

# Children and Young People Select Committee Agenda

Tuesday, 30 January 2018  
7.00 pm, Committee Room 1  
Civic Suite  
London SE6 4RU

For more information contact: Emma Aye-Kumi (020 8314 9534)

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

## Part 1

Item	Pages
1. Minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2017	3 - 10
2. Declarations of interest	11 - 14
3. Responses to Referrals to Mayor and Cabinet <i>No responses are due.</i>	
4. A presentation by Ubuntu Social Living Networks <i>Guest speakers – Mr Daniel Pink and Dr Ian Phillips.</i> Ubuntu Social Living Networks is a social enterprise and youth leadership programme working with children and young people of the African Caribbean diaspora to build self-esteem by spreading knowledge of true African history.	
5. Update on Lewisham Southwark College <i>Councillor Hilary Moore will give a verbal update.</i>	
6. Safeguarding Services 6-monthly report	15 - 26
7. Child Sexual Exploitation Update	27 - 34
8. Children's Social Care Roadmap <i>To follow.</i>	
9. Select Committee work programme	35 - 54
10. Referrals to Mayor and Cabinet	55 - 60

# Children and Young People Select Committee Members

Members of the committee, listed below, are summoned to attend the meeting to be held on Tuesday, 30 January 2018.

Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive  
Thursday, 18 January 2018

Councillor Luke Sorba (Chair)	
Councillor Liz Johnston-Franklin (Vice-Chair)	
Councillor Chris Barnham	
Councillor Andre Bourne	
Councillor Joyce Jacca	
Councillor Helen Klier	
Councillor Hilary Moore	
Councillor Jacq Paschoud	
Councillor John Paschoud	
Councillor Alan Till	
Lilian Brooks	Parent Governor Representative
Gail Exon	Church Representative
Monsignor N Rothern	Church Representative
Kevin Mantle (Parent Governor Representative)	Parent Governor representative for special schools
Councillor Alan Hall (ex-Officio)	
Councillor Gareth Siddorn (ex-Officio)	

## **MINUTES OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE**

**Monday, 11 December 2017 at 7.00 pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Luke Sorba (Chair), Liz Johnston-Franklin (Vice-Chair), Chris Barnham, Andre Bourne, Hilary Moore, Jacq Paschoud, John Paschoud, Alan Till, Gail Exon (Church Representative), Monsignor N Rothon (Church Representative) and Kevin Mantle (Parent Governor representative for special schools) (Parent Governor Representative)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Joyce Jacca and Co-Opted Member Lilian Brooks

**ALSO PRESENT:** Kate Bond (Head of Standards & Achievement), Warwick Tomsett (Head of Targeted Services and Joint Commissioning), Sara Williams (Executive Director, Children and Young People), Emma Aye-Kumi (Scrutiny Manager), Ann Wallace (Service Manager, Children with Complex Needs), Sir Steve Bullock (Mayor), Councillor Paul Maslin (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People), Councillor Jonathan Slater (Mental Health Champion), Caroline Hirst (Joint Commissioner, Children and Young People's Services), Keith Cohen (Lewisham YOS and South London Consortium Strategic Manager) and Jackie Jones (School Improvement Officer)

### **1. Minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2017**

- 1.1. The order of business was changed to take Item 8 ahead of Item 4.
- 1.2. RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2017 be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

### **2. Declarations of interest**

- 2.1 Councillor Jacq Paschoud declared an interest in respect of Item 6 – SEND update. She is a Trustee of a short breaks provider operating within the borough. She is also a council-appointed Trustee of Brent Knoll Watergate Co-operative Trust and a Governor of Watergate School.
- 2.2 Kevin Mantle declared an interest in respect of Item 6 – SEND update. He is a Trustee of Signal, a parent support group for autistic children and their families in Lewisham, and is employed by the Government Equalities Office.
- 2.3 Councillor John Paschoud declared an interest in respect of Item 6 – SEND update. He is a Governor of Perrymount Primary School, appointed by the local authority.
- 2.4 Councillors John and Jacq Paschoud declared each other's interests as they are required to do under the council's constitution.

### **3. Responses to Referrals to Mayor and Cabinet**

No responses were due.

### **4. Mental Health and Wellbeing in Schools - guest speaker**

4.1 The Chair welcomed Ammar al Ghabban, Education Consultant- social, emotional & mental health, behaviour & relationships, and Councillor Jonathan Slater, the Council's Champion for Mental Health.

4.2 Mr Al Ghabban gave a brief presentation about his experience of mental health in secondary schools.

4.3 A discussion followed, and the following key points were noted:

- Mr Al Ghabban's view was that until schools were required to capture data on the work they do around mental health, head teachers would not see mental health as part of their core business.
- Tense relationships between adults, whether teacher/teacher or teacher/parent transferred pressure to children, therefore it was important to have regard to the mental health of staff as well as pupils.
- Young people's mental health and wellbeing was at the heart of a number of the council's key policy documents including the Children and Young People's plan 2015-18.
- Lewisham had the worst rates of adult mental health in London and the agenda was high on Lewisham schools' radars.
- Schools had received mental health first aid training. Mental health best practice in schools went beyond crisis management. It was not yet fully embedded but progress was being made.
- Examples were given of some of the work around mental health that was being done with/in schools eg conferences, individual support within the virtual school, engagement in cultural/art activities, nurture groups, school governors focused on LGBTQI issues.

4.4 The Chair thanked Mr Al Ghabban for his presentation.

RESOLVED: that Ammar Al Ghabban's presentation be noted.

### **5. The Mayor**

5.1 The Chair welcomed the Mayor of Lewisham, who had been invited to address the Committee on what he saw as the major challenges for children and young people facing the new mayor during his or her term of office.

5.2 The Mayor gave a brief presentation in which he outlined the following key challenges for the new mayor:

- Austerity had created unprecedented pressure on public services and users since 2010, and this would continue for local authorities.
- Online bullying and the negative and damaging effects of social media for young people.
- Pressure for school places had been intense due to demographic change but was now reducing.

- Place planning for secondary schools.
- Schools finances were reducing in real terms. He noted that the rate of inflation in the wider economy was not the right indicator to measure financial growth/ shrinkage in terms of school funding.
- Secondary school performance - modifying/improving the secondary challenge to deal with issues such as class, gender, race and ethnicity.
- Growing demand and ever-increasing complexity of need for services for children and young people with SEN.
- Continuing and worsening recruitment problems, not just of teachers but also young professionals who cannot afford to access the housing market.
- The housing crisis.
- The implications of Brexit.
- The cost of accessing higher education – young people starting adult life with large debt from student loans.
- Disconnect between the labour market in London and routes into it. The housing crisis can only be solved with the skills and capacity for building, yet young people do not want to work in construction. The Construction sector would need to change the opportunities it was offering and the way these are presented to young people.
- Housing and homelessness, which affects children and families.
- Gangs and criminal activity.
- Violence against women and girls.
- Making culture more accessible to all children in the borough. The Mayor referred to the Albany programme to raise funds for every five year old in the borough to see live theatre.

5.3 A discussion followed in which the Mayor made the following points:

- Primary school improvement was due to schools coming together in groups. Secondary schools historically did not build a culture of heads working together, but secondary heads are now coming together to drive improvement.
- The Mayor’s “top 3” issues were
  - Secondary school improvement
  - The housing crisis
  - Child protection.
- In order to minimise teachers moving out of London/Lewisham, individual schools need to build teams that people want to be part of.
- There still existed a culture of not valuing non-academic jobs. Vocational education needed to be valued as well as academic attainment.

5.4 The Chair thanked the Mayor for sharing his thoughts.

5.5 The time being 9:15pm, the Chair adjourned the meeting for a brief comfort break.

## **6. SEND update on transport and short breaks**

6.1 Warwick Tomsett, Head of Targeted Services and Joint Commissioning and Ann Wallace, Service Manager – Children in Need, introduced the item.

- 6.2 The Committee heard that after-school and holiday provision at Drumbeat had previously been funded. 18 months ago, the Dedicated Schools Grants changed and provision of these services had been covered through the general fund but there was no budget to cover it. After-school or holiday provision is not funded in any other school in the borough, and other local authorities do not fund this provision either. The provision was creating an overspend and officers were working with the school and parents on a model that would use alternative sources of funding and that would be available to other schools to use if they wanted to.
- 6.3 It was reported that these discussions were ongoing and that working parents were willing to contribute to the cost. The majority of parents were using these services as childcare while they worked, although some were using it for short breaks, the Committee heard.
- 6.4 Officers explained that Lewisham partners (including the council) had received a positive Ofsted report on SEND provision. The report had been circulated to members. The Committee heard that some parents did not share this view, and were not satisfied with the services that Lewisham offered.
- 6.5 The time being 9:25pm it was MOVED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that standing orders be suspended to allow committee business to continue beyond 9:30pm.
- 6.6 The following was noted in discussion:
- National Department for Education criteria regarding travel policy had not changed, but the council had been more robust about assessing need and implementing the criteria.
  - In some cases where home school transport had been discontinued the child had either moved or was now older and able to be more independent.
  - Each case was assessed individually. For the majority, the only criteria that was applied was distance from home to school. For those closer to school, an assessment was necessary.
  - Officers mentioned the benefits of working with young people to support them to be independent.
  - Concerns were raised – reflecting the findings of the Ofsted report - that details of services were not adequately disseminated to parents, and where parents were getting this information, it was through voluntary sector organisations such as Parent Engage or Signal rather than through awareness of the local offer.
  - Some parents had experienced lack of continuity/information sharing at Kaleidoscope and felt that the Ofsted inspection did not reflect their experience. These parents had indicated that they would respond to Ofsted directly.
  - Improved signposting of the local offer was a key issue, and work was being done to clearly communicate through case workers, placing links on every communications, through schools, websites etc.
  - Ofsted inspectors heard mixed views and the report reflects this.
  - The inspection covered Children’s Centres as well as kaleidoscope.
  - The overall number of children being provided with transport was lower than in 2015, but higher than in 2016.

