

Sustainable Development Select Committee Agenda

Wednesday, 13 September 2017

7.00 pm, Council Chamber

Civic Suite

Catford

SE6 4RU

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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 Wednesday, 13 September 2017.

Barry Quirk, Chief Executive
Tuesday, 5 September 2017

Councillor Liam Curran (Chair)	
Councillor Mark Ingleby (Vice-Chair)	
Councillor Abdeslam Amrani	
Councillor Andre Bourne	
Councillor Suzannah Clarke	
Councillor Amanda De Ryk	
Councillor Sophie McGeevor	
Councillor Eva Stamirowski	
Councillor Paul Upex	
Councillor James-J Walsh	
Councillor Alan Hall (ex-Officio)	
Councillor Gareth Siddorn (ex-Officio)	

MINUTES OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SELECT COMMITTEE

Thursday, 20 July 2017 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Liam Curran (Chair), Mark Ingleby (Vice-Chair), Andre Bourne, Amanda De Ryk, Eva Stamirowski and James-J Walsh

APOLOGIES: Councillor Suzannah Clarke, Councillor Sophie McGeevor

ALSO PRESENT: Timothy Andrew (Scrutiny Manager), Michael Bryan (Service Group Manager, Waste Management), Jereme McKaskill (Senior Traffic Engineer, Project Centre), Simon Moss (Policy and Development Manager, Transport), Freddie Murray (SGM Asset Strategy and Technical Support), Wendy Nicholas (Strategic Waste and Environment Manager), Janet Senior (Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration), Kevin Sheehan (Executive Director for Customer Services) and Nigel Tyrell (Head of Environment)

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2017

- 1.1 **Resolved:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 June be agreed as an accurate record.

2. Declarations of interest

- 2.1 Councillor James-J Walsh declared a non-prejudicial interest in relation to item 7 as the founder of bakerloolinextension.com

3. Responses from Mayor and Cabinet

- 3.1 The Committee requested confirmation that the letter from the Mayor to neighbouring local authorities on home energy conservation and joint working had been sent. It asked to be updated regarding any responses.
- 3.2 **Resolved:** that the Committee request that it informed about any responses to the Mayor's letter regarding joint working and home energy conservation.

4. Fire safety in tall buildings

- 4.1 Kevin Sheehan (Executive Director for Customer Services) introduced the report. The following key points were noted:

- The report provided a comprehensive update of work that had taken place to date.
- Three blocks of housing in Lewisham (Hatfield Close (two blocks) and Gerrard House) had been identified for remedial work.
- It was hoped that contactors would be in place next week to remove and replace the cladding on these blocks, consideration would also be given to installing sprinkler systems in these buildings.
- The only other group blocks managed by registered providers which were of concern were in Clive Terrace in Forest Hill (managed by London and Quadrant Housing).

- In terms of none social housing stock – responses had been received from all owners or managers of tall buildings in Lewisham, except Aragon Tower, which was still outstanding.
- None of the blocks in the borough, that had been assessed, had aluminium composite material (ACM) cladding.
- Almost all owners of tall buildings in the borough were working with the Council to carry out additional checks and safety measures.
- The list of tall buildings in the borough had been given to the borough commander – who had developed a programme to visit each of the high rise buildings with landlords to perform assessments.
- The newest buildings in the borough met the relevant fire safety standards and it was positive that none of them had ACM cladding.

4.2 Kevin Sheehan, Janet Senior (Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration) and Freddie Murray (Service Group Manager, Asset Strategy and Technical Support) responded to questions from the Committee. The following key points were noted:

- For those buildings that the Council had carried out the building control approvals on, there was information about the materials used for construction. This had been checked by officers and there were no issues identified.
- For those buildings that the Council had not carried out the building control on, information would be sought from developers.
- There was a limit to how much the Council could do to push private developers. Once owners had given reassurance that inspections were in place, that they had done their risk assessments and they had been engaged with the fire brigade, that was the point at which the Council would recognise that the owner of the building had taken responsibility.
- If there were particular complaints about a building from tenants, there were interventions the Council could make, though these complaints would have to be fairly consistent and detailed before action could be taken.
- The Council had been in touch with all owners or managers of tall buildings in the borough.
- There were named, responsible officers for each development who were accountable for health and safety and fire regulations in their own building.
- It was the responsibility of owners and responsible officers to satisfy the fire brigade that they were doing what they should be doing and that the systems that should be in place were in place.
- The Council had asked for reassurance that the appropriate systems were in place.
- The fire brigade would inform the Council of anything that they were concerned about regarding tall residential buildings.
- The Council did not have many powers or duties in relation to private blocks.
- The fire brigade had relationships with developers or agents managing buildings to assure fire safety.
- The Council did not have the power or the duty to give agencies managing private blocks a 'clean bill of health' regarding their responsibilities.
- The Council could seek reassurance from private developers and managing agents that they were doing the things they should be doing.

- For registered social landlords the regulator (the homes and communities agency) was responsible for overseeing compliance.
- In the Council's own stock – it could ensure that all the relevant risk assessments were in place and that the any issues discovered as a result of inspections were dealt with.
- If the Council was notified that there had been an error or failure in the application or sign off of a building control approval then it had powers to assure that a remedy was made.
- The Council had limited powers to compel private developers to act – so it had to build influence with partners to act.
- Private developers could have their own building control sign off for their developments. This was likely to be one of the issues considered as part of the Government's inquiry.
- All Lewisham schools had been checked as part of the recent work on fire safety. Once school had cladding on it, which found not to be ACM. The Council had written to all schools about updating their fire risk assessments.
- Officers had also been in contact with Lewisham Hospital about fire safety in its buildings.
- The health and safety risk assessments were being updated for all Council buildings.
- There was cladding on Eros House, officers would confirm whether or not this was ACM.
- Officers would check with Goldsmiths University about the safety in its halls of residence.
- The starting point for the recent fire safety work was tall buildings with cladding, which had a strong residential component, without 24 hour security arrangements. These were the highest risk buildings.
- Residential tall buildings were risky because they had families sleeping in them and most did not have 24 hour security services.
- Most non-residential buildings had plans for evacuation.
- The message for tall residential buildings was for residents to 'stay put' in the event of a fire.
- It was not easy to answer to questions about the potential for unaccounted for people living in residential buildings.
- There was not a mechanism for tracking who was and was not in any residential building at a given time.
- The Council knew who lived in each of its buildings – but it could not account for their location at any time of the day or night.
- A system to track residents' movements was likely to be intrusive.
- Costs for the replacement of cladding in Lewisham buildings had not yet been finalised but it was likely to cost millions of pounds.
- The Mayor had written to the secretary of state to request additional funding to cover the costs.

4.3 In the Committee's discussion the following key points were also noted:

- One of the key issues in many disasters was not that the systems to prevent or control risk were not in place – but that issues had slipped through the system on some level.
- It was important that the Council had robust systems in place to prevent issues being missed or overlooked.
- The outcome of the inquiry into the Grenfell tower disaster might lead to the tightening up of regulations and closer scrutiny of the techniques and systems used by developers to stretch the regulations.

- Councillors would be asking more questions about the quality and delivery of new developments.
- A public information campaign was required to ensure that residents were aware of the measures they could take to manage the fire risks in their households. This should include a particular focus on the safety of electrical items and might include proactive work in schools.
- There was a potential lack of in house expertise and experience to assess some of the complex equipment (including new heating and energy machinery) in new developments.
- There were examples where in house experts working for developers had mitigated down building planning regulations.

4.4 **Resolved:** that the report be noted. The Committee also agreed that it would write to the Chair of the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority to encourage the commissioning of a public information campaign about fire safety. In addition, the Committee agreed that it would share its views with Mayor and Cabinet as follows:

- The Committee welcomes officers' report on fire safety in tall buildings. The Committee recommends that there be an ongoing commitment to full openness and clarity regarding the fire safety work taking place in the borough.
- The Committee requests that a publicly available list of all tall buildings in the borough be produced for ease of reference. This should contain a summary of fire safety activities, that can be cross checked against each building, with the action taken and assurances provided to date. This would include, for example, dates on key building control actions, whether private or council, fire safety inspections, LFB inspections, cladding checked or not etc.
- Officers have agreed to provide additional information about the Council's responsibility for buildings for which it has provided building control services. The checklist for buildings (requested above) would need to include actions taken by officers to meet all building control requirements in those buildings. This information should also be provided to the fire service.
- The Committee is concerned about the complex technical nature of some of the materials and machinery being used in new developments. The Committee therefore recommends that officers be tasked with considering what expert advice the appropriate Council Committees need when making decisions in relation to new developments.

5. Implementation of the cycling strategy

5.1 Simon Moss (Policy and Development Manager) and Jereme McKaskill (Senior Traffic Engineer, Project Centre) introduced the report. The following key points were noted:

- Officers had been developing a cycling strategy for Lewisham, building on from the work carried out by Lewisham Cyclists.
- The new strategy fitted in with the review of the local implementation plan and the Mayor of London's transport strategy.
- A range of data had been used to develop targets for Lewisham's cycling strategy.

- The maps circulated at the meeting set out areas which had significant numbers of collisions; this indicated where the Council should focus its resources.
- The rate of collisions in Lewisham was reducing.

5.2 Jereme McKaskill and Simon Moss responded to questions from the Committee, the following key points were noted.

- The purpose of the strategy was to get more people cycling, because the benefits associated with cycling were significant.
- The aim of the strategy was also to make Lewisham a place where it was easy and safe to cycle.
- The fear of being involved in a collision was the number one thing that kept people from riding bikes.
- Consideration would be given to placing additional cycle storage facilities around the borough.
- The strategy set out an action plan for major infrastructure developments. It was also a lobbying document for new schemes.
- Information about cycling lessons was available on the Council's website.
- Cycle training was offered to all schools in the borough.
- Work to improve cycling skills had to be accompanied by work to improve cycling infrastructure in the borough.
- The key issue with the timing of the implementation of the strategy was resources, particularly the allocation of resources from the Transport for London (TfL) business plan.
- Officers would review implementation dates to determine whether any of these could be brought forward.
- Officers were intending to take the draft strategy to Mayor and Cabinet in September. Comments on the draft from Councillors and from the Lewisham Cyclists would be welcomed.
- Some work had already been programmed for the first year of the delivery of the new strategy.

5.3 Representatives from Lewisham Cyclists addressed the Committee. The following key points were noted:

- The target dates in the draft strategy could be more ambitious, without being unachievable.
- This could be accomplished on TfL controlled roads by lobbying for the inclusion of Lewisham schemes in the Mayor of London's transport strategy.
- Lewisham Council was good at dealing with soft measures to improve cycling. But the borough needed safe places for cycling, through improvements to infrastructure.
- There were a number of issues that could be improved through the improved take up of cycling, including: reductions in obesity and obesity related disease, improvements in air quality and crowding on other forms of transport.

5.4 In the Committee discussions, these key points were also noted.

- It was important that the strategy maximised the opportunities for the development of a central cycle route along the A21.
- One of the key ways to get people cycling was to help improve their confidence on the road.

- Work should take place within the Council and with public sector partners to encourage staff to cycle.
- Consideration of issues relating to cycling was part of the Committee's remit and the conversation about cycling infrastructure would be ongoing.

5.5 **Resolved:** that the report be noted. The Committee also agreed to share its views with Mayor and Cabinet, as follows –

- The Committee recommends that there should be a communications campaign to encourage the uptake of the Council's cycle proficiency training.
- The Committee recommends that the programme of activities in the draft strategy be reevaluated to determine how the dates for implementation could be brought forward. The Committee would particularly welcome efforts to bring forward the work on the Transport for London Road Network.

6. Waste strategy implementation and performance monitoring

6.1 Nigel Tyrell (Head of Environment) and Wendy Nicholas (Strategic Waste and Environment Manager) introduced a presentation and the report. The following key points were noted:

- Lewisham sent very little waste to landfill. The incineration of waste at the South East London Combined Heat and Power plant (SELCHP) helped the Council to avoid approximately £5m in disposal costs each year, based on current costs.
- Until now, if the Council had wanted to increase its recycling rate, it would have incurred extra costs to do so because of the efficiency of the contract with SELCHP.
- When the SELCHP contract ended in 2024, incineration costs would increase.
- The current work to recycle food waste and improve dry recycling would help to avoid future costs at SELCHP.
- A large proportion of household waste (by weight) was made up of food.
- There were a number of drivers and opportunities informing the development of the Council's approach to managing its waste.
- The implementation of the new service had been delayed slightly, but changes recycling, residual waste, food waste and garden waste collection would be brought in together (in October 2017).
- Under exceptional circumstances, households would be provided with a larger refuse (residual waste for landfill/incineration) bin.
- A communication strategy was in place to inform residents about the new service. Letters would be sent to all kerbside properties, posters would be put up in prominent places and postcards would be handed out at a number of places around the borough to raise awareness.
- 'Waste advisors' would be holding roadshows and visiting homes to advise people about the new service.
- Complaints or requests would be dealt with through the Council's website. There would also be a dedicated email address for residents.

6.2 Information about fly-tipping and fixed penalty notices was circulated at the meeting and is attached to the agenda.

- 6.3 Nigel Tyrell, Wendy Nicholas, Kevin Sheehan and Michael Bryan (Service Group Manager, Waste Management) responded to questions from the Committee. The following key points were noted:
- The Council did not have responsibility for collecting fly-tipping on private land or that which was owned and managed by housing associations.
 - Information about the tonnages of fly-tipping being collected each month indicated that it was not increasing. But as the number of street sweepers and collection rounds had been reduced, to save money, fly-tipping was being collected less quickly, which gave the perception that there was more fly-tipping taking place.
 - A range of initiatives were taking place to reduce fly-tipping. Including the use of cameras.
 - An approach was being trialled to enable residents to access CCTV cameras in order to preview the footage and pass the relevant information to the Council's enforcement team.
 - This approach was currently being trialled with one resident in Whitefoot ward.
 - The new food waste bins locked, to prevent vermin from accessing the contents.
 - Dog waste could be placed in the residual waste bin or in bins in parks or streets.
 - Officers had worked with boroughs that had already implemented new waste services, including new food waste collections, to learn about the potential issues and problems.
 - One of the key things that officers had learnt from the visits to other Councils that that it was important to be clear about the Council's policies from the outset and to stick to the rules as much as possible.
 - The waste service was collecting lots of information about recycling and waste in each ward. This enabled it to target work in particular areas that were experiencing problems.
 - The communication campaign for the new service would include a range of leaflets as well as stickers and tags for bins.
 - Introducing a 'community skip' in the south of the borough would be problematic, because it would likely encourage the creation of a new dumping ground in the borough, which would be quickly overwhelmed.
 - Officers were reluctant to use fake cameras for fly-tipping because there was a risk that people (for example those who were victims of a crime in the vicinity of the camera) would anticipate that they could rely on the footage when this was not the case.
 - Officers were using all available technology to maximise the effectiveness of their approach to enforcement.

6.4 In the Committee's discussion, the following key point was also noted:

- Councillors in Whitefoot ward had developed new leaflets about fly-tipping and waste that could be shared with other Members.

6.5 **Resolved:** that the report be noted.

7. Bakerloo line extension update

7.1 Simon Moss (Policy and Development Manager, Transport) introduced the report. The following key points were noted:

- Following TfL consultation on the Bakerloo line extension, a number of pieces of work were being developed.
- There was a significant opportunity for development at Lewisham station. The Council, TfL, the Greater London Authority and Network Rail had been working on a vision for Lewisham Station. The final report had been produced, and officers were considering it in detail.
- The other significant area of focus was New Cross Gate, officers were looking at creating a sense of 'place' as part of their exploration of development opportunities and potential improvements to the local economy. Work had already started to give consideration to options for New Cross Gate station.
- Partners (including Goldsmiths University) had ideas about how the roads in New Cross Gate might be improved, including developing cycling and pedestrian access.

