 Officers attended a **governor's meeting** on 17 January 2012 to present the proposal and invite questions. Governors confirmed that the proposal had their full support. Specific comments and queries raised are included in sections 6.7.1-6.7.3

Brent Knoll school staff

- 6.3.1 Brent Knoll staff accounted for 32 of the respondents who returned **feedback forms**. Of these, all but one were in favour of the proposals and one was unsure.
- 6.3.2 The staff **events** included a presentation by officers and a question and answer session. The responses were very positive overall with no objections received. Staff liked the proposed extra space and facilities as well as the proximity to the current site. One member of staff queried the absence of car parking on site. Comments and queries raised and responses to these are included in sections 6.7.1-6.7.3.

Parents of pupils at Brent Knoll

- 6.4.1 Thirteen parents with children attending Brent Knoll School returned **feedback forms**, ten of whom were in favour of the proposals, two were unsure and one said that they were both in favour and unsure.
- 6.4.2 Two parents attended the **drop in session** on 10 January 2012 and were both very positive about the proposal. One was a parent of a current pupil at the school and another of a pupil previously at the school.

Brent Knoll pupils

- 6.5.1 All pupils were consulted. Materials facilitating access to all learners were created and different strategies implemented to engage those of all ages and levels of ability. These included:
- Display boards with photographic images of different areas of schools to stimulate choice making (i.e. Yes/no - like/dislike);
 - Discussion, further research and recording ideas about specific requirements during lessons;
 - The Pupil Forum (School Council) met and collectively completed a questionnaire on behalf of the pupils.
- 6.5.2 All pupils confirmed that they would like a new school building. Their responses about what facilities they would like to be available on the new site are included in section 6.7.2 and in appendix 4.
- 6.5.3 One pupil, from the Student Council, returned a **feedback form** and confirmed that they agreed with the proposal.

Other responses received

- 6.6.1 Three other feedback forms were received, one from the **Headteacher of a local special school** and **two anonymously**. All three were in favour of the proposal.
- 6.6.2 The **Archbishop of Southwark** wrote to confirm that they had no plans to raise concerns or objections to the proposal.

Detailed responses

- 6.7.1 The following were given as reasons for agreeing to the proposals (in order of most common first):
- There will be an opportunity for new services and facilities (12 staff, 5 parents)
 - The current school is too small (13 staff, 4 parents)
 - The current school is unsuitable to meet the needs of the current cohort of pupils (11 staff, 1 parent, 1 governor)
 - The current school is out of date (7 staff, 3 parents, 1 governor)
 - There will be an opportunity to reconsider and improve the learning environment (7 staff, 1 parent, 1 other)
 - The current playground and outside space is too limited (8 staff, 1 parent, 1 governor)
 - The current building is unsafe – or there are issues with the general fabric of the building (6 staff, 1 parent)
 - The school is overcrowded at present (3 staff, 3 parents)
 - There will be opportunities to improve the outreach service (2 parents)
 - There may be opportunities for 16-19 provision (2 parents)
 - Local community links that have been forged already are still viable at the old Greenvale site (1 governor)
 - There will be no need for a decant (1 governor)

Full responses are provided in appendix 3.

- 6.7.2 The following **facilities and services** were suggested during the consultation. Note that these are the most common responses. All responses are provided in appendix 3 and 4.
- Better outdoor spaces - suggestions included: sensory garden, climbing frames, safe flooring, play and quiet areas, sports areas, shaded areas and gazebos (25: 1 governor, 20 staff, 4 parents). Pupils also requested improved outdoor areas.
 - Break out spaces/ quiet spaces for learning (14: staff). Pupils asked for quiet corners in all rooms.
 - Sensory room (12: 1 governor, 10 staff, 1 parent). Pupils also requested this.

- Better ICT facilities (11: 1 governor, 6 staff, 4 parents). Pupils also requested this.
- Library (11: 1 governor, 8 staff, 2 parents). Pupils suggested separate book sections and a library with lots of books.
- A sports hall and good spaces and equipment for Physical Education (9: 5 staff, 4 parents). Pupils also requested this.
- 16-19 provision (9: 1 governor, 8 parents)
- Separate outdoor space for primary and secondary pupils (9 – staff). Pupils also requested this.
- Therapy rooms/services (7: 2 governors, 3 staff, 2 parents)
- Calm rooms (7: 5 staff, 2 parents).
- Good quality teaching spaces (6: 1 governor, 3 staff, 2 parents). Pupils suggested different sized classrooms, comfy areas in classroom or group room, primary pupils asked for carpet areas in classrooms.
- More toilets (5: 4 staff, 1 parent). Pupils asked for: girls and boys sharing toilets (unisex), open toilets (no doors) off corridors or class rooms with private cubicles.
- After school clubs, summer school, etc with transport (5: 2 governors, 3 parents).
- Vocational learning (5: 1 governor, 1 staff, 1 parent)
- Place of worship for all religions (pupils)
- Teacher preparation areas (4: staff)
- Extra staff toilets and shower facilities (4: staff)
- Good security (4: 1 governor, 2 staff, 1 parent). Pupils also asked for CCTV.
- Good storage (4: staff). Pupils also asked for this and secondary aged pupils asked for their own lockers.
- Cooking facilities for primary age pupils (4 – staff). Primary pupils also asked for this.
- Soft play space (4: 3 staff, 1 parent).

6.7.3 The following **queries and concerns** were raised (in italics). Responses are below (in plain type):

6.7.3.1 *Will appropriate measures be taken to ensure safety in the school and containing children who abscond, i.e. ensuring there are no opportunities for climbing trees around the perimeter?* (staff)

The school design will be developed to not only mitigate opportunities for absconding but eliminate them completely. Wherever possible this will be provided using “passive” solutions such as secure fencing, good external lighting, visual supervision of potential access/egress points etc, but also include active security solutions such as CCTV and zoned and dedicated door security systems.

- 6.7.3.2 *Will there be a 3D model available later in the process to help the pupils learn more about their new environment and to aid transition? (staff)*

If desired, Computer Generated Images (CGI) can be prepared providing 3D visualization of all parts of the building, both internally and externally. It should be noted that this is not a standard provision and would attract some additional costs. However, 2D visuals will be made available for this purpose. Officers will run workshops with pupils on the landscape design.

- 6.7.3.3 *Will there be a transport plan, i.e. information on how pupils travel in and get dropped off and picked up, access to public transport and parking for staff? (staff)*

The LA will work with the school to put a transport plan in place in preparation for the opening of the new school site. The plans for the new school include a vehicle drop-off point which is off-road and in a secure environment. Staff parking is not planned on site in order to maximise space available for the school, but there is parking nearby.

- 6.7.3.4 *The outreach package needs to be considered carefully (staff)*

The school offers a range of outreach services to support pupils with SEN in mainstream schools in the borough. The proposal to rebuild the school and the development of a co-operative trust between Brent Knoll and Watergate will enable these services to be built upon. The relocation of the school will not impact adversely on these developments. The package of support offered will be carefully considered by the school's senior leadership team in order to meet a wide range of needs.

- 6.7.3.5 *Will pupils, parents and staff be involved in the design and planning process? (staff and parents)*

The LA will take into consideration the comments and suggestions received by all stakeholders during the consultation period and in the ongoing development of the design, which will include further workshops with staff, governors, pupils and parents.

- 6.7.3.6 *Are we sure that no places will be lost by moving to a new site? (parent)*

The proposal outlines that the new school will be built to meet the needs of 154 pupils. The site will be specifically designed for this number of pupils unlike the current school site, which was built for less. Therefore, no places will be lost because of the proposed relocation and rebuild.

- 6.7.3.7 *Will post 16 provision be available on site, has it been agreed and can we have more information about it? (governors and parents)*

The LA are alert to the need for additional post 16 provision in Lewisham for young people with SEN and are working with partners to develop a

borough-wide strategy in response to this need. The original proposal for the redevelopment of Brent Knoll included the introduction of a number of post 16 places (as set out in the Mayor and Cabinet report, *Strengthening Specialist Provision for Children with Special Educational Needs*, 10 January 2007). However, the demand for specialist sixth form provision across Lewisham has increased considerably since this time, prompting a borough-wide review of supply and demand. A number of options are being considered currently which may have an impact on the decision for Brent Knoll. Other considerations in relation to this decision include the impact on the capital budget for the project, which is already constrained, and the impact on the available space on the site now and in future. Officers will report back to the Mayor later this year regarding proposals to meet the demand for specialist post 16 provision in the borough. In the meantime, the proposal aims to provide accommodation for older pupils which could be used flexibly should there be a future decision to include post 16 places at Brent Knoll.

6.7.3.8 *More clarity is needed on the designation of the school, i.e. what specific area of SEN will it be able to meet? (other local special school)*

The school will be designed to meet the needs of current and future pupils, with flexibility incorporated into the brief and design approach. Currently the majority of pupils have social and communication difficulties, with over 70 per cent diagnosed as having Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) although this may change as a result of the opening of the new ASD School, Drumbeat. There are no plans to change the current designation of mixed needs at the school, although it is anticipated that the school will be required to meet increasingly more complex needs in future due to a growing level of need across the borough for pupils with SEN.

6.7.3.9 *Does the local authority have a clear vision and strategic agreement for the development of all SEN provision in the borough? (other local special school)*

Lewisham's Children and Young People's Plan sets out our vision for improving outcomes for all children. It articulates the need to improve outcomes for children with SEN and disabilities by ensuring that their needs are met. The proposal in this report forms part of the LA's strategy for improving educational provision for all children and young people with SEN in the borough. This strategy was originally set out in the Mayor and Cabinet report of 3 October 2007, *Strengthening Specialist Provision for Children with Special Educational Needs*. The objectives of the Strengthening Specialist Provision Programme (SSP), which was developed in response to the outcome of this report, are as follows:

- To ensure that as many children with SEN as possible can learn in their local community;
- To develop a continuum of educational provision;
- To improve partnerships with parents;

- To achieve maximum value from the investment;
- To ensure the safety of our most vulnerable groups.