- There had been no appeals this year. Last year there had been around 50 appeals of which 10 were successful.
- Officers were exploring the reasons why usage of Cyberzone – a self-referral club for families with disabled children aged 7 and over – had dropped so significantly that there was talk of closing it down due to underuse. It had previously been oversubscribed.
- Young people who are eligible for transport and short breaks provision require an adult social care assessment upon turning 18, and the eligibility criteria is different.
- Personal budgets can be made directly to parents, but only some aspects of care and support can be purchased this way.
- Cuts to short breaks have not been made but demand has increased so there will be an overspend next year unless the eligibility criteria are changed.
- A £1m overspend on transport is forecast.

RESOLVED that:

- 1) the report be noted.
- 2) A referral be made to Mayor and Cabinet, requesting a review of funding levels for SEND provision and in particular travel assistance and short breaks. The Chair should draft the referral to take account of the comments made in this meeting and the views of the Mayor under the previous item, and share the draft with the committee by email to enable comment before the referral is submitted to Mayor and Cabinet.

## **7. Provisional GCSE results and update on Secondary Challenge**

7.1 Jackie Jones, Service Manager – School Improvement, introduced the report.

7.2 The committee noted that under the new measures of Progress 8, Attainment 8 and English and Maths, there had been some improvement to the extent that the results could be compared with last year's.

7.3 The committee also heard that the comments made by Ofsted in recent secondary school inspections had been more positive. Bonus Pastor, Haberdashers Hatcham College and Prendergast School had recently been inspected as Outstanding. Forest Hill, Trinity, Knights Academy and Sydenham Girls schools were all Good, the remaining secondary schools Required Improvement with the exception of Sedgehill which was rated Inadequate.

7.4 The following was noted in discussion:

- The Regional Schools Commissioner's Strategic School Improvement Fund had made £3/4m additional funding available via the ATLAS Teaching School. Each secondary school would have a challenge partner which would offer subject support. This could be up to 10 days support in English/ Maths/ Science. Support would be tailored to each school and need would be assessed.
- The Secondary Challenge had focused on maths last academic year, and while only 1% improvement had been achieved overall, some schools had made significant improvements and work was in place to improve maths further.

- Further details of where and how the funding would be used would be incorporated in the Annual Schools Standards report to the Committee in March.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

## **8. In-depth review of recruitment and retention of school staff - final report**

8.1 The Chair invited Emerson Sutton, a Young Advisor, to address the committee. Emerson made the following points and observations in respect of the report.

1. Teachers should be and feel valued
2. Job satisfaction and good working conditions are as important as pay
3. Teachers need support Senior Leadership Team
4. Teachers need breaks and down time in the school holidays
5. Better discipline in the classroom would benefit both teachers and pupils
6. Better manners should be expected, such as greeting each other in the morning
7. Teachers should do more to help families to support home learning as not all families are able to support their child's learning at home
8. Less time should be spent on paperwork
9. Continuity of teaching staff should be a priority
10. More should be done on mindset so that children "yearn to learn"
11. Teaching is an international profession and therefore there should be lessons learned from other countries
12. Support for children with SEN should be properly resourced
13. Teachers should inspire ambition and equip their students to achieve their ambitions.

8.2 The Chair thanked Emerson for his input, and commented on the thoughtful and mature nature of his remarks which went far beyond what would be expected of a primary school pupil.

8.3 The Chair shared draft recommendations with the Committee. These had been circulated by email in advance of the meeting.

8.4 Officers were concerned that they had not had prior sight of the draft recommendations to advise on what was feasible in a school context. The Scrutiny Manager explained that the formulation of recommendations was a Member-led process that should not be unduly influenced by officers. The Scrutiny Manager had sought legal advice in respect of two of the recommendations, and provided this to the Committee.

8.5 The following points were noted in discussion:

- Some Members were concerned that the Committee would appear to be challenging the autonomy of schools. The Chair was satisfied that the recommendations were not phrased as instructions, but as suggestions.
- There was concern that some recommendations could increase the workload of schools.
- The practicability of paying responsibility allowances in a redundancy climate was raised. However, it was noted that this recommendation came directly from a head teacher's suggestion.



- Some Members questioned the council's influence regarding the recommendations for the dioceses. The faith schools recommendations came directly from 2 faith schools and therefore the Chair was keen to keep them in.
- The recommendations were all supported by evidence and echoed what was said by schools. They were clearly worded as recommendations and not directions.
- Giving priority to staff members could lead to problems in a single form entry school and could make it harder to attract teachers over a 2/3 form entry school. It was agreed that the following be added to this recommendation "consideration should be given to possible disadvantage of such priority in one form entry schools"
- The feasibility of the schools' recommendations was not for the committee to decide, but for schools.

8.6 The recommendations were put to the vote, with 6 in favour and 4 against (no abstentions).

8.7 One Member voted against the recommendations because felt they had not had sufficient time to consider the recommendations. The Committee heard that the Chair had prepared an initial draft set of recommendations which had been shared with the Committee via email by the Scrutiny Manager. Over a period of several weeks, Members had provided comments on the draft recommendations and these comments had served to refine the recommendations.

8.8 Those Members that voted against the recommendations said that they would have preferred to have had advice from CYP officers on what was feasible. The Scrutiny Manager explained that the correct and usual process had been followed, and that it was not standard practice to consult officers prior to recommendations being agreed.

It was RESOLVED:

- 1) That the comments made by Emerson Sutton be shared with the Mayor and the Executive Director for Children and Young People
- 2) That the report be noted
- 3) That the recommendations be approved subject to the addition of the following wording "consideration should be given to possible disadvantages of such priority in one form entry schools" to the recommendation regarding priority admission for children of staff members
- 4) That the report and recommendations be agreed and submitted to Mayor and Cabinet for consideration and response.

## **9. Select Committee work programme**

Without discussion, it was RESOLVED that the report be noted.

## **10. Referrals to Mayor and Cabinet**

It was RESOLVED that:

- 1) the report and recommendations of the in-depth review into the recruitment and retention of school staff be submitted to Mayor and Cabinet for consideration and response.

- 2) A referral be made to Mayor and Cabinet, requesting a review of funding levels for SEND provision and in particular travel assistant and short breaks. The Chair should draft the referral to take account of the comments made in this meeting and the views of the Mayor under the previous item, and share the draft with the committee by email to enable comment before the referral is submitted to Mayor and Cabinet.

The meeting ended at 10.15 pm

Chair: -----

Date: -----

# Agenda Item 2

<b>Committee</b>	Children and Young People Select Committee	<b>Item No.</b>	2
<b>Title</b>	Declarations of Interest		
<b>Contributors</b>	Chief Executive		
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	<b>Date</b>	30 January 2018

## Declaration of interests

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

### 1 Personal interests

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

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

### 2 Disclosable pecuniary interests are defined by regulation as:-

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

(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that body; or

(ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person\* has a beneficial interest exceeds 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that class.

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

### **(3) Other registerable interests**

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

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

### **(4) Non registerable interests**

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

### **(5) Declaration and Impact of interest on member's 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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<b>CYP SELECT COMMITTEE</b>		
<b>Report Title</b>	Safeguarding Services 6-monthly report	
<b>Key Decision</b>	No	Item No. 6
<b>Contributors</b>	Director Children's Social Care	
<b>Class</b>	Open	Date: 30 January 2018

## 1. Purpose and Summary of the Report

1.1 This report provides an overview of safeguarding activity between 1 April 2017 to 30 November 2017. The report does not comment on Child Sexual Exploitation as this is the subject of a separate stand-alone report to the CYP Select Committee.

1.2 The report will cover the following areas:

- Policy and legislative context of safeguarding activity.
- Referrals received
- Overview of children subject to child protection plans
- Enquiries made under Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 where there are concerns that children are at risk of significant harm.
- Safeguarding children from inappropriate conduct by people who work with them in a voluntary or paid capacity.
- Serious Case Reviews.

## 2. Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to note and comment on the contents of the report.

## 3 Policy and Legislative Context

3.1 Children's Social Care is governed and delivered under the auspices of statutory legislation, regulation and guidance. The key legislative framework and guidance for this are outlined below via:

- [The Children Act 1989](#) imposes a statutory duty on local authorities to safeguard children in their area.
- [The London Child Protection Procedures 2016](#) have been adopted by all London Local Authorities and LSCBs.
- [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015](#), HM Government, provides a national framework and the core requirements which agencies and professionals must satisfy in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

## 4 Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and Early Help

4.1 The refocus upon MASH arrangements and the provision of a new Early Help Team that was launched early in 2017, was reported to last Select Committee Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

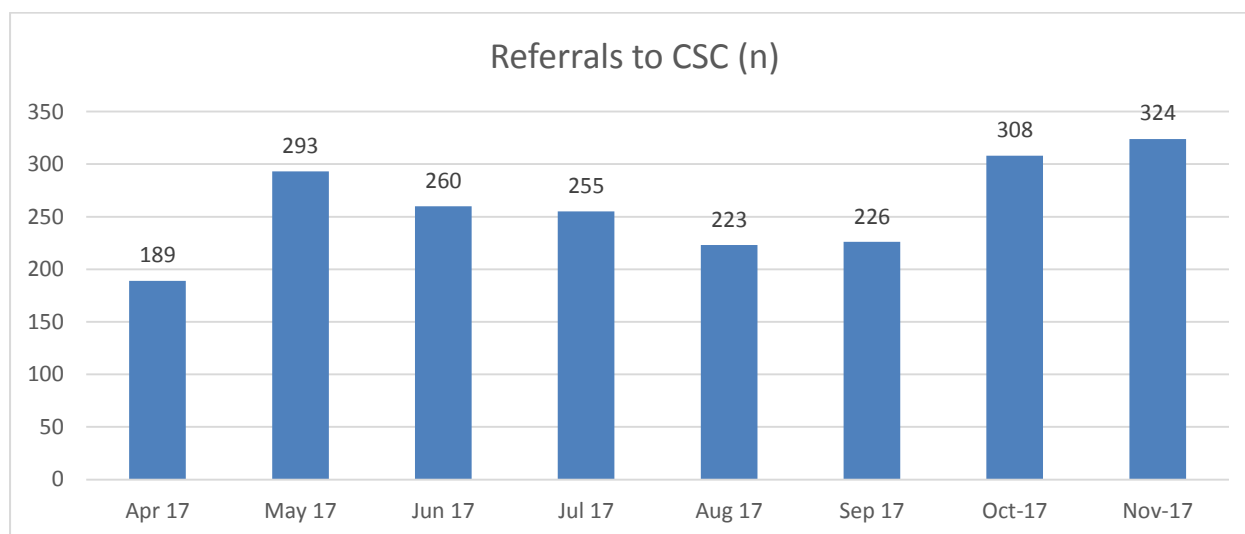
4.2 As reported, a new online referral form (replacing the Common Assessment Framework tool as referral to CSC) was launched alongside the new MASH arrangements and is the main tool for safeguarding referrals and other access routes were phased out. Telephone enquiries, of course, remain. Requests for more targeted support also come through this route.