7.2 Simon Moss and Janet Senior (Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration) responded to questions from the Committee. The following key points were noted:

- Officers had given consideration to carrying out work to improve the Lewisham Town Centre, beyond the Lewisham Gateway development, this had included putting in a bid for funding to TfL to improve the high street.
- Officers in planning were aware of the important features of Lewisham's town centres, including the distinctive and diverse local businesses that catered to Lewisham's different communities.
- Additional resources had been made available for developing the Council's approach to the Bakerloo line, including the recruitment of an officer to determine the resources that would be required to make the most of the opportunities it presented.

7.3 **Resolved:** that the report be noted.

8. Select Committee work programme

8.1 The Committee discussed the work programme, the following key points were noted:

- There was a short discussion about of the date of the next meeting.
- The Committee discussed a request from the Lee Forum to attend a future Committee meeting. Members were interested in the work of Lewisham's neighbourhood forums but it was noted that there was a great deal of work taking place across the borough in the different neighbourhood groups. It was agreed that, in the first instance, the Committee would prefer to receive a written submission from the Lee Forum.
- The Committee would continue with its review of the delivery of the Catford redevelopment.

8.2 **Resolved:** that the date of the next meeting be moved to 13 September; it was also agreed that information about the Council's key planning policies would be shared with Members of the Committee so that a further steer could be provided to officers in Planning about their report for September.

9. Items to be referred to Mayor and Cabinet

9.1 **Resolved:** that the Committee's comments under items four and five be referred to Mayor and Cabinet.

The meeting ended at 9.40 pm

Chair:

Date:

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Sustainable Development Select Committee		
Title	Declaration of interests	
Contributor	Chief Executive	Item 2
Class	Part 1 (open)	13 September 2017

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;

(b) and 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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Sustainable Development Select Committee		
Report title	Response to the recommendations of the Housing Select Committee and Sustainable Development Select Committee - Housing Zones	
Contributor	Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration (Head of Business & Committee)	Item 3
Class	Part 1	13 September 2017

1. Summary

This report informs members of the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to a referral in respect of recommendations to the Mayor by the Select Committees following discussions held on Housing Zones at a joint meeting in March 2017.

2. Purpose of the report

To report to members the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to recommendations made by the Select Committees on March 20 2017.

3. Recommendation

The Select Committee is recommended to receive the Mayoral response to their consideration of Housing Zones.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Mayor considered the attached report entitled 'Response To Referral from Sustainable Development and Housing Select Committee - Housing Zones' at the Mayor & Cabinet meeting held on July 19 2017.

5. Mayoral response

- 5.1 The Mayor received an officer report and a presentation from the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Alan Smith.
- 5.2 The Mayor resolved that the response shown in the attached report be submitted to the Select Committees.

Background papers

Mayor & Cabinet minutes July 19 2017

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Kevin Flaherty, Head of Business & Committee, 0208 314 9327

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	Response To Referral From Sustainable Development and Housing Select Committee - Housing Zones	
Key Decision	No	Item No.
Ward		
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration	
Class	Open	Date: 19 July 2017

1. Purpose:

- 1.1 This report sets out the response to the referral made by the Sustainable Development and Housing Select Committees to Mayor on 22nd March 2017 following their consideration of an officer response to an earlier referral on Housing Zones in the borough.

2. Recommendations:

The Mayor is asked to:

- 2.1 Approve the officer response to the referral by the Sustainable Development Select Committee on Housing Zones, and
- 2.2 Agree that this report should be forwarded to the Select Committee.

3. Background:

- 3.1 On 25th October 2016, the Sustainable Development Select Committee and the Housing Select Committee held a joint meeting at which an officer paper on Housing Zones was considered (appendix 1). The purpose of the paper was to provide a general background to the Mayor of London's Housing Zone Programme and a specific update on the two designated Housing Zones in the borough – New Bermondsey and Catford.
- 3.2 Having considered the report, the Select Committees resolved to advise Mayor and Cabinet of their views (attached as appendix 2 of this report). The Select Committees' referral was considered by Mayor and Cabinet on 1st March 2017 and officers were asked to respond. A copy of the officer response is attached as appendix 3 of this report.
- 3.3 The officer response contained in appendix 3, was considered by the Sustainable Development Select Committee on 8th March and the Committee resolved to make a

further referral to Mayor and Cabinet on the subject matter. This referral was considered by Mayor and Cabinet on 22nd March and the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration was asked to respond. The Select Committee's comments and the Executive Director's responses are set out below.

4. Referral and Officer Response:

Referral

- 4.1 The Committee notes the Mayor of London's response to Select Committee Chairs and welcomes the stated ambition to provide 35% affordable housing in Lewisham's housing zones. However, the Committee asks that officers are clear about the definitions they use for affordable housing in future reports.
- 4.2 The Committee notes that the bid document for the New Bermondsey housing zone only became available to Members after Mayor and Cabinet in February 2017.

Response

- 4.3 The Executive Director notes the views of the Sustainable Development Select Committee and wishes to note further, on the point of affordable housing percentages, that the GLA's definition of affordable housing encompasses social rented, affordable rented and intermediate housing. Wherever detailed information on particular tenures or type of affordable housing are available, officers will commit to making these available to members in order to help inform their decision.

5. Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this response.

6. Legal Implications:

- 6.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from this response, save for noting that the Council's Constitution provides for Select Committees to refer reports to the Mayor and Cabinet, who are obliged to consider the report and the proposed response from the relevant Executive Director; and report back to the Committee within two months (not including recess).

7. Crime and Disorder Implications:

- 7.1 There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this response.

8. Equalities Implications:

- 8.1 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this response.

9. Environmental Implications:

9.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this response.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Housing Zones - Oct 2016

Appendix 2: Housing SC and SDSC Referral on Housing Zones

Appendix 3: Response To Referral From Sustainable Development and Housing Select Committee - Housing Zones

If you would like further information on this report please contact Kplom Lotsu, SGM Capital Programmes on ext: **49283**

Sustainable Development Select Committee		
Report title	Response to the recommendations of the Sustainable Development Select Committee - Post Office changes	
Contributor	Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration (Head of Business & Committee)	Item 3
Class	Part 1	13 September 2017

1. Summary

This report informs members of the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to a referral in respect of recommendations to the Mayor by the Select Committee following discussions held on Post Office changes at its meeting in March 2017.

2. Purpose of the report

To report to members the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to recommendations made by the Select Committee on March 6 2017.

3. Recommendation

The Select Committee is recommended to receive the Mayoral response to their consideration of Post Office changes.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Mayor considered the attached report entitled 'Response to the Sustainable Development Select Committee - Post Office changes' at the Mayor & Cabinet meeting held on July 19 2017.

5. Mayoral response

- 5.1 The Mayor received an officer report and a presentation from the Cabinet Member for Resources, Councillor Kevin Bonavia.
- 5.2 The Mayor resolved that the response shown in the attached report be submitted to the Select Committee.

Background papers

Mayor & Cabinet minutes July 19 2017

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Kevin Flaherty, Head of Business & Committee, 0208 314 9327

Mayor and Cabinet		
Title	Response to the Sustainable Development Select Committee - Post Office changes	
Contributor	Executive Director for Customer Services	Item
Class	Part 1 (open)	19 July 2017

1. Summary

1.1 This report sets out the actions that have been taken by the Council to oppose the changes to New Cross and Sydenham Post Offices.

2. Recommendation

2.1 Note the actions taken to date and approve this report for submission to the Sustainable Development Select Committee.

3. Background

3.1 The Post Office plans to introduce changes to the operation of New Cross and Sydenham Crown Post Offices. The plan is to change these Crown Post Offices to franchises which the Post Office says will allow them to keep these services on the high street.

3.2 On 22 February 2017 a motion was adopted at Council calling for New Cross Post Office to remain open and for it to be operated and managed directly by the Post Office.

3.3 On 8 March 2017 the Sustainable Development Select Committee considered a report about the Post Offices changes. On the 22 March 2017 the Sustainable Development Select Committee referred their discussions on the Post Office changes to Mayor and Cabinet and asked that:

- The Mayor write to the government minister responsible and the Chief Executive of the Post Office about the potential loss of Sydenham Crown Post Office
- Officers be tasked with investigating how lease arrangements might be negotiated to retain the Crown Post Office in Sydenham
- The Mayor writes to Jim Dowd MP about the potential closure
- The Council requests further information from the Post Office about its strategy to preserve the full range of Post Office services for Lewisham residents.

3.4 It should be noted that the Post Office was consulting on the changes to the Sydenham Post Office until 26 May 2017. At the time of writing this report the outcome of the consultation is not known.

3.5 The Executive Director for Customer Services was asked to provide a response to these requests. This report provides that response.

4. Response

- 4.1 The Mayor has written to Ellie Reeves MP, the Chief Executive of the Post Office and the minister responsible opposing the changes to the Sydenham Post Office. The Post Office Chief Executive has also been asked for further information about their strategy to preserve the full range of Post Office services for Lewisham residents.
- 4.2 The Post Office occupy the ground floor of 44 Sydenham Road, currently holding over on the terms of their existing lease which expired in June 2015. Officers in the Regeneration and Place Division are currently in negotiations with the Post Office to renew this lease. Any major changes away from the terms of existing lease, in particular proposals to restrict the use of the property (i.e. a requirement for use as only a Crown Post Office) would need to be agreed with the Post Office.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implication arising out of this report per se; but there may be financial implications arising from carrying out the actions.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 The constitution provides for select committees to refer reports to Mayor and Cabinet who are obliged to consider the report and the proposed responses from the relevant Executive Director and report back to the committee within 2 months (not including recess).
- 6.2 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 6.3 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.
- 6.4 It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct, or to promote equality of opportunity or foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. It is a duty to have due regard to the need to achieve the goals listed above.

- 6.5 The weight to be attached to the duty will be dependent on the nature of the decision and the circumstances in which it is made. This is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. The Mayor must understand the impact or likely impact of the decision on those with protected characteristics who are potentially affected by the decision. The extent of the duty will necessarily vary from case to case and due regard is such regard as is appropriate in all the circumstances.
- 6.6 The Equality and Human Rights Commission has 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: <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/equality-act-codes-practice>
- <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/equality-act-technical-guidance>
- 6.7 The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has previously issued five guides for public authorities in England giving advice on the equality duty:
- [The essential guide to the public sector equality duty](#)
- [Meeting the equality duty in policy and decision-making](#)
- [Engagement and the equality duty: A guide for public authorities](#)
- [Objectives and the equality duty. A guide for public authorities](#)
- [Equality Information and the Equality Duty: A Guide for Public Authorities](#)
- 6.8 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:
- <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty-guidance#h1>

7. Equalities Implications

- 7.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report. However, access to Post Office services for the community has equalities implications that the Post Office should be considering.

Background papers

Meeting of Council 22 February 2017:

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=138&MId=4255>

Sustainable Development Select Committee agenda 8 March 2017:

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=136&MId=4176>

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Sustainable Development Select Committee		
Report title	Response to the recommendations of the Sustainable Development Select Committee – Beckenham Place Park Regeneration Update	
Contributor	Executive Director for Resources (Head of Business & Committee)	Item 3
Class	Part 1	13 September 2017

1. Summary

This report informs members of the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to a referral in respect of recommendations to the Mayor by the Select Committee following discussions held on Beckenham Place Park Regeneration at its meeting in April 20 2017.

2. Purpose of the report

To report to members the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to recommendations made by the Select Committee on April 20 2017.

3. Recommendation

The Select Committee is recommended to receive the Mayoral response to their consideration of the Beckenham Place Park Regeneration.

4. Background

4.1 The Mayor considered the attached report entitled 'Beckenham Place Park Regeneration Update Paper' at the Mayor & Cabinet meeting held on July 19 2017.

5. Mayoral response

5.1 The Mayor received an officer report and a presentation from Officers from the Resources and Regeneration Directorate.

5.2 The Mayor resolved that the response shown in Section 9 of the attached report be submitted to the Select Committee.

Background papers

Mayor & Cabinet minutes July 19 2017

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Kevin Flaherty, Head of Business & Committee, 0208 314 9327

MAYOR AND CABINET			
Report Title	Beckenham Place Park Regeneration Update Paper		
Key Decision	Yes	Item No	
Contributors	Executive Director for Customer Services		
Class	Part 1	Date	19 July 2017

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report to the Mayor and Cabinet sets out the progress made on the regeneration of Beckenham Place Park to date, and the proposed next steps for the regeneration of the landscape and the park's buildings.
- 1.2 The report was presented to Sustainable Development Select Committee on Thursday 20th April. The Committee welcomed the greater opening up of the park to local people. Comments from the Committee have been sent out to accompany this report.
- 1.3 On 17th February 2016, the Mayor took the decision to close the golf course which had been operating in Beckenham Place Park for many decades, following a report to Mayor and Cabinet and a prior report to the Sustainable Development Committee in January 2016. Golf ceased operation in the park on 31st October 2016 and the regeneration of the park has progressed well since.

2. Summary

- 2.1 On 10th July 2013, Mayor and Cabinet approved the submission of bids to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for financial support for a Beckenham Place Park regeneration project.
- 2.2 The HLF 'Parks for People' bid was successful in phase 1 and a potential funding pot totalling of £4.9m was set aside for the project in summer 2014.
- 2.3 A small proportion of the Heritage Lottery Funds were made available to carry out consultation, engage partners and work up the initial designs to become detailed designs and plans for the park. Following approval by Mayor and Cabinet on 17th February 2016, to close the golf course and progress with the regeneration plans, these plans were worked up in earnest, and submitted back

to Parks for People in a Round 2 bid, in August 2016. This was approved in December 2016, and maximum funding, of a total of £5m (£4.7m for the delivery phase) was awarded to the Council to implement the regeneration plans for the park.

3. Recommendations

3.1 The Mayor is recommended to note the content of the report and approve

3.2

a) The financial contribution from the Council towards to the regeneration of the park as follows:

- £1.4m from the capital programme
- £180k from insurance monies arising from the fire at the homesteads in 2011
- A target allocation of £200k from section 106 monies.

b) The medium and long term strategy with regards to the buildings in the park

3.3 That the proposed response to the Sustainable Development Select Committee shown in Section 9 be approved and reported to the Select Committee.

4. Policy context

4.1 Lewisham's long standing vision is: 'Together, we will make Lewisham the best place in London to live, work and learn'. This vision was developed following extensive consultation with Lewisham residents, public sector agencies, local business, voluntary and community sector organisations, and has been adopted by all our partners. It continues to be a bold ambition that stretches and motivates the Council and its partners to set priorities and deliver services in ways that achieve our vision.

4.2 The restoration of Beckenham Place Park could create a significant open space, venue and leisure facility that genuinely impacts the quality of life of thousands of residents. A park of this scale and history could make a substantial contribution to the regeneration of the south of borough, helping to engender a sense of place and pride in the area. This opportunity to transform Beckenham Place Park offers a key moment to make a further a step towards making Lewisham the best place in London to live, work and learn.

4.3 The key strategic document for Lewisham and our partners is the Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2020, "Shaping our Future". In this document, the strategic partners set out six priorities – creating communities that are:

- Ambitious and achieving
- Safer
- Empowered and responsible
- Clean, green and liveable
- Healthy, active and enjoyable
- Dynamic and prosperous

4.4 The Council's ten corporate priorities are:

- Community leadership and empowerment
- Young people's achievement and involvement
- Clean, green and liveable
- Safety, security and a visible presence
- Strengthening the local economy
- Active, healthy citizens
- Decent homes for all
- Protection of children
- Caring for adults and older people
- Inspiring efficiency, effectiveness and equity

4.5 This report is consistent with the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Council's Corporate Priorities. A large and thriving open space can make a contribution to local communities in each and every priority area of the Sustainable Community Strategy above and on many of the our corporate priorities. However, Beckenham Place Park is not yet having this positive impact on the locality. The Heritage Lottery Funds made available to the Council for the regeneration of the park, offer the opportunity to harness the potential of the park for the benefit of the local community.

4.6 Already we are beginning to witness an increase in use of the park as people enjoy the parkland that was previously perceived to be out of bounds to non golfers.

