

Public Document Pack

Sustainable Development Select Committee Agenda

Tuesday, 8 March 2016

7.00 pm,

Committee Room 3

Civic Suite

Lewisham Town Hall

London SE6 4RU

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This meeting is an open meeting and all items on the agenda may be audio recorded and/or filmed.

Part 1

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Sustainable Development Select Committee Members

Members of the committee, listed below, are summoned to attend the meeting to be held on Tuesday, 8 March 2016.

Barry Quirk, Chief Executive
Thursday, 25 February 2016

Councillor Liam Curran (Chair) Councillor James-J Walsh (Vice-Chair) Councillor Bill Brown Councillor Suzannah Clarke Councillor Amanda De Ryk Councillor Carl Handley Councillor Mark Ingleby Councillor Olurotimi Ogunbadewa Councillor Eva Stamirowski Councillor Paul Upex Councillor Alan Hall (ex-Officio) Councillor Gareth Siddorn (ex-Officio)	
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MINUTES OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SELECT COMMITTEE

Thursday, 14 January 2016 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Liam Curran (Chair), James-J Walsh (Vice-Chair), Bill Brown, Suzannah Clarke, Carl Handley, Mark Ingleby, Olurotimi Ogunbadewa, Eva Stamirowski and Paul Upex and Alan Hall

APOLOGIES: Councillors Amanda De Ryk

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Jacq Paschoud, Councillor Ami Ibitson, Katherine Kazantzis (Principal Lawyer), Kplom Lotsu (Group Manager, Capital Programme Delivery), Gavin Plaskitt (Programme Manager), Janet Senior (Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration), Kevin Sheehan (Executive Director for Customer Services), Alison Taylor (Project Manager, Capital Programme Delivery), Katie Wood (Scrutiny Manager), Ian Chalk (Architect) (Ian Chalk Architects) and Tim Thomas (Growth Area Manager) (Transport for London)

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2015

RESOLVED: That

the minutes of the meeting of the Sustainable Development Select Committee held on the 26 November be agreed as an accurate record of proceedings and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

2. Declarations of interest

Councillor Hall declared a personal interest in item 3 as he was a Board Member of Phoenix Community Housing.

Councillor Walsh declared a personal interest in item 4 as he was a Rushey Green Ward Councillor and also lived in the Ward.

3. Beckenham Place Park

3.1 Councillor Curran introduced the item explaining it was in response to a petition to the Council of more than 5000 signatures. Councillor Curran reported that he has received some suggested questions from one of the Petitioners and he tabled these at the meeting, a copy of which will be interleaved with the agenda.

3.2 Alison Taylor, Project Manager, Capital Programme Delivery, introduced the report and highlighted the following key points:

- The park represented 98 hectares of open space and was the largest part in the London borough of Lewisham.

- The park had substantial heritage and character and included: ancient woodland; an eighteen century mansion and stable park; a café; gardens; and a golf course.
- Usage surveys indicated that the park was underused compared with comparable parks.
- Consultants carrying out usage analysis concluded that there were a number of barriers to higher usage namely: lack of key attractions; lack of investment meaning there was a “run-down” feel; large areas of the park feeling un-accessible due to the usage by the golf course.
- The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) grant had been awarded on the basis of a master-plan which was shaped by substantial consultation.
- Should the golf course be maintained this would represent a significant change to the proposal and a new bid would need to be made to HLF which was felt to be very unlikely to be granted.
- Maintaining an 18 or 9 hole golf course had been ranked bottom of the prioritisation list during the consultation process.

3.3 Carole Hope, Andrew Tonge and Jenny Kay addressed the Committee regarding the petition and highlighted the following key points:

- Beckenham Place Park had the only public golf course in inner London and provided a fantastic resource for the public.
- The course had a diverse range of users and usage did not impact on attracting other park users to the park.
- The proposed closure discriminated against the diverse group of users.
- There was not a viable business case for the closure of the course and with good management it had the potential to be a profitable asset to the Council.
- The contract with Glendale was seen to be a factor in the levels of subsidy that LB Lewisham were currently providing.
- The course was 100 years old and therefore had its own heritage legacy which should be celebrated.
- There were many positive aspects of the regeneration proposal and the Heritage Lottery bid, but to realise these, there was no necessity to close the golf course.
- With good management the golf course could generate a substantial income for the Council.

3.4 In the discussion that followed, the following key points were raised:

- Comparison between Ladywell Fields and Beckenham Place Park could be problematic as they had different levels of accessibility and proximity of local transport links and housing.
- The current Council subsidy to golfers was approximately £10 per round of golf.
- The demographics of the park users from sample surveys taken at different times of the day showed an under-representation of women, children and non-white park users.

- The future of the mansion house was being reviewed and it was possible that this would be the subject of a further bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund.
- There had been a decline in golf nationally and there were many other courses within 30 minutes of Beckenham Place Park. Many other local authorities had closed similar facilities in the last year.
- Based on sample studies 75% of people who signed the petition did not live in the London Borough of Lewisham.
- Priorities of the Heritage Lottery Fund were to attract large amounts of public to a free facility and protecting heritage.
- Clarity on the nature of the Glendale contract for managing the golf facility would be helpful to ensure that the true profit/loss potential had been assessed.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the questions tabled by Councillor Curran and interleaved with this agenda, be referred to Mayor and Cabinet and officers be requested to ensure that their report to Mayor and Cabinet addresses these questions.
- 2) That additional details on the current contract with Glendale be provided so that an analysis of the true profit potential of the golf course was possible.

4. Catford Regeneration Programme Review - Evidence Session 2

4.1 Tim Thomas, Growth Area Manager, Transport for London (TfL), gave a presentation to the Committee, highlighting the following key points:

- TfL and London Borough of Lewisham had been looking at a range of options to improve the Catford road layout. These were: option 1 - a hybrid scheme, which diverted the South Circular behind Laurence House; and option 2 - a gyratory scheme which retained the current road layout and included localised improvements.
- Neither scheme currently had funding secured.
- The preferred scheme would form part of the Council Town Centre Regeneration Plan and a decision was needed to help progress this plan and secure funding.
- Catford had significant transport challenges including: bus and traffic congestion; poor confluences; poor pedestrian provision; insufficient cycling provision; and public realm being dominated by highway requirements.
- Key objectives of the schemes included: maintaining and improving journey times and reducing congestion; improving bus journey times and reliability; providing better cycle facilities; improving the pedestrian environment; and opening up investment possibilities.
- Transport studies and cost implications had been drawn up to provide a comparison between the schemes. The hybrid scheme involving moving the A205 behind Laurence House was likely to cost £15 to £20 million for the purchase of land, relocating and property and building costs. The Gyratory Scheme was likely to cost in the region of £10 to £15 million.

- Benefits of the hybrid scheme included: reduction in journey time for some bus routes; general improvements to traffic times; realignment of A205 out of the Town Centre; some improvements for pedestrians and the provision of 1039 homes. Benefits of the Gyratory scheme included: reduction in bus journey time on four routes; a slight improvement in traffic times; some improvements for pedestrians; and the provision of 1295 homes.
- Currently neither scheme included substantial improvements for pedestrians. More could be done to improve these facilities once either scheme was chosen.
- Replacement of the Network Rail Bridge over Catford Road would also provide improvement to the pedestrian and cycling offer in the area. Network Rail currently stated that this would not be done until 2019.

4.2 In the discussion that followed, the following key points were raised:

- Indecision was a major obstacle to improvement and selecting an option would mean that work on Town Centre Improvements could proceed.
- Both schemes aimed to improve signal timings and pedestrian provision but once a scheme was selected, more work could be done to ensure objectives for pedestrians and cyclists were delivered.
- It was a difficult decision to choose a scheme and unfortunate that the same number of homes was not achievable with the hybrid scheme as with the gyratory scheme.

4.3 Ian Chalk, Ian Chalk Architects, gave a presentation to the Committee and highlighted the following key points:

- He had been working with staff at the Broadway Theatre over the last year to develop proposals to improve the building. There were significant challenges and any proposals would involve statutory consultees. Solutions proposed would be robust.
- The current corner location meant that there was tight restricted access from the main road.
- The theatre included a studio theatre which was currently well used and function rooms which could be used to a greater extent.
- The seating in the Upper Circle was the only fixed seating in the theatre which was originally designed principally as a dancing and wrestling venue.
- The theatre had a good stage design and a charming organ chamber – one of only two in London. Historic England had been particularly interested in this feature.
- The studio theatre currently had restricted views due to four large columns. Moving these columns would increase capacity by around 30%.
- The auditorium did not have adequate back stage provision or “get in” facilities i.e. access for deliveries/ stage equipment etc. This needed to be resolved in any design to ensure the theatre was a commercial success.

- The design by Ian Chalk Architects was to change the access so the main entrance would be from Catford Broadway; the seating would be re-ranked making it more usable and improving the sight-lines; “get-in” would be via the main stage which could become backstage when needed.
- Historic England and Theatres Trust were broadly in support of the proposals.
- There were a number of other amendments to the proposals that could work. There could be the possibility of funding through the Heritage Lottery Fund or other organisations.

4.4 In the discussion that followed, the following key points were raised:

- The designs would create a stage approximately the same size as the current stage but include a back stage and wings area meaning more suitable as a modern venue.
- The organ and acoustics would be protected to ensure the quality of sound.
- Work could be done to improve the facilities and access to the café-bar so it could be a successful and profitable part of the theatre.
- In addition to shows, the theatre could be used as a venue to generate additional income. The space created would be flexible and adaptable.
- LB Lewisham had undertaken a basic condition survey of the theatre and the key aspects identified included that it needed urgent investment in the roof structure. Other elements were not seen to be in too bad a state of repair.
- There was potential for the theatre regeneration to receive Heritage Lottery Fund funding and a viable plan that represented value for money would benefit local people and could be part of the vision for the centre of Catford Regeneration.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That Ian Chalk be thanked for the work he had undertaken regarding Broadway Theatre.
- 2) That the following referral be made to Mayor and Cabinet:
 - a) That the Committee advised the Mayor and Cabinet: That
 - The Committee felt it was unfortunate that the options presented meant that it appeared that the Council was being offered a choice between additional housing verses smoother traffic flow and possibly better pedestrian provision.
 - The Committee stressed the importance of making a decision on an option for the Catford Town Centre and noted that historic indecision was the major barrier to development of the area.
 - b) That the Committee recommended: That

- Any Option selected should be fully integrated including ensuring a thorough and well thought-out offer to enhance the street-scene for pedestrians.
- The Mayor lobby Network Rail to prioritise improving the rail-over-road bridge on Catford Road to allow for better pedestrian and cycling provision.
- That the presentation by Ian Chalk from Ian Chalk Architects be referred for information and consideration by Mayor and Cabinet and to the Broadway Theatre Working Party Group for consideration.

5. Select Committee Work Programme

RESOLVED:

- 1) That a report on streetlight dimming be added to the March work programme and that it be noted that a report only was sufficient and there was no need for a presentation on this item.
- 2) That following on from the referral the Committee made to Mayor and Cabinet on section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy, an additional report on a Lewisham Community Trust be presented to the Select Committee.
- 3) That as part of the response back to the Committee on the High Streets Review, information should be included on recommendation 5 regarding the creating of a Lewisham “meanwhile” (meanwhile.org.uk) system.

6. Items to be Referred to Mayor and Cabinet

The meeting ended at 9.10 pm

Chair:

Date:

Agenda Item 2

Committee	Sustainable Development Select Committee	Item No.	2
Title	Declarations of Interest		
Wards			
Contributors	Chief Executive		
Class	Part 1	Date	08 March 2016

Declaration of interests

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

1 Personal interests

There are three types of personal interest referred to in the Council's Member Code of Conduct:-

- (1) Disclosable pecuniary interests
- (2) Other registerable interests
- (3) Non-registerable interests

2 Disclosable pecuniary interests are defined by regulation as:-

- (a) Employment, trade, profession or vocation of a relevant person* for profit or gain
- (b) Sponsorship –payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than by the Council) within the 12 months prior to giving notice for inclusion in the register in respect of expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member or towards your election expenses (including payment or financial benefit from a Trade Union).
- (c) Undischarged contracts between a relevant person* (or a firm in which they are a partner or a body corporate in which they are a director, or in the securities of which they have a beneficial interest) and the Council for goods, services or works.
- (d) Beneficial interests in land in the borough.
- (e) Licence to occupy land in the borough for one month or more.
- (f) Corporate tenancies – any tenancy, where to the member's knowledge, the Council is landlord and the tenant is a firm in which the relevant person* is a partner, a body corporate in which they are a director, or in the securities of which they have a beneficial interest.
- (g) Beneficial interest in securities of a body where:-
 - (a) that body to the member's knowledge has a place of business or land in the borough; and
 - (b) either
 - (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person* has a beneficial interest exceeds 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that class.