The SSP programme identified a range of proposals aimed at improving the educational experience of pupils with SEN, one of which was to redevelop Brent Knoll School. A CYP Select Committee monitoring report on the programme (*Strengthening Specialist Provision*, 22 March 2011) noted that the strategy is resulting in positive outcomes for children with SEN, including an enhanced range of specialist provision available locally and strengthened support, in particular, for children and young people with ASD. The Government's SEN Green Paper contains many important elements for the LA to respond to over the coming months and years. Of particular relevance to this proposal is the focus on ensuring that there is a range of good quality educational settings available locally to meet the needs of all children with SEN. Lewisham is one of the Local Authority Pathfinders for the SEN Green Paper. The SSP programme and strategy will be reviewed and developed in response to the SEN Green Paper and the outcome of the Pathfinder.

6.7.3.10 *Why isn't the existing site being redeveloped, rather than moving to an alternative site and what will happen to the current Brent Knoll site if the school moves? (staff and parent)*

The existing buildings and facilities are overcrowded and outdated. Much has been done to maintain the existing site but it is clear that it cannot be adapted or modified to meet the ongoing requirements of the school. The new building will offer almost twice the space per pupil as the existing school accompanied by enhanced external areas in terms of space and quality. The proposal will deliver greatly improved and updated buildings and facilities to support the educational and social needs of pupils.

In addition, it is important that the budget available for Brent Knoll School rebuild is spent on delivering a 21st Century school environment and not used to maintain an existing facility that is already demonstrably well past its serviceable life. The existing school facilities are attracting increasing maintenance costs as fabric and building services fail and require replacement. If the school were to be redeveloped on the current site, much of the budget would be spent on costs associated with decanting pupils whilst the building works took place.

With regards to the use of the current site, following a recommendation report of 5 October 2011, *Proposed Bids to the Priority School Building Programme*, the Mayor agreed to a bid to the DfE for the establishment of 2 FE primary provision on the Brent Knoll site if it becomes available due to the resiting of the school. However, the LA is still awaiting the outcome of the resulting bid.

6.7.3.11 *Will there be improved teaching and goal setting in the new school?*
(parent)

The school will continue to provide quality education as it does currently. Brent Knoll is a highly successful school, described recently by Ofsted as 'good with outstanding features' (2011). Teaching and goal setting within the school are the responsibility of the school's senior leadership team, with support from the LA, but the greatly improved buildings and facilities on the new site will assist significantly in supporting the ongoing educational and social needs of pupils.

6.7.3.12 *What specialist areas will be provided?* (staff)

Specialist areas will be provided for music, art/ design, drama, science and food technology, as well as therapy services, including sensory and speech therapy rooms. The ICT provision will incorporate the very latest technology available on the market when the school opens, supporting the specialist learning needs of individual pupils. Training rooms will be provided to support the expansion of the school's outreach services, offering increased training opportunities for parents/ carers, school staff and other professionals across the borough.

6.7.3.13 *Will there be enough external play space?* (staff)

The plans detail sufficient attractive outside spaces tailored for the particular needs and number of pupils attending the school. They will also be used for curriculum delivery as well as recreation, including a purpose built multi-use games area and a sensory garden. The exterior will have a variety of spaces with play equipment appropriate for different age groups. Officers will involve the staff and pupils in developing the final design.

6.7.3.14 *Is the proposal affordable, is it definitely going to happen and when?*
(staff)

The project budget has been constrained by a reduction in funding imposed in early 2011. This reduction required a review of how the school could be procured within the funding allocation whilst still ensuring that the spatial and functional needs of the school were met with a good quality standard. The "volumetric building" solution to be adopted is considered to meet all these criteria and, provided there are no unexpected changes in construction price inflation, the outline scheme proposed to PfS at Stage 0 (approved 7 December 2011) is considered affordable. It is hoped that the new developed school will be ready for its first intake by September 2014.

Summary

- 6.8 In summary, the consultation was extremely positive with no responses received against the proposal. If the Mayor's approval is given for the

rebuild of Brent Knoll school on the old Greenvale site, officers will continue to work closely with the school community to ensure that their views are taken into account during further planning work and to ensure that queries and concerns are addressed in a timely and appropriate fashion.

7. Risks

- 7.1 This report would not be complete without highlighting the main risks associated with the decision sought. The main risks identified are as follows:
- 7.1.1 That the project timetable is not met due to unforeseen circumstances or insufficient progress made in any of the processes through which a project of this nature must pass;
- 7.1.2 That the Local Education Partnership (LEP) is not able to produce a proposal that delivers to the unit costs that have been achieved in the Primary Places programme;
- 7.1.3 That the cost of the project escalates, thereby impacting upon the overall programme affordability;
- 7.1.4 That the necessary planning consent is not achieved.
- 7.2 Though the risks outlined above can not be completely eradicated, as in all projects, officers will take all necessary steps to minimise risks, monitoring them regularly at Project Board meetings, and responding to any arising issues in a timely and appropriate fashion.

8. Financial implications

Capital implications

- 8.1 The former Greenvale School site was earmarked for disposal as part of the funding arrangements for the construction of the new Greenvale school as part of the Group Schools PFI project. However, use of the old Greenvale site as the new permanent home for Brent Knoll will result in the site no longer being available as a potential capital receipt on disposal. Following a recommendation in the report of 5 October 2011, *Proposed Bids to the Priority School Building Programme*, included in appendix 6, the Mayor agreed to a bid to the DfE for the establishment of 2 FE primary provision on the site of Brent Knoll if it becomes available due to the resiting of Brent Knoll. The LA is still awaiting the outcome of the resulting bid.
- 8.2 The feasibility works to date indicate that a project can be delivered within the capital resources allocated as part of the BSF project funding envelope. However this is subject to the LEP being able to deliver a

proposal that matches the construction costs per m2 that has been achieved on the primary places programme.

- 8.3 If the Brent Knoll site is to be retained for future educational use alternative funding will need to be identified to make up the shortfall to the Group Schools PFI project.

Revenue implications

- 8.4 The costs of running Brent Knoll School, as rebuilt, with additional numbers will be funded from the relevant share of the Dedicated Schools Grant. There will be no additional burden on the general fund resources of the Council.

9. Legal implications

- 9.1 The Human Rights Act 1998 safeguards the rights of children in the borough to educational provision which the local authority is empowered to provide in compliance with its duties under domestic legislation.
- 9.2 Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 places a general duty on local authorities to ensure that there are sufficient schools to provide primary and secondary school education, and requires them, in particular, to have regard to the need to ensure that special educational provision is made for pupils with special educational needs. Section 315 of the Education Act 1996 requires local authorities to keep their arrangements for special educational needs provision under review.
- 9.3 Section 9 of the Education Act 1996 places a general duty on local authorities and funding authorities to have regard to the general principle that children are educated in accordance with their parents/ carers' wishes, so far as that is compatible with the provision of efficient education and training, and the avoidance of unreasonable public expenditure.
- 9.4 The Education and Inspections Act 2006 requires local authorities to consider and respond to parental representations when carrying out their planning duty to make sure that there is sufficient primary and secondary provision and suitable SEN provision in their area.
- 9.5 Departmental guidance requires that when proposals are developed for reorganising or altering special educational needs provision, local authorities and/or other proposers will need to show how they will improve standards, quality, and/or range of educational provision for children with special educational needs.
- 9.6 Current legislative provision for the establishment, discontinuance, or alteration of schools is contained in sections 7, 15 and 18 of, and Schedule 2 to, the Education and Inspections Act 2006. The proposals contained in this report are not prescribed alterations for the purposes of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schols)

(England) Regulations 2007 as the proposed relocation is within 2 miles and there is no requirement to publish a statutory Notice.

- 9.7 The implementation date for the establishment of the trust is 2 April 2012. In accordance with Regulation 2 of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England)Regulations 2007, the existing school sites must transfer to and by virtue of Regulation 2 vest in the trustees of the school on the implementation date.
- 9.8 Regulation 8 provides that where land has not been legally transferred to the trustees as at the implementation date, Regulation 2 is to apply to the school as if the land had been so transferred by that time (i.e. even if the formal legal transfer of the sites by the Council has not taken place). This means that there are no implications for the school if the formal legal transfer of the sites does not take place as it is treated for all relevant purposes as being the owner of the sites following the implementation date.
- 9.9 This report authorises officers to proceed to complete the legal transfer of the existing Watergate School site to the trustees as soon as possible following the implementation date. However, if the proposals for the rebuilding of Brent Knoll go ahead, the school will move to the new school being provided on the old Greenvale site. Under paragraph 2 of Schedule 3 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, the Council is required to provide any new site for a foundation special school which is to be provided instead of the school's existing site and to transfer its interest in the site to the trustees. In order to make this process simpler and to save legal costs, it is therefore proposed to defer the legal transfer of the existing Brent Knoll site to the trustees with a view to the Council then only needing to complete the legal transfer of the new site to the trustees should the proposals for the new school go ahead. As stated at para 9.8 above, there are no implications for the school if the formal legal transfer of the sites does not take place as it is treated for all purposes as being the owner of the site following the implementation date. Upon moving to the new site, the school will give the existing site back to the Council and relinquish any interest it may have in the existing site, but without having to formally transfer it back to the Council.
- 9.10 In accordance with paragraph 12 of Schedule 3 of the 1998 Act, Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 (requirement to obtain Secretary of State's consent to a disposal of land at less than best consideration) does not apply in the case of a disposal of land for the purposes of a foundation special school. A transfer under the 2007 Regulations does not constitute a disposal for the purposes of Section 77 of the 1998 Act (protection of playing field land). The Council does not therefore require either of these consents to proceed with any transfer to the trustees.

10. Crime and disorder

10.1 There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

11. Equalities

11.1 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) brings together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act includes a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty), replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011. The new duty 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.

11.2 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.