5. The park and the vision for regeneration

5.1 Beckenham Place Park is Lewisham's largest park by far; indeed it is the one of the largest parks in London, and South east London's biggest open space. At 95 hectares it is 30% bigger than Greenwich Park. It boasts ancient woodland, meadow, parkland, a river and several historic buildings. It was originally acquired by the London County Council to be the key amenity space for the new estates of Bellingham and Downham.

- 5.2 Yet today the park is little known among the wider community and is used significantly less than many other Lewisham parks, despite its size. A usage and movement survey of the park was carried out by Building Design Partnership (BDP) in 2013. In addition, in November 2015 and April 2016 a further usage survey was carried out. Together these surveys establish a fairly robust picture of usage throughout the year. They conclude that the park currently attracts around 220,000 visits a year, which is only around a quarter of the number of visits made to Brockwell Park.
- 5.3 At the heart of the vision to regenerate Beckenham Place Park and its buildings is the aspiration to significantly increase the use of the park. Specifically, the project team sets out to triple use of the park by 2022. Primarily it is local people who will use the park, so re-connecting the communities of Bellingham, Downham, Whitefoot and Catford with the park, as well as welcoming visitors from Beckenham and Bromley, is key to achieving this aim.
- 5.4 Engaging a much broader and larger audience to benefit from the park, it is important to recognise the breadth of appeal and opportunities it affords. In order to ensure the regeneration plans build on the full breadth of the parks potential, five themes have been developed:

Themes for the park's regeneration:

- Community
- Heritage
- Outdoor activity
- Nature
- Relaxation and play

5.4.1 Community

Following the restoration the park will become a hub for community life. The derelict gardener's cottage will become a volunteering hub, from which a diverse volunteering programme will be run. The community garden will offer opportunities for many to get involved in growing in the park – groups such as Sydenham Gardens, and Guides and Scouts have already expressed an interest in using this resource. Early opportunities for involvement such as the recent tree planting have also attracted over a hundred volunteers with no affiliation to organised groups.

In addition to volunteering, a programme of events will be run, delivered partly through the HLF programme and the community engagement officer (to be appointed as part of the project), but largely through partnerships the team is already building with other organisations who are keen to use the space for their community activities – activities as diverse as forest school, immersive

theatre, geocaching, and outdoor cinema. Markets will be held in the park periodically, and art exhibitions could be held in the gardens or mansion. We are currently working with Phoenix's Young Makers Agency to plan an event around the opening of the BMX track and establish the park as a key space for young people in the area too.

The regeneration programme will make Beckenham Place Park into a place where community gathers – where people from all walks of life and all ages come together to volunteer, to learn, to celebrate, to enjoy events and the great outdoors, together.

5.4.2 Heritage

Beckenham Place Park is a place full of history. Its listed buildings are much loved by local people, and the regeneration of the park aims to bring alive the stories of the park and its buildings to all park users. As the mansion is the dominant building in the park, built by John Cator in the late eighteenth century, the regeneration looks particularly to restore the eighteenth century landscape of the Cator estate, for twenty-first century use. The restoration of the lake and pleasure grounds, and the relocation of the current car park away from the mansion's curtilage and restoration of the carriageway drive will redefine the park's landscape as an attractive setting in line with the principles favoured by Historic England and the council's conservation officers.

The restoration of the eighteenth century stable block and stable yard, damaged by fire in 2011, will create a historic and beautiful arrival point and hub for the park. Once restored, the stable block will provide a café, toilets and an education centre and most visitors who arrive at the park by car will begin their visit here.

Through the regeneration of the park, many key heritage features will be restored, and the history of the park will be brought to life through landscape and interpretation.

5.4.3 Outdoor activity

As south east London's largest park, Beckenham Place Park offers many opportunities for outdoor activities that other urban parks simply cannot support. Already Parkrun is established on the eastern side of the park with around 170 runners each week. Once the restoration is complete, Parkrun, and other runners throughout the week, will be able to make use of the 5km figure of 8 path, allowing people to walk, run or cycle 5km without leaving the park or repeating any section of path.

In addition to this path, which will also serve as a family cycling trail, the project team are exploring the possibility of including some additional mountain-biking elements off the main path. A BMX facility is being built, and the skatepark enhanced. A trim trail will be provided in the woods, as well as opportunities for orienteering and geocaching.

New paths are being created within the parkland to encourage people to explore and enjoy the extent of the open space, and to venture from the one side of the railway line to the other. And the park will also be home to more adventurous activities with kayaking and swimming offered in the lake. The park will provide many and varied opportunities for outdoor activities – many of which are not offered in other parks locally.

5.4.4 Nature

Beckenham Place Park is Lewisham's most important site for nature conservation. With its varied habitats of ancient woodland, acid grassland, river and meadow, the site already supports considerable biodiversity. Through the regeneration we will introduce new habitats identified as priorities within Greater London – open water and wet woodland. The project has already planted 2.8 hectares of new woodland following award of funding from the Mayor of London, and is seeking to expand areas of meadow and improve the management of existing woodlands, removing invasive species and holly which shades out the native ground flora.

The regeneration of the park will also help people to engage with and to appreciate the wealth of nature in Beckenham Place park, through new trails, interpretation, education, events and through the accessibility of the landscape itself. Many people commented in consultation events that they appreciate Beckenham Place Park as a 'piece of countryside'. This sense of openness and reconnection with nature is an important aspect of the park, and the regeneration plans seek to strengthen this special character.

5.4.5 Relaxation and play

In a busy urban area it is important that communities have places to relax; where adults and children alike can 'play'. There will be significant new play provision within the park – small play areas in the pleasure grounds and by Old Bromley Road entrance, and a larger, more adventurous play area near the railway bridge on the eastern side of the park. But more importantly, there will be ample opportunities to explore, to discover, to relax, to 'breathe'. The provision of toilets and refreshment facilities on both sides of the park is key to fulfilling this aim. Beckenham Place Park will become a place where people like to linger, a place all sorts of people come to love.

Please refer to Appendix 1, a masterplan of the park.

6. The flood alleviation scheme

- 6.1 Currently an area stretching from St Dunstan's playing fields (the old Powerleague) up to Deptford Bridge DLR is at substantial risk of flooding from the River Ravensbourne, which flows through Beckenham Place Park. To address this, we have been working with the Environment Agency to progress the River Ravensbourne Flood Alleviation scheme, which will use the eastern side of Beckenham Place Park as a key area to store water in high flow conditions.
- 6.2 The project team for the park's regeneration are working closely with the Environment Agency to ensure the flood storage scheme works as part of the park's regeneration, and that the community benefit, not only in terms of reduced flood risk, but also in terms of a greatly enhanced park once the scheme is completed.
- 6.4 The flood alleviation scheme involves interventions at 10 sites along the River Ravensbourne, but affects Beckenham Place Park on the eastern side of the railway only. The flood scheme presents a great opportunity to synchronise the two projects (flood alleviation and park regeneration) together for cost effectiveness and to create a holistic vision for the park.

7. Project timetable and transformation to date

- 7.1 Since the approval of the Round 2 bid, the project has been awaiting planning approval. The project manager has recently tendered for designers (heritage architects and landscape architects) and detailed design works have now commenced. It is expected the project will then progress as follows:

BMX track opens	August 2017
Planning application submitted for flood scheme and eastern side of park	End Oct 2017
Tender for works contracts	Nov 2017 – Dec 2017
Contracts awarded, mobilisation	Feb - Mar 2018
Works contracts begin	March 2018
Works completed on site	June 2019
HLF activity grant ceases	June 2022

- 7.2 Although the physical transformation of the park is still to come, since the closure of the golf course the park, its audiences and activities have begun to change:

- Parkrun established with 170 runners each week
- 10 Forest school events have been held in the park
- More schools work has taken place, with tree planting and a weekly session with Coninsborough college
- Ground staff report a busier winter in terms of park usage
- Community and school runs booked in the park
- Cyclocross event held in the park
- Successful Christmas event held in the park attracting over 1000 visitors and the mansion Open House in April attracting 2800 visitors
- Three volunteer tree planting events held, attracting 100 volunteers planting 1500 trees.
- 11,000 trees planted in the park, funded by the GLA, creating 2.8 hectares of new woodland

7.3 The project team are regularly approached by new people who are seeking to get involved in the park or run activities there. In order to ensure these opportunities to engage new audiences are pursued, a community engagement officer will be recruited shortly.

7.4 It is exciting to see the level of interest in the park from local people. These community led activities, diversifying the audiences and opportunities in the park, are as much part of the regeneration as the physical transformation is.

8. Buildings within the park

- 8.1 The Parks for People transformation of the park will deliver the restoration of several key listed buildings in the park:
- The Grade II listed eighteenth century stable block will become a café and education centre
 - Southend Lodge and Gate house (Grade II listed) will be restored externally to create a welcoming and historic entrance to the park from Beckenham Hill Road
 - The Victorian gardener's cottage will be fully restored to become a volunteer hub for the park

In addition, a simple new building to provide refreshments and toilets will be built on the eastern side of the park, near the Old Bromley Road entrance.

- 8.2 The mansion, the Foxgrove and the homestead cottages sit outside of the scope of the Parks for People funded regeneration of the park. (Please see

appendix for photographs and locations) The current use of these buildings is as follows:

Mansion: Following cessation of golf operations RJK Properties took on a 22 month lease for the mansion on 1st November 2016. Their occupation safeguards a vulnerable building and creates opportunities to grow activity in the park whilst restoration works get underway. They have carried out repairs and undertaken important maintenance such that the building is now in a better condition and less likely to deteriorate. They have reopened a café which was one of the elements that closed along with the golf course ensuring that there is continuity of provision in the interim period during restoration. They also provide security to the park by having a presence in the mansion throughout the day and night, and have sublet rooms as artist studios, for sewing/craft community sessions, and to a pilates/wellbeing centre as well as supporting the continuation of the Friends of Beckenham Place Park visitor centre in the building.

RJK properties led the Christmas event 'Festival of Lights', are planning a community open day at the mansion on 29th April, and are working with the Council to support a short series of free summer events in the park to engage new audiences.

Funds required for full restoration of mansion: c.£3-4m

Foxgrove Club: Property guardians currently inhabit the Foxgrove Club

Funds required for full restoration: c.£250k

Considerably less investment is required to make the building usable for various different purposes

Homestead cottages: Originally estate workshops built in the early Victorian era, these were converted into workers' cottages by London County Council in the 1930's. They are currently derelict and in need of considerable restoration. They form one side of the courtyard which is being restored and are a priority for restoration to form an attractive visitor hub.

Funds required for full restoration c.£500k

- 8.3 Developing a strategy for these three buildings within the open space is a key part of the regeneration of Beckenham Place Park.

In the long term it is important that these buildings

- Complement the park and its activities
- Return rental revenues to the Council that can help sustain the management and maintenance of the park in the long term
- Draw new audiences to the park and add to the visitor experience of the park.

Given the restoration funds required for each of these buildings, it is likely (unless the Council was to fund the restoration prior to letting), that leases on the buildings would need to be long term commitments from both parties.

- 8.4 The 'Call for Ideas' issued in July 2016 asked people, organisations and investors to share ideas for any or all of these buildings. The limited response demonstrated that most potential investors/tenants found it difficult to imagine the park as we believe it will be, post regeneration, and as a result, underestimated the potential of the buildings and the opportunities they present. Rather than responding to a future vision, people responded to the opportunity they saw at the time, with a space that has very low visitor numbers.
- 8.5 Given the scale of change anticipated in the park over the next five years – in terms of its facilities, landscape, and most importantly its visitor numbers – it does not seem prudent to the project team to enter into long term leases on the properties at this stage. Guidance from HLF Trustees as part of a formal review of our proposals was that it would be more advantageous to the Council, and better for the park in the long term, to allow the regeneration of the park to unfold, and the audiences to increase and diversify, in order that potential long term tenants/investors can respond to the opportunities these buildings offer, post transformation of the park.
- 8.6 As a result the project team proposes letting both the Foxgrove and the mansion for the medium term. The Foxgrove could be marketed over summer 2017, with a view to securing a tenant to carry out necessary renovation works and return a rental income to the Council from autumn 2017. The tenancy would run for approximately 5 years, to 2022, allowing the physical transformation of the park to be properly embedded before re-marketing the opportunity for long term use.
- 8.7 The current lease on the mansion house expires in Sept 2018. At this stage, the project team recommends re-marketing the mansion house for a similar community facing let, looking to secure a reasonable rental income and a tenant for a further 3-5 years from 2018. Towards the end of this period the Council would look to secure a long term partner, with whom to bid for HLF restoration funds, to fully restore the building and establish a long term use that fits with the

park, its audiences recognises the mansion's importance as one of the borough's few historic civic buildings.

- 8.8 This process would also enable the Council to respond to any emerging needs within the park from new audiences that have not as yet been anticipated.
- 8.9 Whilst the project team believes this approach would work well for the mansion and the Foxgrove, it will not be appropriate for the homestead cottages. The cottages are situated on the northern side of the stable yard, which will become a key visitor hub post regeneration. Currently the cottages are derelict, and they require substantial investment to become usable. In order to ensure the visitor experience is as pleasant as possible, to encourage repeat visits and drive up usage of the park, it is important that the stable yard is an attractive place, in which people want to linger.
- 8.10 Because of their sensitive location, therefore, together with their current state of dereliction, restoring the cottages, and securing a complementary use which will add to the park's offer is a key part of regenerating the park, and should be undertaken at the same time as the regeneration of the park.
- 8.11 The project team therefore recommends that the Council's capital programme provides funds to enable the restoration to take place. A bid was put forward to the Regeneration and Capital Delivery Board in autumn 2016 for these funds; the board was supportive of the approach and the project was added to the approved list of projects, subject to the availability of funding. Officers recommend that following the restoration of the cottages, the Council then secures tenant(s) who will pay good rent as well as complement the park and its facilities. Officers also recommended that income from leasing out the property should be made available to the Capital Programme to re-pay the upfront costs of restoration.
- 8.12 Following restoration, it would be prudent to enter into a lease for a relatively short term (perhaps up to 7 years) and to ensure rents are reviewed each year to enable the rental return to increase as visitor numbers increase and the scale of the commercial opportunity also increases.

9. Comments from Sustainable Development Select Committee

- 9.1 Sustainable Development Select Committee received an update report on Beckenham Place Park on 20th April 2017. It was resolved that the committee would refer the following views to Mayor and Cabinet, which the officers are responding to in the following way:

- The Committee welcomes the ambitious plans for the future redevelopment of the park and it also welcomes the greater opening up of the park to the local community.

Officers welcome this support, and resolve to keep the Sustainable Development Select Committee informed about the regeneration programme.

- The Committee requests the financial management plans for the project include the projections for the annual running costs for the park, be made available for public scrutiny.

Officers will make the current business plan for the park which includes annual forecasts for five years post completion, to the committee. At this stage in the process this business plan inevitably has built into it several assumptions about activities in the park and use of the open space. These assumptions will need to be revisited prior to the completion of the regeneration works, and a revised business plan developed. Officers will share this new plan with the Sustainable Development Select Committee when it is completed.

- The Committee notes the potential for large overruns on major regeneration schemes and recommends that Mayor and Cabinet seek assurance that there is tight financial management of the project.

All Council Capital programmes are closely monitored by the project team, who raise risks and issues with project sponsors/senior management as they arise. In addition, the Regeneration and Capital Delivery Board provides monitoring and oversight of the project. There is an experienced team of an in-house project manager and programme manager, external architects and landscape architects, and a quantity surveyor on the project to provide as much cost certainty as possible at all stages of the project. A significant contingency is built into the capital budget, and technical drawings will be finalised prior to tendering the works to maximise the cost certainty of delivery.

- The Committee expresses concern over the five year wait regarding the plans for the long term future use of the mansion house. It would welcome the publication of the advice from the Heritage Lottery Fund, which informed the development of the current approach.

The advice from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) trustees was given verbally as part of a scheduled progress review and therefore cannot be published. Officers will continue dialogue with the HLF, as a likely key funder of the long term restoration of the mansion, about optimal long term and sustainable solutions for its use and restoration.

- The Committee recommends that any future plans for events in the park ensure that revenues are returned to the parks budget in order to support ongoing running costs.