*A relevant person is the member, their spouse or civil partner, or a person with whom they live as spouse or civil partner.

(3) Other registerable interests

The Lewisham Member Code of Conduct requires members also to register the following interests:-

- (a) Membership or position of control or management in a body to which you were appointed or nominated by the Council
- (b) Any body exercising functions of a public nature or directed to charitable purposes, or whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy, including any political party
- (c) Any person from whom you have received a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25

(4) Non registerable interests

Occasions may arise when a matter under consideration would or would be likely to affect the wellbeing of a member, their family, friend or close associate more than it would affect the wellbeing of those in the local area generally, but which is not required to be registered in the Register of Members' Interests (for example a matter concerning the closure of a school at which a Member's child attends).

(5) Declaration and Impact of interest on members' participation

- (a) Where a member has any registerable interest in a matter and they are present at a meeting at which that matter is to be discussed, they must declare the nature of the interest at the earliest opportunity and in any event before the matter is considered. The declaration will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. If the matter is a disclosable pecuniary interest the member must take no part in consideration of the matter and withdraw from the room before it is considered. They must not seek improperly to influence the decision in any way. **Failure to declare such an interest which has not already been entered in the Register of Members' Interests, or participation where such an interest exists, is liable to prosecution and on conviction carries a fine of up to £5000**
- (b) Where a member has a registerable interest which falls short of a disclosable pecuniary interest they must still declare the nature of the interest to the meeting at the earliest opportunity and in any event before the matter is considered, but they may stay in the room, participate in consideration of the matter and vote on it unless paragraph (c) below applies.
- (c) Where a member has a registerable interest which falls short of a disclosable pecuniary interest, the member must consider whether a reasonable member of the public in possession of the facts would think that their interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair the member's judgement of the public interest. If so, the member must withdraw and take no part in consideration of the matter nor seek to influence the outcome improperly.
- (d) If a non-registerable interest arises which affects the wellbeing of a member, their family, friend or close associate more than it would affect those in the local area

generally, then the provisions relating to the declarations of interest and withdrawal apply as if it were a registerable interest.

- (e) Decisions relating to declarations of interests are for the member's personal judgement, though in cases of doubt they may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer.

(6) Sensitive information

There are special provisions relating to sensitive interests. These are interests the disclosure of which would be likely to expose the member to risk of violence or intimidation where the Monitoring Officer has agreed that such interest need not be registered. Members with such an interest are referred to the Code and advised to seek advice from the Monitoring Officer in advance.

(7) Exempt categories

There are exemptions to these provisions allowing members to participate in decisions notwithstanding interests that would otherwise prevent them doing so. These include:-

- (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)

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Agenda Item 3

Sustainable Development Select Committee			
Title	Endorsement of Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership's: 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham 2015-2020...'	Item No	3
Contributors	Ecological Regeneration Manager		
Class	Part 1	Date	8 March 2016

1. Purpose of paper

- 1.1. The Sustainable Development Select Committee has agreed to review 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham 2015-2020,' provide comments and advise the mayor and cabinet it's recommendations with respect to Council endorsement of this the Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership's Biodiversity Action Plan document.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The Sustainable Development Select Committee is asked to:
 - note the content of the report and consider the information presented and advise the mayor with respect to Council endorsement of Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership's: 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham 2015-2020'.

3. Background

- 3.1 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham' Biodiversity Action Plan 2015-2020 will supersede previous Biodiversity work undertaken from 2006.
- 3.2 Biodiversity Action Planning policies derive from The Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 which established the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- 3.3 In Nagoya, Japan, in Autumn 2010 the 192 parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity renewed their commitment to take action to halt the alarming global declines of biodiversity and to ensure that by 2020 our natural environment is resilient and can continue to provide the ecosystem services that are essential for life.
- 3.4 The Natural Environment White Paper 'The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature,' published in 2011, recognises that a healthy, properly functioning natural environment is the foundation of sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal well-being. It aims to mainstream the value of nature across our society, including across government departments.

- 3.5 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services', published in 2011, shortly after the White Paper, has as its mission to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems, and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.
- 3.6 The 'Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act' (NERC Act 2006) , Section 40 of the Act states that: 'Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity'
- 3.7 National Planning Policy Framework [NPPF] 109 states: The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.
- 3.8 NPPF 113 states: Local planning authorities should set criteria based policies against which proposals for any development on or affecting protected wildlife or geodiversity sites or landscape areas will be judged.
- 3.9 NPPF 114 states: Local planning authorities should set out a strategic approach in their Local Plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure.
- 3.10 "A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham", sets out the Partnerships objectives for the immediate future for the conservation of nature across the Borough. The document also identifies the contribution of Lewisham's natural environment to quality of life and sustainable development objectives within the Borough and also demonstrates the links that the conservation of Lewisham's biodiversity can make to the Council's on-going programmes within various directorates.
- 3.11 Once embedded in Council policies, the Action Plans will become an essential tool to guide the public and private sector in the maintenance, enhancement, and restoration of important species/habitats that will add to biodiversity and conservation at the local level. This will have particular relevance given the NERC Act and the National Planning Policy Framework.

4. Further Implications

- 4.1 There are no specific or additional financial, legal, environmental, equalities or crime and disorder implications of this report other than those presented in the Mayor and Cabinet report attached in Appendix B.

5. Appendix Documents

- A. Mayor & Cabinet report:- Endorsement of Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership's: 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham 2015-2020'
- B. 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham 2015-2020'

If you have any questions about this report, please contact Nick Pond, Ecological Regeneration Manager, (ext. 42007).

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Mayor & Cabinet

Report Title	Endorsement of Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership's: 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham 2015-2020'		
Key Decision			Item No.
Ward	All		
Contributors	Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership & LBL Ecological Regeneration Manager		
Class	Part 1		

1. Summary

- 1.1 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham' sets out Lewisham's Biodiversity Action Plan 2015-2020. The document is the result of an ongoing partnership between the Council, Glendale Managed Services, The Creekside Education Trust, Thames 21, Quaggy Waterways Action Group [QWAG], London Wildlife Trust, Horniman Museum and Gardens, The Environment Agency, Sydenham Garden Organisation, TCV [The Trust for Conservation Volunteers], Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC [GiGL] and, most importantly, a range of local groups and individuals. The Partnership was established to consolidate the interests and expertise of a range of organisations and individuals with a duty to or interest in conserving the borough's wildlife and natural environment.
- 1.2 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham', sets out Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership's aspirations for the immediate future. It is a Partnership document that identifies the opportunities and the objectives to which the Partnership is committed to achieving, and demonstrates the links that the conservation of Lewisham's biodiversity can make to the Council's on-going programmes within various directorates. The foundations of a number of Biodiversity Action Plans (BAP) based within the context of the Council's policies and activities are contained in this document as case studies. 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham' and the individual Biodiversity Action Plans will serve as a benchmark against which we may monitor progress once these have been embedded in Council policies.

2. Purpose

- 2.1 Lewisham Council like all Local Authorities has a number of statutory obligations in relation to biodiversity policy and legislation. As a public body, Lewisham Council is required to comply with the 'Biodiversity Duty' as set out in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, (NERC). For local authorities this states that every public body must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.

3. Policy Context

3.1 Shaping our future – the Council’s Sustainable Community Strategy includes the following priority outcomes

- Empowered and responsible - where people are actively involved in their local area and contribute to supportive communities
 - Empower citizens to be involved in their local area and responsive to the needs of those who live there.
 - Promote volunteering and the activity of voluntary and community organisations.
 - Champion diversity and the contribution everyone makes to the borough’s quality of life.
- Clean, green and liveable – where people live in high quality housing and can care for and enjoy their environment
 - Protect and enhance our parks, open spaces and local biodiversity.
- Healthy, active and enjoyable – where people can actively participate in maintaining and improving their health and well-being
 - Improve the well-being of our citizens by increasing participation in healthy and active lifestyles.

3.2 The Council has outlined ten corporate priorities which enables the delivery of the Sustainable Community strategy.

- Priority number 1: Community leadership and empowerment-where people can be actively involved in their local area and are enabled to influence the Council and their localities.
- Priority number 2: Young people’s achievement and involvement, enjoying and achieving and making a positive contribution through partnership working.
- Priority number 3: Clean, green and liveable improving environmental management. The council is committed to protect and manage the environment and to aspire to a sustainable environment where people, have access to green spaces and take responsibility for their impact on the environment.
- Priority number 9: Active, healthy citizens where people can actively participate in maintaining and improving their health and well-being, through culture, sport and leisure.

3.3 The decision to endorse ‘A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham’ would be consistent with the Local Development Framework (June 2011): Core Strategy Objective 7: Open Space and environmental assets.

- This states that the important environmental, ecological and biodiversity features of Lewisham will be protected and capitalised to promote health and well-being by:
 - a. protecting all open space including Metropolitan Open Land

- b. protecting Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and supporting and promoting local biodiversity
- c. requiring green roofs and walls where appropriate
- d. implementing the Street Tree Programme
- e. improving the quality of, and safeguarding access to, all public open space
- f. providing accessible and varied opportunities for health, leisure and recreational activities including the South East London Green Chain Walk, the Green Grid, the Waterlink Way and river and waterways network, and the Thames Path.

4. Recommendations

The Mayor is recommended to

- 4.1 Endorse 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham' document and the strategic aspirations of the Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership.

5. Background

- 5.1 'A natural Renaissance for Lewisham' Biodiversity Action Plan 2015-2020 will supersede previous Biodiversity work undertaken from 2006.
- 5.2 Biodiversity Action Planning policies derive from The Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 which established the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- 5.3 In Nagoya, Japan, in Autumn 2010 the 192 parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity renewed their commitment to take action to halt the alarming global declines of biodiversity and to ensure that by 2020 our natural environment is resilient and can continue to provide the ecosystem services that are essential for life.
- 5.4 The Natural Environment White Paper 'The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature,' published in 2011, recognises that a healthy, properly functioning natural environment is the foundation of sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal well-being. It aims to mainstream the value of nature across our society, including across government departments.
- 5.5 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services', published in 2011, shortly after the White Paper, has as its mission to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems, and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.
- 5.6 The 'Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act' (NERC Act 2006) , Section 40 of the Act states that: 'Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity'
- 5.7 National Planning Policy Framework [NPPF] 109 states: The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by

establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.

- 5.8 NPPF 113 states: Local planning authorities should set criteria based policies against which proposals for any development on or affecting protected wildlife or geodiversity sites or landscape areas will be judged.
- 5.9 NPPF 114 states: Local planning authorities should set out a strategic approach in their Local Plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure
- 5.10 “A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham”, sets out the Partnerships objectives for the immediate future for the conservation of nature across the Borough. The document also identifies the contribution of Lewisham’s natural environment to quality of life and sustainable development objectives within the Borough and also demonstrates the links that the conservation of Lewisham’s biodiversity can make to the Council’s on-going programmes within various directorates.
- 5.11 Once embedded in Council policies, the Action Plans will become an essential tool to guide the public and private sector in the maintenance, enhancement, and restoration of important species/habitats that will add to biodiversity and conservation at the local level. This will have particular relevance given the NERC Act and the National Planning Policy Framework.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 Following the anticipated endorsement of “A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham” the document will be produced as a pdf publication that will be available on the intranet/Council website. The cost incurred for the production of this document will be born by the Nature Conservation budget. It is not proposed that the publication is subject to a significant print run.
- 6.2 Many actions that will enhance the boroughs biodiversity will be delivered through sensitive planning of future services and will result from greater awareness of biodiversity issues. These will incur no significant additional cost.
- 6.3 In summary, there are no significant financial implications arising from the recommendation set out in section 4 above. Costs that do arise will be met from existing resources.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 Section 40(1) of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, imposes a duty upon Local Authorities to conserve biodiversity: “Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.” Section 40(3) of the Act explains that: “Conserving biodiversity includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population or habitat”. The duty applies to all local authorities and extends beyond just

conserving what is already there to carrying out, supporting and requiring actions that may also restore or enhance biodiversity.