11.3 As was the case for the original separate duties, the new 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.

11.4 The Equality and Human Rights Commission issued guides in January 2011 providing an overview of the new equality duty, including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. The guides cover what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guides were based on the then draft specific duties so are no longer fully up-to-date, although regard may still be had to them until the revised guides are produced. The guides do not have legal standing unlike the statutory Code of Practice on the public sector equality duty, However, that Code is not due to be published until April 2012. The guides can be found at: <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-duties/new-public-sector-equality-duty-guidance/>

11.5 An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) has been completed for the SSP programme. Officers are currently in the process of updating the assessment in line with the Equalities Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equalities Duty dated April 2011. This will be completed by the end of April 2012.

- 11.6 In common with all aspects of education in Lewisham, close equalities monitoring is undertaken in relation to children with SEN. As the proposal is developed following consultation, the impact on equalities will be actively considered, and highlighted issues responded to.
- 11.7 The proposal in this report supports the achievement of the LA's goals as set out in its Access Plan. It will assist significantly in the improved access to the curriculum for children with disabilities.

12. Environmental implications

- 12.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report, although consideration will be given to the environmental impact of the building works if the proposal goes ahead. The energy conservation performance of the school will be at least as good as other new build schools in the LBL BSF Programme. The design and specification of the rebuild will be sympathetic to environmental issues and contractors will be expected to give a statement on their environmental policy to which they must adhere.

13. Originator

- 13.1 Charly Williams, Strengthening Specialist Provision Programme Manager, 3rd Floor, Laurence House, 1 Catford Road, SE6 4RU. Tel: 0208 314 7014. Email: charly.williams@lewisham.gov.uk.

14. Background papers & Appendices

Appendix 1: Mayor and Cabinet report, 13 July 2011 - *Brent Knoll Special School BSF Rebuild – Permission to Consult*.

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=139&MId=2016>

Appendix 2: Consultation leaflet

Appendix 3: Summary of written responses

Appendix 4: Summary of pupils responses

Appendix 5: Mayor and Cabinet report, 5 October 2011 - *Proposed Bids to the Priority School Building Programme*

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=139&MId=2062>



Tell us your views

Consultation on the proposal to relocate and rebuild Brent Knoll Special School

Lewisham Council proposes to relocate and rebuild Brent Knoll Special School in order to improve the facilities and opportunities that the school can offer. This is part of a wider programme of improvements in educational provision for all children and young people with special educational needs in the borough of Lewisham.

It is important to us to hear your views on this proposal. There is a form at the back of this leaflet for you to fill in and return. We will also be holding a drop-in session for parents/ carers and other interested parties to discuss the proposal and find out more. This will take place on:

Tuesday January 10th, 3.30pm – 6.30pm at Brent Knoll School, Mayow Road, SE23 2XH

Alternatively, you can email or write to us directly (contact details on feedback form attached). Your feedback will help us to shape developments at Brent Knoll School.

What is the proposal?

The proposal is to relocate and rebuild Brent Knoll School on the old Greenvale School site. This is located close to the existing site at 69 Perry Rise, London, SE23 2QU.

The newly built school will provide a modern and innovative learning environment for 154 children aged 4-16 years with special educational needs. We will aim to provide accommodation for older pupils which could be used flexibly should there be a future decision to include post-16 places at Brent Knoll. This decision would form part of the local authority's wider strategy for post-16 provision across Lewisham for older learners with learning difficulties and disabilities. It is hoped that the redeveloped school will be ready for its first intake by September 2014.

Why are we proposing this?

The main benefits of relocating and rebuilding the school are as follows:

- Brent Knoll is a highly successful school, described recently by Ofsted as 'good with outstanding features' (2011). However, the existing buildings and facilities are overcrowded and outdated. Much has been done to maintain the existing site but it is clear that it cannot be adapted or modified to meet the ongoing requirements of the school. The new building will offer almost twice the space per pupil as the existing school accompanied by enhanced external areas in terms of space and quality. The proposal will deliver greatly improved and updated buildings and facilities to support the educational and social needs of pupils.

- A more spacious site and better accommodation will allow the school to develop its existing Outreach Service, supporting a greater number of pupils with special educational needs at mainstream schools in the borough, as well as parents/ carers, school staff and other professionals across Lewisham.

What would the rebuilt school offer?

Design

The design for the school rebuild will be developed in consultation with school staff and governors in order to ensure that it meets the school's existing and future requirements through flexibility in the briefing and design approach.

The newly built school will offer a safe, spacious and attractive environment in which pupils will feel valued and inspired to learn. The buildings will be light and airy with good circulation and attractive outside spaces used for curriculum delivery as well as recreation, including a purpose built multi-use games area and a sensory garden. The construction materials used will be high quality and environmentally sensitive. The security of the site will be tailored for the specific daily needs of pupils from the time they arrive at the school to the time they leave.

Specialist areas will be provided for music, art/ design, drama and food technology, as well as therapy services, including sensory and speech therapy rooms. The ICT provision will incorporate the very latest technology available on the market when the school opens, supporting the specialist learning needs of individual pupils. Training rooms will be provided to support the expansion of the school's Outreach Service, offering increased training opportunities for parents/ carers, school staff and other professionals across the borough.

Curriculum

Currently the school's curriculum is based on a mainstream model but differentiated to meet the individual needs of all pupils. The school offers a wide range of strategies to support pupils' educational and personal development needs. The school's existing approach will be built upon and developed on the newly built site. Increasingly the school will be required to meet the needs of pupils with more complex difficulties. As such, the teaching areas provided in the redeveloped school will be flexible and multifunctional in order to meet changing curriculum demands.

The rooms and facilities provided for older pupils will assist with the delivery of a curriculum focussed on developing functional and life skills, including a range of vocational options. The focus will be on supporting pupils to make a successful transition to adult life including developing independence and social skills.

Extended services

The school will be outward looking, providing a valuable community resource. There will be a wide range of extended services available on the site, including:

- A breakfast club
- After school curriculum and enrichment activities
- An expanded Outreach and Training Service providing advice, support and guidance on special educational needs to mainstream schools across Lewisham.

Proposed timescale

4th January – 2nd February 2012: Consultation with parents/ carers, staff, governors and other interested parties.

10th January 2012, 3.30 – 6.30pm, Brent Knoll School, Mayow Road, SE23 2XH: Drop-in session for parents/ carers and other interested parties to share their views on the proposal and find out more. Everyone welcome!

March 2012: Based on the outcome of the consultation, the Mayor will decide whether to issue a public notice informing the public of the proposed change and marking the start of a six week 'representation period' during which anyone can comment on or raise concerns about the proposal.

March – May 2012: Six week representation period (as above)

June 2012: Following the outcome of the representation period, the Mayor will make the final decision about whether to proceed with the proposal.

Approximately February/ March 2013: Building works will begin on the new site.

September 2014: It is hoped that the newly built school will be ready for occupation by September 2014.

If you have difficulty understanding this document in English please call the number below.

Për të marrë informacion mbi këtë dokument, ju lutemi telefononi numrin e mëposhtëm.

Albanian

Pour plus d'informations sur ce document, veuillez appeler le numéro ci-dessous.

French

更多有关本文件的信息，请拨打如下电话。

Mandarin

Sidii aad u hesho macluumaad ku saabsan dokumentigaan fadlan soo wac lambarka hoos ku qoran.

Somali

இப் பத்திரத்திலுள்ள தகவல் தேவையானால் தயவுசெய்து கீழேயுள்ள எண்ணில் தொடர்புகொள்ளவும்.

Tamil

Bu doküman hakkında bilgi için lütfen aşağıdaki numarayı arayınız.

Turkish

Để biết thêm thông tin về tài liệu này, quý vị hãy gọi số điện thoại sau.

Vietnamese

020 7253 7700

Also call this number for other formats, including Braille, large print, audio tape, BSL or computer disc.

Email: lewisham@pearllinguistics.com Typetalk: 18001 020 7253 7700

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Feedback form

Completed forms need to be returned by Thursday 2nd February 2012.

To return the form, please detach from the rest of the leaflet or return the leaflet in full. You can:

- Leave it in the box provided in Brent Knoll School reception area
- Email it to: charly.williams@lewisham.gov.uk
- Send it to: Charly Williams, Programme Manager, Strengthening Specialist Provision Programme, London Borough of Lewisham, 3rd Floor, Laurence House, Catford, London, SE6 4RU

Do you broadly agree with this proposal? Yes / No / Unsure (please circle)

Please state your reasons why:

What services and facilities would you like to be available at the rebuilt school?

Do you have any other comments about this proposal?

Please tell us about yourself overleaf....

Your details

How would you best describe yourself in relation to this consultation? *(please tick one)*

- Parent/ carer of a child at Brent Knoll School
- Parent/ carer of a child at another school *(please state which)*:.....
- Pupil Governor School staff Member of local community
- Other *(please specify)*:.....
- I am representing an organisation in making this response *(please specify)*:.....

Equalities monitoring is the collection of information which helps Lewisham Council ensure that they are providing a fair and inclusive service. We need to know who our customers are to check that everyone in the borough is accessing the services they are entitled to, and that nobody is discriminated against unlawfully.

Any information provided by you will be treated **confidentially** and in accordance with the Data Protection Act. All questions are voluntary and you do not have to answer them. However, by answering the questions you will help us to ensure that our services are fair and accessible to all.

How would you describe yourself?