At this stage the level of income expected through the running of events in the park cannot be quantified. As the future business plan develops for the park options for applying income will be considered.

- The Committee recommends that any plans for events or activities held in the park, for which there will be charges, are priced so that there is a reduced cost for residents of Lewisham.

Officers will explore how charging policies can be used to encourage Lewisham residents, and particularly those from lower income backgrounds, to use the park and engage in all the activities and events it will offer. A large part of the engagement strategy will be focussed on events and activities which are completely free to participate in.

10. Legal implications

10.1 There are no specific legal implications in respect of the recommendations in this report.

10.2 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

10.3 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.

10.4 It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct, or to promote equality of opportunity or foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. It is a duty to have due regard to the need to achieve the goals listed at 10.3 above.

10.5 The weight to be attached to the duty will be dependent on the nature of the decision and the circumstances in which it is made. This is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. The Mayor must understand the impact or likely impact of the decision on those with protected characteristics who are potentially affected by the decision. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or foster good relations. The extent of the duty will necessarily vary from case to case and due regard is such regard as is appropriate in all the circumstances.

10.6 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:

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/equality-act-codes-practice>

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/equality-act-technical-guidance>

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

- The essential guide to the public sector equality duty
- Meeting the equality duty in policy and decision-making
- Engagement and the equality duty: A guide for public authorities
- Objectives and the equality duty. A guide for public authorities
- Equality Information and the Equality Duty: A Guide for Public Authorities

10.8 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:

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty-guidance#h1>

11. Financial implications

11.1 Capital

The capital investment in Beckenham Place Park over the next few years is very substantial. The flood alleviation scheme on the River Ravensbourne will see £16m of investment, almost two thirds of which will be spent in Beckenham Place Park. In addition, the Parks for People (Heritage Lottery Fund) regeneration of the park will see £8.7m being invested in the open space and its buildings:

Funding of the park transformation:

Parks for People grant Delivery stage (Heritage Lottery and Big Lottery)	£4.7m
Environment Agency contribution as part of the flood alleviation scheme	£1.58m
Greater London Authority	£600k
Lewisham Council	£1.79m
TOTAL	£8.67m

The Lewisham Council funding of £1.79m is made up of £910k from the Stock Transfer Community Benefit Fund, £180k of insurance monies from the homestead buildings, and a target of £200k from section 106 monies. The balance of £500k is from the Council's General Fund capital reserves, following the bid submitted to the Regeneration and Capital Programme Delivery Board in the Autumn of 2016.

It should be recognised that although the bid obtained the support of the board, that the number of projects gaining approval from the Regeneration and Capital Delivery board exceeded the capital budget available. It was expected that schemes would come forward as they became ready for development, and that a final decision on the availability of immediate funding for a project would be made through the PID process, . Members should therefore recognise that the funding of the restoration of the cottages supporting this scheme will mean that other pre-approved bids will not be progressed this year.

The £200k from Section 106 monies will depend upon appropriate funds being identified and approved to be used for this purpose. The available funds have been examined by the project manager, and there is clear potential for six figure funding towards the project. The Head of Planning is reviewing the suggestions

and all available section 106 funds to identify the most appropriate pots given the need to balance other programmes and priorities. If section 106 funds to the target of £200k should not be found then the shortfall will need to be met from elsewhere or in all likelihood, accommodated by the project's contingency.

These additional funds will specifically enable the restoration of the homestead cottages which are currently derelict and form a part of the stableyard, with the homestead itself. The full restoration and repurposing of these buildings did not form a part of the HLF bid due to funding constraints, but is fundamental part of ensuring the regeneration of the park is a success, as the stableyard area will become the new visitor hub for the park, with the visitor and education centre and café situated there. It is essential, therefore, to ensure that the cottages are restored and put to a fitting purpose to draw further visitors to the park and enhance the park user's experience. The restoration of these buildings concurrently with the park will also enable the Council to let them out from 2019 onwards, and potentially earn significant rental income from doing so.

Although £1.79m represents a substantial investment by the Council at this time, it should be recognised that this levers in a further £19m investment to the park, (£12m for the flood alleviation scheme and £7m for the park) which will transform the open space for the long term, for the benefit of the community.

11.2 **Revenue**

Significant work has already been undertaken to ensure the park is financially sustainable and well maintained in the long term, even if park maintenance budgets reduce in the future. A ten year management and maintenance plan, together with a business plan was submitted to the HLF with the Round 2 bid last August.

Once the regeneration works have been completed it is anticipated that the park will require the same level of maintenance resource as it has had over the past few years. The business plan identifies many opportunities to earn income from the park and its facilities which will help to sustain the maintenance of the park, and even the expansion of its community activities in the medium term, even if park budgets shrink.

At the same time the project team is working to ensure that the buildings not included in the Parks for People project are brought into medium term use which will benefit the park and bring a financial return to the park. In the long term, following full restoration and a greatly increased audience in the park, it is anticipated that the rental return on the mansion, Foxgrove and cottages combined could be substantial.

11.3 In summary, although the capital investment required from the Council in this project is significant, it will not only lever in £18m investment from other partners to deliver a superb park to serve the community, and a flood alleviation scheme, but it will also improve the park's potential to earn revenue in the medium long term through activities, events and property.

12. Environmental implications

12.1 In regenerating the park officers seek to improve the ecological value of the open space, introducing new habitats, such as a lake and wetland areas, and enhancing existing habitats through enhanced woodland and meadow management.

12.2 The project team are working closely with ecologists to ensure the ecological opportunities of the park's regeneration are maximised. At the same time, the importance of encouraging park users to interact with and appreciate nature in the park is recognised and many new opportunities are being created to help school groups and individual park users understand and value the park's ecology.

12.3 The park and its extensive woodland also perform an important 'green lung' function for the area, improving the air quality and thus the health of residents.

13. Equality implications

13.1 In regenerating the park, officers are seeking to address issues which hinder use and enjoyment of the space by the widest section of the community. A number of physical interventions to enhance facilities and accessibility will be implemented through the project, addressing key issues such as inaccessible toilets, poor quality paths etc. These physical improvements will be combined with outreach to target groups who might otherwise feel reluctant or unable to use the park to understand and break down any further barriers to use.

13.2 Events and activities will be developed to appeal to the wider population. Evaluation surveys will allow officers to compare usage prior to works with that that occurs after completion with the aim of ensuring that usage is more reflective of the surrounding population.

14. Crime and disorder implications

14.1 Increasing the use of Beckenham Place Park is key to reducing anti-social behaviour and fear of crime in this open space. Investing in the park and

removing damaged and derelict features will also deter anti-social behaviour, helping people to feel safer and discouraging casual vandalism.

14.2 In addition, there are plans to engage residents and school pupils extensively in the park, through volunteering opportunities and environmental education. As volunteers invest in the open space, the sense of ownership and pride in the park will grow. This in turn moves them to actively look after the space, and deters anti-social behaviour.

15. Human Rights implications

There are no specific human rights implications arising out of this report.

16. Conclusion

16.1 Substantial progress has been made to raise funds and establish a blueprint for the park's restoration and use, but the scale of the project is very substantial. Whilst residents can look forward to the initial phase of work completing in June 2019 with many new facilities, it likely to be several more years before all aspects of the project are completed.

17. Background documents and report author

17.1 Alison Taylor - Project Manager x48758

- Appendix - Current masterplans – emerging landscape design for the park
- Please also see the referral from the Sustainable Development Select Committee sent out with papers for this meeting.

If you require any further information about this report please contact Alison Taylor on alison.taylor@lewisham.gov.uk



Location plan



The homesteads



The Mansion House



The Foxgrove Club



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Sustainable Development Select Committee			
Title	Catford Regeneration Programme - Update	Item No	5
Contributors	SGM Capital Programme Delivery		
Class	Part 1	Date	13 September 2017

1. Purpose of paper:

1.1. SDSC has requested regular updates on the progress of the Catford Regeneration Programme. This paper provides a general update on the delivery of the programme.

2. Recommendations:

2.1. The Select Committee is asked to note the contents of the reports.

3. Background:

3.1. The previous update to SDSC was provided on 14 June 2017. The following report seeks to update the Committee on all relevant matters in relation to progress made on the Catford Regeneration Programme since that date.

3.2. The report will be presented to the Committee alongside a Part 2 presentation, which will detail some of the most recent work that will be used to support the creation of a Masterplan Brief for Catford Town Centre.

4. Update:

4.1. Engagement

4.1.1. A full update on engagement is provided in the presentation slides at Appendix 1, which will be presented at the Committee Meeting.

4.2. Meanwhile Use:

4.2.1. The meanwhile use and placemaking workstream of the Catford Regeneration Programme continues to gain pace. Officers now hold a regular cross-departmental working group meeting to ensure all opportunities are captured, a properly joined-up approach is taken and the workstream continues to be driven forward effectively. As described in the Engagement section of this report (Appendix 1), there is a close overlap between the various ongoing engagement events and meanwhile use/temporary use of assets to enable this. In this regard, officers are developing a meanwhile use strategy to align opportunities and make effective use of assets to help further the regeneration effort.

- 4.2.2. Heads of Terms have been agreed with the Council's selected preferred tenant for Thomas Lane Depot; Supersets, a film and theatre set-building company. They will be moving into the Depot subject to lease agreement and planning permission. They have set up a crowdfund for the community element of their proposal, which has attracted a £25,000 pledge from the Mayor of London. Details at <https://www.spacehive.com/creative-community-space-for-catford>.
- 4.2.3. Heads of Terms are currently in negotiation with the Council's selected preferred tenant for the Brookdale Club, following a full structural survey, which has revealed a number of issues with the building that will need resolving prior to any agreement.
- 4.2.4. Officers are considering the possibility of CRPL's units at 17 and 18 Catford Broadway before putting them back on the market. This is a consequence of the earlier marketing of the site where the offers or expressions of interest received were below what CRPL expected due in part to the condition of the buildings. The intention therefore will be to make them structurally sound, and reconfigured to make the best use of the space. This will take approximately 12 months, subject to planning permission. CRPL will then market the ground floors for appropriate commercial uses that meet the Council's regeneration objectives, and the upper floors for residential use. This will provide a long-term income stream to CRPL from its property assets, whilst contributing positively to the regeneration of the town centre.
- 4.2.5. Other opportunities for meanwhile uses and/or development of CRPL assets are actively being investigated by the working group and will be reported to the Committee in due course.

4.3. Broadway Theatre

- 4.3.1. The Programme Team continue to work closely with the Community Services team to deliver the three main workstreams associated with the theatre. A brief update on each element is provided below.

4.3.1.1. *Café/bar*

Planning consent has now been granted for adaptations to allow Little Nan's to provide a more extensive food offer.

4.3.1.2. *Minor Works Programme*

Initial discussions with Planning indicate that the majority of minor works planned will be likely to require Listed Building Consent. The project team are working towards submitting a comprehensive application to cover all works, that will balance the (sometimes conflicting) needs of Listed Building legislation with DDA compliance and Health & Safety legislation.

The project team is prioritising works that have been identified as health and safety requirements. Some works related to fire safety improvements have already been undertaken over the summer period.

4.3.1.3. Heritage Lottery Fund Bid

The Conservation Management Plan, which is key to informing the HLF bid, is now underway, starting with a full measured survey of the theatre and town hall chambers taking place in September. Members of the Committee will be consulted as part of the research undertaken, and will be kept updated with the findings.

4.4. Housing Zone:

- 4.4.1 The Overarching Borough Agreement from the GLA is currently with the Council's Legal department for final review prior to sign-off. Once this has been completed, work can begin on the process to draw down funding for early initiatives around station improvements and flood resilience.

4.5. TfL - Road Realignment

- 4.5.1. On 19th July 2017 the Mayor and Cabinet approved the officer recommendation to relocate the A205 South Circular to an alignment south of Laurence House. The Council believes this decision is an essential step in delivering the regeneration of Catford and allows the town centre masterplanning process to begin. This road option is progressed by TfL through the next stage of design development - Feasibility design.
- 4.5.2. Funding for Feasibility design has been approved by the Mayor & Cabinet. This is being matched by a contribution from TfL's Pipeline fund. The programme team are also working closely with TfL to review the possible funding avenues for construction and delivery of the road project and are actively exploring a range of potential sources. Alongside proposed Council contributions, TfL are submitting an application bid to their Growth Fund. The Growth Fund bid, if successful, can provide an absolute maximum of 50% of delivery costs; a decision on this bid is expected in the Autumn. The programme team is also seeking approval from M&C to submit a bid to the new Housing Infrastructure Fund, recently opened by the Department for Communities and Local Government. The Committee will be kept informed as to the development of the funding and delivery strategy as Feasibility design progresses.
- 4.5.3. Indicative delivery timescales for the road move, from TfL, are:

<i>Feasibility:</i>	<i>to September 2018</i>
<i>Concept Design:</i>	<i>to March 2019</i>
<i>Detailed Design:</i>	<i>to February 2020</i>

Delivery:

to December 2021

4.5.4. Site Studies and The Masterplan Brief

4.5.5. The Committee is reminded that, as detailed in the previous report, the Masterplan Brief will form the instructions for the Masterplanner. It will clearly set out the central principals, requirements and parameters for the scheme within a viable and deliverable framework. The main objective of the Brief is to ensure clarity, consistency and certainty in relation to the Council's requirements for the Masterplan. The Brief will comprise input from:

- Architectural Site Studies & Urban Framework principles
- Members
- Property development advice
- Catford Regeneration Partnership Ltd
- TfL
- A205 re-alignment work
- Housing Zone/GLA
- General due diligence (e.g. legal, financial)
- Planning Policy
- Engagement feedback from CommonPlace, Urban Narrative and other sources
- Council Service Delivery Plan requirements
- LBL Office Accommodation Strategy
- Any other relevant information

4.5.6. The Committee's input into the Masterplan Brief will be welcomed by the Programme Team and they are encouraged to contact the Programme Team directly with any feedback, comments or information that they feel should be included, throughout the Brief creation process.

4.5.7. Further details of the current site studies and urban framework principles for the Masterplan Brief will be provided to the Committee in the Part 2 presentation following this report in the meeting.

4.5.8. Programme of Key Dates

Some amendment has been made to the previously supplied programme, to take into account sufficient opportunities for engagement in the development of a very robust master plan brief and subsequent procurement of a masterplanner.

An updated list of planned key dates is set out in the table below.

13-Sep-17	SDSC Catford Update
08-Nov-17	SDSC Catford Update

18-Jan-18	SDSC Catford Update: Masterplan Brief final review
07-Feb-18	M&C Report: Masterplan Brief
Feb 2018	Procurement of Masterplanner begins
22-Mar-18	SDSC Catford Update
Spring 2018	Appointment of Catford Masterplanner

Appendix 1: Catford Regeneration Engagement Update

For further information please contact Jessie Lea, Senior Programme Manager, Capital Programme Delivery on 020-8314-9256.

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APPOINTMENT OF ENGAGEMENT SUPPORT - FILGREE COMMUNICATIONS

About Us

What makes us special?

Our strength is our ability to quickly grasp the finer technical details and to articulate complex information into compelling stories to engage stakeholders.

Why we're so excited to be working with you?

Catford is our home. Filigree Communications is based in the Old Town Hall and we're Lewisham residents. We are genuinely passionate about this project!

Why we're different?

We're an agile team and we have all the relevant skills in-house (community engagement, digital, social, film-making, photography and design). We guarantee hands-on, senior support throughout and work closely with a team of consultation facilitation experts, whose complementary skills we will draw in as required.

TEAM CATFORD

‘Team Catford, a small group of passionate Catford residents, is about to launch a major community engagement on behalf of Lewisham Council. Team Catford speaks up for the community, champions local views and will encourage everyone who lives, works, socialises, commutes or runs a business to have their say as Catford goes through its biggest change in decades.’