- 7.2 The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 provides details on a range of protection and offences relating to wild birds, other animals, and plants.
- 7.3. The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 7.4 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.
- 7.5 The duty continues to be a “have regard duty”, and the weight to be attached to it is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or foster good relations.
- 7.6 The Equality and Human Rights Commission has recently issued Technical Guidance on the Public Sector Equality Duty and statutory guidance entitled “Equality Act 2010 Services, Public Functions & Associations Statutory Code of Practice”. The Council must have regard to the statutory code in so far as it relates to the duty and attention is drawn to Chapter 11 which deals particularly with the equality duty. The Technical Guidance also covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guidance does not have statutory force but nonetheless regard should be had to it, as failure to do so without compelling reason would be of evidential value. The statutory code and the technical guidance can be found at: <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/legal-and-policy/equality-act/equality-act-codes-of-practice-and-technical-guidance/>
- 7.7 The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has previously issued five guides for public authorities in England giving advice on the equality duty:
1. The essential guide to the public sector equality duty
 2. Meeting the equality duty in policy and decision-making
 3. Engagement and the equality duty
 4. Equality objectives and the equality duty
 5. Equality information and the equality duty.

The essential guide provides an overview of the equality duty requirements including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. It covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty including steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The other four documents

provide more detailed guidance on key areas and advice on good practice. Further information and resources are available at:

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

8. Crime and Disorder Implications

- 8.1 A objective of 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham' is to promote the borough's wildlife assets and to encourage good management of natural areas that includes taking account of potential risk areas and reducing these so that they are easier to access and use. A key action is to inform and encourage people to make more use of wildlife areas, this includes producing interpretative materials, running guided walks and developing volunteer and user groups to raise the level of 'community ownership' of such sites. This is an important means to reduce or remove negative perceptions or fears about wildlife sites, but also increase the intensity of positive use, which helps to deter or drive out antisocial or criminal behaviour.

9. Equalities Implications

- 9.1 All residents and visitors to the borough have a right to enjoy, learn about and make use of Lewisham's many and diverse wildlife habitats, species and landscapes, especially where access to and use of these resources is free throughout the year. Protecting Lewisham's biodiversity through the BAP process helps ensure this right of access and enjoyment is there for all cultures, ages and abilities and that information and knowledge about Lewisham's natural assets is promoted to the widest audience possible without preference, prejudice or prior assumption.

10. Environmental Implications

- 10.1 The environmental implications of 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham' are considerable, but all of these are positive rather than negative. The document and subsequent Biodiversity Action Plans will act as a powerful tool to raise awareness of and stimulate action to address environmental issues where the Council has legal obligations, a duty of care, or could become exposed in time to liabilities.

11. Conclusion

- 11.1 Given that it is Council policy to support the work of the Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership and the Biodiversity Action Planning process it is recommended that the decision is taken to endorse 'A natural Renaissance for Lewisham' as the Councils' first formal step in demonstrating due regard to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.

12. Background documents and originator

- 12.1 For further information please contact Nick Pond on 020 8314 2007 or nick.pond@lewisham.gov.uk

- 12.2 'A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham' (2015-2020)

12.3 Lewisham Local Development Framework (June 2011)

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/planning/policy/LDF/Pages/default.aspx>

12.4 Open Spaces Strategy 2012-2017

<https://www.lewisham.gov.uk/mayorandcouncil/aboutthecouncil/strategies/Documents/OpenSpaceStrategy2012.pdf>

12.5 The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (October 2006)

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/pdfs/ukpga_20060016_en.pdf

12.6 The National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

12.7 Shaping our future: Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2020

<http://www.lewishamstrategicpartnership.org.uk/docs/SCS.pdf>

12.8 Corporate Strategy 2008-2011

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/mayorandcouncil/aboutthecouncil/strategies/Documents/CorporatePlan200811.pdf>

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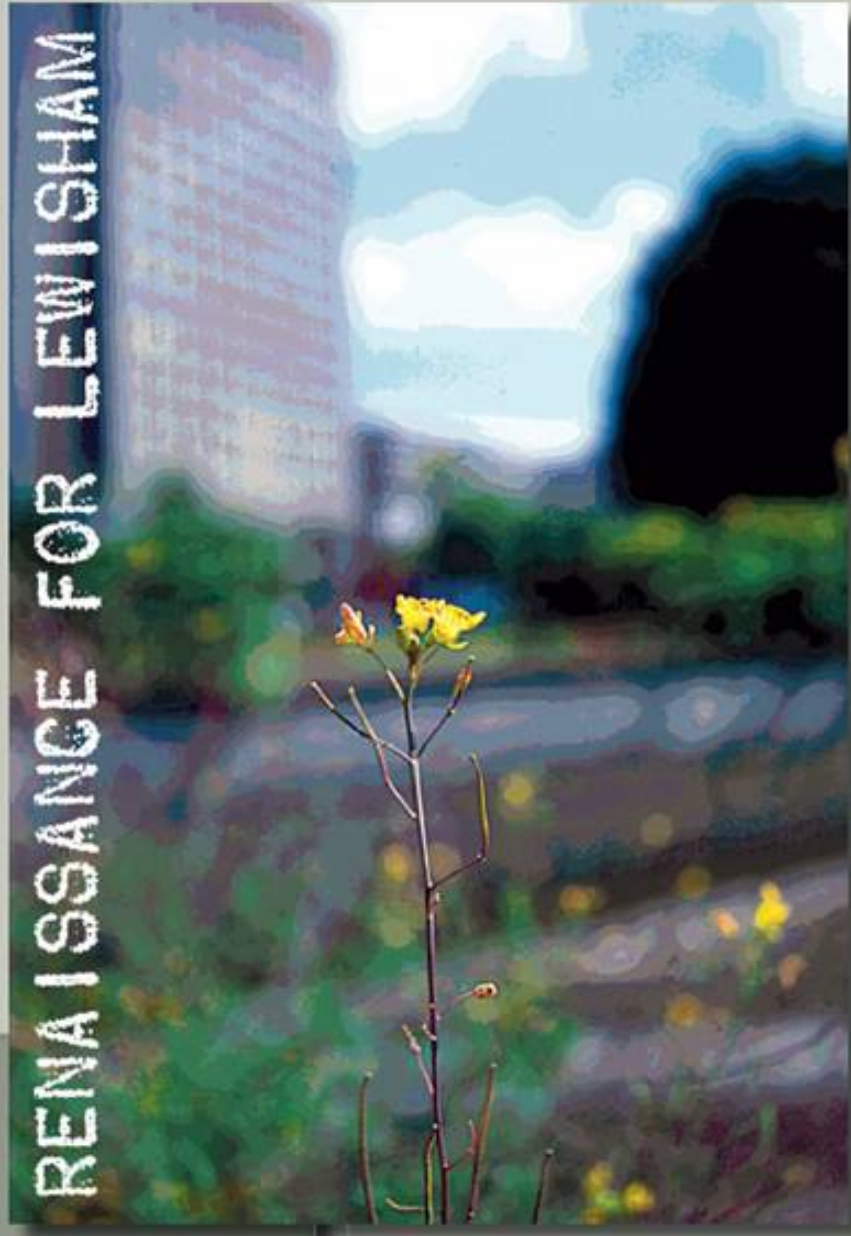
A natural renaissance for Lewisham

(2015-2020)



Photo courtesy of Tomos Brangwyn

A partnership document
July 2015



RENAISSANCE FOR LEWISHAM

A NATURAL



LEWISHAM
BIODIVERSITY
PARTNERSHIP

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1 What is the Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership?

The Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership was established in 1999 to develop an action plan for the Borough's wildlife and natural environment. This followed national guidance and the objectives identified through the work of the London Biodiversity Partnership and the London Biodiversity Action Plan. Presently, the Partnership consists of Lewisham Council, Glendale Managed Services, The Creekside Education Trust, Thames 21, Quaggy Waterways Action Group [QWAG], London Wildlife Trust, Horniman Museum and Gardens, The Environment Agency, Sydenham Garden Organisation, TCV [The Trust for Conservation Volunteers], Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC [GiGL] and, most importantly, a range of local groups and individuals.

Lewisham's Biodiversity Action Plan aspires to be visionary, pragmatic, achievable and inclusive.

This is the second edition of "A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham" first published in 2007. This document seeks to build upon the Partnership achievements by setting out our objectives for the immediate future regarding the conservation of nature across the Borough. The document also identifies the contribution of Lewisham's natural environment to quality of life and sustainable development objectives within the Borough.

1.1 Biodiversity conservation foundations

Action to conserve and enhance Lewisham's natural environment has a long tradition and much of what Lewisham has now is down to the endeavours of a number of committed local residents and voluntary organisations who have given their support for over 25 years. The Borough was one of the first in the country to employ officers with a specific nature conservation remit to complement this activity. Today, the Council employs an Ecological Regeneration Manager and a Conservation Officer to promote biodiversity within Lewisham and ensure it is protected and enhanced within the core duties of the Council.

The Partnership was established to consolidate the interests and expertise of a range of organisations and individuals with a duty to, or interest in, conserving the Borough's wildlife and natural environment. It is there to ensure that the diverse range of views on Lewisham's biodiversity is effectively represented. It will promote innovation and best practice and, although the Partnership is not a campaigning organisation, it will challenge partners and others where necessary.

Since its establishment, the Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership has:

- Contributed to the ecological restoration work at Deptford Creek, Cornmill Gardens, Ladywell Fields and along the River Pool Linear Park and Riverview walk
- Worked to promote biodiverse living roofs on all appropriate new development
- Played a key role delivering the 'Rivers and People' a Big Lottery funded project worth £544,000 that delivered public engagement and promotion of the Waterlink Way
- Led on the 3RiverCleanUp festival (which at the time of writing) in its 7th year and one which can boast to be the biggest volunteer river clean-up event in the UK
- Assisted with the development of the River Corridor Improvement Plan-Supplementary Planning Guidance and the forthcoming Ravensbourne Catchment Improvement Plan

- Contributed to putting policies in place to protect and enhance biodiversity as part of the Local Development Framework and development processes such as, the Local Information Requirement and associated Biodiversity Guidance
- Created dedicated 'Lewisham Nature Conservation' and 'Rivers and People' web sites for the promotion of wildlife engagement, education, and events
- Delivered, monitored and reported on the Partnerships collective outputs since 2008.
- Generated and submitted biological data with GiGL.

Since 2008 the Partnership has engaged 70,487 individuals directly through one of the 3,555 events delivered. These include 1,094 nature conservation volunteer events that delivered over 3,282 volunteer hours worth in excess of £30,000; 861 interpretative guided walks; 1,427 schools education events. The Partnership has planted, built and/or recorded the installation of 333 bat boxes, 210 bird boxes, 125 Stag Beetle loggeries; 2,081m of hedgerow and recorded 15,728m² of living roof consented via the planning process.

We will be working over the forthcoming years to broaden the Partnership and bring in the expertise and enthusiasm of Lewisham's residents and workers. We aim to ensure that the work of the Partnership will be at the forefront of biodiversity conservation and, as such, will take a leading role to promoting our work across the London region. The Partnership will also monitor the Local Authority to ensure that in the exercise of its functions, it has regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, for the purpose of conserving biodiversity, in line with current legislation [Natural Environment and Rural Communities NERC Act 2006].

1.2 Working for a better quality of life

Lewisham is undergoing change and following the recession is under significant pressure to find savings across service areas. As the Council prepares to meet these challenges it is working to find economies and explore new ways of working so that it can maintain and improve the quality of life for Lewisham's residents, workers and visitors. The Council is taking a lead on issues such as regeneration in areas of deprivation, neighbourhood renewal, education, employment opportunities and seeks to maintain and where possible improve housing, parks and other services.