Age	<input type="checkbox"/> Under 18
	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-65
	<input type="checkbox"/> Over 65
	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say
Ethnicity	<input type="checkbox"/> White British background
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other White background
	<input type="checkbox"/> Black and minority ethnic background
	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say
Disability Are you disabled?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say
Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male
	<input type="checkbox"/> Female
	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say

**Thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet.
We look forward to hearing your views.**

Appendix 3 - Summary of written responses

Agree		
1	<p>Reasons why I agree: It is important that the facilities and technology are up to date for the children to be given the best opportunities in the future. This is a long time coming to bring the school into the 21st century. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: vocational learning, possibly adult education in the evenings, 16-19 facilities, out of school services e.g. summer school, sensory room, library, therapy rooms. Other comments: I fully support the new build and the enthusiasm and passion shown by the staff for the transition to be a smooth and positive experience for the pupils.</p>	Governor
2	<p>Reasons why I agree: Current accommodation at Brent Knoll is not suited to the pupils needs and has become increasingly so, due to the changing nature of the cohort. This has been compounded by the addition of three temporary classrooms in already limited play areas. Moving to another site locally will allow relationships built up with the local community to be maintained. In addition, the fact that the school can relocate directly without the need for a decant is extremely beneficial for the young people as they struggle with change anyway.</p> <p>I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Good outdoor spaces suited to play and sensory needs, adequate circulation around the building, specialist teaching areas and therapy areas, secure site to ensure safety of young people, facilities to allow extended services to be provided, flexible and adaptable classrooms to ensure that they can be adapted to meet a wide range of needs, state of the art IT facilities which are as far as possible future proof.</p> <p>Other comments: I'm disappointed that the strategic decision around the possibility of post 16 provision has not been reached as I believe this could very effectively be implemented to coincide with the proposed Sept 2014 completion date.</p>	Governor/ member of staff
3	<p>Reasons why I agree: I do agree strongly with a new build for Brent Knoll School. The pupils will hugely benefit from a larger outside space with play facilities, also larger classrooms to accommodate pupils. A cooking room/kitchen for primary pupils due to the lack of facilities and unable to cook there is only a food tech room for secondary pupils. A flat for secondary pupils to be able to practice life skills such as decorating, changing beds and general housekeeping, extra storage for all classrooms, extra staff toilets. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Working projectors and white boards in all classrooms, a specialist sensory room for children to access, a staff shower room. Other comments: Brent Knoll is a fantastic school and can only benefit from a new build, the school can only strive and move forward with the help of a new school.</p>	Staff
4	<p>I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Mentoring room (10 people), meeting room, a room where nurse/doctor can see parents so we can still do first aid, separate shower/toilet room for anxious or escorted pupils, SALT room, counselling room (1 day per week), sensory room. Other comments: 3D mode for kids to look at nearer the time, worried about staff parking, worried the kids climbing the trees and escaping.</p>	Staff

5	Reasons why I agree: Current School building and site are not fit for purchase and although we endeavour to make the best of the situation, children are missing out. A new building represents the opportunity to incorporate as many essential features as the budget will allow. It gives us the impetus for reconsidering the impact of the environment upon children's experiences and learning. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: sensory sensitive environments – awareness of light, sound, texture, wider corridors, safe/secure site/buildings, range of flexible but easily defined (when needs be!) spaces, facilities to reflect/ promote good practice. Other comments: Issues around outside space needs to be carefully considered, currently we have very limited outside space and are very keen to have more attractive outside areas. Concern over transport/buses which I know will be considered. Currently some children have to wait at the end of the day up to 15/20 minutes for their buses to be able to enter our car park, which is not ideal.	Staff
6	Reasons why I agree: Staff parking? I like the idea of pupils progressing through school moving through areas. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: It would be advantageous to have a room set aside for mentoring – for our mentees to visit us and feel safe and secure. It would be decorated to help and instil calm, it needs to be large enough for group work (2 adults and 6-8 pupils), it needs to be the same room for the sake of being consistent. Other comments: I hope this site is actually big enough for what we need!	Staff
7	Reasons why I agree: I feel the current site is not suitable for the children or their needs. Resources need to be updated. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Calm room, better storage, library, safe working areas, art area, quiet rooms for children to go when they are not able to work in class, garden area (scented) for sitting in, garden area for planting seeds.	Staff
8	Reasons why I agree: New buildings are not the only priority – it is also what goes on in them in a fresh context. The current provision is insufficient for the number of pupils and the complex needs that we are currently trying to manage and teach within the current bounds for the school. A 'fresh start' with newer facilities should enable all colleagues to react positively and help create a better learning environment. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: quiet, small spaces/ areas for children to play in without the rambunctiousness of some of the current pupils who exclude (unintentionally) the less physical from their games, quiet, safe areas for self-elected withdrawal from lessons, decent staff preparation areas with a larger number of computers/printers to set up work, secure/safe staff relaxation area with NO access to pupils, safe, secure cycle provision for staff and pupils – we need a proper transport/travel plan!	Staff
9	Reasons why I agree: The building as it is is not fit for purpose and out of date. New technology is available which would improve the children's learning. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: spacious classrooms, quiet spaces, more of a divide between primary and secondary students.	Staff
10	Reasons why I agree: I cannot see any downside to the plans. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: sensory garden, separate	Staff

	play area/sports area (outdoors).	
11	Reasons why I agree: Overcrowding, decaying fabric, insufficient teaching space for individual subjects, unsafe at various points. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Quite 'pods' in each teaching room, science lab with proper chemical storage facilities and separate preparation area.	Staff
12	Reasons why I agree: Can't see any negative points in the plans. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: More 'quiet' rooms for students, fully equipped DT workshop.	Staff
13	Reasons why I agree: To improve the children's education, more space. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: bigger sports hall and bigger playground.	Staff
14	Reasons why I agree: Anything to improve the limitations of being in a very small school. More space, facilities, etc. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Safe rooms for children to have a 'refuge', discrete playgrounds for the secondary students – 1 x boisterous, 1 x quieter kids.	Staff
15	Reasons why I agree: It would be nice to have more space! I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Bigger space for play time and PE lessons, 'cam room' for students under distress, more toilets.	Staff
16	Reasons why I agree: Lack of space in current building is a major issue.	Staff
17	I would like the following services/facilities to be available: H2O Machine, more specialised help for pupils.	Staff
18	Reasons why I agree: Because the current school is too small and outdated, the playground is too small for the children to use as porta-classrooms now take up most of the space. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: More facilities aimed towards the children's needs, more visual learning, better f/t and d/t classrooms, better PE facilities, library. Other comments: The school should be aimed more to the child's needs rather than following the N.C.	Staff
19	Reasons why I agree: The current building is unsuitable for purpose. It has three portakabins seriously restricting play area. The building is in a state of disrepair. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Up to date technology facilities to encourage the pupils have a full opportunity to access the wider curriculum. A laser cutter for DT/ food, art & crafts curricular activities suitable playing areas, possibly a pool.	Staff
20	Reasons why I agree: Building at present is unfit for purpose/ size of the school. Playground space is too small due to temporary classrooms. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: State of the art facilities that are fit for purpose, enough space to play, a sports hall with 2 or 3 badminton courts (full size), wireless is essential but not a reliance on laptops – a hideaway desktop solution would be more useful and although more expensive, should save money on repairs to laptops.	Staff
21	Reasons why I agree: the school should relocate and rebuild so that we can look to the future. The current building is overcrowded and outdated and a modern innovative learning environment would help the school move forward. More space and better facilities would only help to improve the school. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Library, better ICT facilities, a referral area (for pupils who cannot settle in a lesson and are making teaching impossible).	Staff

22	Reasons why I agree: I like new builds. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Garden.	Staff
23	I would like the following services/facilities to be available: swimming pool, nice staff room.	Staff
24	Reasons why I agree: Current facilities too small. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Air-conditioned classrooms, library for children/quiet or study space.	Staff
25	Reasons why I agree: Present school dated and not fit for purpose. To have ownership of our new school and to feel involved in its development. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Good and varied outdoor space around the site, more cooking facilities, better sensory environment, high quality staff provision, staff room, toilets, preparation rooms, shared spaces – toilets, group rooms, break out rooms between 2 classes, internal communications system for safety and general improved communication, variable lighting across the school, good quality black out blinds, fabulous outdoor play facilities, good parking/ access for transport buses – real concerns over busy road. – safety issues. Other comments: Can't wait! We would welcome the opportunity for ourselves and the children to be involved on ongoing basis in this project, will there be a tree?	Staff (Turtles team)
26	Reasons why I agree: The current building housing Brent Knoll School is totally inadequate to meet the needs of the pupils. Classes are overcrowded, corridors dangerous at change of lesson because of the number of pupils moving along narrow corridors. Problems would arise evacuating the secondary department in an emergency. The fabric of the building is poor with cracks and loose plaster in classrooms. Not all curriculum areas have a dedicated space to teach in. This involves teachers carrying equipment from class to class and consequently losing teaching time. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Adequate outdoor space for play for both primary and secondary pupils, adequate working space for teachers to prepare lessons, IT that is reliable and sufficient to meet the needs of all pupils needing to use it, subject specific classrooms so teachers do not have to migrate around the school having heavy loads with them, a sensory room. Other comments: I appreciate that LB Lewisham wishes staff to use public transport rather than cars. For some staff travel by public transport is difficult. Will it be possible to negotiate some parking close by e.g, with Sainsburys?	Staff
27	Reasons why I agree: The current buildings and grounds do not met the needs of incoming children to the school and those already on site, the current building does not look up to date or inviting for children and visitors, there will be more space for extra facilities aimed specifically at the children's needs i.e. a sensory room, our current land without buildings on is increasingly reduced in size due to extra classrooms being required and moved in,, the play areas at present provide little stimulation to the children. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Primary cooking room, additional room space between two classes to share for calming down or quiet work, library area, more toilets/ one at reception for visitors, big sensory rooms in primary and secondary, sensory garden, music rooms primary/secondary, separate playground areas, climbing frames, quiet areas, shaded areas, walk on piano, secured corridors, own primary art room, doors – small with windows at the top.	Staff