Engagement Strategy

Team Catford are executing an engagement strategy that will:

- Ensure that engagement is clear, meaningful, and two-way, understanding the knowledge, interests and concerns of all stakeholders
- Create realistic expectations with regards to timescales, scope and constraints
- Reduce misunderstanding and misperceptions about the scheme and its impacts, by providing the right amount of information in appropriate detail at the right time



Engagement can be dominated by small vocal interest groups, rather than the 'silent majority', therefore we will be pro-active in gathering the views from a range of stakeholders including:

- Elected members
- Strategic stakeholders
- Internal stakeholders
- Strategic stakeholders
- Partner organisations
- Residents
- Residents associations
- Housing associations
- Local businesses and representative business groups
- Local workforce
- Voluntary groups
- Community/amenity groups
- Landlords
- Faith groups
- Nurseries, schools and colleges
- Young people
- Children
- Commuters
- Estate agents
- Users or clients of specific services (or their carers or relatives)

TIMETABLE

Sept 2017	Phase One: building momentum and enthusiasm.	<p>#Catfordconversation – narrative on emerging issues from Commonplace supported by photos/graphics/film. Tease local people to find out what’s being said in their area, encourage participation, promote forthcoming engagement events.</p> <p>Start of monthly engagement events – 2/3 pop-up sessions to coincide with Film Festival and Arts Trail.</p> <p>Steering themes for 72-hour film challenge and capturing ‘behind the scenes’ film footage to share and promote engagement.</p>
Oct – Nov	Phase Two: community engagement to determine issues and priorities	<p>Monthly engagement events - Catford Library, Little Nan’s, Civic Suite, Ward Assembly meetings</p> <p>Walk and talk the masterplan: guided walkabouts for interest groups such as people with reduced mobility or cyclists.</p> <p>On Assignment - youth-led media course in filmmaking journalistic style. Taught to use GoPro cameras and basic filmmaking and interviewing techniques, they will each be assigned a story to find and tell within the Catford Town Centre</p>
Dec		Monthly engagement events – to coincide with Christmas Fair.
Jan		<p>Feedback analysis and development of summary narrative.</p> <p>Development of Catford Character (part one) content and film.</p>
Feb - Mar	Phase Three: defining the vision	<p>Launch Catford Character (part one) – content and upbeat film compilation to reflect the unique, distinctive and creative core of Catford and the emerging themes.</p> <p>Regular engagement events</p>
Apr - May	Phase Four: creating a feeling of community ownership in the master plan.	<p>Feedback analysis and development of summary narrative.</p> <p>Development of Catford Character (part two) content and film to share feedback and rationale for preferred option.</p>
Jun - Aug		Launch of Catford Character (part two) at Lewisham People’s Day.

Methods

- **Face-to-face community engagement** - every month, there will be opportunities for local people to chat to Team Catford at pop-up exhibitions and events where we'll encourage members of the community to express their views on issues and priorities for the town centre. We'll establish an urban room as a hub for engagement activity and community-led activities. All feedback will be captured via Commonplace and analysed to understand emerging themes.
- **Stakeholder relations** - we're developing a stakeholder matrix to ensure we have regular contact with the key groups, associations and representatives
- **Shareable content** – to encourage participation, we're developing shareable content that will be promoted on social media, the Commonplace platform and via the digital (and print) newsletter.
- **Social media** – Team Catford will strengthen its role on Twitter and Instagram as well as Facebook. We'll coordinate the team to post and respond in line with our content planner and a tone of voice consistent with all communication channels.
- **Newsletters** – digital newsletters will be distributed quarterly via email and printed versions hand-delivered to local businesses.
- **Media relations & thought leadership** – as well as using local news to publicise the engagement programme and the CRP milestones, we'll explore themes related to place-making in detail in order to provide a steady stream of topical content, comment, opinion, interviews and profiles that will be used to establish Lewisham Council as a thought leader in London-wide and trade media.

#CatfordConversations
Portraits, vox pops and film clips will be uploaded to the website and shared on social media to encourage others to speak up about how they feel about Catford.



Theresa Dadies
on the Catford Centre: “I would like the building to be changed to a shopping centre... where you can go in, and you can sit down and you can drink coffee, buy cakes and things to eat and relax a bit before you continue your journey.”



Claire Stirling, on priorities for Catford: “To really get a sense of community going and some nice places for people to go and to sit within a community.”

Dervise Kocayigit

On working in Catford “I’m a solicitor and have business here . All the businesses in the area look after each other. That’s what I like most - the community spirit”





TeamCatford @TeamCatford

We've teamed up with @CatfordFilm @electricpedals @raastawala @StreetGrillandK @CatfordCClub for this Saturday's event. It will be AMAZING!
pic.twitter.com/jzWogeTyzE

Calling out local businesses works! 7,665 people looked at this and retweeted 28 times

TeamCatford @TeamCatford

Interesting comment: 'Catford doesn't need big stores, it needs to be an area for small traders to be inventive'
<http://bit.ly/2v11isY>

This tweet drove 68 people to Commonplace, retweeted 14 times



TeamCatford @TeamCatford

We're talking to people about the future of Catford. See what they're saying & share your ideas <http://ow.ly/eUyl30eysVi>
#Catfordconversation
pic.twitter.com/EQV89FFbzd

Highest engagement: 102 people opened the photo and 59 prompted to go to Commonplace

Followers

938 ↑70

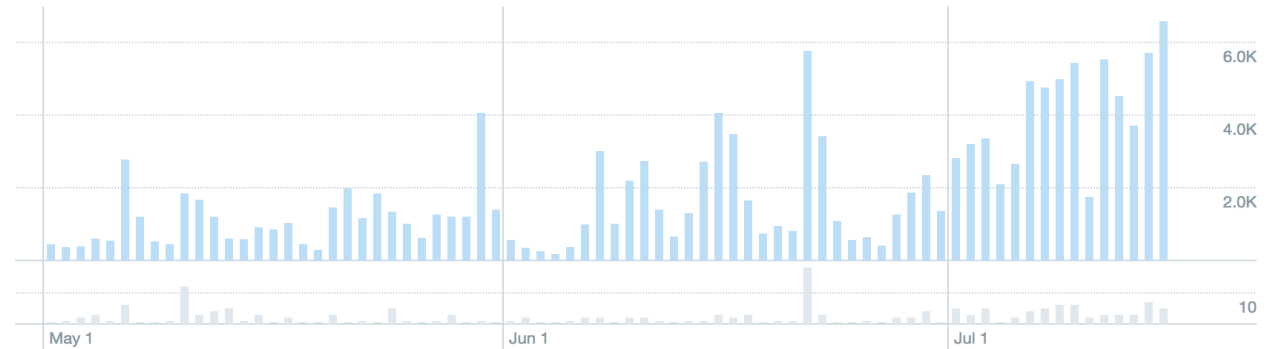


TWITTER SNAPSHOT

Number of @teamcatford followers increasing by average of **7%** per month.

Typically tweeting **60+** times per month.

Up to **79,000** individuals viewing tweets and **250** mentions in any one month.



This graph shows @teamcatford's growing twitter profile over summer (May – July 2017).

146,700 individuals saw @teamcatford tweets over this three month timeframe – that's an average of **1,900** per day.

Engagement is growing too with **510** link clicks, **522** retweets, **1,300** likes and **173** direct replies.

Online Engagement Tool – Commonplace

<https://catfordtowncentre.commonplace.is/>

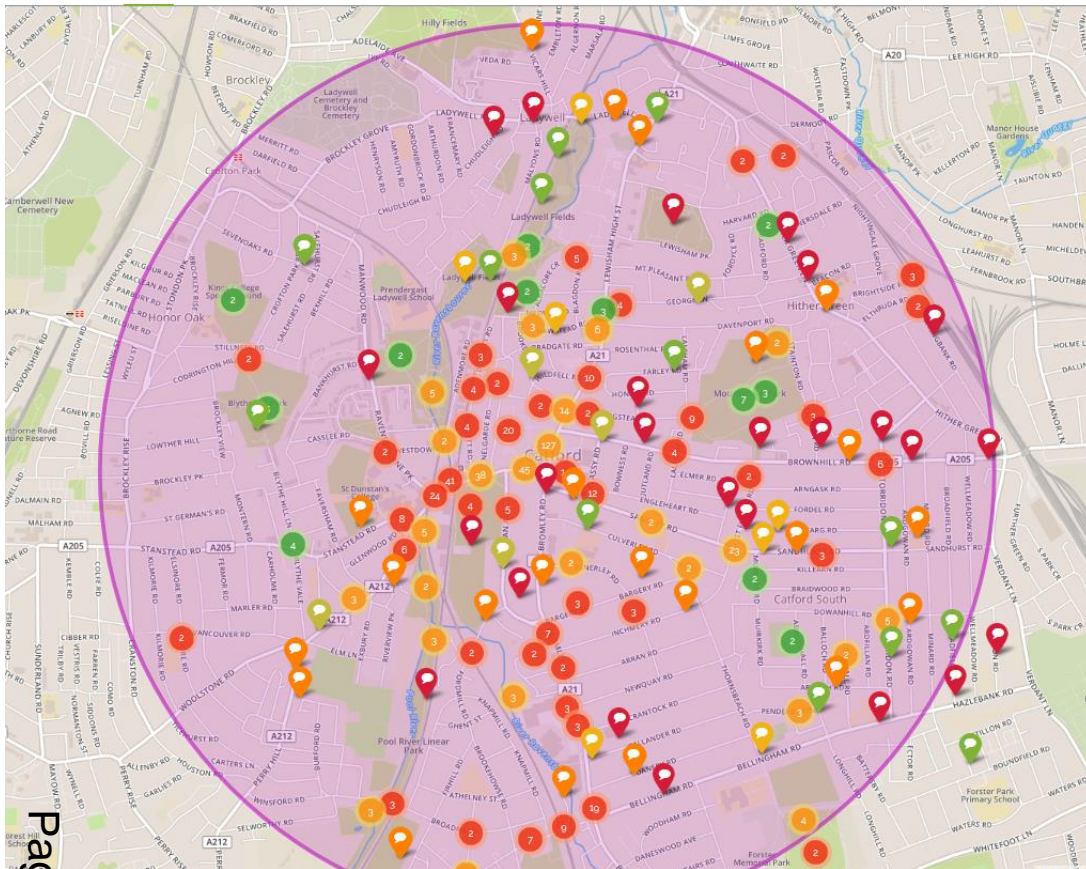
The platform supports established methods of face-to-face engagement with a web application and integration with social media, both of which are critical for achieving meaningful and comprehensive engagement

It enables the Council to engage a larger cross-section of the community, promoting open transparent dialogue. Benefits include:

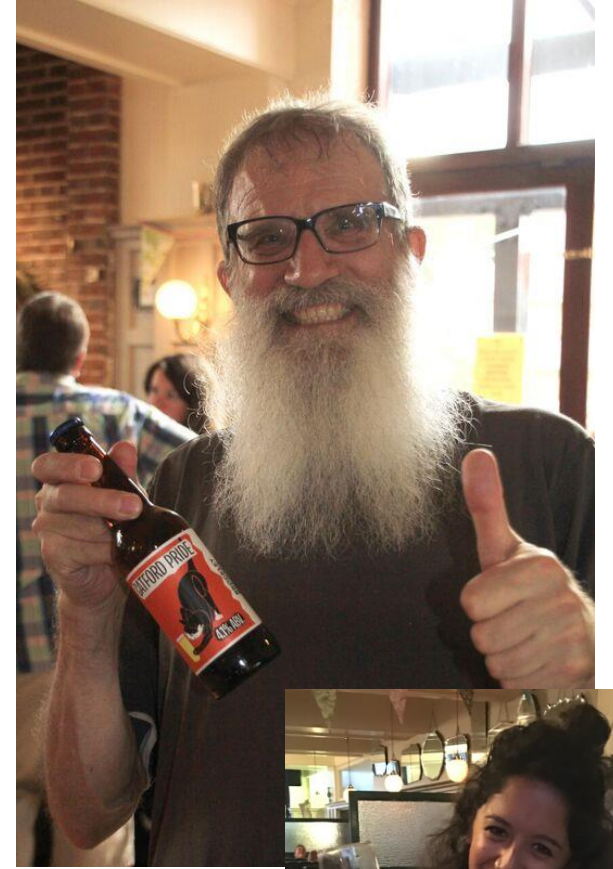
- Reduced risks relating to planning processes and eventual approval
- Increased trust from within the community, hearing many more representative voices
- High quality of engagement demonstrated to the public with clear data analytics
- A single, consistent engagement data platform from pre-planning through to post-occupancy

There are three elements to the tool:

- The Needs Analysis: essential in gathering an understanding of what local people feel about their neighbourhood. It is useful for community and stakeholder mapping, understanding people's needs, and creating a benchmark against which people's responses to subsequent plans can be compared. It also provides an indication of what local people will perceive as benefits from the development
- The Design Feedback Tool: allows the Council to publish plans or ideas, and get immediate feedback from the community. This can be useful for development of more detailed proposals for infrastructure and construction in collaboration of local people
- 3. Social Sustainability and Customer Feedback Tools: allow the Council to with engage the community during construction phases of the project and beyond.
This allows you to manage communications around disruption experienced by local people due to construction, and to track changes in the perception of local people over time, to measure the impact of a development on local people



PLACE-MAKING EVENTS



urban narrative - CATFORD FUTURES

Summary of initial discussions with members and field trips

Headline responses:

- Catford will be a modern civic centre for Lewisham
- Possible collocation with other public agencies- flexible working
- Catford will not be a major retail centre
- It needs to serve the local convenience needs of workers and local community
- Need to improve quality and diversity of offer
- Need to provide more evening and night time attractions
- Improve the market
- The existing housing in the areas outside the central area will remain largely unchanged
- There is potential for many more homes in central Catford
- The preference is for mid-rise (up to ten storeys) apartments of many types
- The theatre provides a strong starting point for considering arts and culture in Catford
- Temporary use of unused spaces should be an essential part of the transformation process
- Attracting the artistic and creative community to Catford has major potential



Sustainable Development Select Committee			
Title	Planning Policy Update – Local Plan, Supplementary planning documents (SPDs) and Bakerloo Line	Item No	6
Contributors	Head of Planning		
Class	Part 1	Date	13 th September 2017

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report is intended to update Members on the progress of the new Local Plan and subsequent SPDs that are currently being produced or revised.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Select Committee is asked to note the content of this information report and direct any questions to officers.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Local Plan is the main development plan document for LB Lewisham, setting out a vision and strategy for future development of the borough, addressing the needs and opportunities in relation to housing, the economy, community facilities and infrastructure, as well as providing detailed policies for managing development growth and change, for safeguarding the environment, meeting the challenge of climate change, securing good design in developments, and identifying specific proposals for the use of land in the borough.
- 3.2 The Local Plan also translates any corporate strategy, into a spatial vision and policy guidance for development of the Borough.
- 3.3 The Council has a statutory duty to review its Local Plan every 5 years and a decision to undertake a revision of the Plan was initially taken in 2015.
- 3.4 In October 2015 consultation on the initial stage of the preparation for the new Local Plan took place. The consultation invited comments from the public and other interested groups and individuals on the main issues affecting the borough and matters that should be considered in the new Local Plan.
- 3.5 The preparation of the Local Plan was put on hold for a number of reasons: political uncertainty, changes to planning legislation and the need to progress other policy work such as the Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan. Whilst the political landscape may be no more certain the Council feels it is important to restart the process of preparing a new Local Plan.

- 3.6 Since the last Local Plan was adopted there have been a number of changes to the policy context such as the publication of the Housing and Planning Act 2016, the Housing White Paper, the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 and the London Mayor’s Affordable Housing and Viability Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) 2017.
- 3.7 There is also a continual need to better reflect the role of place-making in planning policy development.

4. Planning Policy Progress update

4.1 The Local Plan

4.1.1 The Local Plan is at the initial stages of the process. A Project Scoping and Options Paper is currently being prepared which is intended to:

- Inform discussions on and understanding of:
 - The scope of the proposed new Local Plan
 - Issues and options associated with renewing the Local Plan
 - Associated resourcing, timing, risks and opportunities
 - Expected outcomes in terms of policy purpose, fit, product, and utility.
- Facilitate an organisation-wide understanding of the timing and resourcing implications associated with undertaking a Local Plan renewal
- Provide the basis for the preparation of an agreed project brief for renewal of the Local Plan.