For London, the Mayor has published a series of inter-linked strategies towards which Lewisham is contributing. The most important of these, the London Plan, has established important directions as to how and where new development will take place. Much of this will be targeted in Areas of Opportunity, such as the Thames Gateway in which Lewisham lies.

Lewisham's natural heritage has an important part to play in this. It has helped shape the Borough's development and continues to be a reason why people choose to live and work here. Names such as Lee Green, Grove Park and Forest Hill give an idea of the landscape from which Lewisham developed. Today the Borough is characterised by a wide variety of green spaces and natural features that provide places for people to enjoy, such as the River Ravensbourne, Ladywell Fields, Beckenham Place Park and Hilly Fields. The Government recognises the value of urban green spaces in their contribution to regeneration and quality

of life; they give opportunities for people to have contact with the natural world and are essential for providing habitat for biodiversity.

2 What is a Biodiversity Action Plan and why do we need one? Isn't all wildlife valuable?

Borough Action Plans are there to highlight locally important plants and animals and the landscapes in which they live. They are there to help partners who may not have direct wildlife knowledge but who want easily accessible guidance on actions they can carry out that will help these locally important wildlife species and areas. They are actions that will help the Borough's biodiversity - its variety of life - to increase.

Action Plans deal with species and habitats that reflect national conservation priorities and also those that are culturally valued. However, **all** wildlife is important and it is wrong to assume that if an Action Plan is implemented then everything is covered. With new developments it is crucial to assess **all** the wildlife which may be using a site and **not** just the Action Plan species or habitats.

"A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham" sets out the Partnership's aspirations for the immediate future. It identifies the opportunities and objectives which Lewisham's Biodiversity Partnership is committed to achieving and demonstrates the links that the conservation of Lewisham's biodiversity can make to the Council's continuing programmes within various directorates.

The Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership aspires to contribute to and influence the Council's objectives in the following range of service areas:

- Urban Regeneration, Planning and Development
- Health
- Housing
- Parks & Open Spaces, Rivers and Nature Reserves
- Education and Community Regeneration
- Transport
- Culture

Once embedded in Council policies, the Action Plans will serve as benchmarks against which we may monitor progress.

3 Urban Regeneration, Planning and Development

The Partnership seeks to:

1. Ensure that developers take full account of appropriate Lewisham and London Biodiversity Action Plans in development designs and schemes.
2. Ensure that the new Local Development Framework, for local plans, continues to incorporate comprehensive policies and design guidance to benefit biodiversity.
3. Work closely with Lewisham planners on all major developments to encourage biodiverse living roofs that deliver meaningful Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems [SUDS] and that support wildlife, specifically the Black Redstart and all bats, both of which are London Biodiversity Action plan species.
4. Support and contribute to the work of the Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC [GiGL] the regional environmental records centre to ensure Lewisham's natural environment is accurately represented in their evidence base.
5. Increase the percentage of planning applications screened against GiGL data by developers and planners.
6. Increase the percentage of Lewisham rivers classified as having good ecological potential.
7. Periodically monitor and record progress in reducing areas of deficiency with respect to the Borough's publicly accessible wildlife sites.

Urban Regeneration, Planning and Development Actions

- Encourage developers to make biodiversity enhancements on all new development through the development control process

Please see Lewisham's Biodiversity Guidance:

www.natureconservationlewisham.files.wordpress.com/2011/04/lbl-draft-biodiversity-planning-guidance-notes-local-information-requirement-2013.doc

- Advise developers about living roof systems to maximise local biodiversity and preferred species lists, planting methodologies and maintenance guarantees

- Encourage and promote native species selection and/or wildlife friendly planting, landscaping and management in all new development
- Encourage and monitor the installation of bat boxes and advise about their orientation and placement
- Encourage the creation of ponds, meadow habitats, native hedgerows and other linear tree features for the benefit of bats and other wildlife species
- Encourage the installation of House Sparrow terraces, Swift boxes, open fronted nest boxes and nest boxes with a variety of entrance hole widths (26mm, 32mm & 45mm) to suit a range of typical garden birds such as, Robin, Black Bird, Blue Tit, Great Tit, and Starling
- Promote appropriate distribution, correct orientation and placement of bird nest boxes
- Encourage the provision of dead wood habitat for invertebrates and Stag Beetles
- Support the installation of other invertebrate nest box structures
- Support the 'Dark sky at night' principles and seek commitment for the delivery of sympathetic lighting schemes that avoid/minimise all light spill and that take account of nocturnal urban wildlife requirements

3.1 Case Study- Black Redstart



Photograph courtesy of Jim Lawrence

Historically Lewisham recorded over 1% of the national breeding population of this protected species but for several years there have been no new sightings which suggests that the bird has moved away. In Europe the bird is linked with rocky, mountainous terrain and cliffs but in London there is an association with the River

Thames, industrial infrastructure and brownfield sites. Preferred foraging areas include sparsely vegetated areas of rocky terrain with singing posts. This includes post-industrial land and areas undergoing or awaiting redevelopment. It is a key species that can benefit from the implementation of ‘rubble’ or ‘brown’ living roofs.

Vision

- To encourage re-colonisation and enhance associated habitats for the continued survival of the species

Objectives

- Ensure that mitigation for this species is incorporated into all appropriate new developments
- Provide developers with information and expertise on ‘brown’ living-roof mitigation design, installation and management

Further details from:

www.lbp.org.uk/downloads/Publications/Management/black_redstart_advice_note.pdf

3.2 Case Study- Green Roofs



There are a number of living roofs installed on buildings in Lewisham. These include the Horniman Museum, Shaws Cottage, Creekside Centre, Laban Dance Centre, Seagers Building, Loampit Vale developments, Heathside & Lethbridge Estate, Cannon Wharf and Kender Triangle. There are also numerous consented schemes such as at Lewisham Gateway and proposals for the Leegate Shopping Centre site. This plan aims to promote high quality design and locally appropriate systems in all new development schemes within the Borough.

Vision

- To install green roof systems for habitat mitigation and environmental benefits, such as energy conservation, flood alleviation and to ameliorate the effects of climate change

Objectives

- Influence the use of 'retrofits' in the refurbishment of existing buildings where appropriate
- Advise and promote the installation of high quality living roofs that deliver the maximum benefit for nature conservation on all appropriate new developments
- Provide guidelines for planners when promoting living roofs for biodiversity

Further details from:

www.livingroofs.org.uk

www.natureconservationlewisham.files.wordpress.com/2011/04/lbl-draft-biodiversity-planning-guidance-notes-local-information-requirement-2013.doc

3.3 Case Study- Bats



There are 18 species of bat in the UK, 17 of which are known to be breed. They comprise almost a quarter of our land based mammal species. Historic biodiversity data shows that Lewisham has records for 11 species. Bats are protected by law but despite this their numbers are in decline and this too is true of Lewisham where it would be extremely unlikely to find more than 7 species now. The *Pipistrelle* bat is the smallest and most common bat found in the UK and the one most likely to be seen in Lewisham.

Bats can live in a variety of habitats, including open woodland, parks and urban areas. They emerge from their roosts to feed, often before sunset, hunting a wide range of insects before returning to roost. Bats use echolocation to find prey and to navigate at night. They are attracted to where there are lots of insects, often over meadows and water features. They rely on natural linear features in the landscape such as tree lines to find their way around. In Lewisham they are most likely to be found along the railway lines and rivers but also in parks which are not so affected by light pollution. They live for many years and although they may have numerous roost sites depending on the time of year, environmental and lifecycle factors they are also habitual and are faithful to good roost sites.

Vision

- To encourage conditions which would lead to an increase in bat populations

Objectives

- Maintain, continue and increase knowledge of bat ecology, their status, distribution and factors that effect their conservation locally
- Protect, maintain and enhance the features in the landscape required by bats
- Encourage and monitor the installation of bat boxes and advise about their orientation and placement
- Encourage the creation of ponds, meadow habitats, native hedgerows and other linear tree features for the benefit of bats and other wildlife species
- Promote the planting of night-scented flowers that will attract insects
- Support the 'Dark sky at night' principles and seek commitment for the delivery of sympathetic lighting schemes that avoid/minimise all light spill and that take account of nocturnal urban wildlife requirements

4 Health



Nature's Gym building steps at Dacres Wood Local Nature Reserve

Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership is working with Nature's Gym, Glendale, Thames 21, Parks Open Space and Nature Reserve user groups, Healthy Walk coordinators, the Green Chain Officer and a range of local groups and individuals to promote the health benefits of nature conservation volunteering and active walking initiatives that use the natural environment.

The partnership aspires to develop links with Lewisham Public Health to provide opportunities for residents to actively participate and enjoy the natural environment and to use it as a vehicle to improve both mental and physical health outcomes. There are short circular walks and short cycle trails developed on the Green Chain in Lewisham which are specifically targeted at the less mobile and less confident.

http://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/greenchainsite/homepage/2/circular_walking_routes

http://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/greenchainsite/info/6/cycling/35/circular_cycle_routes

The Sydenham Garden project uses part of Queenswood nature reserve as a community horticultural therapy resource centre for those who are coping with significant illness. The project is an example of successful delivery where individuals who are rehabilitating are using creative outdoor work to help treat their conditions and are also managing and enhancing the remainder of the site for wildlife.

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

The Partnership seeks to:

1. Make links to Lewisham Public Health to highlight and promote the benefits of green

space and contact with nature to patients and practitioners.

2. Build on and promote Nature's Gym, River Conservation Volunteering and Lewisham's Healthy Walks initiatives that use the Borough's nature reserves and other green spaces to bring about health benefits to Lewisham's residents.
3. Ensure that the network of accessible green spaces is protected and enhanced.
4. Promote the Waterlink Way and the Green Chain Walk as resources for both physical exercise and regular contact with nature.

Actions

- Promote and market active nature conservation volunteering via the nature conservation website
- Promote and market walking for health and guided walks that use parks, open spaces, rivers and nature reserves via the nature conservation website
- Encourage the training and development of new healthy walk leaders
- Deliver 60 nature conservation volunteer sessions per year
- Deliver 30 guided walk sessions per year

4 Housing

Housing land, both private and public, constitutes the largest amount of open space within the Borough. However, much of the private housing space including gardens lies outside the domain of the Council and requires the interest of home-owners for their biodiversity improvements. The Partnership supports and endorses 10 simple things that private households can do to encourage and support wildlife in private gardens.

1. Use native and/or wildlife friendly plants, those with simple flowers and night scented varieties are especially useful.
2. Compost food waste. Advice available from <http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/recycling>
3. Compost garden waste. Advice available from <http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/recycling>
4. Build a small pond to benefit amphibians and invertebrates. Free advice available from the London Wildlife Trust: <http://www.wildlondon.org.uk> t. 020 7261 0447
5. Start wildlife gardening. Free advice available from the London Wildlife Trust: <http://www.wildlondon.org.uk> t. 020 7261 0447
6. Provide food for Sparrows and other birds all year round but especially in the spring. See: <http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/gbw/gardens-wildlife/garden-birds/feeding>
7. Don't be too tidy -create wild areas to encourage mini-beasts like caterpillars, spiders and beetles.
8. Create a log pile to benefit Stag Beetles and other invertebrates using suitable untreated broadleaf dead wood (100 x 1000mm). Place in shade or dappled shade buried, or in contact with the soil.
9. Avoid using pesticides, slug pellets and herbicides and try to work with nature or use alternative natural systems instead (e.g. planting annuals such as Californian poppies and marigolds in your garden will attract a wealth of beneficial insects, like ladybirds and hoverflies, that will eat aphids).
10. Buy or build a bird nest box for your garden. Instructions for building your own can be obtained from: <http://www.bto.org/nnbw/building.htm>
11. Tell GiGL what you see: <http://www.gigl.org.uk/submit-records/>

5.1 Case Study- Stag Beetle



This, the largest beetle in the UK, is threatened at the global level and has undergone significant decline in the past 40 years. Recent surveys indicate south London is a national hotspot and in Lewisham they can be found throughout the Borough. They require suitable dead wood for their survival in order to complete their lifecycle. Female Stag Beetle eggs are laid underground in the soil next to logs or in the stumps of dead trees, and the larva (or grub) will spend up to seven years in the wood, slowly growing in size. Adults emerge from mid-May until late July. Males emerge earlier to actively search for females to mate, and can often be seen flying on sultry summer evenings an hour or two before dusk. As adults they are short-lived and generally die after mating, although occasionally some may over-winter in places such as compost heaps. It is because of their reliance on dead rotting wood that management of this resource is a key priority in order to provide suitable habitat.