## 5 Numbers of Referrals to Children’s Social Care

5.1 The graph below (Graph 1) shows the number of referrals received by Lewisham’s Children’s Social Care (CSC) from June to the end of Nov 2017.

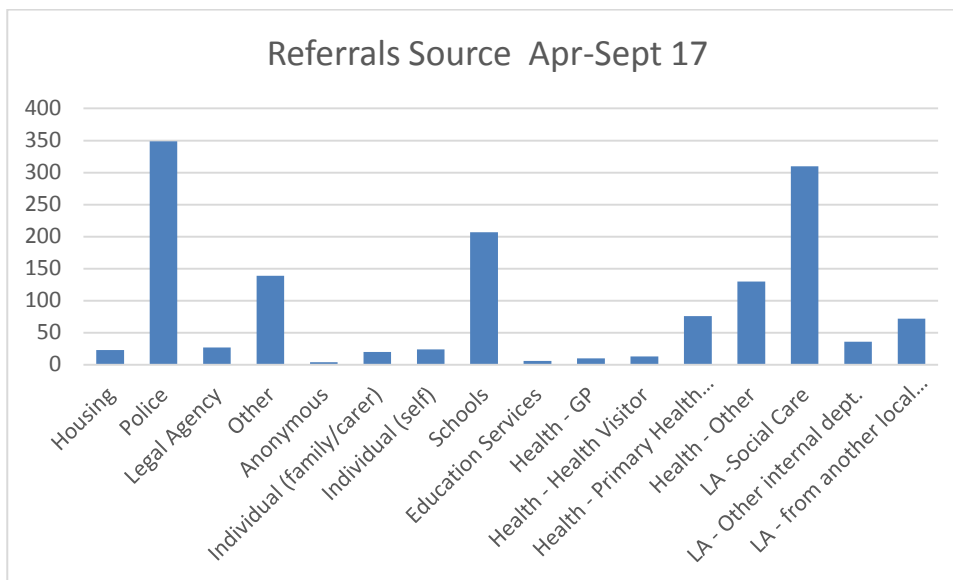
5.2 The graph below (referrals from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30 November 2017) indicates that there has been a significant increase in the number of referrals in October 2017 to Nov 2017. The average number of referrals for the period shown is 259, and there has been a 101(number) increase to the end of November from August 2017. The dip in August and September 2017 coincided with summer holidays.

5.3 Current analysis suggests that the introduction of the new referral pathways and refreshed thresholds reported previously has resulted in this increase in referrals and consequently assessment work. The increased volume of work coming into CSC via EH and MASH arrangements will be subject to scrutiny and monitoring through weekly Senior Management Team in CSC.



Graph 1  
Source: LCS





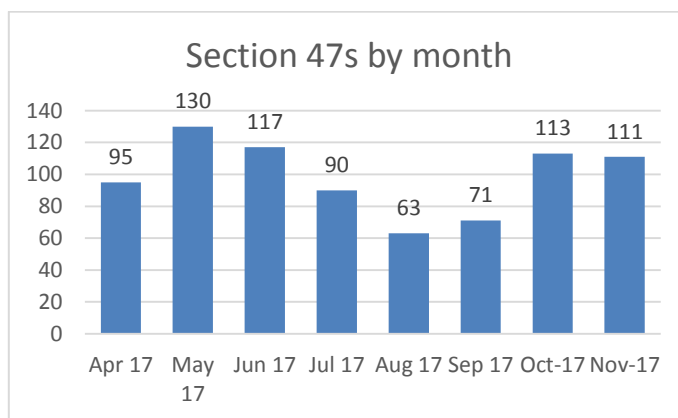
Graph 2  
Source: LCS

5.4 The above graph shows referrals to CSC by the agency referring. The majority of referrals habitually come from the Police, Schools or Health. All of the aforementioned agencies are above the average for this period (n=90). Police represent 24.1% of the total referral numbers, schools 14.3%, and all Health partners, 15.8%. Another significant proportion of referral work is generated internally (21.4%) as colleagues across services and departments in the Council raise concerns or requests for services in respect of children’s needs.

## 6 Enquiries under Section 47 of the Children Act 1989

6.1 A section 47 enquiry is the response undertaken when there is a concern that a child is at risk of, or has suffered, significant harm. These enquiries can also follow when a child is taken into Police Protection or is made subject to an Emergency Protection Order. The investigation enables services working together to safeguard children led by CSC to decide whether further action is needed to protect the child/ren. A total of 679 children and young people were subject to Section 47 enquiries from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

6.2 As with referral information, the numbers of s47s dropped off in April, August and September largely due to the spring and summer breaks.

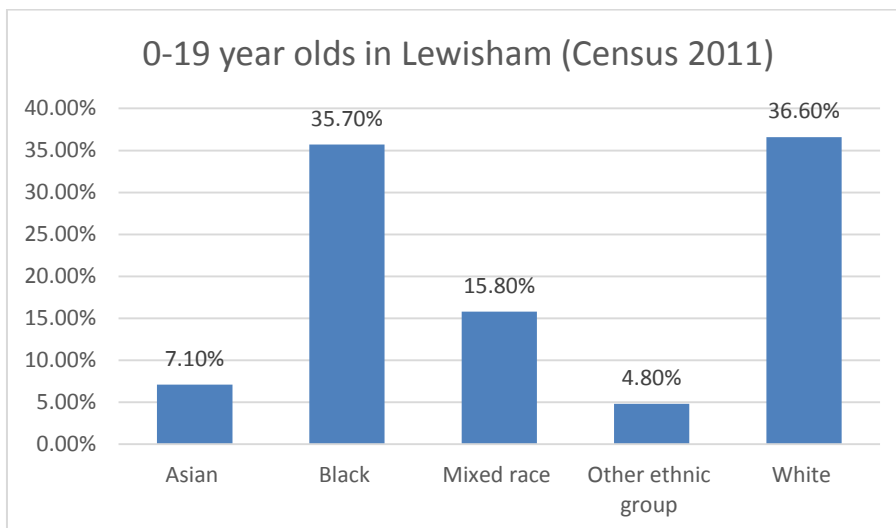


Graph 3  
Source: LCS

- 6.3 The figures below at table 1 relate to the proportions of children and young people who were the subject of s47 enquiry work. The highest proportions are children of Black African or Black Caribbean ethnicity, (21.3% and 19.7% respectively). The other significant proportion is those children or young people who are White British (20.6%). These proportions tend to reflect the overall proportions of 0-19s in the borough drawn from the last full Census in 2011, although it is difficult to correlate the information directly as categorisation is not comparable to how ethnicity is drawn from Census information. However, it is shown here in an attempt to draw comparison with the local population of Lewisham.
- 6.4 Previous audit work completed at the time of the new MASH arrangements coming online found that, overall, s47 work and the threshold applied for this work was appropriate. That is to say, children were not becoming subject to enquiries unnecessarily, we are however exploring trends in ethnicity and review of earlier intervention and awareness, particularly in relation to referrals of physical abuse . Further audit work will be carried out as part of monthly audit work looking at re-referrals to ensure that responses are reflective of children's needs and now that the MASH has been in operation for almost one year.