4.1.2 It is intended to have a programme of ongoing engagement with Members as the Plan, including scoping and options is progressed.

4.1.3 In parallel with the Scoping and Options Paper; work has commenced to audit, review and prepare the evidence base required for renewal of the Local Plan.

4.1.4 Programme

Local Plan Stage	Start	Completion
Evidence Base for Local Plan Review	March 2017	June 2019
Plan Making & Consultation (Reg18)	June 2018	October 2018
Draft Local Plan & Consultation (Reg 19)	October 2018	April 2019
Submit to Secretary of State (SoS)	March 2019	July 2019
Examination	July 2019	October 2019
Adoption		2020

4.2 Residential Extensions and Alterations SPD

4.2.1 The Residential Extensions and Alterations SPD is intended to provide detailed advice and guidance, expanding on the policies in the Development Plan. Once adopted, it would form part of the Local Development Framework (LDF). The aim of the SPD is to explain and interpret the Council's policy requirements with the aim of improving the quality of schemes and applications and the consistency and speed of decisions, whilst protecting residential amenity and townscape quality.

4.2.4 Officers have prepared a draft version of the Residential Extensions and Alterations SPD and are in the process of preparing an engagement strategy. The engagement strategy is likely to include:

- Workshops with key stakeholders:
 - Members
 - Agents
 - Community groups
- Public Consultation (6 week period)

4.2.5 Programme

SPD Stage	Start	Completion
Engagement with stakeholders	Late September 2017	November 2017
Public Consultation	November 2017	January 2018
Amendments to document	January 2018	February 2018
Adoption		March 2018

4.3 Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

4.3.1 The Council adopted its current Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) in July 2006. The SCI forms part of the local development framework and is a legal planning requirement. It sets out the Council's policy for involving and communicating with interested parties in matters relating to development in the borough and in the preparation and revision of local development framework documents and in the exercise of the authority's functions in relation to planning applications.

4.3.2 Since its adoption there have been significant legal and regulatory changes to the planning system that the SCI needs to reflect. These include the changes introduced by the Planning Act 2008; the Localism Act 2011; the Local Planning Regulations 2012; the Development Management Procedure Order 2010; the deletion of the planning policy statements and their replacement by the National Planning Policy Framework in March 2012 and the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017.

4.3.2 A Draft SCI was produced in 2013 and public consultation was carried out in August until October of that year. We received a number of concerns from members, local community groups and residents to the draft proposals. We

carefully reviewed all the comments and decided not to progress the SCI update until the Council's IT system had been upgraded and we would be in a better position to consider fresh and amended proposals.

4.3.3 Since 2013, the Council has embarked on a significant upgrade of the IT infrastructure and systems. However, more work is required before we can consider the possibility of replacing neighbour letters with site notices. We have been promoting the use of the online planning application service which enables users to set up and request email notifications when planning applications are received/validated in specified roads/areas. We have been testing the replacement of the fortnightly Amenity Society Panel (ASP) meeting with regular community group meetings. The first meeting was held in March 2017, with over 40 local groups attending with the next meeting in October 2017. Feedback from this initial session was good; as we are proactively engaging with a wider cross-section of residents/community representatives. We have also re-introduced regular evening forums for Agents, Developers and Architects. It is intended that both forums will meet a number of times a year. We are also trialing the use of foyer notices to replace letters sent to individual properties in flatted blocks.

4.3.3 It is intended that a revised SCI will be a streamlined, high level document, designed so that parts of it can be updated when necessary to better reflect legislation and local demand/need. The revised SCI must align with current legislation as well as reflect the changes in Council resources and technological advances, of which there have been many since 2005. The most notable are that most correspondence the Planning Service receives is now by email rather than letter, planning applications can be viewed and commented on online and the introduction of the online planning application service. These improvements have meant that the Planning Service has been able to better respond to the needs of the community and it is intended that the revised SCI will build on this.

4.3.4 A draft proposal for the SCI is being prepared. It is intended that this clarifies and proposes changes to how the Planning Service engages with the community.

4.3.5 Draft Programme

SCI Stage	Start	Completion
Engagement with Members	December 2017	January 2018
Public Consultation	May 2018	June 2018
Amendments to document	June 2018	August 2018
Re Consultation	September 2018	October 2018
Adoption		November 2018

4.4 Gypsies and Traveller Sites(s) Local Plan

- 4.4.1 We are currently preparing a single-issue Local Plan with the aim of allocating a site or sites to meet the local accommodation needs of Gypsy and Traveller communities within the borough.
- 4.4.2 At its meeting on 7 September 2016, the Mayor and Cabinet approved a Gypsy and Traveller Site(s) Local Plan (GTSLP) Potential Sites(s) report and Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) for statutory public consultation.
- 4.4.3 The potential Sites(s) identified in the report were:
- New Cross Social Club and adjoining land, Hornshay Street, SE15; and
 - land at Pool Court, SE6.
- 4.4.4 Both sites are considered suitable candidates for allocation to Gypsies and Travellers, despite issues including:
1. The New Cross site contains community infrastructure that would need to be re-developed on other site(s); and
 2. The eastern portion of the Pool Court site is owned by Network Rail and currently within their portfolio of land for sale.
- 4.4.5 Consultation on both sites took place from 17 October and 30 November 2016, and raised a number of important issues that required investigation and follow up in order to establish the overall appropriateness and deliverability of the two preferred sites.
- 4.4.6 These issues have since been investigated; further informing comparison between Hornshay Street and Pool Court to seek to identify the preferred site for the GTLSP. It is the intention to bring a further report to Mayor and Cabinet in October 2017 updating on progress.

Bakerloo Line

4.5 New Cross Masterplan

- 4.5.1 We are currently working with the GLA and TfL on a jointly funded project to understand the impact of the Bakerloo Line Extension (BLE) on a New Cross Gate Masterplan Study.
- 4.5.2 It was original envisaged that two studies would be undertaken to analyse opportunities in the immediate vicinity and wider area of New Cross Gate, by undertaking Station Interchange Study and a Masterplan Study. As discussions have progressed it was clear that TfL needed to undertake some of the detailed work on the proposed station and line themselves and consequently it was considered better to absorb the remainder of the work into one piece of work. This is now called the New Cross Gate Masterplan and Station Opportunity Study (NXG Masterplan Study).
- 4.5.2 An Invitation to Tender (ITT) document for a NXG Masterplan Study was issued to consultants on Friday 11 August with a deadline for tender responses being

Friday 8 September 2017. It is intended that the successful consultant will be appointed and in place during week commencing 18 September 2017.

- 4.5.3 A 'Bidders Morning' was held on Wednesday 30 August 2017 which was an opportunity for potential bidders to see strategic sites, ask questions, and get a better understanding of the Council, GLA and TfL's priorities.

4.6 Lewisham Interchange

- 4.6.1 We are in the final phases of a detailed study into the creation of Lewisham Station into an interchange between the BLE, DLR and National Rail services. The study is being undertaken with the GLA, Network Rail and TfL and has been jointly funded. The aim of the project is to create a station interchange which brings together the multiple transport modes, connects with the surrounding area and overcomes the severance issues of the existing station. A final report to the client group is expected in the autumn.

4.7 Direction of Travel Document

- 4.7.1 The Council's existing planning policy position is contained within the development plan which comprises the Core Strategy, Development Management Local Plan, Lewisham Town centre Local Plan and sits alongside the London Plan. These documents promote growth in the designated Regeneration and Growth corridor which covers New Cross/Deptford, Lewisham Town Centre and Catford. However, the policies, whilst noting the need for additional infrastructure, pre-date the proposed BLE. A Direction of Travel document is being prepared in advance of a new local plan to ensure that there is a clear and consistent application of the existing policy position to support the delivery of the Bakerloo line to Lewisham and beyond.
- 4.7.2 It is intended to set out how the Council's existing planning policy framework supports the delivery of the BLE and how growth and development associated with its arrival could be supported, planned for and sustainably delivered for the benefit of the whole Borough.
- 4.7.3 The Document will not set out any new policies but is intended to highlight how the existing Core Strategy provides a positive framework for growth and the existing spatial strategy contained within it that identifies the broad growth areas. This approach is still fit for purpose and underpins the London Plan growth targets for the Borough and supports the argument for the delivery of the first phase of BLE.
- 4.7.4 The BLE project will inevitably mean that there is increased interest in development and growth in the Borough and additional growth is necessary to support the case for BLE coming to Lewisham. The Council will need to work with developers, landowners and other partners to deliver new development in the context of the delivery of the BLE and ensure that these enhanced development opportunities are brought forward in a managed and coordinated way. Officers consider that the document will therefore need to play an important role in:

- Confirming the borough's established approach to growth and the aspiration to optimise this growth with supporting necessary required infrastructure
- Being clear about the Council's aspiration to capture development opportunities associated with the delivery of the BLE
- Setting out the Council's commitment to plan for the arrival of the BLE
- Managing expectations about site values, affordable housing delivery and scale of development
- Demonstrating how key London Plan documents (the draft Transport Strategy June 2017, Good Growth by Design programme (launched July 2017) and the Affordable Housing and Viability SPD August 2017) will be reflected locally.

4.8 **London Plan**

4.8.1 A draft consultation version of a new London Plan is due to be published in November 2017.

4.9 **Mayor's Affordable Housing and Viability SPG**

4.9.1 The final Affordable Housing and Viability SPG (August 2017) was published on the 16th August.

4.9.2 The key points to note within the document are:

- Clarification on publishing viability reports – generally they should be published in full unless there are exceptional circumstances
- Establishes an approach to land value by using EUV plus
- New rules for when a viability assessment is needed
- London wide approach on when viability should be reviewed (early and late for all schemes)
- Confirmation that Vacant Building Credit (VBC) does not apply in London and that affordable provision is expected on schemes of 10 units and above (not 11)
- Assumption that grant, if available, should be utilised (and should take into account the need to maximise delivery)
- That an increase in density is appropriate if it enables more affordable provision and meets exemplary design
- Ability to set locally appropriate tenure split
- Introduction of London Living Rent
- Provides a definition of Build to Rent and use of discounted market rent as form of affordable

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

6. Legal implications

6.1 As this is an information item there are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

7. Crime and disorder implications

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

8. Equalities implications

8.1 Lewisham's Comprehensive Equalities Scheme (CES) 2012-16 describes the Council's commitment to equality for citizens, service users and employees. The CES is underpinned by a set of high level strategic objectives which incorporate the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty:

- tackle victimisation, harassment and discrimination
- to improve access to services
- to close the gap in outcomes for citizens
- to increase understanding and mutual respect between communities
- to increase participation and engagement

9. Environmental Implications

9.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

10. Conclusion

10.1 The Committee is asked to note the content of this report setting out an update on work being undertaken by officers. If you have any questions about this report please contact David Syme, Strategic Planning Manager david.syme@lewisham.gov.uk

Sustainable Development Select Committee		
Title	Select Committee work programme	
Contributor	Scrutiny Manager	Item 7
Class	Part 1 (open)	13 September 2017

1. Purpose

To advise Members of the proposed work programme for the municipal year 2017-18 and to decide on the agenda items for the next meeting.

2. Summary

- 2.1 At the beginning of the new administration, each select committee drew up a draft work programme for submission to the Business Panel for consideration.
- 2.2 The Business Panel considered the work programmes of each of the select committees on 22 May 2017 and agreed a co-ordinated overview and scrutiny work programme. However, the work programme can be reviewed at each Select Committee meeting so that Members are able to include urgent, high priority items and remove items that are no longer a priority.

3. Recommendations

3.1 The Committee is asked to:

- note the work plan attached at **Appendix B** and discuss any issues arising from the programme;
- specify the information and analysis required in the report for each item on the agenda for the next meeting, based on desired outcomes, so that officers are clear about what they need to provide;
- review all forthcoming key decisions, attached at **Appendix C**, and consider any items for further scrutiny;
- give consideration to the report at **Appendix D**, which sets out the policy and legislative programme of the newly elected government.

4. The work programme

4.1 The work programme for 2017-18 was agreed at the Committee's meeting on 20 April 2017.

4.2 The Committee is asked to consider if any urgent issues have arisen that require scrutiny and if any existing items are no longer a priority so they can be removed from the work programme. Before adding additional items, each item should be considered against agreed criteria. The flow chart attached at **Appendix A** may help Members decide if proposed additional items should be added to the work programme. The Committee's work programme needs to be achievable in terms of the amount of meeting time available. If the Committee agrees to add additional

item(s) because they are urgent and high priority, Members will need to consider which medium/low priority item(s) should be removed in order to create sufficient capacity for the new item(s).

5. The next meeting

5.1 The following reports are scheduled for the meeting on 8 November 2017:

Agenda item	Review type	Link to corporate priority	Priority
Lewisham Future Programme savings	Performance monitoring	Inspiring efficiency, effectiveness and equity	High
Flood risk management strategy	Policy development	Clean, green and liveable;	Medium
Street trees	Policy development	Clean, green and liveable;	Low

5.2 The Committee is asked to specify the information and analysis it would like to see in the reports for these items, based on the outcomes the Committee would like to achieve, so that officers are clear about what they need to provide for the next meeting.

5.3 The Committee is also asked to consider whether it needs additional information to progress specific elements of its ongoing review into the regeneration of Catford. Previously mentioned areas of focus have included:

- Initiatives to improve air quality in the vicinity of the newly aligned south circular.
- Community, creativity and open spaces.
- Approaches to ensure sustainable density of development.

5.4 The Committee should bear in mind that the quantity of savings that will be put forward for the Committee to consider as part of the Lewisham Future Programme savings has not yet been agreed.

5.5 The report at **appendix D** was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in July 2017. It sets out the policy and legislative programme of the new Conservative government. The programme reflects the commitments set out in the Conservative Party Election manifesto published in May as well as the contents of the Queen's Speech and the Conservative-Democratic Unionist Party Agreement, both of which were released in June 2017. In addition, the report includes an update on Brexit. It was agreed at Overview and Scrutiny Committee that all select committees should consider this report in order to inform their work programmes going forward.

6. Financial implications

There are no financial implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations in this report.

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.