Vision

- To maintain and enhance the current population within Lewisham and seek improvements of dead wood provision in gardens, parks, school grounds and other open spaces

Objectives

- Work with Glendale and other land managers to further the advice published by London Wildlife Trust and the Peoples Trust for Endangered Species for good site management
- Work with Glendale and other partners to install and record loggeries in key parks, schools and nature reserves
- Promote their conservation to the wider public, primarily at the time when adult Stag Beetles are seen (May-July)
- Promote and monitor the installation of Stag Beetle loggeries as part of Urban

Regeneration, Planning and Development Actions

- Tell GiGL when and where you see them: <http://www.gigl.org.uk/submit-records/>

5.2 Case Study- House Sparrow



The sparrow used to be a common sight in the capital but has undergone a dramatic decline in London and in the UK in recent years. This is mirrored in Lewisham, but there are still thriving colonies in Cornmill Gardens, Brookmill Park, Hilly Fields and elsewhere. More can be done to help this much loved bird re-establish itself.

Vision

- To reverse the decline of the current population within Lewisham

Objectives

- Ascertain the status of House Sparrow in Lewisham and submit biological records periodically to GiGL the regional record centre: <http://www.gigl.org.uk/submit-records/>
- Promote wildlife gardening to the public and encourage householders to provide food for sparrows all year round but especially in the spring
- Encourage and monitor the installation of House Sparrow nest boxes as part of Urban Regeneration, Planning and Development Actions
- Recruit and support “Bird champions” in parks, open spaces and nature reserves
- Support and publicise bird related engagement events and activities such as dawn chorus walks via the nature conservation website and other social media platforms

5.3 Case Study- Standing Water & Ponds



Hare & Billet Pond looking towards Blackheath village

Open standing water and ponds represent one of the most diverse of all ecological habitats in London. These habitats are particularly important for amphibians and reptiles such as frogs, toads, newts, slow worms and grass snakes. These smaller, often sheltered water bodies hold a huge variety of invertebrates. Most spectacular are damselflies, dragonflies and water beetles. Standing water generally supports larger variety of insects compared to dry habitats. These insects are important food sources for birds and bats especially during prolonged dry weather conditions in late spring and summer.

Aquatic habitats are incredibly vulnerable to environmental and human related pressures. For example the presence of certain species of fish will place considerable strain on the survival of aquatic invertebrates so even seasonal ponds are useful for these species as they are fish free. In the urban environment, open standing water is especially vulnerable to vandalism, pollution, and disturbance. Some standing water will be lost to development and some will simply dry out and evolve into a different habitat. Therefore, it is particularly important to engage with audiences such as residents, housing associations and developers to promote the creation of new water bodies wherever possible.

Vision

- To increase the provision and develop the good management of standing water and ponds in Lewisham

Objectives

- Encourage and support the creation and maintenance of new ponds
- Monitor the creation of new ponds as part of Urban Regeneration, Planning and Development Actions
- Develop and extend provision of management advice and awareness of the biodiversity value of ponds with local stakeholders and user groups
- Support partner engagement events, frog days and Froglife pond projects <http://www.froglife.org/>
- Continue to support and promote environmental education initiatives that utilise the ponds to deliver environmental learning outcomes

6 Parks and Open Spaces



Bee orchid in Mountsfield Park courtesy of Martin Hodge

Lewisham has a varied portfolio of parks and other green spaces -from those with strong historical links, such as Beckenham Place Park, Brockley and Ladywell Cemeteries, Horniman Gardens and Blackheath, to those that have been created through community campaigning, such as the Sue Godfrey Nature Park [Local Nature Reserve]. These are all places which people come to enjoy a range of activities and to escape the stresses of modern city life. There are currently over 50 open spaces managed by Glendale, under contract to the Council. Council-run cemeteries are overseen by the Council's Bereavement Services, and include sites of nature conservation importance. Most nature reserve sites are currently managed in-house with some work contracted out to Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environment Management registered companies such as Complete Ecology. There is also support from voluntary and community groups on certain sites where effective partnerships have been built. Some other spaces, such

as allotments, are also managed by voluntary and community groups.

The added value that local groups and volunteers give to local wildlife sites by helping to promote and manage them is tremendous. A great deal of investment and wildlife engagement is only achieved as a direct result of the sustained involvement and commitment by them. The Partnership recognises that these acts of altruism need to continue to be encouraged, supported and celebrated by the Local Authority and all the partners.

Traditionally, many parks have not been managed with wildlife in mind and yet the potential to improve their quality, for both people and wildlife, is significant. Lewisham's Nature's Gym is a partnership between the Council and Glendale to run nature conservation volunteering in both parks and nature reserves. This has enabled volunteers and park users the opportunity to work together on small scale enhancements to improve spaces for both wildlife and people.

The Partnership seeks to:

1. Continue to work closely via Glendale, park user groups and the Lewisham Parks Forum to complement their activities that aim to enhance and develop maintenance and management of habitats for wildlife and people's appreciation of nature by encouraging and promoting:
 - Native species selection and/or wildlife friendly planting, landscaping and management
 - The creation of ponds, meadow habitats, native hedgerows and other linear tree features for the benefit of bats and other wildlife species
 - The installation of invertebrate nest box structures and bat boxes and advise about their orientation and placement
 - The installation of a variety of bird boxes and provide advice about appropriate distribution, correct orientation and placement
 - The provision of dead wood habitat for invertebrates including Stag Beetles
 - 'Dark sky at night' principles
2. Help deliver the aims of the adopted Parks and Open Spaces Strategy that places biodiversity conservation at its core
3. Work with the Council and others to seek Green Flag and Green Flag Community Award recognition for park's and nature reserves
4. Continue to support the delivery of invasive non-native plant species management and be vigilant with respect to surveillance and bio-security
5. Promote, champion and explore all appropriate communication and marketing tools to engage and interpret the natural environment/wildlife to residents and visitors, such as: park, open space and nature reserve notice boards; interpretation boards; walks and talks; websites and social media

6. Monitor and report to Defra on the positive conservation management of Lewisham's 64 designated 'Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation' [SINCs]

See also:

<http://natureconservationlewisham.co.uk/natures-gym-2/>

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

<http://www.nonnativespecies.org/home/index.cfm>

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/inmyarea/openspaces/Pages/default.aspx>

6.1 Case Study- Rivers



Cornmill Gardens before and after river restoration

Rivers are a major natural feature of Lewisham and the network of waterways formed by the Ravensbourne, Pool and Quaggy provide green corridors through the Borough. However, the Ravensbourne is also one of the most 'engineered' rivers in the Greater London area and along much of its course is culverted, channelled or covered. This action plan seeks to further improvements to the river along its course.

The Quaggy Waterways Action Group [QWAG] were instrumental in influencing the Local Authority who now recognise the value of this resource and the opportunities that the river system provides for residents. To date, there have been a series of restoration projects, such as at Chinbrook Meadows, Deptford Creek, Brookmill Park, the Spring Brook at Downham Playing Fields, Ladywell Fields, Cornmill Gardens, River Pool linear Park and Riverview Walk. A River Corridor Improvement Plan -Supplementary Planning Guidance has also been developed to inform, direct and guide future development so that it enhances this asset and relates to it in a positive way.

Vision

- To seek the naturalisation of Lewisham's rivers wherever possible

Objectives

- Support the Environment Agency's programme of river restoration in south London
- Contribute to the Ravensbourne Corridor Improvement Plan and the obligations contained in the European Union Water Framework Directive
- Promote and support the wildlife/ecological value of Deptford Creek through the Creekside Education Trust and the Creekside Centre
- Support the annual 3RiversCleanUp festival initiative and manage invasive species issues associated with Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam and Giant Hogweed
- Seek to champion and encourage a balanced approach to river bankside management, public access and conservation so that some areas remain undisturbed for the benefit of wildlife
- Highlight the benefits of an improved river corridor with regard to health, safety, education and environmental performance
- Support and promote environmental education initiatives that utilise the rivers to deliver environmental learning outcomes
- Resist any proposals which will increase the light levels directly adjacent to rivers

See also:

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

<http://natureconservationlewisham.co.uk/schools/>

<http://riversandpeople.com/school-resources/>

<http://www.thames21.org.uk/>

<http://qwag.org.uk/>

<https://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/planning/policy/LDF/SPDs/Pages/River-corridor-improvement-plan.aspx>

6.2 Case Study- Song Thrush



The Song Thrush has undergone a significant decline over the past 25 years. It is a priority species for conservation at the UK level. In Lewisham, populations can be found throughout much of the Borough but particularly along the Waterlink Way in the south and Blackheath where there are mature private gardens. River corridors have significant populations within the Borough and the species should not be overlooked during river restoration projects that may remove suitable habitat. Parks and other public open spaces are also likely to hold significant numbers but it is thought that a major negative impact on the bird is the use of pesticides by gardeners/land managers and the pressure to reduce shrubberies for perceived safety reasons.

Vision

- To maintain the current population of Song Thrush in Lewisham and where possible extend its range throughout the Borough.

Objectives

- Ascertain the status of Song Thrush in Lewisham and submit biological record periodically to GiGL the regional record centre
- Recruit and support “Bird champions” in parks, open spaces and nature reserves
- Support and publicise bird related engagement events and activities such as dawn chorus walks
- Assess the management practices that may affect it within Lewisham’s public open spaces and promote the Song Thrush as an indicator of good parks management
- Provide guidance to the Council, Glendale, Groundwork and others, on management practices to benefit Song Thrush
- Encourage householders to avoid the use of slug pellets and/or molluscicides

6.3 Case Study- Kingfisher



Photo courtesy of Tomos Brangwyn

Most people have an idea what the Kingfisher looks like even if they have never seen one. With its electric-blue back and orange underparts, it is a unique and unmistakable bird within the British and European species. At 16-17cm in length, it is not much bigger than a Sparrow, but its vibrant colours and long black bill make it stand out. Its proper name is the Common Kingfisher and it belongs to a global family whose 90 different species can be found on every continent except Antarctica and range from the African Dwarf Kingfisher to the Laughing Kookaburra of Australia.

The Kingfisher is a bird of rivers, canals and lakes. It can be seen either perched beside a river, perhaps on a low branch looking intently down at the water, or flying fast and low over the surface. It is a shy bird and will fly quickly away if disturbed, but it is possible sometimes to get close. Its diet consists mainly of small fish - Minnows, Sticklebacks, Bullheads - and the young offspring of larger fish such as Carp and Perch. It also eats aquatic and land-based insects and even small frogs. Its nest is a tunnel, between 45-90 cm in length, which it bores into vertical riverbanks. At the end of the tunnel, it makes a rounded chamber in which the eggs are laid and the young cared for. Normally, it has up to two broods per year.

In Lewisham, we owe the Kingfisher's presence to the network of rivers - the Ravensbourne, Quaggy and Pool - which flow through our borough. In the last few years, the Kingfisher has been seen all along these rivers from Bell Green and Chinbrook Meadows in the south to Deptford Creek in the north. It is known to have bred in Ladywell Fields and the River Pool Linear Park, but evidence suggests that, due to a

lack of suitable riverbank locations in Lewisham, it now moves upstream into Bromley during the spring breeding season. Last year, nest boxes were installed in two locations to try and provide breeding sites within the borough.

The Kingfisher is a Schedule 1 protected bird under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981). It is listed as a Species of Conservation Concern in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

Vision

- To provide the best habitat possible for the Kingfisher within Lewisham as an iconic bird representing the restored health of our waterways and an example of how wildlife can thrive within the inner city

Objectives

- Monitor the status and distribution of the Kingfisher within Lewisham on a quarterly basis each year
- Raise awareness of Kingfishers and their habitat requirements
- Monitor the health of Lewisham's waterways on a regular basis and take appropriate action against any cases of pollution
- Install nest boxes in suitable locations to assist in breeding and minimise disruption during the nesting season to potential or known locations
- Install riverside perches in suitable locations
- Liaise with other authorities within the Ravensbourne Catchment Area to assist in achieving these objectives

7 Education and Community Regeneration



Members of the Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership are actively engaged in a range of formal and informal educational activities in respect of Lewisham's natural environment. These include the Council's Nature Conservation Officer, Glendale Nature Conservation Officer, organisations such as the Horniman Museum, Creekside Education Trust, Thames21, QWAG, Froglife and London Wildlife Trust as well as various Forest School initiatives run by other individuals and user groups.