<b>Section 47s by Ethnicity</b>	<b>%</b>
Any Other Asian Background	4.1%
Pakistani	0.5%
<b>Black - African</b>	<b>21.3%</b>
<b>Black Caribbean</b>	<b>19.7%</b>
Any Other Black Background	7.8%
Chinese	0.5%
Any Other Mixed Background	7.0%
White and Asian	0.7%
White and Black African	0.7%
White and Black Caribbean	7.7%
Information Not Yet Obtained	3.6%
Any Other Ethnic Group	2.2%
<b>White - British</b>	<b>20.6%</b>
Any Other White Background	3.7%

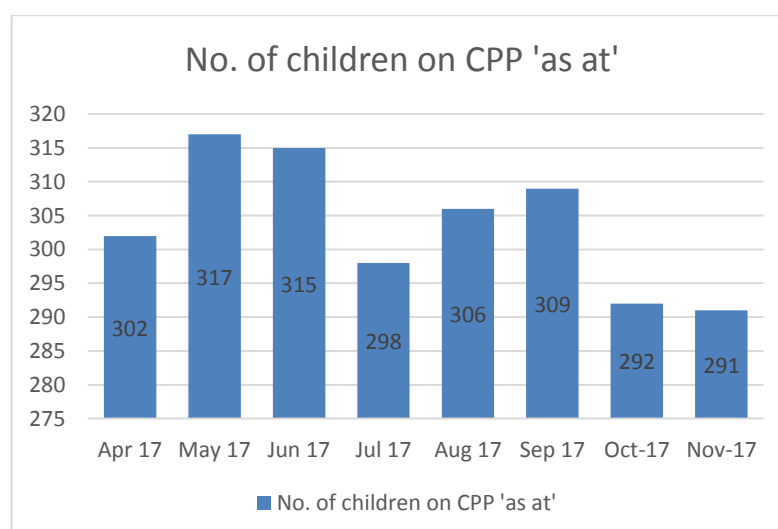
Table 1



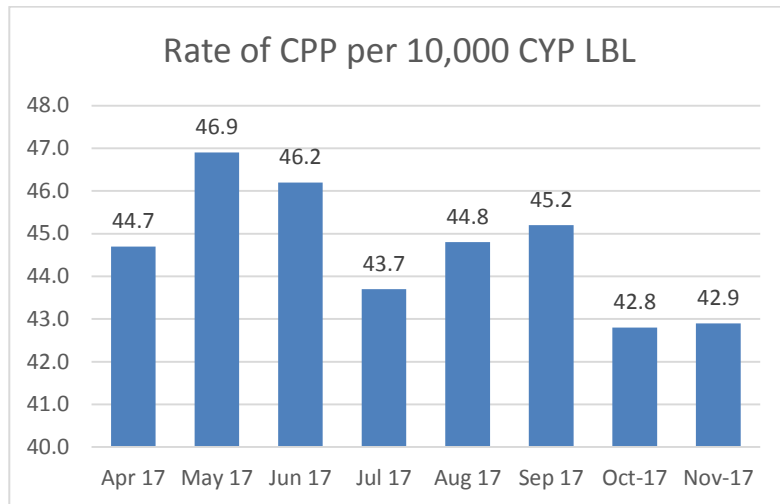
Graph 3  
Source: Census 2011

## 7 Children Subject to Child Protection Plans

7.1 When a section 47 enquiry (of the CA 1989) concludes that children require a multi-agency child protection response, then an initial Child Protection Case Conference is convened. Children become subject to child protection plans via a multi-agency child protection conference. Using the Strengthening Families model the conference focuses in on what is working well and what requires further attention to address the risk factors affecting children and improve outcomes for them. Conferences are chaired by Child Protection Conference Chairs who are sited within the Quality Assurance Service. The Child Protection Plan drawn up at conference with the family in attendance, addresses the specific areas of concern for individual children. By setting down the framework and processes by which families work with the professional network, a focused response to family recovery is provided which promotes the child's welfare and safety.



Graph 4  
Source: LCS



Graph 5  
Source: LCS

7.2 The graphs above (4 and 5) show the number and rates (per 10,000) of children subject to plans. As can be seen, there are fluctuations in the numbers of children becoming subject to child protection plans. This can be due at times to large sibling group families where the children either become subject or cease to be subject. The expected target for numbers of children is 290 and currently the number is 291. As numbers of children subject to plans decline due to appropriate step down to Child in Need Plans or step up to proceedings for care, the rate of children commensurately declines. When children become subject to a child protection plan, the conference specifies the category of harm. These are:

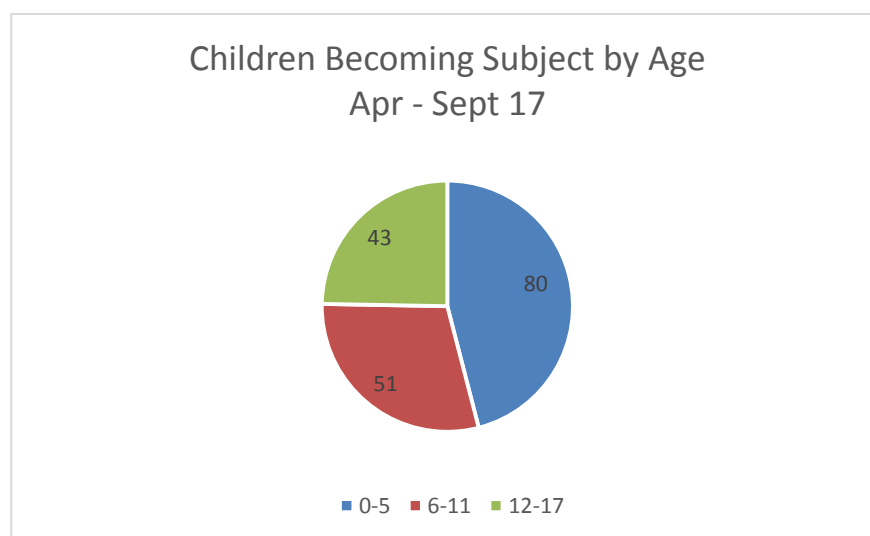
- Physical Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Neglect

7.3 For some children and young people, the concerns for their wellbeing pertains to more than one category and as on the table below, a small number may have multiple concerns.

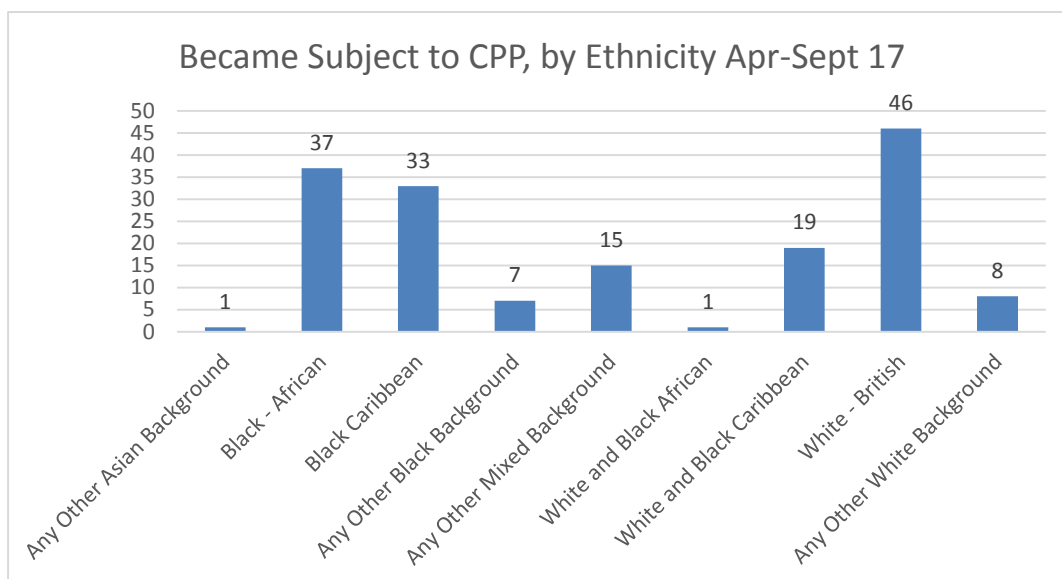
<b>Children becoming subject to CP Plans by category April to Sept 2017</b>	<b>n</b>
Physical Abuse	15
Emotional Abuse	72
Sexual Abuse	3
Neglect	72
Multiple	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>167</b>

Table 2  
Source: LCS

- 7.4 In the period from April to September 2017, 167 children became subject to plans. The category of neglect remains the most likely reason for children and young people to be placed on a plan with emotional abuse the second main category.
- 7.5 As can be seen, the other categories of harm are not as well used as the categories of either neglect or emotional harm. Most children within these two main categories will often be living with families where there are substance and alcohol dependency problems, issues of domestic abuse, mental and physical health issues culminating in sustained and sometimes chronic neglect.
- 7.6 In conjunction with the Lewisham Safeguarding Children Board we have developed and are rolling out an updated Neglect Strategy and Children’s Social Care has focused audit activity within our monthly and thematic audit programmes to capture the quality of our neglect response. A current audit is underway focusing upon early years children (under 2s) and neglect factors.
- 7.7 The Service Managers for Family Social Work and Quality Assurance track cases monthly to ensure that cases do not drift on plans unnecessarily. Remedial social work and targeted support from the multi-agency network should demonstrate impact by the 2<sup>nd</sup> review conference at 9 months. We have instituted a monitoring process between Child Protection Chairs and Team Managers to review progress of children’s plans before the second review conference to maintain a focus on the plan and effect change for children. This timeframe allows work to be refocused at the Child in Need tier with parental engagement or alternatively examine whether legal proceedings should be considered.
- 7.8 The pie chart below shows the numbers of children becoming subject to CP Plans by age group. The highest number is in the 0 to 5 years age range as might be expected with the need to protect vulnerable children at a very early age, although there other two age ranges (6 to 11 years and 12 to 17 years) is also significant. The emotional abuse category tends to correlate more with older age children, whilst neglect factors will correlate with the under fives. That is not to say that neglect does not affect those children in the older age categories.