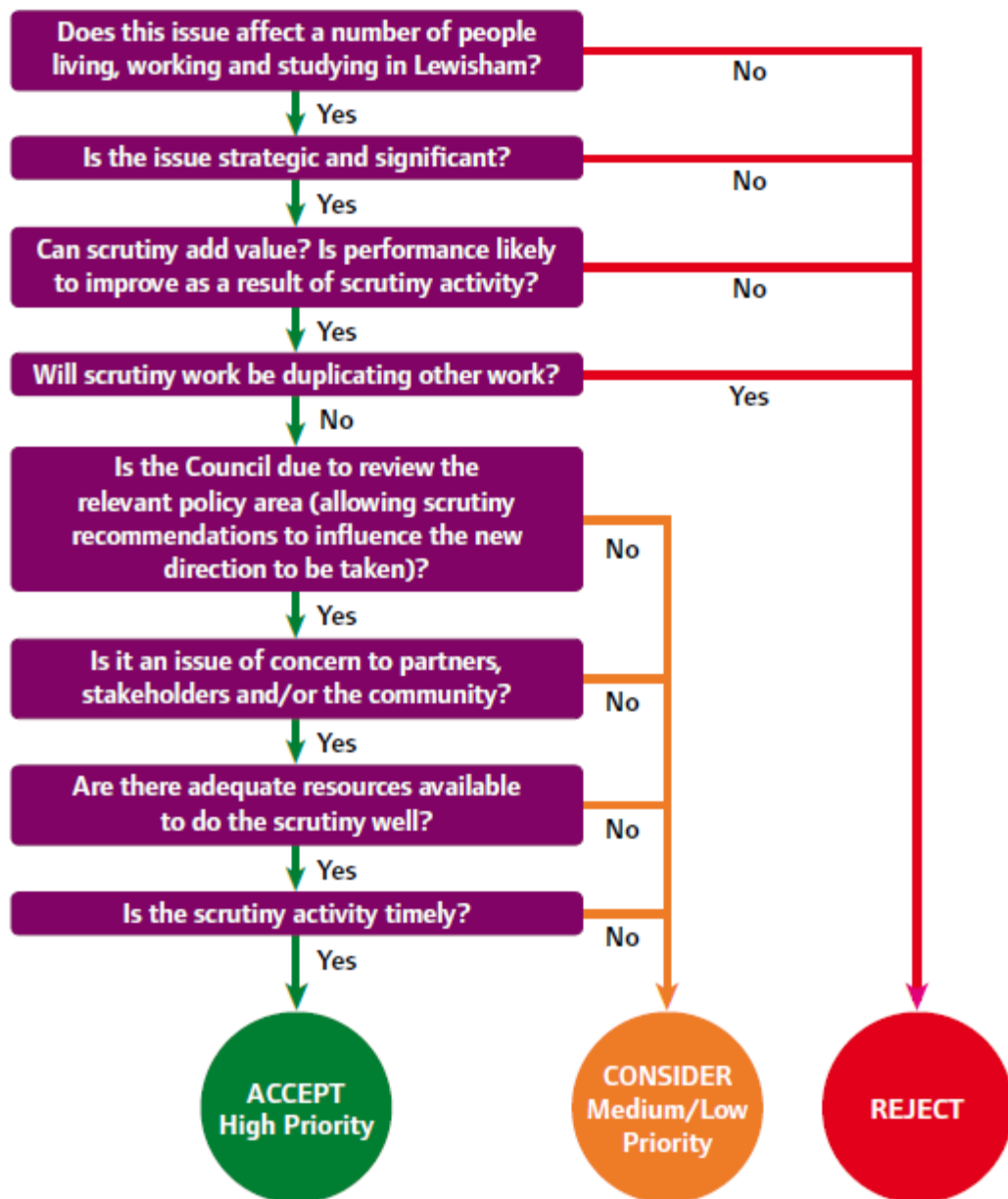
Background documents

Lewisham Council's Constitution
Centre for Public Scrutiny: The Good Scrutiny Guide

Appendices

Appendix A – Scrutiny work programme – prioritisation process
Appendix B – 2017-18 work plan
Appendix C – Key decision plan
Appendix D - Conservative Party Manifesto, Conservative-DUP Agreement, Queen's Speech and Brexit Update

Scrutiny work programme – prioritisation process



Sustainable Development Select Committee work programme 2017-18

Programme of work

Work Item	Type of item	Priority	Strategic Priority	Delivery deadline	20-Apr	14-Jun	20-Jul	13-Sep	08-Nov	14-Dec	18-Jan	22-Mar
Lewisham Future Programme	Performance monitoring	High	CP10	Ongoing					Savings			
Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair	Constitutional requirement	High	CP6	Apr								
Select Committee work programme 2017/18	Constitutional requirement	High	CP6	Ongoing								
Asset Management System (AMS) and asset register update	Performance monitoring	Medium	CP10	Apr								
Beckenham Place park update	Standard item	High	CP3	Apr								
Implementation of the air quality action plan	Performance monitoring	Medium	CP3	Jun								
Catford Town Centre Regeneration quarterly updates	In-depth review	High	CP3, CP10	Ongoing								
Implementation of the cycling strategy	Performance monitoring	Medium	CP3	Jun								
Waste strategy implementation and performance monitoring	Performance monitoring	High	CP3	Jun								
Bakerloo line extension update	Policy development	High	CP3/CP5	Jul								
Fire safety in tall buildings	Performance monitoring	High	CP3/CP6	Jul								
Planning key policies and procedures	Policy development	High	CP10	Dec								
Flood risk management strategy	Policy development	High	CP3	Nov								
Street trees	Standard item	Low	CP3	Nov								
Section 106 and CIL	Standard item	Tbc	CP6	Dec								
Planning service annual monitoring report	Information Item	High	CP3, CP 5	Dec								
Annual parking report	Performance monitoring	Low	CP 3, CP5	Jan								
Work and skills strategy implementation	Performance monitoring	Low	CP5	Jan								
Home energy conservation	Standard item	High	CP 3	Mar								

	Item completed
	Item ongoing
	Item outstanding
	Proposed
	Item added

Meeting Dates:			
1) Thu	20-Apr	5) Wed	08-Nov
2) Wed	14-Jun	6) Thu	14-Dec
3) Wed	20-Jul	7) Thu	18-Jan
4) Wed	13-Sep	8) Thu	22-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 September 2017 - December 2017

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.

	Blackheath Joint Events Policy 2017-2020	13/09/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		
	Housing Infrastructure Fund - Bids for Catford town centre, Lewisham Interchange and Lewisham Gateway	13/09/17 Mayor and Cabinet	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		
	Fostering Strategy	13/09/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
February 2017	Telephony re-procurement	13/09/17 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
August 2017	New Homes Programme	13/09/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
August 2017	Agreement to enter into a contract to deliver a Training and Work Experience Programme in Good Hope Cafes with For Jimmy	13/09/17 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
May 2017	Sangley and Sandhurst Road Highway Improvement Scheme Contract Award	13/09/17 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		

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
April 2017	Proposed revision to the contract structure of the Downham Health & Leisure Centre PFI	13/09/17 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Joan Millbank, Cabinet Member Third Sector & Community		
	Foster Care Preferred Provider Framework Extension	13/09/17 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
May 2017	Audited Accounts and Pension Fund Accounts 2016/17	20/09/17 Council	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
May 2017	Financial Regulations and Directorate Schemes of Delegation	20/09/17 Council	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
	Insurance Renewal Contracts	26/09/17 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		

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
March 2017	Achilles Street Regeneration Proposals	04/10/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
June 2017	Joint Strategic Depot Review	04/10/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		
June 2017	PLACE / Deptford: Precision Manufactured Temporary Accommodation	04/10/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
	Discretionary Business Rates Scheme 2017/2018 Revaluation Support	04/10/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
June 2017	Update and preferred provider position refurbishment of Ladywell Playtower.	04/10/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
	Debts write-off for Recoupment of Invoices	04/10/17 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		
	Response to Consultation regarding changes to Targeted Short Breaks Provision	04/10/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
May 2017	Community Services Youth Theatre and Performing Arts Review	04/10/17 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Joan Millbank, Cabinet Member Third Sector & Community		
May 2017	Transfer of the Applications Support Function to the LB Brent Shared Service	25/10/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
	Lewisham Homes Business Plan	25/10/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
June 2017	Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan Update	25/10/17 Mayor and Cabinet	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		
	School Improvement Partnership	25/10/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
	Introduction of a new Public Space Protection Order	25/10/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Janet Daby, Cabinet Member Community Safety		
May 2017	Report of the Barriers to Participation Working Party	22/11/17 Council	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Suzannah Clarke, Chair Planning Committee C		
May 2017	Lewisham Future Programme 2018/19 Revenue Budget Savings	06/12/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
June 2017	Deptford Lounge & Tidemill School Facilities and Centre Management	06/12/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member 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
			Children and Young People		

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

Overview and Scrutiny Committee			
Report Title	Conservative Party Manifesto, Conservative-DUP Agreement, Queen's Speech and Brexit Update		
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration		
Class	Part 1 (Open)	Date	11 July 2017

Introduction

1. This report sets out the policy and legislative programme of the new Conservative administration. The above mentioned programme reflects the commitments set out in the Conservative Party Election manifesto published in May as well as the contents of the Queen's Speech and the Conservative-Democratic Unionist Party Agreement, both of which were released in June 2017. In addition, this report includes an update on Brexit.

Background and context

2. The 2017 UK General Election was called just two months after the Government had triggered Article 50, signalling the UK's intention to leave the European Union. Citing the need for a clear mandate to commence the Brexit negotiations as a rationale, on 18 April 2017, the Prime Minister Theresa May announced she would seek an Election on 8 June.
3. The Prime Minister had previously indicated that she had no plans to call a snap poll. However, a House of Commons motion to allow this was passed on 19 April, with 522 votes for and 13 against (a majority of 509) meeting the required two-thirds majority to permit the early dissolution of Parliament as required by the Fixed Term Parliaments Act of 2011.
4. The Election result, saw the Conservative Party win the largest number of seats in Parliament (318) but short of the 326 required to form a majority Government. In total the Conservatives lost 13 seats compared to 2015. By contrast, Labour won 262 seats (up 30 compared to 2015), the Liberal Democrats 12 seats (up 4 on 2015), whilst the Scottish Nationalists won 35 seats (down 21 on the last General Election). The Green Party held on to the one seat secured in 2015.
5. Crucially in the context of this Election, the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) won 10 seats. Following days of negotiation, it was to the DUP that the Conservatives turned to secure the working majority necessary to form a Government.

Policy programme

6. This section of the report covers the manifesto commitments made by the Conservative Party that specifically affect local government or the broader public

sector. Some of these manifesto commitments have made their way into the Government's legislative programme over the term of the new administration.

7. The Conservative Party manifesto set out, what it describes as, the five giant challenges as follows:
 - the need for a strong economy
 - Brexit and a changing world
 - enduring social divisions
 - an ageing society
 - fast-changing technology
8. Set out under the sub-headings below (taken directly from the manifesto text) is a summary of key elements of the broader policy programme of the new Government.

A strong economy that works for everyone

9. The manifesto sets out that a strong economy is the basis for everything the Conservatives want to achieve for the nation. Key commitments under this theme are as follows:

9.1 The economy

- increase the personal allowance to £12,500 and the higher rate to £50,000
- continue to ensure that local residents can veto high increases in Council Tax via a referendum
- make longer term reforms to the business rates system to address concerns about the way it currently works (to include a full review of the system to make sure that it is up to date for a world in which people increasingly shop online)
- simplify the tax system
- continue to increase the National Living Wage to 60 per cent of median earnings by 2020 and after that, by the rate of median earnings
- take steps to ensure that people working in the 'gig' economy are properly protected
- ask the independent Migration Advisory Committee to make recommendations to the Government about how the visa system can become better aligned with the administration's modern industrial strategy

A strong and united nation in a changing world

10. The manifesto pledges: an orderly and smooth exit from the European Union, to strengthen democracy and recognise the role played by the public sector. Key commitments under this theme are as follows:

10.1 Brexit legislation

- enact a Great Repeal Bill that will convert EU law into UK law, allowing Parliament the ability to pass legislation to amend, repeal or improve any piece of EU law that it chooses
- bring forward additional bills to ensure that when the UK has left the EU, there is a clear statutory basis for UK authorities to exercise powers that are currently exercised through EU law and institutions

10.2 Democratic institutions

- legislate to ensure that a form of identification must be presented before voting
- continue with the current boundary review, enshrining the principle of equal seats, while reducing the number of MPs to 600
- make sure that Councils receive help to deal with asylum seekers and refugees as they arrive and establish schemes to help individuals, charities, faith groups, churches and businesses to provide housing and other support for refugees
- take new powers to force Councils to remove roadside litter and prosecute offenders
- place new duties on Councils to consult when they wish to cut down street trees
- establish in law, the freedom for employees to mutualise, where appropriate within the public sector

The world's great meritocracy

11. The manifesto pledges to make Britain the world's Great Meritocracy, with "more" to be done to support millions of people who live in "ordinary working families". Key commitments under this theme are as follows:

11.1 Education and employment

- prohibit Councils from creating any new places in schools that have been rated either 'inadequate' or 'requires improvement' by Ofsted
- introduce new funding arrangements so that a specialist maths school can be opened in every major city in England
- lift the ban on the establishment of selective schools, subject to conditions, such as allowing pupils to join at other ages as well as eleven
- strengthen the teaching of literacy in the early years so that all pupils regardless of background get the best possible start in life
- make funding fairer and ensure that no school has its budget cut as a result of the new formula
- increase the overall schools budget by £4 billion by 2022 and continue to protect the Pupil Premium to support those who need it
- offer a free school breakfast to every child in every year of primary school, while children from low-income families will continue to receive free school lunches
- break down the barriers to public sector workers taking on more qualified roles because of their prior educational attainment (eg: teaching assistants)

can become qualified teachers and healthcare assistants can become qualified nurses via a degree apprenticeship route)

- offer a full-year National Insurance Contributions holiday to those employing former wards of the care system, ex-offenders, those with disabilities, people with chronic mental health problems and those who have been unemployed for a year

11.2 Communities and social integration

- bring forward a new integration strategy
- work with schools to ensure that those with intakes from one predominant racial, cultural or religious background teach their students about pluralistic British values
- take further steps to reduce immigration from outside the European Union

11.3 Tackling crime and criminal justice

- consider what new criminal offences and aggravated offences need to be established to defeat extremists
- takes steps to address pay gaps for gender and race as well as the experiences of those affected by mental health problems of who are disabled
- legislate to enshrine a definition of domestic violence and abuse in law, providing the legal underpinning for everything in the new act
- create a domestic violence and abuse commissioner in law to stand up for victims and survivors
- ensure that victims who have life-time tenancies and flee violence are able to secure a new lifetime tenancy automatically
- enshrine victims entitlements in law, making it clear what level of service they should expect from the police, courts and criminal justice system
- widen the role of police and crime commissioners to help them cut crime for their local communities
- create a national community sentencing framework that punishes offenders and focuses on the measures that have a better chance of turning people around and preventing crime such as curfews and orders to tackle drug and alcohol abuse

A restored contract between the generations

12. The manifesto sets out a commitment to restore the contract between generations, providing older people with security against ill health, whilst ensuring that the promise of opportunity and prosperity for young people is maintained. Key commitments under this theme are as follows:

12.1 Social care and health

- maintain the pensions triple lock until 2020, thereafter introduce a new double lock – meaning that pensions will rise with earnings or inflation
- align the future means-testing for domiciliary care with that for residential care so that people are looked after in the place that is best for them

- introduce a single capital floor, for care costs, set at £100,000 (more than four times the current means test threshold)
- extend freedom to defer payments for residential care to those receiving care at home, so that no-one will have to sell their home in their life-time to pay for care
- introduce a new statutory entitlement to carers leave – in recognition of the fact that the majority of care is informally provided mainly by families
- as part of Brexit negotiations, make it a priority that the 140,000 staff from EU countries can continue to work in the NHS
- enable more care to be delivered closer to home by building and upgrading primary care facilities, mental health clinics and hospitals
- increase the Immigration Health Surcharge to £600 for migrant workers and £450 for international students
- implement the recommendations of the Accelerated Access Review to make sure that patients get new drugs and treatments faster while the NHS gets better value for money and remains at the forefront of innovation
- retain the 95 per cent Accident & Emergency target, and the 18 week elective care standards, so that those needing care receive it in a timely fashion
- review the NHS' own internal market and, in time for the start of the 2018 financial year, make non-legislative changes to remove barriers to the integration of care
- extend the scope of the Care Quality Commission to cover the health-related services commissioned by local authorities
- legislate for an independent healthcare safety investigations body in the NHS
- recruit up to 10,000 more mental health professionals and require medical staff to have a deeper understanding of mental health

12.2 Housing

- deliver on the reforms proposed in the Housing White Paper to free up more land for new homes in the right places, speed up build-out by encouraging modern methods of construction and give Councils powers to intervene where developers do not act on their planning permissions
- enter into new Council Housing Deals with ambitious, pro-development local authorities to help them build more social housing
- reform Compulsory Purchase Orders to make them easier and less expensive for Councils to use and to make it easier to determine the true market value of sites
- give housing associations greater flexibility to increase their housing stock, building on their considerable track record in recent years
- reform and modernise the home-buying process so that it is more efficient and less costly

12.3 Children and families

- introduce, in 2017, thirty hours of free childcare for three and four year olds for working parents who find it difficult to manage the costs of childcare
- institute a capital fund to help primary schools to develop nurseries where they do not currently have the facilities to provide one

- publish a Green paper on young people's mental health before the end of this year
- ensure that Councils provide consistency of care and cannot relocate vulnerable children far from their home when it is not in their best interests to do so
- demand all local authorities be commissioners of the highest quality family support and child protection services, removing these responsibilities from the weakest Councils and placing them in trust

Prosperity and security in a digital age

13. Responding to the opportunities, challenges and threats of the digital age, the manifesto commits to assure the British people of security and fairness and strengthen the UK's position as one of the world's leading digital economies. Key commitments under this theme are as follows:

- develop a digital charter, working with industry and charities to establish a new framework that balances freedom with protection for users and offers opportunities alongside obligations for businesses and platforms
- publish operational performance data of all public-facing services for open comparison as a matter of course – helping people to hold their local services to account or choose other better services if they prefer
- set out a strategy to rationalise the use of personal data within Government, so that the wider public services comply with the 'once-only' principle by 2025
- support new providers seeking to use digital technology to monitor long-term conditions better, deploy carers to patients or support domiciliary care away from hospitals

The Conservative- Democratic Unionist Agreement

14. Following the General Election, the Conservatives emerged as the party with the largest number of seats. Unable to meet the threshold of 326 seats (required to form a Government outright) the Conservatives approached the DUP in an effort to form a governing majority. As part of the agreement, that facilitated the deal, the DUP will support the Conservatives in Parliament in an arrangement commonly known as 'confidence and supply'.