Lewisham Council has been successful in managing the Big Lottery 'Access to Nature' project called 'Rivers and People' which ran and supported numerous projects to encourage public involvement and educational activities that utilise the Boroughs river network. The project has now come to an end but it achieved more than was ever expected by:

- Providing direct experience and improved opportunities to access the natural environment for 11,886 people
- Engaged 1,795 volunteers in training and nature conservation volunteering programmes
- Facilitated on site educational sessions that engaged 5,596 students
- Developed on line web teaching resources for schools and a legacy of river related illustrated & interpretative walking route maps

<http://riversandpeople.com/walk-guides/>

The Partnership seeks to:

Continue to make links with secondary schools, youth groups, adult learning centres and other educational resource centres to support and promote environmental education initiatives that utilise the natural environment to deliver learning outcomes and wildlife engagement.

See also:

<http://www.field-studies-council.org/>

<http://www.forestschoollassociation.org/what-is-forest-school/>

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

<http://www.horniman.ac.uk/>

8 Transport

It is recognised that, in order to promote sustainable transport and encourage more walking and cycling, it is essential to improve the quality of the environment. Both walking and cycling are going to play an increasingly important role in modern life, recognised by the Council's commitment to providing a strategic framework for the development and improvement of walking and cycling networks. Funds have been obtained from Transport for London for green corridors that improve the environment and link up cycling/walking routes to and from parks. The Green Chain Walk and Waterlink Way are both examples of important and valuable strategic routes where people can experience nature and schemes like 'Lewisham's Healthy Walks' operate in the Borough to help encourage activity by using and enjoying these spaces.

See:

<http://riversandpeople.com/walk-guides/>

<https://www.walkingforhealth.org.uk/walkfinder/lewisham-healthy-walks>



Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership will work to protect, create, and improve habitats and public access, where appropriate, along any proposed and/or existing route. The Partnership seeks to set standards for the ecological design, management and promotion of quality walking and cycling routes, which provide opportunities for the public to enjoy and recognise valuable habitats and species.

The Partnership is working with the Council and various other relevant organisations to ensure that the new Lewisham town centre development (Lewisham Gateway) and creation of a new confluence park is designed to remove obstacles to fish passage and to provide a high quality space for both people and wildlife.

Lewisham's streets are frequently perceived as being 'the built environment' and often their ecological role is overlooked. Many streets can be thought of as linear parks, where front gardens provide a variety of habitats and trees in gardens or those planted in the pavement contribute to the general attractiveness and structure of the street. The Partnership is working to influence highway managers and transport planners to consider biodiversity enhancements that will also provide solutions to some of the issues they face. One such solution is the use of trees and other greenery in the 20mph Zone proposals designed to calm traffic by narrowing, visually, the width of streets. This method has been used in Germany effectively to reduce speeds and enhance the character of areas without resorting to 'hard' traffic engineering measures.

The use of trees in this way may compensate for some of the loss of vegetation from front gardens given over to parking. Research conducted by the London Assembly in 2003 has estimated that the overall area lost to garden parking in London is equivalent to 12 square miles or 22 Hyde Parks. Further research, published in 2010, showed that an additional area equivalent to 2.5 Hyde Parks were being lost each year. The Partnership will promote and work with initiatives that address this problem and initiatives that avoid giving large areas over to parking in new development, as these schemes are detrimental to both biodiversity, sustainable drainage and can exacerbate the urban heat island effect.

In the long run the Partnership hopes to be able to demonstrate the benefits of incorporating elements that enhance biodiversity and link projects, such as: home zones; cycling and walking corridors; traffic calming; safer routes to schools and that these will help us to move from the car to a much improved environment for all.

8.1 Case Study- Railway 'Linesides'



Lewisham is criss-crossed by an extensive network of railway lines. The land beside

them, especially embankments and cuttings, provides a haven for wildlife and is an excellent habitat for many plants and animals. In terms of biodiversity, it is important that these railway 'linesides' are protected and conserved.

At just over 45km, Lewisham contains, proportionately, one of the greatest lengths of London's railway network – c5.5% - managed by 3 companies: Network Rail, Docklands Light Railway, and London Overground. The corridor south of New Cross Gate through to Forest Hill is recognised as being of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation and much of the rest is of Borough-wide significance for the habitats it supports.

This resource is of considerable importance as, cumulatively, the linesides make up a very large linear area that is habitat for many plants and animals. In addition, the linesides can add to the ecological integrity of adjacent Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation [SINCs] and other green open spaces that are more centrally located.

Although safety and operational concerns must always be the first priority, railway land can still be managed with wildlife in mind. A number of nature reserves have been established adjacent to the lineside such as at Devonshire Road and Grove Park Nature Reserve.

The Partnership seeks to:

Promote the protection and appropriate management of railway corridors for biodiversity.
Establish positive working links with the Council, Network Rail, Transport for London (London Overground) -in respect to the protection and management of lineside habitats along Lewisham's rail network.

9 Culture



The cultural diversity of Lewisham is underpinned by the historical heritage of the Borough, which itself has been significantly characterised by its natural environment. The landscape of Lewisham is that of a river valley. Lewisham developed around the Ravensbourne and its confluences with the Thames at Deptford, River Quaggy at Lewisham town centre and River Pool at Catford. Deptford gets its name from the ‘deep ford’ over the Ravensbourne and this ‘working creek’ had a range of fascinating wharves, mills, bridges and landing stages, with a mix of heavy industry, transport infrastructure and new riverside development. The majority of the river courses in the borough were still part of the countryside and these low-lying fields afforded a pattern of farms and villages. The tidal creeks around Deptford became important trading posts, further developed for ship-building using timber from the woods that once covered Forest Hill and Sydenham. These areas were part of the Great North Wood of which Sydenham Hill Woods is one of the last remnant.

From the nineteenth century, as drainage techniques improved, industrialisation and the construction of railways brought rapid urbanisation and most of the borough was built-up. The railway expansion followed the rivers to some extent and these interconnected linear tracts of land connect habitats and are arguably the borough’s greatest wildlife asset.

There is a strong cultural connection between the landscape and the places of Lewisham illustrated by key natural features: place, street and pub names like Blackheath, Catford, Hilly Fields, Perry Vale, Downham, Beckenham, Lee Green, Burnt Ash Hill, Redstart Close and Hare & Billet, to mention just a few. This cultural connection with the landscape can help build a sense of place and should be highlighted and interpreted via engagement activities and with interpretive materials such as signs, leaflets, websites and at events.

The Partnership will:

- Act as a consultative forum for those producing and commissioning public art. We encourage art that works with nature rather than imposing itself on nature and that can also aid wildlife/ecological interpretation in parks, open spaces, nature reserves and the streetscape
- Produce and comment on wildlife/ecological interpretation that aims to engage, enthuse and widen knowledge and understanding for the general public

Contacts and web links

Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership

C/O Nick Pond, Wearside Service Centre, Wearside Road, SE13 7EZ t. 020 8314 2007

Lewisham Council

Town Hall, Catford, SE6 4RU t. 020 8314 6000

Glendale Managed Services

The Lodge, Mountsfield Park, Stainton Road, SE6 1AN t. 020 8318 3986

London Wildlife Trust

Dean Bradley House, 46 Horseferry Road, SW1P 2AF t. 020 7261 0447

Creekside Education Trust

14 Creekside, Deptford SE8 4SA t. 020 8692 9922

Environment Agency

Swift House, Frimley, Frimley Business Park, Surrey, GU16 7SQ t. 08708 506 506

Greater London Authority

City Hall, The Queen's Walk, SE1 2AA t. 020 7983 4000

Horniman Museum & Gardens

100 London Rd, Forest Hill, SE23 3PQ t. 020 8699 1872

Natural England

4th Floor -Foss House,
Kings Pool, 1-2 Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX t. 0300 060 1911

Thames 21

Walbrook Wharf, 78 - 83 Upper Thames Street, EC4R 3TD t. 020 7248 7171

Greenspace Information for Greater London

c/o Dean Bradley House, 46 Horseferry Road, SW1P 2AF t. 020 7803 4275

Useful website links

<http://natureconservationlewisham.co.uk/>

<http://natureconservationlewisham.co.uk/lewisham-biodiversity-group/>

<https://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/planning/apply-for-planning-permission/Pages/Validation-requirements.aspx>

<http://riversandpeople.com/school-resources/>

http://www.lbp.org.uk/downloads/Publications/Management/black_redstart_advice_note.pdf

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/planning/policy/LDF/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://livingroofs.org/>

<http://natureconservationlewisham.files.wordpress.com/2011/04/lbl-draft-biodiversity-planning-guidance-notes-local-information-requirement-2013.doc>

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

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

<http://qwag.org.uk/>

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/recycling>

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

<http://www.rspbshop.co.uk>

<http://www.bto.org/nnbw/building.htm>

<http://www.horniman.ac.uk/>

<http://www.thames21.org.uk/>

<http://ptes.org/>

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

<http://www.froglife.org/>

<http://greenflagaward.org.uk>

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/inmyarea/openspaces/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://riversandpeople.com/walk-guides/>

<https://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/planning/policy/LDF/SPDs/Pages/River-corridor-improvement-plan.aspx>

<https://www.walkingforhealth.org.uk/walkfinder/lewisham-healthy-walks>

<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/walking/green-chain-walk>

<http://www.forestschoolassociation.org/what-is-forest-school/>

<http://www.field-studies-council.org/>

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SELECT COMMITTEE			
Report Title	Sustainability consultancy proposal		
Key Decision	No		5
Ward	All		
Contributors	Asset Management Planning Manager; Sustainability Manager		
		Date	8 March 2016

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report provides an update to the Sustainable Development Select Committee on income generation through delivery of sustainability services and sets out the approach proposed for 2016/17. The report also serves as a summary on the Council's Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) report.

2. Summary

- 2.1 In June 2015 the Committee discussed proposals to develop a 'consultancy-style' approach to the Council's work on sustainability, energy efficiency and carbon reduction. The model proposed was based on:
- Delivery of projects on behalf of other local authorities
 - Responding to tender opportunities for relevant policy and delivery work
 - Use of the Council's existing delivery framework to generate an income through a % recharge on all works delivered
- 2.2 Since that meeting the Government ended or reduced the majority of energy efficiency, fuel poverty and carbon reduction programmes. These changes mean the original context for the consultancy proposal has markedly changed. In addition, internal discussions on the consultancy concept identified a number of other barriers in particular the implications for VAT and the potential scale of internal recharges. It is suggested that, based on these factors, the proposal on a sustainability consultancy is no longer a viable option at this point in time.
- 2.4 Current activity in the borough on solid wall insulation however indicates that there is a potential market in south east London for energy efficiency works. Local authorities could play a valuable role in helping residents access opportunities, which could also create opportunities for local businesses and employment. If successful, this work offers environmental and economic benefits and scope for social benefits by using resources to support vulnerable households.

- 2.5 It is proposed that a key focus of the approach for 2016/17 is to extend the development of a home retrofit offer to 'able-to-pay' households in south east London linked to a locally-based supply chain.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Sustainable Development Select Committee is asked to note the contents of this report and support the approach set out in section 6 for activity in 2016/17.

4. Policy Context

National

- 4.1 The Climate Change Act 2008 sets a legally binding commitment of an 80% reduction in greenhouse gases for the year 2050 from a 1990 baseline with an interim milestone of 34% by 2020.
- 4.2 In 2015 the UK Government signed up to 40% reduction in greenhouse gases by 2030 from a 1990 baseline, as part of a multilateral agreement at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference.
- 4.3 The Government's Fuel Poverty Strategy published in 2015 sets targets for minimum energy standards for fuel poor households with milestones identified for 2020, 2025 and 2030.
- 4.4 The Home Energy Conservation Act (1995) as amended by DECC guidance in 2012 sets a statutory obligation on local authorities to publish details of their plans to improve energy efficiency in housing in their local area. Lewisham's HECA report was submitted to the Sustainable Development Select Committee and agreed at Mayor and Cabinet before being published in March 2015. The Council is due to update this report by March 2017 and this report provides the Committee with a mid-point summary.