Graph 6  
Source: LCS

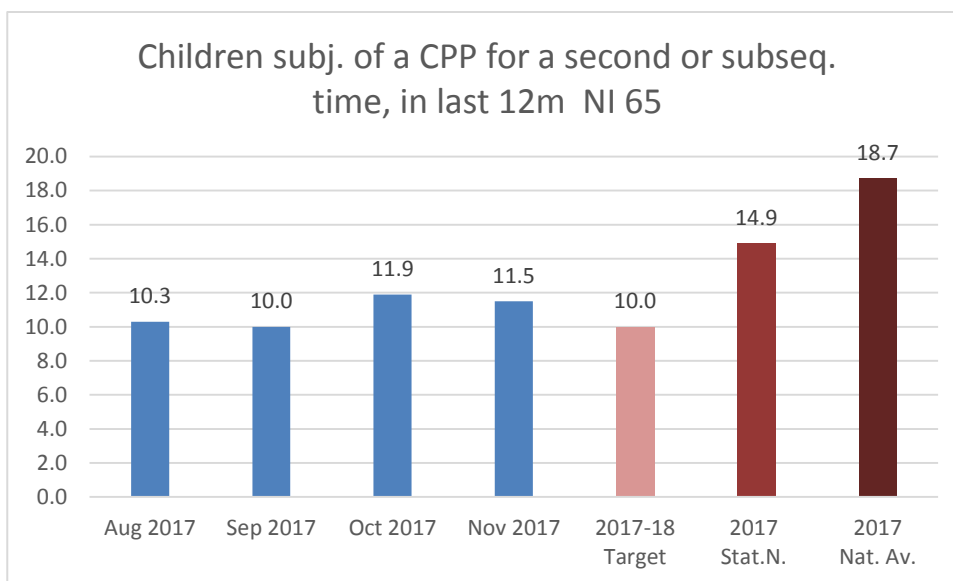


Graph 7  
Source: LCS

- 7.9 The graph above shows children becoming subject to plans by ethnicity (number). As can be seen, the higher number is children who are white British (n= 46, 20.6%). The highest proportionately, is with children of Black African ethnicity. This was 21.3% (n=37) and those of Black Caribbean ethnicity are also significantly represented (19.7%).
- 7.10 The ethnicity of children subject to plans at each threshold stage (from s47 through to ICPC and CP Planning) requires continued scrutiny and oversight to ensure that children are not overrepresented (in comparison to the local population).
- 7.11 Activity to address the reasons for any child or young person being on a Child Protection Plan for more than two years has delivered dividends as the relevant families are responded to via Child in Need (CIN) processes or Pre-Proceedings work is commenced. As at 5<sup>th</sup> January 2018, we currently have no children who have been on plans for more than two years and 51 who have been on plans for a year. For some of those the Court has not agreed the Care Plan of removal under Care Orders, and therefore, the potential risks remain to the child despite the Authority seeking an Order and as such child protection plans have remained.
- 7.12 This is a particularly difficult tension to manage as families could perceive that the Court has agreed that there is no risk to the children remaining at home; rather than the Court not finding a threshold for permanent removal. An additional perception amongst some in the multi-agency network is reluctance to remove children from Plans even though there is a concurrent Order in place (parallel planning).

7.13 The graph below shows those children who have been on plans for a second or subsequent time. For some children and young people a further period on a child protection plan is not necessarily an indicator of poor support and may indicate a change in family circumstances. For some families the arrival of an additional child can tip them back into a previous pattern of neglect that had shown improvement; for others it can be the arrival of a new partner or the death of a previously protective adult such as an involved grandparent.

7.14 The proportion of children subject to repeat child protection plans was reported as at 11.5% at the end of November 2017. This is below our statistical neighbours (14.9%) and the national average (17.9%). This remains an area of scrutiny and oversight by management to decide whether a higher threshold (i.e., care proceedings) be applied when children are subject to repeat plans.



Graph 7  
Source: LCS

## 8 Serious Case Reviews (LSCB)

8.1 There are currently two Serious Case Reviews underway. One is likely to conclude in the next quarter, and one has only just started with the first SCR Panel meeting held in December. Both SCRs have Practitioner Events aligned to the work of the SCR Panels to ensure that the Panel and the Overview Author receive as much practice based information from those services directly involved with the children and families concerned.

8.2 The Local Safeguarding Children Board will report fully on both later in the year.

## 9 The Designated Officer (formerly the Local Authority Designated Officer - LADO)

- 9.1 The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) is a statutory role defined in statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children.' The Designated Officer is responsible for the management and oversight of allegations against people that work with children. It is not an investigative role but provides specialist advice and support to employers where an alleged harm is perpetrated on a child or young person, or an alleged offender is employed. The investigative responsibility is retained by the individual's employer or the Police if an offence is alleged and requires investigation and action to be taken.
- 9.2 The LADO oversees all referrals in respect of allegations against people who work with, or come into contact with, children. The LADO will convene strategy meetings where it is necessary to do so, e.g., where there is enough evidence to demonstrate that the allegation has substance or a strategy meeting will provide further substantive information to decide whether an allegation is founded.
- 9.3 The LADO will follow through on allegations to conclusion, liaising with other governing bodies such as the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), Ofsted and other local and Government agencies.
- 9.4 An annual report is provided to the LSCB on the work of the Designated Officer. Below is a table of outcomes in relation to referrals received by the LADO to enquire into the allegations made and received. In total for 2016/17, the LADO received 215 contacts in and 130 referrals resulting in 87 strategy meetings.

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>Outcomes of LADO referrals (n)</b>
<b>FALSE</b>	1
<b>Unsubstantiated</b>	34
<b>Unfounded</b>	10
<b>Substantiated</b>	27
<b>Outcome pending</b>	3
<b>Malicious</b>	1
<b>NFA</b>	54
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>130</b>

Table 3  
Source: LADO Allegations Tracker 2016/17

## 10 Legal Implications

- 10.1 There are no specific legal implication arising from this report. Lewisham CSC provides children's safeguarding and support serves in accordance with the statutory framework provided by the Children Act 1989 and successive statutory requirements.



## **11. Crime and Disorder Implications**

11.1 The police are key partners in safeguarding children.

## **12. Equalities Implications**

12.1 Equalities factors are addressed in the body of the report. Further scrutiny of ethnicity in local populations versus those children's ethnicity when entering safeguarding and child protection processes is required to ensure that children are not over represented in comparison to local demographics.

## **13. Environmental Implications**

13.1 None.

## **12. Background documents and originator**

12.1 If there are any queries on this report, please contact Stephen Kitchman, Director, Children's Social Care on

Tel: 0208 314 8140

Email: [Stephen.Kitchman@Lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:Stephen.Kitchman@Lewisham.gov.uk)

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CYP SELECT COMMITTEE		
<b>Report Title</b>	Child Sexual Exploitation Update	
<b>Key Decision</b>	No	Item No. 7
<b>Contributors</b>	Head of Public Protection and Safety Director Children's Social Care	
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	Date: 30 January 2018

**1 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 This report is an update on the current understanding, work and issues in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation within the Borough.

**2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 To note the paper and agree further updates

**3 Policy Context**

- 3.1 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is one of the Lewisham Safeguarding Children Board's (LSCB) and the Lewisham Children and Young People's Plan key priorities. CSE is identified as one of the strands within the VAWG Plan 17-21 and is integral to the work of the Safer Lewisham Partnership plan.

**4 Overview**

- 4.1 The national working definition of CSE remains the same as noted for the last reporting period and is defined as:

*"...a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology." DfE February 2017.*

- 4.2 The Lewisham Safeguarding Children's Board has overall responsibility for ensuring there is a coordinated, multi-agency response to children at risk of sexual exploitation, going missing or being exploited and/ or trafficked. A subgroup of the LSCB, the MET (Missing, Exploited and Trafficked) Board, remains in place to provide strategic oversight of missing, exploited and trafficked children. Two other Boards report to this group, a tactical group which meets monthly and a weekly operational group reviewing individual children and young people for whom there are MET concerns and holding these within a single list of children/young people at risk with regard to with features of CSE, Missing and Serious Youth Violence.
- 4.3 The MET Board has accountability for delivery of the MET strategy that has previously been presented to Select Committee.
- 4.4 Based on the single list between July – December 2017 there were 50 cases referred with a CSE concern to the MET, some of these are young people with repeat concerns as well as newly identified. Of these 6 are currently RAG rated as a High concern, 3 of these children/young people are aged below 15 with

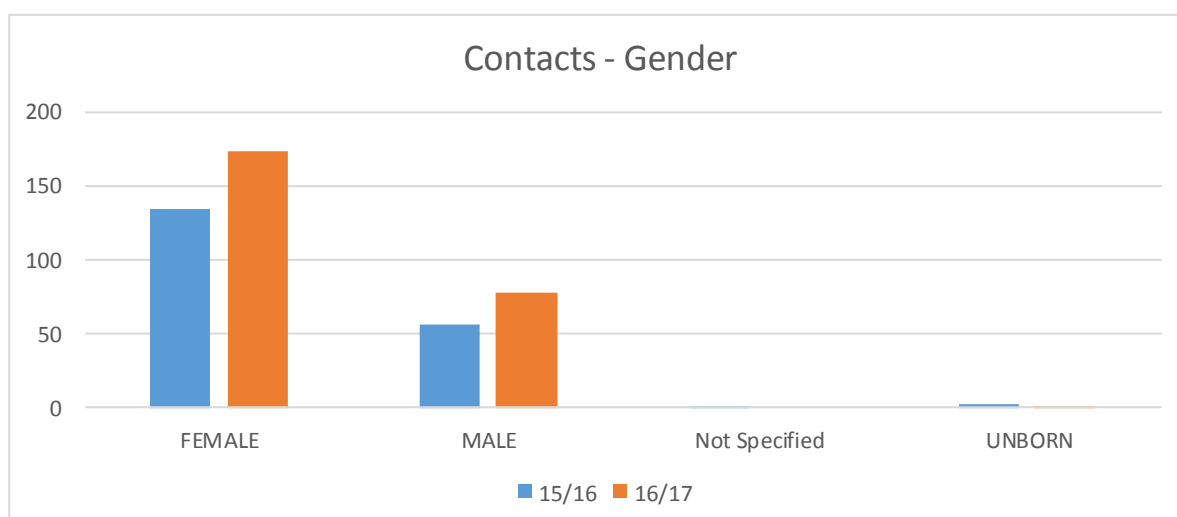
the remainder being 15 and above. Of those on the single list there is a correlation for many of CSE and serious youth violence. The report below outlines partnership activity and developments since the last Select Committee to address identified need.

- 4.5 The report provides an overview of data and trends in relation to CSE as well as ongoing and more recent developments to address this.