	Other comments: It will be very beneficial to have a building more suited to it's purpose of teaching special needs.	
28	Reasons why I agree: The current school building for Brent Knoll is too small for the pupils and their needs. We desperately need more outside space and inside spaces separate from the classroom. Quiet rooms away from the classroom would be so beneficial, allowing pupils to concentrate better on their learning tasks. Areas inside and out are needed to allow pupils to calm down, regain composure and be read to rejoin their class. The current building is very dark, dingy and drab. Pupils struggle to thrive and remain enthusiastic when the learning environment is not exciting or motivating place to achieve. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: More toilets, primary cooking room, bigger/attractive playground, lots more storage space, sensory room, practical dining hall, sports hall, therapy room, calm rooms, 2 areas of playground separated, children's equipment in playground, teachers resource room, shower room, Library, lift for wheelchair users, a mock flat for secondary pupils to learn life skills in, common room for y10 and 11. Other comments: The new proposal can only be of benefit to the whole of the Brent Knoll team in particular the pupils. We would like the new building to be as energy efficient as possible to save money on bills and be able to spend more money on resources for pupils.	Staff
29	Reasons why I agree: 1) the current building is no longer fir for purpose, 2) the current building is too small to accommodate the number of pupils on roll, 3) the facilities in the current building do not match the needs of the current/prospective cohort. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Sufficient outdoor space with facilities for play/games and curriculum activities, ensure that ICT hardware/software reflect the needs of the pupils and their abilities (not too much emphasis on Microsoft Office), ICT hardware and peripherals support all curriculum areas (not only ICT), such as: CAD/CAM in DT, data logging in science, etc, accommodation for vocational/life skills curriculum.	Staff
30	Reasons why I agree: improved accommodation and facilities for pupils with SEN, improved opportunities for pupils to develop and achieve in all aspects of their life – academic, personal and life skills essential for pupils with SEN. Focus/emphasis on meeting pupils needs more specifically and sharing info between schools. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Therapy/training rooms, parent room, meeting room, soft play, sensory room, garden, teacher prep room, designated play areas, cage for all ball sports, climbing facilities, kitchen for class cooking, separate halls for dining and sports/assembly, library and quiet areas for small group work, staffroom, gardening area, medical room, safe space/calm room, mentors room, slopes and ramps, landscaped areas, toilets near classrooms/open plan cloakrooms near classrooms. Other comments: Natural and improved lighting, IWB and ICT facilities, bike shed, car parking for staff, security.	Staff
31	Reasons why I agree: The lighting in the classrooms and around the school are inappropriate for ASD children who are sensitive to sound, children who have problems toileting sometimes need to be made clean and comfortable, we need a washroom facility nearby the classrooms to reduce the possibility of contamination due to the distance we have to take	Staff

	<p>the children to clean them and when cleaning them in the toilet due to poor facilities, many ASD children have delayed development and need the facility of access to purpose built outdoor area. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: A wet room/changing area, teachers toilets close to classrooms, kitchen facilities for primary children, a purpose built outdoor area for foundation and Key stage 1 pupils, plenty of storage spaces where resources can be stored away to make the classroom as clutter free as possible and deter those children who throw missiles, breakout areas to recover after and during a crisis, enough chairs so that children don't have to keep moving chairs from one area to another in the classroom. Other comments: calmness is important for our children, so appropriate sound proofing is important for individual classrooms, soft play room, inviting rooms is important for face to face discussion with parents and outside agencies, the ability to be able to dim the lights would be supportive to some children in crisis.</p>	
32	<p>Reasons why I agree: We would like our suggestion and comments to be taken into account during the planning. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: For the EYFS and y1 pupils we would require: access to covered outside area that is self contained, a room directly accessible from the classroom for changing nappies, shower area and changing area – with cupboards for spare clothes, toilets that have an extractor fan and or ventilation, low sinks, age appropriate toilets and sinks, adult and pupil sinks in the classroom (size appropriate), appropriate ASD lighting, acoustics and décor, calm room direct access from classroom, sensory environment/soft play area, outdoor sensory area, fixed age appropriate climbing equipment, appropriate outdoor play surface, appropriate amount of storage for EYFS pupils, access to food technology, age appropriate chairs and tables, teacher resource area with computers for the whole school, In class: black out or plain curtains, meeting rooms, fencing, doors and grates appropriate to pupils who may potentially abscond or climb, dining and/or hall space appropriate to ASD pupils with accessible PE equipment. Other comments: Our team are very pleased to have a new building as our current building has a negative effect on our pupils learning and behaviour, the current outside area has good access from the class but very poor drainage which can limit use.</p>	Staff
33	<p>Reasons why I agree: Chance for a new food technology room with updated equipment, better IT facilities, better teaching resources for children. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: a library/learning spec for lunchtimes.</p>	Staff
34	<p>Reasons why I agree: Enhances ASD provision in Lewisham, improved facilities for a good school. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Sensory room adequate for needs, provision for EYFS. Other comments: Should carefully consider the outreach package that would be available.</p>	Staff
35	<p>Reasons why I agree: As laid down in the proposal, the new school will offer twice the space per pupil as the existing building, providing greatly improved and updated buildings and facilities which can only be of benefit to the pupils/students. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Sensory room, gymnasium, proper outdoor playing areas, up to date IT. Other comments: Only that I hope it is implemented.</p>	Parent

36	Reasons why I agree: I think this would be a great idea and have a positive effect and allow great opportunities for students. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Vocational opportunities and sixth form.	Parent
37	Reasons why I agree: As parents of a child just started at Brent Knoll we strongly agree with the proposal to rebuild Brent Knoll School. We can see the expertise this school offers but it is held back by the restraints of a basic and outdated building. To enable the school to thrive further and keep up it's standards the new building is a necessity. The rebuild of this school will both serve the children and community now, but will also be an investment in Lewisham's future for the provision of children and young people with additional needs. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: speech therapy facilities, welcoming outdoor area with sensory garden, a meeting room with nearby kitchen facilities for training, annual reviews, etc. Other comments: Welcome the idea of looking into the future needs of 16+ as well.	Parent
38	Reasons why I agree: The existing school is outdated and overcrowded. I would also like to see provision for 16-19 years. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Vocational training.	Parent
39	Reasons why I agree: Appropriate building and facilities for the children at Brent Knoll, my son was at mainstream before he transferred to Brent Knoll – having an improved outreach service would have helped him, staff and his family greatly, I would hope with more space that Brent Knoll would seriously consider providing a 16+ education for children/young adults with MLD. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: 16+ educational provision. Other comments: I would hope that in the planning and design of the school suitability for disabled children and adults would be included, also a design that is kind to those who are on the Autistic Spectrum.	Parent
40	Reasons why I agree: I think that it is a good idea if it means improving the facilities for all children and also the opportunities. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: More homework facilities, especially for my son who has special needs, more computers and more space available, more after school activities. Other comments: improved facilities and space available for more computers and books, also an after school club would be beneficial for my child.	Parent
41	Reasons why I agree: 1) the school needs more space, it can feel overcrowded, not so good with children especially with some of the children's special needs, 2) I think Brent Knoll could provide a good service to more children that are still in mainstream, may need to go to a specialised school such as Brent Knoll. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Bigger well lit and aerated classrooms, sporting facilities, a good music department, perhaps look at BTECs or easier qualifications for the 16+. Other comments: Excellent idea, I especially like the possibility of children remaining until they are 18.	Parent
42	Reasons why I agree: I support the plan to build a new school for Brent Knoll, but it must not lose places in the design phase. All children should be able to transfer and shouldn't change the daily routine that they currently receive now. To ensure the curriculum is still able to meet the needs of special needs children in the new school. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Good learning places with a chill out	Parent

	space provided, good outside space to encourage sports, place for parents to get involved, I would like after school services for the children, I think a growing space outside for the children to look after, a soft room and a library, all the types of classrooms that are offered in a new mainstream school but able to use for special needs children. Other comments: Do we have 100% that no places will be lost in building the new school? I support the new school being able to offer post 16 learning and would like to learn more about these plans.	
43	Reasons why I agree: Existing site cramped and dated. It will be fantastic for the pupils to have new facilities, to expand the outreach service will be a huge benefit to the children with SEN being taught within a mainstream environment. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Something that would benefit the community, parent workshops.	Parent
44	I would like the following services/facilities to be available: The design section has already stated what the specialist areas would be provided with. And it is really up to scratch in terms of the services and facilities – therapy services, ICT provision, Outreach Service, Music, Art/Design/Drama/Food Technology. Other comments: This proposal is really good, I would say so without reservation.	Parent
45	Reasons why I agree: The school needs more space. There are more children there than ever before in a smaller space because of portakabins. More chance for the school to develop and help more children with special needs. Gives a chance to have a sixth form. It will be great for future generations of children. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: 2 halls (separate dining area from PE), quiet spaces and separate playgrounds, outdoor classrooms like wooden gazebos, safe toilets - individual and mixed, new playground – especially games area with Astroturf or safe flooring, leisure facilities for us and the community, security with swipe cards, better ICT – tablets – use own devices, space for wet play times, dry and sheltered, common room, calm rooms.	Pupil (Student Council)
46	Reasons why I agree: More space, better learning environment, more play areas, modern equipment/building, safer environment.	Anonymous
47	Reasons why I agree: A more spacious site, a better accommodation, the design of the rebuild school will be very good compared to the old one as it were. It would offer a safe, spacious and attractive environment in which pupils will feel valued. All of this will support the educational and social needs of pupils.	Anonymous
48	Reasons why I agree: It is critical that children and young people with learning difficulties / disabilities have access to the highest possible quality learning environments, specifically designed to meet their special needs. An important factor of Lewisham's medium and long term plans to strengthen SEN provision has to be to secure appropriate, exciting and flexible buildings for our young people, schools that are able to adapt and change to meet future needs. I would, however, be most interested to understand the LA's view as to designation of pupils who will be placed in Brent Knowl School, now and in the medium/long term. With the apparent lack of appropriate and clear admission criteria for our special schools some clarity in relation to the needs of the young people to be placed there is essential. The proposal above describes developing a school to meet the needs of 'children aged 4-16 years with special educational needs'.	Local special school