Local

- 4.5 Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy includes the strategic priority 'Clean, green and liveable': where people live in affordable, high quality and adaptable housing, have access to green spaces and take responsibility for their impact on the environment.
- 4.6 Climate Local, the successor to the Nottingham Declaration, was launched by the Local Government Association in 2012 as a means to demonstrate local government's commitment to action on climate change. Lewisham Council signed up to Climate Local in November 2012, and published an action plan setting a new borough-wide carbon reduction target of a 44% reduction in CO₂ emissions by 2020 from a 2005 baseline.

5. Activity in 2015/16

Sustainability Consultancy

- 5.1 As part of the re-organisation of Regeneration & Asset Management division officers developed a proposal to achieve additional income through a consultancy-style service on sustainability and delivery of area-based energy projects. The proposal, discussed at the June meeting of the Sustainable Development Select Committee, was intended to:
- Generate income for the Council
 - Enable Lewisham Council to address sustainability challenges within the existing financial constraints
 - Support economic development objectives for employment and local businesses
- 5.2 The proposal forecast an income of £60,000 in 2015/16 rising to £100,000 a year after that.
- 5.3 Sources of potential income generating work were identified as:
- Proactively approaching local authorities and others to offer our resources and delivery mechanisms including funding that we have been able to access
 - Responding to tender opportunities issued by local authorities and other organisations
 - Use of the Council's existing OJEU compliant procurement framework which generates an income through a % recharge on all works delivered
- 5.4 The proposal put to the Committee in June 2015 was to establish the consultancy as a wholly owned subsidiary of the Council to enable it to trade freely with individuals and private sector companies. This was to avoid the restrictions on charging that exist under the Local Authorities (Goods & Services Act) 1970.
- 5.5 During 2015/16 the Government ended or reduced a wide range of energy efficiency, fuel poverty and carbon reduction programmes including:
- Cutting the feed-in-tariff by 63.5%
 - Ending the Green Deal programme
 - Reducing funding available through the Energy Company Obligation
 - Removal of the Zero Carbon Homes Standard
 - Withdrawal of funding for carbon capture and storage
- 5.6 The impact of these changes has limited the scope of consultancy activity possible, including:
- Reduced access to sources of match funding or income streams affecting the financial viability of projects
 - Cuts in local government funding and staffing for sustainability reducing the capacity of other local authorities to deliver projects. Although this was originally seen as an potential opportunity, in practice the limited capacity

means organisations generally lack even the capacity to procure external resources

- Political decisions in some local authorities that as a non-statutory function this is not an area the council should be involved in (even where they are not putting any resource in to delivery)
- Lack of suitable funding or tender opportunities to bid for, either individually or jointly

5.7 Despite these challenges the forecast income achieved in 2015/16 is £33,000 of which 75% has been secured through a recharge on works delivered through the Council's framework and 15% from the feed-in-tariff. Further details of the works delivered are set out below.

5.8 Discussions with officers in HR, legal and finance identified a number of issues with the proposal to establish a separate entity. These included the implications for VAT adding to the cost of works and the scale of internal recharges likely. Furthermore it was concluded that while the 1970 Act restricts the ability to charge a profit it is still possible to charge in a way that generates income through full cost recovery.

Green Deal Communities Fund

5.9 Lewisham secured £1.65m from the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) from their Green Deal Communities Fund (GDCCF) in April 2014, with Lewisham taking the lead for the project operating in Bexley and Bromley. The scheme offered residents up to £7,200 of funding for a range of energy efficiency measures: 50% off the cost of solid wall insulation up to a maximum of £6,000 and up to £1,200 for other energy efficiency measures.

5.10 Initial negotiations with DECC following the award of the grant were protracted and work to deliver did not start until November 2014. Although there was little existing knowledge of solid wall insulation 192 homes were signed up by the deadline of 30 September 2015 and works are on schedule to complete by 31 March 2016. The table below shows the breakdown of properties involved by borough and tenure.

Tenure	Bexley	Bromley	Lewisham	Overall	GDCCF Grant	Customer Contribution
Owner Occupier	24	26	18	68	£369,301.47	£476,542.69
Private Landlord	1	1	8	10	£27,014.25	£32,845.43
Lewisham Homes	0	0	28	28	£83,956.91	£83,956.91
Affinity Sutton	0	82	0	82	£415,021.64	£510,691.51
Wandle	0	2	2	4	£23,898.67	£36,140.48
Total	25	111	56	192	£919,192.94	£1,140,177.02

5.11 Despite a general low-level of awareness of solid wall insulation, and the wider backdrop of the Green Deal scheme failing at a national level, the Lewisham project has shown there are households willing to pay substantial sums for home energy works.

- 5.12 £125,000 of the GDCF grant was allocated to activity supporting the energy efficiency supply chain. The initial target of 50 individuals and organisations supported through accredited training was met relatively early on. Given the potential local economic benefits officers have subsequently looked to use the resource to do further market analysis and develop potential mechanisms for delivering an offer to an able to pay market.
- 5.13 This has included work in partnership with Goldsmiths College to map the energy efficiency supply chain and identify design solutions that could address ongoing or systemic issues within the supply chain. The project has completed the diagnostic phase and developed an alternative approach to marketing and communicating with households.
- 5.14 Officers also commissioned Future Climate to undertake an assessment of the domestic retrofit market in Lewisham and South East London identifying socio-economic and property characteristics in the borough and south east London and linking these to potential delivery mechanisms and packages of measures.

Warm Homes, Healthy People

- 5.15 Now in its fifth year, Lewisham's Warm Homes, Healthy People scheme offers a package of support to people who are vulnerable to the cold as a result of their personal circumstances or pre-existing health conditions. The scheme is offering up to 400 people support by 31 March 2016 and has already provided support to 200 households and is on target to complete by the deadline.

6. Proposed activity in 2016/17

- 6.1 It is proposed that a central focus for 2016/17 is to develop the offer to an 'able-to-pay' market and align this to a localised supply chain. The willingness of residents to invest significant sums of money on solid wall insulation, and the work undertaken in 2015/16 with Goldsmiths and Future Climate suggest there is a potential opportunity to deliver home retrofit works in ways that generate an income and respond to the Council's economic, environmental and social objectives.
- 6.2 Further market testing and development of the offer and supply chain is needed, and establishing an initial pipeline of works is likely to require some further financial incentive. One of the ways that this could be achieved is through a bid for European funding through the Horizon 2020 funding stream which offers up to 100% of the project costs for delivery and has suitable funding call deadlines in September 2016.
- 6.3 Heat networks and decentralised energy will continue to be an active area of work, taking forward the proposed New Cross Network linking SELCHP and Goldsmiths as well as potentially a new feasibility study, currently subject to the outcome of decisions from DECC, extending the network to the development sites in the North of the borough.

- 6.4 Officers are also exploring opportunities for a partnership with an external funder to deliver investment in the Council's operational estate and potential for local energy generation.
- 6.5 Officers hope to continue to be able to maintain the award-winning Warm Homes Healthy People project in 2016/17 offering support to residents vulnerable to fuel poverty. This project however is at risk having lost its dedicated officer and is reliant on ongoing project funding from Public Health which cannot be guaranteed. The support of the Committee for this project would be welcomed.

7. Financial implications

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications arising as a result of this report. The report does however relate to existing savings proposals, in particular those relating to the reorganisation of Regeneration and Asset Management.
- 7.2 The expenditure to be incurred or income achieved in delivering the proposed work in 16/17 relates to existing budgets. Any expenditure required outside of existing budgets would be subject to Council decision-making processes.

8. Legal implications

- 8.1 The Local Authorities (Goods & Services Act) 1970 enables local authorities to enter into agreements with other local authorities or public bodies. It is permissible to make a profit under this legislation. The power can be used for various purposes including providing administrative professional technical services. This legislation does not permit provision to the private sector or members of the public.
- 8.2 Section 95 of the Local Government Act 2003 (2003 Act) enables the Secretary of State to authorise Best Value Authorities to do "for a commercial purpose" anything which they are authorised to do for the purpose of carrying out any of their ordinary functions. A local authority must have the power to undertake the activity before deciding whether or not to trade. The trading power cannot be used where a local authority is required to do something (i.e. has a duty to do something free of charge).
- 8.3 The Localism Act 2011 introduces a general power of competence for local authorities to do anything an individual could do unless it is expressly prohibited. Section 4 of the Localism Act which sets out the limits for local authorities on doing things for a commercial purpose in exercise of the general power, does not take anything away from the existing statutory framework for actions in pursuit of commercial purposes under [Section 95](#) of the 2003 Act. The Localism Act 2011 extends the existing commercial purposes scheme under the 2003 Act in relation to acts that are undertaken in exercise of the general power so that if the general power permits a local authority to carry out a particular activity, then section 4 empowers the authority to do that activity for a commercial purpose.

9. Crime and disorder implications

9.1 There are no specific crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

10. Equalities implications

10.1 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

11. Environmental implications

11.1 There are no specific environmental implications arising from this report however national, regional and local targets for carbon reduction depend in part on the delivery of domestic energy efficiency measures which these proposals seek to facilitate and support.

If there are any queries on this report please contact **Martin O'Brien, Asset Management Planning Manager**, 020 8314 6605.

Background Documents

Report to the Sustainable Development Select Committee June 2015

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/s37214/05Consultancy300615.pdf>

Lewisham Council's 2015 Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Report

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/getinvolved/environment/energyefficiency/taking-the-lead/Documents/Lewisham%202015%20HECA%20Report.pdf>

Lewisham Council's Climate Local Action Plan

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/getinvolved/environment/energyefficiency/taking-the-lead/Documents/ClimateLocalActionPlan.pdf>

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Agenda Item 6

Sustainable Development Select Committee		
Title	Select Committee work programme	
Contributor	Scrutiny Manager	Item 6
Class	Part 1 (open)	8 March 2016

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide Members of the Select Committee with an overview of the work programme for 2015-16 and to advise the Committee about the process for agreeing the 2016-17 work programme.

2. Summary

- 2.1 At the beginning of the municipal year each select committee is required to draw up a work programme for submission to the Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel. The Panel considers the suggested work programmes and coordinates activities between select committees in order to maximise the use of scrutiny resources and avoid duplication.
- 2.2 The meeting on 8 March 2016 is the last scheduled meeting of the Sustainable Development Select Committee in the 2015-16 municipal year. This report provides a list of the issues considered in 2015-16 (the completed work programme) and asks the Committee to put forward suggestions for the 2016-17 work programme.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Select Committee is asked to:
- note the completed work programme attached at **Appendix B**;
 - review the issues covered in 2015-16 municipal year;
 - take note of the notice of key decisions attached at **Appendix C**;
 - consider any matters arising that it may wish to suggest for future scrutiny.

4. Sustainable Development Select Committee 2015-2016

- 4.1 The Sustainable Development Select Committee had six meetings in the 2014-15 year:
- 16 April 2015
 - 11 May 2015
 - 30 June 2015
 - 15 September 2015
 - 22 October 2015
 - 26 November 2015
 - 14 January 2016
 - 8 March 2016

4.2 Along with all other select committees, the Sustainable Development Select Committee has devoted considerable attention to the proposals put forward as part of the development and delivery of the Lewisham Future Programme. It is anticipated that all overview and scrutiny committees will be tasked with reviewing further Lewisham Future Programme proposals in the 2016-17 municipal year.