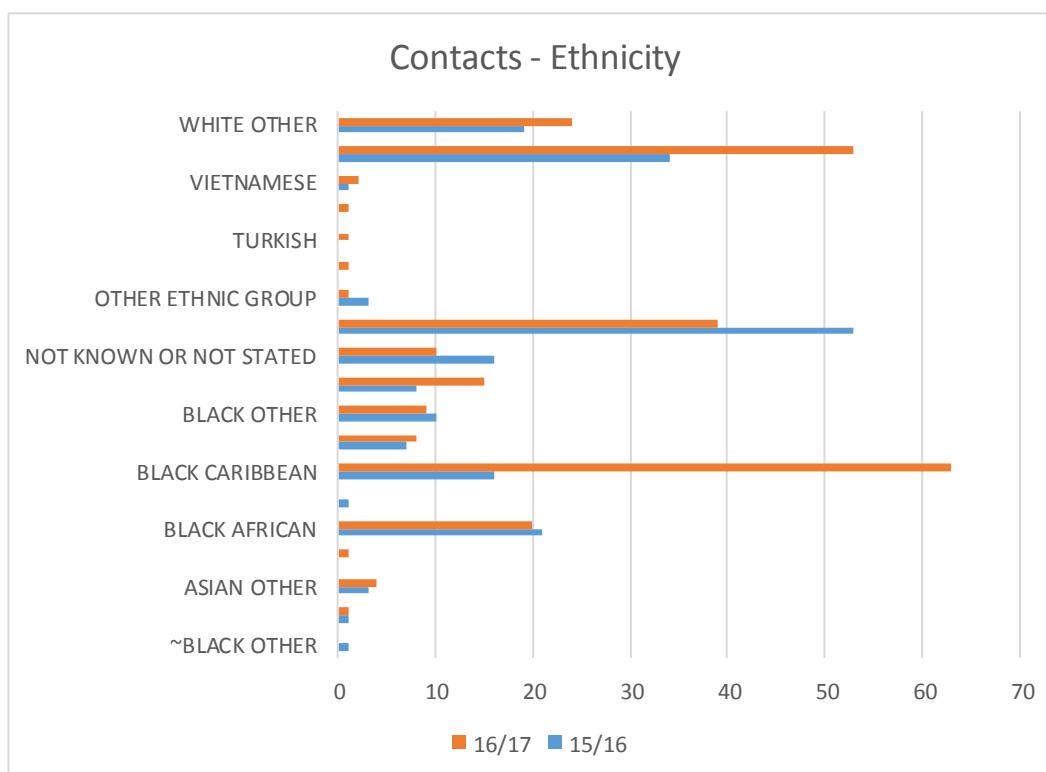
## **5 Data and Trend Analysis**

- 5.1 The data available for this report is based on information captured by the electronic database Lewisham's Children's System (LCS), information provided from the CSE Police Merlin database as well as data from the weekly MET meeting.
- 5.2 In order to assist local problem profiling, geographical mapping is a new resource being utilised by the Police and CSC. The typical victim profile of a Lewisham child vulnerable to CSE is presented in more detail throughout this report but the key factors identified are as follows:
- Female
  - Aged 13-16
  - Black African/Black Caribbean/Mixed parentage
  - Already known to social care
  - Peer on peer (abuse/coercion by other young people)
- 5.3 Lewisham's data in relation to CSE reflects some of the national trends in this area. Whilst all children are vulnerable to CSE, certain factors tend to increase their vulnerability regardless of their background, age, gender race, sexuality or wherever they live.
- 5.4 The NSPCC research indicates that these risk factors include;
- A history of abuse, particularly sexual abuse
  - Recent bereavement or loss
  - Homelessness
  - Low self-esteem or self confidence
  - Being a young carer
  - Being in or leaving care
  - Links to a gang through relatives, peers or intimate relationships
  - Living in a gang affected neighborhood
  - Lacking friends from the same age group
- 5.5 The CSC electronic database (LCS) currently only allows for the recording of actual missing episodes and the relevant risk assessment documentation is recorded separately, to gain deeper ongoing analysis this would require manual interrogation to establish patterns and trends to linked factors. Arrangements are now underway to address this with processes being revised in LCS to ensure that accurate reporting can take place going forward in 2018.
- 5.6 CSE and Missing trackers have been implemented to ensure that all appropriate statutory actions are being taken by the respective agencies including the completion of key risk assessments, strategy meeting dates, return home interview dates, and this is informed directly by Police and other partner agencies.

- 5.7 There are currently 40 children on our tracker known to be vulnerable to CSE. At present this list is growing as ongoing work to map CSE with partner agencies continues.
- 5.8 Referral data for all contacts received by CSC where CSE was identified as an area of concern is detailed in Table 2 below for the period 01.04.15 – 30.03.16 and the period 01.04.16 – 30.03.17.
- 5.9 Data for the period 01.04.15 – 30.03.16 shows that 194 contacts were received; a small proportion of these involving Looked After Children. 70% of the referrals related to females and 27% of referrals related to children of White/British /other white background. A further 28% of children were from a Black/African/ Caribbean/mixed parentage background. The figures showed a significant level of underreporting of ethnicity at point of contact in this area with 27% of contacts not being reported and a further 8% not known or stated.
- 5.10 Referral data for all contacts received during the reporting period 01.04.16 – 30.03.17 shows an increase in the overall numbers suggesting an increased level of awareness of CSE and an improved willingness to report concerns within the professional network. Within this period 253 contacts were received, a small proportion of these involved children in care. Approximately 70% of the referrals related to females and 30% of referrals related to children of White/British /other white background, a slight increase on the previous year.
- 5.11 A significant increase in children from a Black/African/Caribbean/mixed parentage background is seen from 28% to 45% in this same reporting period. The figures show a reduction in underreporting of ethnicity at point of referral compared to the previous year with 15% not being reported compared to 27% last year and 4% not known or stated compared to 8% last year. The improvements in underreporting may now be starting to reveal a clearer picture in relation to contacts for CSE. The peak age for CSE contacts remains in line with national data, with age ranges of 13-16, although the data indicates that children much younger are now starting to be included more consistently in CSE contacts to CSC.



**Table 1 – CSE Contacts to CSC and gender**



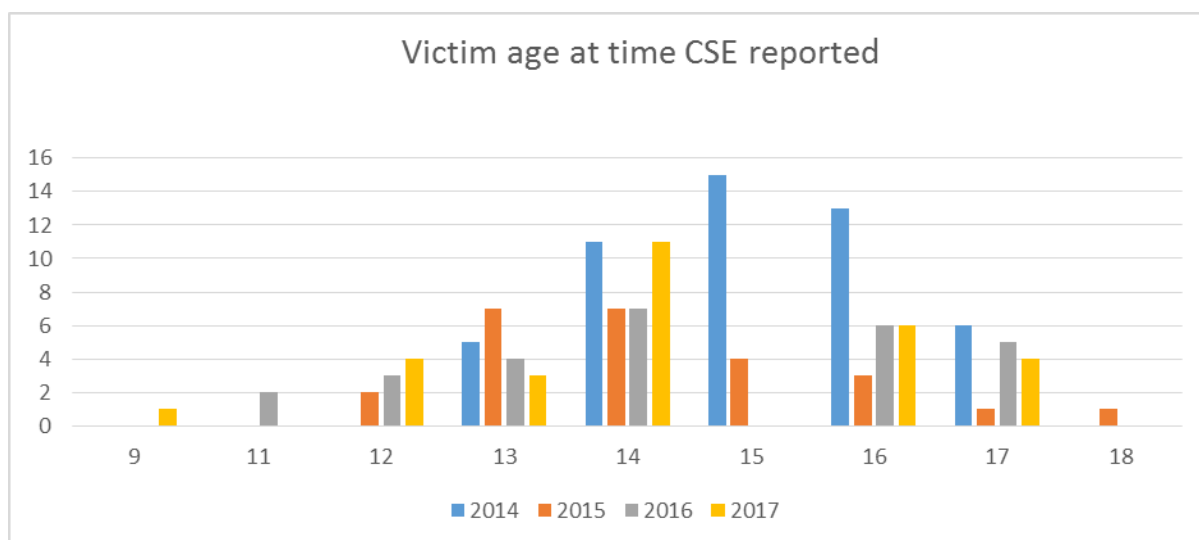
**Table 2 – CSE Contacts to CSC and ethnicity**

5.12 A total of 145 and 111 assessments of children/young people affected by CSE were completed in each year respectively. Table 4 below outlines the status of the children for whom CSE assessments were undertaken.

Total Assessments with CSE recorded 2015/16	145	Total Assessments with CSE recorded 2016/17	111
CP	41	CP	30
CLA	13	CLA	8
CP & CLA	6	CP & CLA	3

**Table 3: Child protection and Children Looked After Status within CSC assessment**

- 5.13 The Child Protection focus of work in a third of cases in both reporting years and the CLA status to a lesser extent seem to be a factor in helping to ensure that CSE concerns are being identified and addressed. This has been assisted as a result of additional scrutiny provided via the CSC Quality Assurance service and MET processes.
- 5.14 There is no evidence seen by Police of CSE linked to organised gangs/groups in the Borough but we remain vigilant to this possibility as evidenced in other parts of the country.
- 5.15 The data on victim age at the point CSE is reported to Police is consistent with the national trend rising quickly from the age of 12 and peaking at age 15. This is a period within which young people usually become more sexually aware, gain more freedom from the supervision of parents and are therefore more susceptible to potentially negative external influences. During 2016-2017 however, the victim age at the point of reporting has started to reduce reflecting the increasing vulnerability of young children to CSE.



**Table 4 Victim age at time of reporting to Police**

- 5.16 In cases where CSE was prevalent, the most common model of exploitation by a significant margin was *peer on peer* where the young person is in a relationship with another young person who is coercing them into activity, often with friends.
- 5.17 Trackers identified 75% of our CSE cohort have links to *peer on peer abuse* and *inappropriate relationship* constituting 25%, where the young person is in a relationship with an older person who exerts a great deal of influence and control over them due to an imbalance of power. The young person is likely to believe that they are in a serious relationship and not recognise its exploitative nature. The negative influence of social media is a reoccurring feature in most of these cases. In response to this, it is important that any awareness raised as part of the work being done in schools educates young people to aid their understanding of a healthy relationship and an exploitative one.
- 5.18 Children and young people affected by CSE will continue to be reviewed at the weekly operational MET meetings, where all referrals are risk assessed and graded and subject to ongoing review. Data capture will further improve by the introduction of the electronic CSE module within the CSC LCS database. A MET electronic referral tool has also been developed which will allow automated data interrogation to better align themes and trends; this has been promoted as a good practice development and is now being considered for wider take up within other London Boroughs.