	This is at best a vague and 'broad brush' descriptor. My considerable experience of developing special educational provision in a number of authorities leads me to conclude that the very best provision can only be developed when designers are absolutely clear about the specific requirements and needs of the children and young people who will use the building and its facilities. It is my view that we require a far more clearly articulated vision and strategic agreement in relation to the development of SEN provision in Lewisham and that this should be the driving force that informs all capital projects.	
Unsure		
49	Reasons why I am unsure: Like a lot of things, you can't tell what it will be like until it happens. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: a better play area for primary and a soft play room and a room for year 11s, also a much better sensory room and a library, a referral room for pupils who need that bit longer to calm down. Other comments: only that it all goes well.	Staff
50	Reasons why I am unsure: I assumed that they were being moved while the old school was being renovated. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: decent garden for pupils to grow themselves (i.e. vegetables, etc), communal area with skylight, transport to after school clubs, facilities to 19 years old.	Parent
51	Reasons why I am unsure: My child is in year 9 at the moment. I am not sure he will benefit from new state of the art building – he is not severely autistic and does not need life/functional skills. It is not clear what benefits this will have for older pupils and in what way. Nothing is being done to promote better education for more able pupils in the subjects and options they have to choose to gain GCSEs. The teaching needs to improve so they can have better grades in future exams so they can progress onto further education colleges etc – more choice – they are limited now. I would like the following services/facilities to be available: Post 16 – retake GCSEs take further exams for better grades, library, study area, support teachers. Other comments: There is another special school proposed on old Pendragon School site there is no need for Brent Knoll to change academically at all – unless it is going to improve students grades and overall achievement for each individual child. My son's grades have dropped since moving to Brent Knoll – he is not getting any homework – I am not happy with school – the teaching is lacking in goals.	Parent
Yes/Unsure		
52	No comments	Parent
Disagree – No responses received.		

Appendix 4 - Summary of pupil responses

Introduction

All pupils were consulted. Materials facilitating access to all learners were created and different strategies implemented to engage those of all ages and levels of ability.

These included:

- Display boards with photographic images of different areas of schools to stimulate choice making: Yes/no - like/dislike
- Discussion and further research using the internet
- Recording ideas about specific requirements

The Pupil Forum (School Council) met and collectively completed a questionnaire on behalf of the pupils.

All pupils confirmed that they would like a new school building.

Main Findings

Area	Pupil suggestions
Play ground	Climbing frame See-saw Slide Special area for football/ball games/ football cage/full size goals & small goals Basketball nets Astroturf Somewhere to show where to line up in a straight line Trampoline Painted games on the ground like hopscotch, snakes and ladders Shed for storing bikes and playthings Grass and hard area Water play Pond, allotment, garden area Sandpit with a cover Wendy house Climbing wall Swing ball Separate playgrounds for KS1, KS2 and secondary Shaded area when it gets hot Chill out area Sensory garden Tables and chairs fixed to ground. Not strips – solid wood. Chairs with backs, not benches Zipwire Climbing plants, like roses Trees

	<p> Lots of space to run around A statue of someone CCTV Bins Music A balcony overlooking the playground A covered area for wet play with things like table tennis Some girly spaces with wall art and flowers A lunch area for eating outside A picnic area Water fountains with cold water Climbing wall Exercise equipment Doors straight onto toilets Floodlights </p>
Class rooms	<p> <u>Primary</u> Round lights (spheres) Separate book section Coloured carpets A kitchen for cooking next to the classroom Carpet area in classrooms </p> <p> <u>Secondary</u> Lockers we can keep our stuff in Well equipped science room Bigger and better food tech room DT room with workstations, benches Drama and dance studio </p> <p> <u>Primary and Secondary</u> Not strip lights or square lights in grids Soft lights (dimnable) Not fluorescent lights Big organised cupboards Roller blinds Very big windows Lots of natural light Nice big classrooms CCTV Cameras A smart floor that you can keep clean Water cooler dispenser A coat area Air conditioning Work stations and small group rooms off all classrooms Soundproof rooms Quiet corners in all rooms Library with lots of books, computers and Interactive White Board – touch screen and modern snake chairs More round tables in classrooms </p>

	<p>Better heating Windows that open and close Different sized classrooms Comfy areas in classroom or group room Sheltered walkways between classrooms</p>
Hall	<p>Two Halls – one for dining, one for sports</p> <p><u>Dining</u> Tuck shop/café/snack bar/canteen Decent tables and chairs Water fountain Healthy eating pics/photos</p> <p><u>Sports</u> Gym Locker room/changing rooms Big equipment cupboard Games for wet play Basketball hoops Football goals Volleyball Badminton tennis Giant climbing wall Rubberised floor Water fountain Pics/photos of athletes Monkey bars Yoga room Gymnastics</p> <p><u>Other</u> Theatre Stage for performances Stage curtains Stage lighting Blackout blinds Cinema Place of worship for all religions Viewing gallery Sound system Brighter lights and more natural light Permanent data projector and roll up screen Big strong windows</p>
Sensory room	<p>Soft cushions and pillows Light Music including opera Bubble machine</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tent Soft play 3D shapes Illuminated ball pool Padded floor Help button/telephone Movie room option Shoe storage Coloured lights Soft chairs Fish tank that lights up Projector
Toilets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls and boys sharing toilets (unisex) Open toilets (no doors) off corridors or class rooms with private cubicles, so teachers can see the sinks and it's safer Toilets near classrooms Wet rooms Showers with nice changing area Nice colours Disabled toilets Big toilets with lots of room Hand gel on walls next to doors Hand dryers – not too loud that go on and off quickly, like airblade ones Automatic flush that you don't have to touch Easy to use taps like the ones in disabled toilets Automatic soap dispenser with nice soap Incense Music Soft lights - dimmable

February 2012

Chief Officer Confirmation of Report Submission
Cabinet Member Confirmation of Briefing

Report for: **Mayor**

Mayor and Cabinet

Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)

Executive Director

X

Information Part 1 Part 2 Key Decision

Date of Meeting	11 th April 2012
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Title of Report	Appointment of Local Authority Governors
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Originator of Report	Lineth Allen	Ext. 47993
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At the time of submission for the Agenda, I confirm that the report has:

Category	Yes	No
Financial Comments from Exec Director for Resources		√
Legal Comments from the Head of Law		√
Crime & Disorder Implications		√
Environmental Implications		√
Equality Implications/Impact Assessment (as appropriate)	√	
Confirmed Adherence to Budget & Policy Framework		√
Risk Assessment Comments (as appropriate)		√
Reason for Urgency (as appropriate)		√

Signed:  Executive Member

Date: 28th March 2012

Signed:  Executive Director

Date: 28th March 2012

Control Record by Committee Support

Action	Date
Listed on Schedule of Business/Forward Plan (if appropriate)	
Draft Report Cleared at Agenda Planning Meeting (not delegated decisions)	
Submitted Report from CO Received by Committee Support	
Scheduled Date for Call-in (if appropriate)	
To be Referred to Full Council	

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	Appointment of Local Authority Governors	
Key Decision	Yes	Item No.
Ward	Various	
Contributors	Executive Director for Children and Young People	
Class	Part 1	Date: 11 April 2012

1. Summary

The report sets out details of nominees for appointment as Local Authority governors.

2. Policy context

Lewisham's Children & Young People's Plan sets out our vision for improving outcomes for all children and the main purpose of a governing body is to account for the achievement of children and young people in their school. The appointment of governors is a vital element in achieving these aims.

3. Purpose

To consider and approve the appointment of Local Authority governors detailed in paragraph 6 below.

4. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Mayor

- agrees to appoint the nominees set out in paragraph 6.
- notes the information concerning the new governors in Appendix 1

5. Background

- 5.1 Every governing body, under Section 36 and Schedule 9 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, is required to have at least one representative of the Local Authority (LA) as part of its membership. A vacancy has arisen on the governing body of the educational establishments listed and a new appointment is required.
- 5.2 Appointments to school governing bodies are usually for a four-year term, unless stipulated otherwise in the Instrument of Government. The nominees listed in paragraph 6 would serve the normal 4 years.

6. Governors recommended for Appointment/Reappointment

Name	School	Constituency	Reappointment	New
Ms Hilary Moore (Labour)	Baring	Lewisham East	Yes	---
Ms Bev Feather (Non-party)	Downderry	Lewisham East	Yes	---
Mr George Kwasniewski (Non-party)	Elfrida	Lewisham West & Penge		Yes
Ms Antonia Makinde (Non-party)	St Saviour's RC	Lewisham Deptford	Yes	
Mr Paul Beresford (Non-party)	Coopers Lane	Lewisham East	Yes	
Ms Debra Viller (Non-party)	Downderry	Lewisham East	---	Yes
Mr Lennox Hamilton (Non-party)	Adamsrill	Lewisham West & Penge	---	Yes

7. Financial implications

7.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

8. Legal implications

8.1 Under Section 36 and Schedule 9 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 every governing body is required to have at least one representative of the Local Authority (LA) as part of its membership.

9. Crime and disorder implications

9.1 There are no specific crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

10. Equalities implications

10.1 Lewisham Council's policy is to encourage all sections of the community to be represented as Local Authority governors. In particular, we would encourage further representation from the black community and minority groups including disabled people, who are currently under-represented as governors. The numbers of governors in these groups is kept under review.

11. Environmental implications

11.1 There are no specific environmental implications arising from this report.

12. Conclusion

12.1 The new governors detailed in Appendix 1 are either local people or have close connections with Lewisham and view being a governor as a way of serving the local community. Every governing body, under Section 36 and Schedule 9 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, is required to have at least one representative of the Local Authority (LA) as part of its membership. A vacancy has arisen on the governing body of the educational establishments listed and a new appointment is required.

12.2 Appointments to school governing bodies are usually for a four-year term, unless stipulated otherwise in the Instrument of Government. The nominees listed in paragraph 5 would serve the normal 4 years.

Background documents and originator

There are no background papers.

If there are any queries arising from this report, please contact Lineth Allen, Governors' Services, 3rd Floor, Laurence House, telephone 020 8314 7993.