4.3 The Committee's completed work programme is attached at **Appendix B**.

5. Planning for 2016-17

5.1 Eight meetings will be scheduled for 2016-17 municipal year. A work programme report will be put forward at the first Sustainable Development Select Committee meeting of the 2016-17 year for members to review, revise and agree. The report will take account of the Committee's previous work and may incorporate:

- issues arising as a result of previous scrutiny
- issues that the Committee is required to consider by virtue of its terms of reference
- items requiring follow up from Committee reviews and recommendations
- issues suggested by members of the public
- petitions
- standard reviews of policy implementation or performance, which is based on a regular schedule
- suggestions from officers
- decisions due to be made by Mayor and Cabinet

Issues arising from the 2015-16 work programme

5.2 The Committee has already indicated that there are matters it feels should be considered for further scrutiny, these are:

- That following on from the referral the Committee made to Mayor and Cabinet on section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy, there should be an additional report on a Lewisham Community Trust.
- That as part of the response back to the Committee on the High Streets Review, information should be included on recommendation 5 regarding the creating of a Lewisham "meanwhile" (meanwhile.org.uk) system.
- The final report for the Catford Regeneration Programme in-depth review.

Sustainable Development Select Committee terms of reference

5.3 The Committee's terms of reference are included at **Appendix A**.

5.4 The Council's constitution sets out the Committee's powers. The Sustainable Development Select Committee's role is to examine issues relating to the protection of the environment including 'green' issues such as the conservation of natural resources, energy efficiency and conservation and/or the reduction of pollution.

- 5.5 The Committee has the responsibility for scrutinising sustainable development, economic development, business support, employment and training, highways, parking, traffic and transport, and urban regeneration. The Committee also looks at public health and the environment including waste disposal, environmental health, street and market trading, as well as public protection, refuse collection and disposal, street cleaning, consumer protection, cemeteries and crematoria.
- 5.6 The Committee also scrutinises the formulation of the Council's planning policies, (including the preparation of the Council's Local Development Framework and other local plans for the use and development of land). In addition the Committee scrutinises the work of flood risk management and coastal erosion risk management affecting the area.

6. Financial implications

There are no financial implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations in this report. There will be financial implications arising from items on the agenda; these will need to be considered, as necessary.

7. Legal implications

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, all scrutiny select committees must devise and submit a work programme to the Business Panel at the start of each municipal year.

8. Equalities implications

- 8.1 The Equality Act 2010 brought together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act included a new public sector equality duty, replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011. It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 8.2 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.
- 8.3 There may be equalities implications arising from items on the work programme and all activities undertaken by the Select Committee will need to give due consideration to this.

Background documents

Lewisham Council's Constitution

Appendix A

Sustainable Development Select Committee terms of reference

- (a) To exercise all the functions and roles of the overview and scrutiny committee in relation to the following matters:
- to examine issues relating to the protection of the environment including 'green' issues such as the conservation of natural resources, energy efficiency and conservation and/or the reduction of all types of pollution and make recommendations to the Mayor and Cabinet as appropriate;
 - to comment and consult on and make recommendations to the Mayor and Cabinet in relation to the following:
 - i. sustainable development, economic development, business support, employment and training;
 - ii. the formulation of the Council's planning policies, (including the preparation of the Council's Local Development Framework and other local plans for the use and development of land, but excluding planning control and building control functions);
 - iii. highways, parking, traffic and transport, and urban regeneration;
 - iv. the environment including waste disposal, environmental health, street and market trading (but not the granting of licences and related matters);
 - v. public protection, refuse collection and disposal, street cleaning, consumer protection, cemeteries and crematoria;
 - vi generally to examine the performance of the Mayor and Cabinet in relation to these matters.
 - the review and scrutiny of the exercise by risk management authorities of flood risk management and coastal erosion risk management affecting the area.

Sustainable Development Select Committee work programme 2015/16

Programme of work

Work Item	Type of review	Priority	Strategic Priority	Delivery deadline	16-Apr-15	11-May-15	30-Jun-15	15-Sep-15	22-Oct-15	26-Nov-15	14-Jan-16	08-Mar-16
Lewisham Future Programme	Standard item	High	CP 10	Ongoing				Savings				
Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair	Constitutional req	High	CP6	Apr								
Planning obligations/regulations - Update	Standard item	Medium	CP3, CP 5	Oct								
Select Committee work programme	Constitutional req	High	CP6	Ongoing	Setting the Work Programme							
High Streets	In-depth review	High	CP 5	Oct	Evidence	Evidence			Report			
Modern Roads	In-depth review	High	CP 3	Sept	Evidence			Report				
Planning service annual monitoring report	Information Item	Medium	CP3, CP 5	Nov								
Catford Regeneration Programme Review	In-depth review	High	CP3	Mar					Steering Paper	Evidence 2	Evidence 2	
Progress of neighbourhood forums and Neighbourhood planning	Information Item	Medium	CP 1, CP 3, CP 5	Sept								
Progress on Pubs and register of assets of community value	Standard item	Medium	CP 1, CP 3, CP 5	Oct								
Waste Strategy (with enforcement)	Policy development	High	CP 3	Nov								
Sustainable Consultancy	Standard item	High	CP3	June								
Home Energy Conservation Report	Standard item	Medium	CP 3	Mar								
Work and Skills Strategy - work with Lambeth and Southwark to support our vulnerable residents into work	Standard item	Medium	CP5	Oct								
Community Budget: Establishment of a joint committee between Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark	Standard item	Medium	CP5	Oct								
Street lighting - proposals for variable lighting as part of improving efficiency	Standard item	Medium	CP3	Jun								
Asset Register (asset management system) - SharePoint Demonstration	Standard item	Medium	CP3	Nov							Update	Report
Flood and River Related Consultations – Preliminary Results	Standard item	Medium	CP 3	April/May				Response from Mayor and Cabinet				
Highways Asset Management Plan (Information Item)	Standard item	High	CP3	April			Response from M&C					
Borough Parks - Byelaws	Standard item	Medium	CP3	June								
Publishing Viability Assessments	Standard item	Medium	CP3, CP 5	Oct								
Annual Parking Report	Performance monitoring	High	CP 3, CP 5	Oct								
Bakerloo Line consultation - update	Information Item	High	CP 3	Sept								
Borough-wide 20mph zone implementation	Information Item	High	CP 3	Oct								
Build The Lenox	Standard item	High	CP 3	Nov								
Beckenham Place Park - Petition	Standard item	High	CP 3	Jan								
Biodiversity Action Plan	Standard item	High	CP 3	Jan								
Community Budget: Establishment of a joint committee between Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark	Standard item	Medium	CP5	N/A								

	Item completed
	Item ongoing
	Item outstanding
	Proposed timeframe
	Carried over from last year
	Item added

Meeting Dates:	
1) Thu	16-Apr
2) Tue	11-May
3) Tue	30-Jun
4) Tue	15-Sep
5) Thu	22-Oct
6) Thu	26-Nov
7) Thu	14-Jan
8) Tue	08-Mar

Shaping Our Future: Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2020		
	Priority	
1	Ambitious and achieving	SCS 1
2	Safer	SCS 2
3	Empowered and responsible	SCS 3
4	Clean, green and liveable	SCS 4
5	Healthy, active and enjoyable	SCS 5
6	Dynamic and prosperous	SCS 6

Corporate Priorities		
	Priority	
1	Community Leadership	CP 1
2	Young people's achievement and involvement	CP 2
3	Clean, green and liveable	CP 3
4	Safety, security and a visible presence	CP 4
5	Strengthening the local economy	CP 5
6	Decent homes for all	CP 6
7	Protection of children	CP 7
8	Caring for adults and older people	CP 8
9	Active, healthy citizens	CP 9
10	Inspiring efficiency, effectiveness and equity	CP 10

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Forward Plan March 2016 - June 2016

This Forward Plan sets out the key decisions the Council expects to take during the next four months.

Anyone wishing to make representations on a decision should submit them in writing as soon as possible to the relevant contact officer (shown as number (7) in the key overleaf). Any representations made less than 3 days before the meeting should be sent to Kevin Flaherty, the Local Democracy Officer, at the Council Offices or kevin.flaherty@lewisham.gov.uk. However the deadline will be 4pm on the working day prior to the meeting.

A "key decision"* means an executive decision which is likely to:

- (a) result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates;
- (b) be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards.

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS					
Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
November 2015	Pathways to Employment phase 2 procurement decision	02/02/16 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
January 2016	Enlargement of Holbeach Primary School Contract Variation	02/02/16 Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
December 2015	Catford Stadium Redevelopment Funding of Footbridge Additional Costs	10/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
December 2015	Consultation Results and Waste Regulations Assessment for Proposed Changes to Waste and Recycling Service	10/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		
December 2015	Council Budget 2016-2017	10/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
December 2015	Annual Pay Statement	10/02/16	Janet Senior, Executive		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
		Mayor and Cabinet	Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
December 2015	Estate Sweeping and Bulk Waste Collection Services	10/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		
January 2016	Public Health Contracts with Lewisham and Greenwich Trust	10/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
October 2015	Award of Contracts Tier 4 Services and Day Programmes People with Substance Misuse Services	10/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Janet Daby, Cabinet Member Community Safety		
January 2016	Contract Variation and Single Tender Action for PLACE/Ladywell	16/02/16 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
December 2015	Reprocurement of Healthwatch and NHS Complaints Advocacy	16/02/16 Overview and	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
	Service	Scrutiny Business Panel	Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
January 2016	Catford Regeneration Housing Zone Bid	17/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
December 2015	Council Budget Update	17/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
September 2015	Determined School Admissions Arrangements for 2017/18	17/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
August 2015	Determination of the applications to establish a neighbourhood forum and to designate a neighbourhood area for Deptford	17/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
November 2015	Future of Beckenham Place Park Consultation	17/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS					
Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
			Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		
January 2016	Ravensbourne Flood Alleviation Scheme	17/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
June 2014	Surrey Canal Triangle (New Bermondsey) - Compulsory Purchase Order Resolution	17/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
January 2016	New Bermondsey Housing Zone Bid Update	17/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
January 2016	Update on Proposal to Enlarge Sir Francis Drake Primary School via Priority Schools Bulding Programme	17/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
November 2015	Main Grants Report 2016/17	17/02/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Joan Millbank, Cabinet Member Third Sector & Community		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
January 2016	Award of contract to deliver community breastfeeding support service	22/02/16 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
February 2016	Discretionary Housing Payments for People Affected by Welfare Reform	22/02/16 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
January 2016	Gambling Policy 2016-2019	24/02/16 Council	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		
January 2016	Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan Early Public Consultation	24/02/16 Council	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
December 2015	Council Budget 2016-17	24/02/16 Council	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
January 2016	Business Rates Write Off	02/03/16	Janet Senior, Executive		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
		Mayor and Cabinet	Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
January 2016	Catford Regeneration Partnership Ltd Business Plan 2016-17	02/03/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
December 2015	Deferred Payment Agreement Arrangements Care Act 2014	02/03/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
August 2015	Housing Allocations Policy	02/03/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
January 2016	Private Rented Sector Proposed Additional Licensing scheme for Flats over Commercial Premises	02/03/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
February 2016	St Winifred's Catholic Primary School Making of Instrument of Government	02/03/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin,		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS					
Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
			Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
December 2015	Award of Contracts for Residential Detoxification Services	02/03/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Janet Daby, Cabinet Member Community Safety		
January 2016	Tender award for SEN and Disability Information Advice and Support Service	15/03/16 Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
December 2015	'A natural Renaissance for Lewisham (2015-2020)' The Borough's Biodiversity Action Plan.	23/03/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		
January 2016	Beeson Street Scheme Approval and Proposed form of Investment partnership/procurement route	23/03/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
January 2016	Brasted Close Housing Development	23/03/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan,		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
			Cabinet Member Housing		
November 2015	Discharge into Private Rented Sector Policy	03/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
January 2016	Hostels/Private Sector Leased Service Transfer to Lewisham Homes	23/03/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
January 2016	Housing Led - Regeneration Sites, parts 1 & 2	23/03/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
January 2016	Lewisham Homes Management Agreement	23/03/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
January 2016	Phoenix Homes Community Housing Development Agreement	23/03/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
January 2016	Catford Regeneration Partnership Ltd Business Plan 2016-17	30/03/16 Council	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith,		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
			Deputy Mayor		
February 2016	2016 School Minor Works Contract	05/04/16 Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
May 2015	Formal Designation of Crystal Palace & Upper Norwood Neighbourhood Forum and Area	04/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
November 2015	Temporary Accommodation Procurement Strategy	04/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
February 2016	Processing of Dry Recyclables Contract	05/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		