## **6 Prevention**

6.1 The MET process has also served to identify a small number of young people who may be displaying sexually harmful behaviour. This can include:

- using sexually explicit words and phrases
- inappropriate touching
- using sexual violence or threats
- Full penetrative sex with other children or adults.

6.2 These young people may have behavioural problems and/or developmental issues but research indicates they are also likely to have a history of sexual

abuse or exposure to pornography at a young age. This cohort of young people is being reviewed by the MET in consultation with the Youth MARAC and Fair Access Panel where appropriate, to ensure that support is being provided and AIM2 (sexually harmful behaviour) risk assessments via the Youth Offending Service are being completed.

- 6.3 Current research that identifies social deprivation, neglect and disrupted education as significant risk factors to missing children and those vulnerable to CSE. The MET forum has agreed an approach for the CSE Consultant and CSE social worker and our voluntary sector partners to work closely with schools and Designated Safeguarding Leads to raise awareness of CSE and the appropriate responses for children considered to be vulnerable. An event was recently held on 05.12.17 and contact and support will be ongoing to ensure that schools have timely and efficient support and response.
- 6.4 Lewisham MET is aware of the vulnerability of males to CSE. The scoping study into CSE and young men in the UK by Barnardos in 2014 indicates that boys and young men are more likely to be criminalised for behaviour that may have links to being a victim of sexual exploitation (such as becoming involved in fights or knife crime as a result of their trauma), whereas girls are more likely to be viewed as victims rather than offenders. The research indicated that male service users were more likely to have a recorded disability including a learning disability, behaviour based disability or autistic spectrum disorder, although the reasons for this are unclear. They were also more likely to have a criminal record which reflects national youth and adult offending rates which are higher for males. Young people affected by CSE are also more likely to be affected by the impact of homelessness, missing activity, being in care and historical non CSE related violence. In 2017 we have identified a small number of males (3) considered to be vulnerable to CSE. We are continuing to roll out training across the Borough to assist in awareness raising and identification of males who are vulnerable to CSE or being exploited.
- 6.5 We are already aware of the need to ensure that commissioned services also provide support to LGBT young people, that CSE and missing training within the partnership raises awareness of this and that statutory agencies support LGBT organisations to work as part of the multi-agency structures.
- 6.6 To help practitioners identify CSE we have rolled out a CSE toolkit with questionnaire and scaling within this. A thematic audit overview report on CSE by Children Social Care completed in December 2017 reported evidence of timely interventions through the use of the CSE Toolkit leading to good outcomes for children and good engagement with children in some cases, it also however identified a lack of embedding into practice of the CSE Toolkit as a recurrent theme. Renewed vigour is needed regarding the rollout of the toolkit as well as subsequent review to address contextual safeguarding including known peers or connected young people, particularly given the Lewisham profile, which is important in assessing risk, understanding networks and planning interventions. This area of work was also acknowledged by the MsUnderstood Local Area Audit report of Lewisham's response to peer on peer abuse in 2016.

## **7 Identification and Disruption**

- 7.1 We have previously identified 95 addresses in 2016/17 across Lewisham from which regular missing person reports occur, with the most prolific being from private children's homes, hostels and semi-independent placements; school absence has been linked within this, which also reflects the national picture. This work continues within the reporting period.



- 7.2 A meeting is being planned in January 2018 with Lewisham Police, CSC and all in borough providers to promote good working relations, reinforce the legislation regarding missing children, the links to CSE and the promotion of best practice. This will include the wider use of “Grab packs” (key information to be shared with Police at the point a missing report is being made), and “Trigger plans” (held on Police files which enable known MISPERs to receive pre-arranged support agreed by the multi-agency to keep them safe.)
- 7.3 This will help to ensure that there is a more consistent response to all children. Plans are underway to ensure that activities to engage private businesses are maintained across the Borough, including mystery shopper initiatives (covert surveillance of compliance with safeguarding standards for minors) as part of these plans.
- 7.4 The use of Child Abduction Warning Notices (CAWNs) formerly known as Harboring notices are also being widely encouraged as part of the strategy meeting process and MET meetings. A CAWN is a valuable safeguarding measure to prevent young persons from coming to harm. Young people under the age of 16 years (under 18 if in local authority care) may unknowingly place themselves at risk of significant harm in the forming of inappropriate relationships or associations. The breaching of a CAWN is not an offence in itself, however, if the person served continues the relationship and/or allows the young person to stay at their home or property they may be open to prosecution under the Children Act 1989 and/or Child Abduction Act 1984.
- 7.5 To date 177 have been served in London over the past 12 months, with 11 of these being undertaken in Lewisham Borough in the last 6 months. This proactive action by Police is being widely promoted in missing/CSE cases where appropriate.
- 7.6 CSE awareness raising activities took place during the annual CSE week in March 2017. This involved joint visits by police and social care to various semi-independent units and hostels to raise awareness of the risks linked to missing and CSE and the importance of timely reporting for Lewisham children and those placed here by other Local Authorities. This was well received, and further activities are being planned for the next CSE week in March 2018.
- 7.7 Through ongoing work within the MET strategy, social workers, managers and allied professionals are being encouraged to “think missing and CSE” from the outset of their engagement with families especially when Missing is a known factor and/or when children become Looked After. This will enable foster carers/residential units to put in place essential safeguarding measures so that their care/supervision is being effectively managed. It will also help to ensure that in the event of a missing episode, Police have access to a range of sources of information that can be used to assess the risk and effectively expedite the child’s safe return.
- 7.8 The role of social media within CSE is rapidly expanding and the threat it poses grows greater. This medium is not easy to monitor and in many cases a means of communicating that a vulnerable young person can keep more private. Instagram and Snapchat feature commonly in referrals, whilst Facebook, Twitter, Grindr and Kik have also figured.
- 7.9 Some cases referred have detailed young people sending nude or partially nude photos online to strangers or peers. The large variety of social media applications available combined with the advancements of technology and more frequent access, mean this is likely to continue to prove a growing

threat. More research is needed to fully understand its impact on Lewisham's children and our ability to do this will be increased by the revised CSE risk assessment tool that specifically captures this data. An e-safety strategy has been developed by the LSCB and will require ongoing promotion and regular review for effectiveness and update across the children's partnership.

## **8 Financial Implications**

- 8.1 The work described in this paper is intended to be delivered within existing budget allocation.

## **9 Legal & Human Rights Implications**

- 9.1 The Local Government Act 1999 places a duty on the local authorities to secure continuous improvement in the way its functions are exercised having regard to the combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- 9.2 These statutory duties amongst others feed into the Council's Children and Young People Agenda.

## **10 Equalities Implications**

- 10.1 Developing safe and secure communities is central to the work of the Council as a whole. The CSE agenda focuses on all young people at risk of exploitation with a significant number being female and under 16.

## **11 Crime and Disorder Implications**

- 11.1 Section 17 places a duty on partners to do all they can to reasonably prevent crime and disorder in their area. The level of crime and its impact is influenced by the decisions and activities taken in the day-to-day of local bodies and organisations. The responsible authorities are required to provide a range of services in their community from policing, fire protection, planning, consumer and environmental protection, transport and highways. They each have a key statutory role in providing these services and, in carrying out their core activities, can significantly contribute to reducing crime and improving the quality of life in their area.

## **12 Environmental Implications**

12. Key decisions made which may have environmental implications will be consulted about all agreed activity before proceeding.

## **13 Background Documents and Originator**

- 13.1 Peer on Peer Abuse – March 17 (Appendix A).
- 13.2 For further information on this report please contact Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney Head of Public Protection and Safety , Directorate for Community Services on 0208 314 9569 and Stephen Kitchman, Director Children's Social Care on 0208 314 8140.

Children and Young People Select Committee			
Title	Select Committee work programme		
Contributor	Scrutiny Manager	Item	9
Class	Part 1 (Open)	30 January 2018	

## 1. Purpose

To advise Committee members of the work programme for the 2017/18 municipal year, 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. The Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel agreed a co-ordinated work programme. The work programme for each individual committee 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 on what they need to provide;
- review all forthcoming key decisions, attached at **Appendix C**, and consider any items for further scrutiny.

## 4. The work programme

4.1 The work programme for 2017/18 was agreed at the Committee's meeting on 19 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 and can be removed from the work programme. Before adding additional items, each item should be considered against agreed criteria.