**MAYOR AND CABINET
NEW APPOINTMENTS**

APPENDIX 1

Name	School	Occupation	Residential Area	Précis of Suitability to be considered as a school governor	Governor Monitoring Information
Mr Lennox Hamilton	Adamsrill	Former local government officer	SE23	Mr Hamilton was a senior manager in the LA. He has a deep understanding of schools and the issues they face. He brings a wide range of expertise in many areas including building management, budget management and health and safety. He will be an invaluable addition to the governing body.	Black British
Ms Debra Viller	Downderry	Local government Officer	BR1	Ms Viller has wide experience of working with the community. She has chaired meetings, is a qualified counsellor ; she is a trainer. She has many transferable skills that the governing body can profit from.	Afro - Caribbean
Mr George Kwasniewski	Elfrida	Trainer	SE6	Mr Kwasniewski was a very effective chair of governors for several years in another Lewisham school. He delivers governor training in Lewisham and has recently been appointed by the National College to deliver training to governors. He will undoubtedly strengthen the governing body.	White British

Agenda Item 17

Chief Officer Confirmation of Report Submission	
Cabinet Member Confirmation of Briefing	
Report for: Mayor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Executive Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
Information <input type="checkbox"/> Part 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Part 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Key Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	

Date of Meeting	11 th April 2012
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Title of Report	Instruments of Government for the schools of Brent Knoll and Watergate Trust
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Originator of Report	Lineth Allen	Ext. 47993
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At the time of submission for the Agenda, I confirm that the report has:

Category	Yes	No
Financial Comments from Exec Director for Resources	√	
Legal Comments from the Head of Law	√	
Crime & Disorder Implications		n/a
Environmental Implications		n/a
Equality Implications/Impact Assessment (as appropriate)	√	
Confirmed Adherence to Budget & Policy Framework		n/a
Risk Assessment Comments (as appropriate)		n/a
Reason for Urgency (as appropriate)		n/a

Signed: *Helen Khin* Executive Member

Date: 29th March 2012

Signed: *Alto* Executive Director

Date: 29th March 2012

Control Record by Committee Support

Action	Date
Listed on Schedule of Business/Forward Plan (if appropriate)	
Draft Report Cleared at Agenda Planning Meeting (not delegated decisions)	
Submitted Report from CO Received by Committee Support	
Scheduled Date for Call-in (if appropriate)	
To be Referred to Full Council	

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	Instruments of Government for the schools of the Brent Knoll and Watergate Trust	
Key Decision	Yes	Item No.
Ward	All wards	
Contributors	Executive Director for Children and Young People	
Class	Part 1	Date: 11 April 2012

1. Summary

- 1.1 The report outlines the steps taken by Brent Knoll and Watergate to become foundation schools and asks the LA to make the required new instruments of government.

2. Policy Context

- 2.1 Lewisham is committed to providing appropriate education to meet the needs of all children. The two schools have stated their commitment to 'working jointly with the Local Authority to administer the provision of pupil places within the requirements of the National Schools Admissions Code and specifically the SEN Code of Practice and will adhere to prevailing Local Authority admissions arrangements'. The schools consider that the proposed Trust is likely to contribute to raising standards at each school and promote community cohesion. The proposed change reflects the community strategy priority of 'raising educational attainment and improving facilities for young people through partnership working'.

3. Purpose

- 3.1 To seek agreement to the reconstitution of the governing bodies of Brent Knoll and Watergate Schools as foundation school governing bodies.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 To make the instrument of government for
- i) the constitution of the governing body of Brent Knoll School as outlined in the instrument of government at Appendix A
 - ii) the constitution of the governing body of Watergate School as outlined in the instrument of government at Appendix B

5. Narrative

- 5.1 The 1986 Education Act allows local authority maintained schools to change their category to become a foundation school. On becoming a foundation school the governing body takes on extra responsibilities:

- building and land are transferred to the governing body;
 - the governing body replaces the local authority as the employer;
 - the governing body becomes responsible for its admissions arrangements.
- 5.2 A foundation school may be allied to a foundation; in which instance it is also referred to as a Trust school. Trust schools establish long term relationships with external partners and involve them in the school's governance and leadership and the Trust holds the school's land and buildings 'in trust' for the school.
- 5.3 Brent Knoll and Watergate governors decided to begin the process of becoming foundation schools supported by a charitable Trust – in this instance the Co-operative Trust. As the responsible body each governing body had to decide separately to proceed with a consultation. Watergate met on 28 June 2011 and Brent Knoll on 7 July 2011. The decision to become part of the Co-operative Trust reflects the results of an initial consultation which helped to define the type of Trust which was most closely aligned to the schools' vision, values and principles.
- 5.4 The proposed partners in the Trust are:
- Greenwich University
 - Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust
 - Lewisham Local Authority
 - The Co-operative Movement
 - Wide Horizons Trust
- 5.5 The consultation began 9 November 2011 and ended on 9 December 2011. Consultation was wide and included pupils and parents/ guardians of the two schools, staff at both schools, governors of all special schools in Lewisham, all schools in Lewisham, the Local Authority and neighbouring LAs the YPLA (Young People's Learning Agency) and Local MPs and Councillors, local trade unions, local community groups, the PCT, CAMHS (children and adolescents mental health service).
- 5.6 Meetings were held for the parties closely affected – staff and parents of both schools. There was also a joint public consultation and a meeting with the Trade Unions. Pupils were consulted via the School Councils of the two schools.
- 5.7 At the end of the consultation period each governing body held a meeting to consider the report on the consultation before coming to a decision whether or not to proceed further. On 15 December 2011 the governing bodies meeting separately decided to form a Co-operative Trust and issue a Statutory Notice in order to give notice of the change to a Foundation category of school and adopt Trust status. The implementation day for the Trust is 2 April 2012.
- 5.8 Following the end of the statutory notice period the governing bodies met separately on 6 March 2012 to approve the change to a foundation

school with a trust and to agree the composition of their governing body.

5.9 The change of status requires a change to the structure of the governing bodies. The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2003) states that at Foundation and Foundation Special Schools the governing body must comprise the following:

- one third or more must be parent governors
- at least two but no more than one third must be staff governors
- at least one but no more than one fifth must be LA governors
- one tenth or more must be community governors
- at least two but no more than 45% to be foundation governors

The governing body may in addition appoint up to two sponsor governors

5.10 The following table details the proposed structure of the governing bodies; these conform to the requirements of the Constitutional Regulations

Category of Governor	Brent Knoll	Watergate
Local Authority	1	1
Parent	5	5
Staff	3	3
Community	3	3
Foundation	3	3
Total	15	15

6. Financial Implications

6.1 As Trust / Foundation Schools, Brent Knoll and Watergate governing bodies take on additional responsibilities as employers and as custodians of the land which transfers to them on change of status, however, funding arrangements remain unchanged. The schools will continue to be funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant and will be subject to the funding decisions of the Schools' Forum.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 The Education and Inspection Act 2006 grants schools the freedom to change their existing category of school to become trust / foundation schools. Regulations outline the necessary processes involved in becoming a foundation school. The schools have followed these processes and the proposed instrument are in line with Regulations.

8. Crime and Disorder Implications

8.1 There are no crime and disorder implications.

9. Equalities Implications

9.1 The schools see the formation of the Trust as providing the following benefits:

- Partnerships with external organisations will help the schools to develop more creative teaching and learning experiences at all levels and give access to wider learning opportunities for pupils.
- The schools will work with post 16 providers to offer a diverse post 16 education programme with strong transition links to adult services
- The development of extended schools and schools services throughout the year will provide support to the families of children with learning difficulties

10. Environmental Implications

10.1 There are no environmental implications.

11. Conclusion

11.1 The schools have undertaken all the statutory obligations involved in a change of status from 'community' school to 'foundation school with a trust'. As a new category of school both schools need to have new instruments of government to reflect their new status. The proposed models are in line with the legal requirements and can therefore be made.

Background Documents and Originator

Originator: Lineth Allen, Acting Team Leader, Governors' Services (CYP)

Telephone: 020 8314 7993.

Background Documents:

Articles of Association Brent Knoll and Watergate Co-operative Trust

Education and Inspection Act 2006

The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2007

INSTRUMENT OF GOVERNMENT: FOUNDATION SPECIAL SCHOOLS

- 1.** The name of the school is Brent Knoll School
- 2.** The school is a foundation special school
- 3.** The name of the governing body is "The governing body of Brent Knoll School."
- 4.** The governing body shall consist of:
 - a). 5 parent governors;
 - b) 1 Local Authority governor
 - c) 3 staff governors (including the Headteacher)
 - d) 3 community governors
 - e) 3 foundation governors
- 5.** Total number of governors 15
- 6.** The Co-operative Trust is entitled to appoint foundation governors.
- 7.** The school has a Trust.
- 8.** This instrument of government comes into effect on 25 April 2012
- 9.** This instrument was made by order of Lewisham Local Education Authority on 11 April 2012
- 10.** A copy of the instrument must be supplied to every member of the governor body (and the Headteacher if not a governor), and any trustees.

INSTRUMENT OF GOVERNMENT: FOUNDATION SPECIAL SCHOOLS

- 1.** The name of the school is Watergate School
- 2.** The school is a foundation special school
- 3.** The name of the governing body is "The governing body of Watergate School."
- 4.** The governing body shall consist of:
 - a). 5 parent governors;
 - b) 1 Local Authority governor
 - c) 3 staff governors (including the Headteacher)
 - d) 3 community governors
 - e) 3 foundation governors
- 5.** Total number of governors 15
- 6.** The Co-operative Trust is entitled to appoint foundation governors.
- 7.** The school has a Trust.
- 8.** This instrument of government comes into effect on 25 April 2012
- 9.** This instrument was made by order of Lewisham Local Education Authority on 11 April 2012
- 10.** A copy of the instrument must be supplied to every member of the governor body (and the Headteacher if not a governor), and any trustees.