15. A confidence and supply agreement is one whereby a party or independent members of parliament will support the Government in motions of confidence and appropriation or budget (supply) votes, either by voting in favour or abstaining. However parties and independent members normally retain the right to otherwise vote in favour of their own policies or on conscience on legislative bills.

16. The main elements of the above-mentioned agreement, which were revealed on 26 June 2017 are as set out under the sub headers below.

confidence and supply agreement in the UK Parliament

17. The DUP agrees to support the Government on all motions of confidence; and on the Queen's Speech; the Budget; finance bills; money bills, supply and appropriation legislation and estimates.
18. In line with the parties' shared priorities for negotiating a successful exit from the European Union and protecting the country in the light of recent terrorist attacks, the DUP also agrees to support the Government on legislation pertaining to the United Kingdom's exit from the European Union; and legislation pertaining to national security. Support on other matters will be agreed on a case by case basis.
19. The DUP agrees to support the Government in votes in the UK Parliament, in line with this agreement.

policy agreement

20. Both parties have agreed that there will be no change to the Pensions Triple Lock and the universal nature of the Winter Fuel Payment. The parties agree to meet the NATO commitment of spending 2% of GDP on the armed forces. Both parties are committed to the Armed Forces Covenant and to its implementation throughout the United Kingdom.
21. Both parties agree to work together to consider options to support the highly successful reserve forces in Northern Ireland. The parties recognise the importance of the agriculture sector to Northern Ireland and the opportunities for growth that exist. Agriculture will be a critical policy area during the EU exit negotiations.
22. The parties agree to continue to commit the same cash total in funds for farm support until the end of the Parliament. Further discussions will take place on the future framework for farming support.

financial support

23. The UK government will allocate £200 million per year for 2 years and with sufficient flexibility as to the choice of project to ensure the Executive is able to deliver the York Street Interchange (infrastructure) Project and other priorities.
24. The UK government will contribute £75 million per year for 2 years to help provide ultra-fast broadband for Northern Ireland. In order to target pockets of severe deprivation, the UK government will provide £20 million per year for 5 years to support the Northern Ireland Executive to deliver this measure.
25. The UK government will, allocate an additional £50 million per year for 2 years to enable the Executive to address immediate pressure in health and education. The UK government will allocate £100 million per year for 2 years to support the Northern Ireland Executive's delivery of its priority of health service

transformation. The UK government will provide £10 million per year for 5 years to support the Northern Ireland Executive for mental health.

The Queen's Speech 2017

26. The Queen's Speech, which sets out the Government's legislative programme for the Parliamentary session, was delivered on 21 June 2017. A briefing paper circulated by the Cabinet Office set out that: *this Queen's Speech is about recognising and grasping the opportunities that lie ahead for the United Kingdom as we leave the European Union:*

- *delivering a Brexit deal that works for all parts of the United Kingdom;*
- *building a stronger, fairer country by strengthening our economy, tackling injustice and promoting opportunity and aspiration.*

27. In total the Government is proposing to bring forward 27 Bills in this Parliament. A number of these (eight in total) focus specifically on Brexit. Notable Bills in the Queen's Speech are as follows:

- **Repeal Bill** - this Bill will allow for a smooth and orderly transition as the UK leaves the EU, ensuring that, wherever practical, the same rules and laws apply after exit and therefore maximising certainty for individuals and businesses.
- **Customs Bill** - the Bill will ensure that the UK has a standalone UK customs regime on exit; provides flexibility to accommodate future trade agreements with the EU and others and ensures that changes can be made to the UK's VAT and excise regimes to ensure that the UK has standalone regimes on EU-exit.
- **Trade Bill** - the Bill will cement the United Kingdom's status as a leading trading nation, driving positive global change through trade, whilst ensuring UK businesses are protected from unfair trading practices.
- **Immigration Bill** - With the repeal of the European Communities Act, it will be necessary to establish new powers concerning the immigration status of EEA nationals. The Bill will allow the Government to control the number of people coming here from Europe while still allowing us to attract the brightest and the best.

28. A summary of other key Bills introduced in the Queen's Speech are attached to this report as an Appendix A, whilst a summary of relevant non-legislative measures is set out at Appendix B.

Brexit update

29. The following paragraphs summarise the legislative and policy and decision-making framework guiding Britain's exit from the European Union. These

summaries update the position, since the last briefing to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in January 2017.

The United Kingdom's Exit from and New Partnership with the European Union: White Paper

30. In February 2017, the Government published a White Paper which set out the Government's broader vision for Brexit going forward. The document achieved three things; firstly it underlined the Government's commitment to follow through with plans to withdraw from the EU and honour the outcome of the EU Referendum; secondly, it set out the first stage in the legislative process for EU withdrawal and finally, it set out the 12 key priorities for the UK's exit.

European Union (notification of withdrawal) Act

31. The European Union (notification of withdrawal) Bill was introduced in Parliament on 31 January 2017 and sought to confer power on the Prime Minister to notify, under Article 50(2) of the Treaty on European Union, the United Kingdom's intention to withdraw from the EU. The Bill received Royal Assent and became an Act of Parliament on 16 March 2017.

Article 50

32. Article 50 of the EU Treaty is a basic five-point plan of action, should any country wish to leave the European Union. Once Article 50 is activated a nation state is cut out of EU decision-making at the highest level and there will be no way back unless by unanimous consent from all other member states. Article 50 was triggered on 29 March 2017.

Great Repeal Bill White Paper

33. Building on the formal triggering of Article 50 the day before, on 30 March 2017, the Great Repeal Bill White Paper was published. The Bill sets out the Government's proposals for ensuring a functioning statute book once the UK has left the EU. In simple terms, the Great Repeal Bill will convert the body of European legislation – into UK law at the moment the European Communities Act (the governing charter for EU law) is repealed.

Formal negotiation

34. Formal Brexit negotiations commenced on the 19 June 2017. The initial focus of the discussions has been the rights of some 3 million EU nationals living in the UK and the 1 million UK citizens living in the EU. On 26 June, the Government published a policy paper, which sets out proposals for addressing this issue specifically. As part of this, the paper makes clear that EU citizens looking to remain in the UK can do so. The paper also confirms the creation of a new 'settled status' for EU citizens who arrive before a cut-off date, which is yet to be specified and will be agreed as part of the negotiations with the EU.

35. Under the proposals, applicants who already have five years' continuous residence in the UK will be immediately eligible for settled status. Those who arrived before the specified date but do not yet meet the five year threshold by exit day will be allowed to stay until they reach that milestone and can also secure settled status. EU citizens who are granted settled status will be treated like a comparable UK national, entitled to broadly the same rights and benefits.
36. A grace period of up to two years will be in place for all EU citizens, including those who arrive after the cut-off date, allowing them to regularise their status to remain in the country.
37. In terms of the UK's wider negotiating stance, a statement to Parliament by Brexit Secretary David Davis, after the Queen's Speech, underlined the Government's commitment to exit both the Single Market and the Customs Union. Although in the same statement, the Secretary of State made clear that leaving the Single Market does not mean losing access to the Single Market.

Legal implications

38. At the time of writing, it is premature to be specific as to exact legal implications, save for noting that we will need to keep this under review. In any event, the obligations for us as a Local Authority pursuant to, for example, the provisions of the Equality Act, will continue.
39. The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
40. 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.
41. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct, or to promote equality of opportunity or foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. It is a duty to have due regard to the need to achieve the goals listed above.
42. The weight to be attached to the duty will be dependent on the nature of the decision and the circumstances in which it is made. This is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. The Mayor

must understand the impact or likely impact of the decision on those with protected characteristics who are potentially affected by the decision. The extent of the duty will necessarily vary from case to case and due regard is such regard as is appropriate in all the circumstances.

43. The Equality and Human Rights Commission has 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:

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/equality-act-codes-practice>

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/equality-act-technical-guidance>

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

- [The essential guide to the public sector equality duty](#)
- [Meeting the equality duty in policy and decision-making](#)
- [Engagement and the equality duty: A guide for public authorities](#)
- [Objectives and the equality duty. A guide for public authorities](#)
- [Equality Information and the Equality Duty: A Guide for Public Authorities](#)

45. 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:

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty-guidance#h1>

Financial implications

46. There are no direct financial implications in noting this report.

Crime and disorder implications

47. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1988, as amended, places a duty upon Local Authorities to consider crime and disorder implications and in particular, “to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of

those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area.” This statutory obligation is the same for the Authorities “responsible partners” too. The level of crime and its impact is influenced by the decisions and activities taken through the day-to-day functions of local bodies and organisations.

48. The Queen’s Speech outlined that new legislation will be brought forward to protect the victims of domestic violence and abuse. This may have implications for a range of statutory services when the detail is laid out.

Information relied upon in the preparation of this report	
1.	Forward Together: Our Plan for a Stronger Britain and Prosperous Future; The Conservative and Unionist Party Manifesto, May 2017
2.	Standing Strong for Northern Ireland: the DUP Manifesto for the 2017 Westminster Election
3.	The United Kingdom’s Exit from and Partnership with the European Union, March 2017
4.	The Great Repeal Bill White Paper, UK Parliament, March 2017
5.	The Queen’s Speech and Associated Background Briefing, on the Occasion of the Opening of Parliament, June 2017
6.	Conservative-DUP Agreement, June 2017
7.	Safeguarding the position of EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals living in the EU, June 2017

Appendix A: Queen's Speech - Key Bills

Repeal Bill

This Bill will allow for a smooth and orderly transition as the UK leaves the EU, ensuring that, wherever practical, the same rules and laws apply after exit and therefore maximising certainty for individuals and businesses.

Customs Bill

The Bill will ensure that the UK has a standalone UK customs regime on exit; provides flexibility to accommodate future trade agreements with the EU and others and ensures that changes can be made to the UK's VAT and excise regimes to ensure that the UK has standalone regimes on EU-exit.

Trade Bill

The Bill will cement the United Kingdom's status as a leading trading nation, driving positive global change through trade, whilst ensuring UK businesses are protected from unfair trading practices.

Immigration Bill

With the repeal of the European Communities Act, it will be necessary to establish new powers concerning the immigration status of EEA nationals. The Bill will allow the Government to control the number of people coming here from Europe while still allowing us to attract the brightest and the best.

Smart Meter Bill

In order to help deliver more transparent energy bills and allow households to monitor their use effectively.

National Insurance Contributions Bill

The Bill will legislate for National Insurance contributions (NICs) changes announced at previous fiscal events (Budget 2016 and Autumn Statement 2016).

Courts Bill

The Bill will reform the courts system in England and Wales to ensure it is more efficient and accessible, and in doing so utilise more modern technology.

Draft Tenants' Fees Bill

Tackling unfair fees on tenants will make the private rental market more affordable and competitive.

Draft Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill

In line with the manifesto commitment, draft proposals will be published to update the law to help tackle the evil of domestic abuse and violence. Proposals will be published in draft for scrutiny by MPs and peers to help build a consensus and raise the profile of this issue.

Civil Liability Bill

This Bill will crack down on fraudulent whiplash claims and is expected to reduce motor insurance premiums by about £35 per year.

Financial Guidance and Claims Bill

The Bill will combine three financial advice bodies into one, ensuring that people across the UK are able to seek the help and advice they need to manage their finances.

Goods Mortgage Bill

The Bill will implement recommendations from the Law Commission to update Victorian era law on logbook loans.

Data Protection Bill

The Bill will fulfil a manifesto commitment to ensure the UK has a data protection regime that is fit for the 21st century.

Draft Patient Safety Bill

The draft Bill will set out a framework to help improve patient safety in the NHS and instil greater public confidence in the provision of healthcare services in England.

Appendix B: Queen's Speech - Non legislative measures

Counter Terrorism Review

This review of counter-terrorism legislation is part of a broader review of our whole approach to counter-terrorism. Urgent work is already underway which will ensure that Government is doing everything possible to address the threat from terrorism and keep the public safe, drawing on lessons from the recent attacks in London and Manchester.

Commission for Countering Extremism

This Government is committed to identifying and stamping out extremism across society, promoting pluralistic British values and reducing tolerance of extremism. To support this we will be establishing a statutory Commission for Countering Extremism that will play a key role in supporting communities and the public sector to identify and confront extremism wherever it exists.

Public Inquiry into the Grenfell Tower Fire

On 15 June 2017, the Prime Minister announced a full public inquiry would take place to look into the circumstances behind the tragic fire which broke out in Grenfell Tower in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Independent Public Advocate

The purpose of the Independent Public Advocate is to keep the bereaved and surviving victims of disasters informed of progress in any relevant investigation and make them fully aware how they can contribute to that investigation. The Public Advocate will be able to access information held by public bodies and will, where appropriate, report on or share that information with representatives of the victims.

Mental Health Reform

The Mental Health Act 1983 sets out the legal framework in England and Wales for the treatment and detention of people with mental ill health, including when such action may be compulsory. The Act has not been fully updated for 34 years, although the Mental Health Act 2007 made changes. The Government will now begin to consider what further reform of mental health legislation is necessary, including changes in how the Act is implemented on the ground.

Social Care

The Government will work to address the challenges of social care for our ageing population, bringing forward proposals for consultation to build widespread support.

Digital Charter

The Government will develop a Digital Charter that will create a new framework which balances users' and businesses' freedom and security online. The Charter will have two core objectives: making the UK the best place to start and run a digital business and the safest place in the world to be online.

Public Finances

The Government will reflect on the message voters sent at the General Election – while always remembering that we have to balance the books and eliminate the

deficit we inherited following the financial crisis. This is to ensure that future generations do not pay when we fail to live within our means. The Government values the important work that public sector workers do in delivering essential public services. We can only have well-funded public services and high standards of living if we deliver a stronger economy and increase our productivity.

Schools and Technical Education

The Government will continue to encourage more people, schools and institutions with something to offer to come forward and help deliver more good school places. To continue the growth of good or outstanding school places, we have made available to academies and maintained schools a £140 million Strategic School Improvement Fund. We will continue to convert failing maintained schools into academies so that they can benefit from the support of a strong sponsor, and we are focused on building capacity across the system to enable this, including through growing new multi academy trusts.

National Living Wage

We want to make sure employment rules and rights keep up to date to reflect new ways of working, and that is why in October we asked Matthew Taylor to conduct an independent review into modern employment practices. The Matthew Taylor Review of Employment Practices is an important step towards us ensuring fairness for everyone in work and we look forward to receiving the report shortly.

Tackling the Gender Pay Gap and Discrimination

The Government will make further progress to tackle the gender pay gap and discrimination against people on the basis of their race, faith, gender, disability or sexual orientation.

Housing

The Government will deliver the reforms proposed in the White Paper to increase transparency around the control of land, to “free up more land for new homes in the right places, speed up build-out by encouraging modern methods of construction and diversify who builds homes in the country. The Government will consult and look to take action to promote transparency and fairness for leaseholders. We will look at the sale of leasehold houses and onerous ground rents, working with property developers, the Competition and Markets Authority and others as outlined in the Housing White Paper.

Consumer Markets, including the Energy Market

The Government will publish a green paper that will closely examine markets which are not working fairly for consumers, and is prepared to act where necessary.