Chief Officer Confirmation of Report Submission	
Cabinet Member Confirmation of Briefing	
Report for: Mayor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Executive Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
Information <input type="checkbox"/> Part 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Part 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Key Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	

Date of Meeting	11 th April 2012
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Title of Report	Variation to Instruments of Government – Trinity Church of England Secondary School and Chelwood Nursery School
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Originator of Report	Lineth Allen	Ext. 47993
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At the time of submission for the Agenda, I confirm that the report has:

Category	Yes	No
Financial Comments from Exec Director for Resources	√	
Legal Comments from the Head of Law	√	
Crime & Disorder Implications		√
Environmental Implications		√
Equality Implications/Impact Assessment (as appropriate)		√
Confirmed Adherence to Budget & Policy Framework		√
Risk Assessment Comments (as appropriate)		√
Reason for Urgency (as appropriate)		√

Signed:  Executive Member

Date: 28th March 2012

Signed:  Executive Director

Date: 28th March 2012

Control Record by Committee Support

Action	Date
Listed on Schedule of Business/Forward Plan (if appropriate)	
Draft Report Cleared at Agenda Planning Meeting (not delegated decisions)	
Submitted Report from CO Received by Committee Support	
Scheduled Date for Call-in (if appropriate)	
To be Referred to Full Council	

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	VARIATION TO INSTRUMENTS OF GOVERNMENT – Trinity Church of England Secondary School and Chelwood Nursery School	
Key Decision	Yes	Item No.
Ward	All Wards	
Contributors	Executive Director for Children and Young People	
Class	Part 1	Date: 11 April 2012

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The report seeks variations to the Instruments of Government of the following schools:
Trinity Church of England Secondary School
Chelwood Nursery School

2. Policy Context

- 2.1 Raising educational attainment and improving facilities for young people through partnership working' is a community strategy priority. Governors are a major partner in raising attainment in schools. Every governing body has to have an instrument of government which details the number and category of governors.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 To agree the following variation to the Instruments of Government:
- i) to change the name of the institution to Trinity Church of England School, Lewisham (The school is known as Trinity, Lewisham) i.e. to delete the word 'secondary' from the title (Appendix A)
 - ii) to change the Sponsor organisation in the Chelwood Instrument (Appendix B)

4. Background

- 4.1 The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2007 sets out the composition of the governing body of the various categories of school. Under the regulations the governing body has a choice as to the number of governors The Regulations also detail the procedure for the making of the Instrument of Government.

4.2 The governing body or the local authority may review the Instrument of Government at any time after it is made. The governing body must prepare a draft of the Instrument of Government and submit it to the local authority. The local authority must consider whether the draft complies with all the statutory provisions.

4.3 **For voluntary aided schools** the number of governors must be no fewer than 10 and no more than 20, excluding sponsor governors. The governing body must comprise the following:

- Parent governors: at least one, but enough to make up at least one-third of the membership of the governing body when counted with foundation governors who are eligible for election or appointment as parent governors.
- Staff governors: at least two but no more than one-third, including the headteacher.
- LA governors: at least one but no more than one-tenth.
- Foundation governors: these must outnumber the other governors by two and at least a fifth must be eligible for election or appointment as parent governors.

The governing body may in addition appoint up to two sponsor governors. If the governing body appoints sponsor governors the person appointing the foundation governors may appoint an equal number of foundation governors to preserve their majority of two.

4.4 **For community schools** the number of governors must be no fewer than nine and no more than 20 excluding sponsor governors. The governing body must comprise the following:

Parent governors: at least one-third.

Staff governors: at least two but no more than one-third, including the head teacher.

LEA governors: one-fifth.

Community governors: at least one-fifth.

In addition the governing body may appoint one or two sponsor governors if the school is a primary school and up to four sponsor governors if it is a secondary school.

4.5 **Trinity School** The governing body is not at present seeking a change in the number of governors and their current instrument conforms to the above principles. The governing body is seeking a change to the name of the school.

4.6 The School Governance (Procedures) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2007 stipulate that:

No decision to change the name of the school shall have effect unless
(a) it is specified as an item of business on the agenda for the meeting of the governing body (the required 7 days notice of the meeting has to have been given);
(b) all members of the governing body vote in favour of the change of name.

4.7 A meeting of the governing body of Trinity Church of England Secondary School was held on 4 January 2012. The statutory seven days notice of the meeting had been given. A proposal to change the name of the school was an agenda item, namely to delete 'secondary' from the name of the school. The governing body unanimously approved the change of name of the school to Trinity Church of England School, Lewisham - to be known as Trinity, Lewisham.

4.8 **Chelwood** - When the Governing Body was constituted on 1 September 2003, the governing body chose to have a sponsor governor. The sponsor entitled to nominate a person for appointment as a sponsor governor under Schedule 5 of the Regulations was Surestart. Due to the change in status of Surestart the organisation is unable to nominate a governor for appointment, so it is necessary to change the sponsor.

4.9 At a meeting of the governing body held on 7 February 2012 governors resolved:

- that the new sponsor should be Chelwood House for Families Trust as the Trust fulfils the criteria in the Regulations
- to increase the number of sponsor governors to 2
- to request that the Local Authority amend the Instrument of Government with effect from 1 May

5. Financial Implications

5.1 Any costs associated with changes to, for example, signage and stationery at Trinity School will be met from the budget of that school.

6. Legal Implications

6.1 Each school must have an Instrument of Government detailing the name of the school, the type of school and the membership of the governing body. The category of governor and the number in each category is specified in the Regulations. The governing body can review the Instrument of Government at any time. When the governing body requests a change in the Instrument the Local Authority must

ensure that the new Instrument conforms to the principles laid out in the Regulations and must make the new instrument.

7. Crime and Disorder Implications

7.1 There are no crime and disorder implications to this report.

8. Equalities Implications

8.1 The Instrument of Government of the school details the composition of the governing body. Legislation ensures that the Instrument of Government reflects the various stakeholder groups: parents, staff, the local authority, the community and in the case of church schools, the church.

9. Environmental Implications

9.1 There are no environmental implications in the making of an Instrument of Government.

10. Conclusion

10.1 **Trinity:** The school's decision to request a variation in its Instrument, i.e. to change the name to Trinity Church of England School has been constitutionally made.

10.2 **Chelwood Nursery School** - The school's decision to change the sponsor organisation is occasioned by the change of status of the original sponsor Surestart.

10.3 Both schools have followed the correct procedures for the changes being requested so the instruments can be made.

Background Documents and Originator

Originator: Lineth Allen, Acting Team Leader, Governors' Services (CYP)

Telephone: 020 8314 7993.

Background Documents:

The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2007

The School Governance (Procedures) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2007



**INSTRUMENT OF GOVERNMENT
CHURCH OF ENGLAND VOLUNTARY AIDED SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

- 1 The name of the School is **Trinity Church of England School, Lewisham** (to be known as **Trinity, Lewisham**).
- 2 The School is a voluntary aided school.
- 3 The name of the Governing Body is **The Governing Body of Trinity Church of England School, Lewisham**.
- 4 The Governing Body shall consist of:
 - (a) **3** parent governors;
 - (b) **1** LA governor;
 - (c) **4** staff governors, comprising:
 - (i) the headteacher (except at any time when the headteacher has given notice that s/he chooses not to be a governor);
 - (ii) **2** teachers;
 - (iii) **1** support staff;
 - (d) **10** foundation governors of whom **3** shall, at the time of their appointment, be eligible for election or appointment as parent governors.
- 5 The total number of governors is **18**.
- 6 The foundation governors in 4(d) above shall comprise:
 - (a) **2** appointed by the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education;
 - (b) **5** appointed by the Parochial Church Council of The Good Shepherd with St Peter, Lee;
 - (c) **1** appointed by the Parochial Church Council of St Margaret's Lee;
 - (d) **2** appointed by East Lewisham Deanery Synod;

Three of those appointed in (a) to (d) above shall be parents of registered pupils at the school.
- 7 (a) The holder of the following office shall be a foundation governor ex-officio:

The principal officiating minister of the ecclesiastical parish of The Good Shepherd with St Peter, Lee

(b) The Archdeacon of Lewisham shall be entitled to appoint a foundation governor to act in place of the ex-officio foundation governor whose governorship derives from the office named in (a) above, in the event that the ex-officio foundation governor is unable or unwilling to act as a foundation governor, or there is a vacancy in the office by virtue of which his/her governorship exists, or has been removed from office under regulation 23 (2).

8 The Archdeacon of Lewisham shall be entitled to request the governing body to remove the ex-officio governor referred to in 7(a) above and appoint any substitute governor.

9 The School has a trust.

10 Ethos statement

Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level.

The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils.

11 This Instrument of Government comes into effect on **25 April 2012**

12 This instrument was made by order of the London Borough of Lewisham on **11 April 2012**

13. A copy of the instrument must be supplied to every member of the governing body.

INSTRUMENT OF GOVERNMENT: MAINTAINED NURSERY SCHOOLS

1. The name of the school is **Chelwood Nursery School**
2. The school is a **maintained nursery school**.
3. The name of the governing body is **The governing body of Chelwood Nursery School**
4. The governing body shall consist of:
 - (a) **4** parent governors;
 - (b) **2** LA governors;
 - (c) **3** staff governors
 - (d) **3** community governors
 - (e) **2** sponsor governor
5. Total number of governors **14**
6. The sponsor entitled to nominate persons for appointment as sponsor governors under Schedule 5 of the Regulations is Chelwood House for Families Trust.
7. The term of office of parent governors is **2** years.
8. This instrument of government comes into effect: on **1 May 2012**.
9. This instrument was made by order of the London Borough of Lewisham Local Education Authority on **11 April 2012**

A copy of the instrument must be supplied to every member of the governing body.

MAYOR & CABINET		
Report Title	Exclusion of the Press and Public	
Key Decision	No	Item No.
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: 11 April 2012

Recommendation

It is recommended that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act, as amended by the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (Amendments) (England) Regulations 2006 and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information:-

- 20 Catford Town Centre Regeneration Programme update
- 21 Deptford Town Centre Regeneration Programme

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

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of the Local Government Act 1972.

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