4.3 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 14 March 2018:

Agenda item	Review type	Link to Corporate Priority	Priority
Corporate Parenting and Looked After Children Annual Report	Standard Item	Young people's achievement and involvement; protection of children	CP2&7
Annual Schools Standards Report 2016/17 (primary and secondary) including update on Secondary Challenge	Standard Item	Young people's achievement and involvement; protection of children	CP2&7

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

## 6. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from 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.

**9. Date of next meeting**

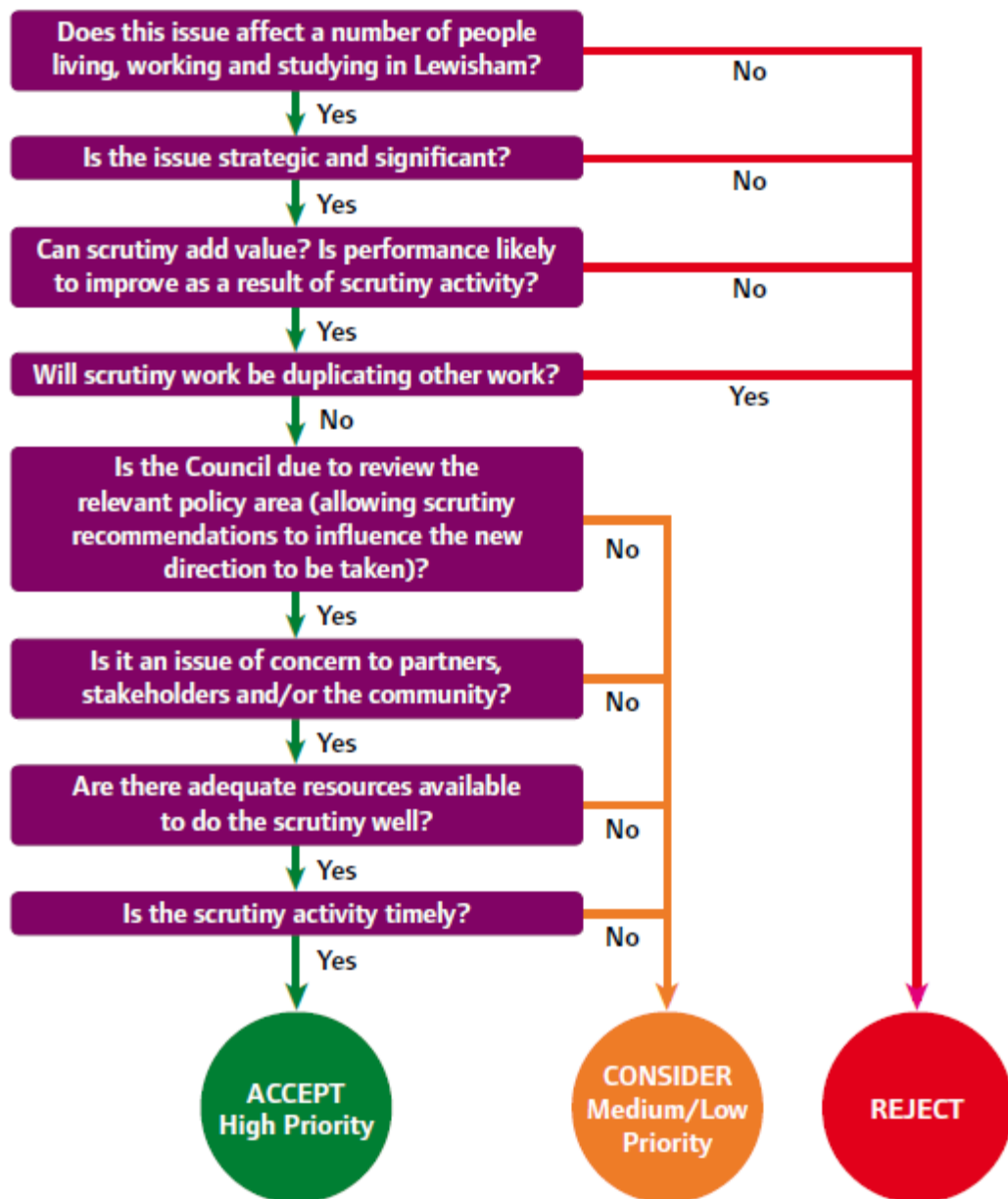
9.1 The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 14 March 2018.

**Background Documents**

Lewisham Council's Constitution

Centre for Public Scrutiny: the Good Scrutiny Guide

## Scrutiny work programme – prioritisation process



Work Item	Type of review	Priority	Strategic Priority	Delivery deadline	19-Apr	28-Jun	13-Jul	13-Sep	01-Nov	11-Dec	30-Jan	14-Mar
Lewisham Future Programme	Standard item	High	CP2 & CP7	Ongoing					Savings and overspend			
Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair	Constitutional requirement	High	CP10	Apr								
Select Committee work programme 2017/18	Constitutional requirement	High	CP10	Apr								
Annual school Standards Report 2015/16 (primary and Secondary), including update on Secondary Challenge	Standard item/performance monitoring	High	CP3	Apr								
School budgets	Performance monitoring	High	CP2	jun		joint with PAC						
Annual Report on Attendance and Exclusions	Performance monitoring	High	CP2&CP7	jun								
SEND provision, including ASD, transport, short breaks	Information Item	high	CP2&CP7	jun								
Update on Ofsted Improvement Plan	Performance monitoring	High	CP2&CP7	ongoing			final report					
Human Trafficking (external speaker)	Information Item	high	CP7	jul								
Lewisham Learning - legal status	Standard Item	high	CP2	sep								
Autumn term school performance	Performance monitoring	High	CP2	Sep								
Lewisham Music Service - implementation of new Trust arrangements	Performance monitoring	Medium	CP2	sep								
Indepth review - Recruitment and Retention of School Staff	Indepth review	High	CP2	Sep	scoping	first evidence		second evidence		draft final report		
6-month Update: Transition from Primary to Secondary School in-depth review	Indepth review	High	CP2&7	Ongoing								
Lewisham Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report	Standard item	High	CP7	Nov								
Update on Q11 Savings proposal - Melliot Road	Performance monitoring	High	CP7	nov								
The Mayor - challenges facing children and young people for the new Mayor during his/her term	Information Item	High	CP2&CP7	Dec								
SEND: update on transport and short breaks, and response to Ombudsman's findings	Performance monitoring	High	CP2&CP7	Dec								
Provisional GCSE results and update on secondary challenge	Performance Monitoring	High	CP2 & CP7	Dec								
Mental health and wellbeing in schools - guest speaker Ammar Al-Ghabban	Information Item	High	CP2&7	December								
Update on Lewisham Southwark College	Information item	High	CP2&7	December								
Safeguarding Services 6-monthly Report	Standard item	High	CP2&CP7	ongoing								
Child Sexual Exploitation Update	Standard Item	High	CP2&CP7	ongoing								
Children's Social Care Roadmap	Performance monitoring	High	CP7	ongoing								
Ubuntu Social Living Networks - external speaker	Information item		CP2	Jan								
Corporate Parenting and LAC Annual Report	Standard item/performance monitoring	High	CP2&CP7	Mar								
Annual Schools Standards Report 2016/17 (primary and secondary), including update on Secondary Challenge	Standard item/performance monitoring	High	CP2	Mar								
Changes to school funding formula	Information Item	High	CP2	TBC								

	Item completed
	Item on-going
	Item outstanding
	Proposed timeframe
	Item added

Meetings			
1)	19-Apr	5)	01-Nov
2)	28-Jun	6)	11-Dec
3)	13-Jul	7)	30-Jan
4)	13-Sep	8)	14-Mar

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## FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

### Forward Plan February 2018 - May 2018

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](mailto:kevin.flaherty@lewisham.gov.uk). However the deadline will be 4pm on the working day prior to the meeting.

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

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

**FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS**

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
September 2017	<b>Council Tax Base</b>	17/01/18 Council	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
November 2017	<b>Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2018/19</b>	17/01/18 Council	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
December 2017	<b>Local Development Scheme</b>	17/01/18 Council	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
December 2017	<b>Business Rate Retention Pilot Pool 2018-19</b>	17/01/18 Council	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
November 2017	<b>Planning Service Statement of Community Involvement</b>	17/01/18 Council	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and		

**FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS**

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
			Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
December 2017	<b>Report of New Bermondsey Independent Inquiry Committee</b>	17/01/18 Council	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Chris Barnham		
January 2018	<b>Contract Extension Carers Specialist Information Advice and Support Service</b>	23/01/18 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
December 2017	<b>Council Budget 2018-19</b>	07/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
December 2017	<b>School Admission Arrangements 2019-20</b>	07/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		

<b>FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS</b>					
<b>Date included in forward plan</b>	<b>Description of matter under consideration</b>	<b>Date of Decision Decision maker</b>	<b>Responsible Officers / Portfolios</b>	<b>Consultation Details</b>	<b>Background papers / materials</b>
September 2017	<b>School Deficits</b>	07/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
November 2017	<b>New Homes Programme Update</b>	07/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member for Housing		
December 2017	<b>Development of Partnership Arrangements for Neighbourhood Community Teams</b>	07/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Joan Millbank, Cabinet Member Third Sector & Community		
December 2017	<b>Annual Pay Statement</b>	07/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
November 2017	<b>Contract award of new framework agreement for Personalised Care and Support in the Home"</b>	07/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and		

**FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS**

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
			Older People		
December 2017	<b>Oracle Financials archiving</b>	14/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
September 2017	<b>Review of Implementation of the Armed Forces Community Covenant</b>	14/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member for Housing		
December 2017	<b>Annual Budget Update</b>	14/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
December 2017	<b>Proposed Change of use and site access site adjacent to Ashmead School and 265 Lewisham Way</b>	14/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		

<b>FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS</b>					
<b>Date included in forward plan</b>	<b>Description of matter under consideration</b>	<b>Date of Decision Decision maker</b>	<b>Responsible Officers / Portfolios</b>	<b>Consultation Details</b>	<b>Background papers / materials</b>
January 2018	<b>Update of the Local Assemblies Handbook</b>	14/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Joan Millbank, Cabinet Member Third Sector & Community		
January 2018	<b>Adult Social Care Charging and Financial Assessment Framework</b>	14/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
January 2018	<b>Lewisham Gateway - Affordable Housing contribution.</b>	14/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member for Housing		
January 2018	<b>Miscellaneous Debt Write-Off</b>	14/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
January 2018	<b>Public Health Neighbourhood Grants</b>	14/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Joan Millbank, Cabinet Member Third Sector & Community		

<b>FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS</b>					
<b>Date included in forward plan</b>	<b>Description of matter under consideration</b>	<b>Date of Decision Decision maker</b>	<b>Responsible Officers / Portfolios</b>	<b>Consultation Details</b>	<b>Background papers / materials</b>
September 2017	<b>Contract Award and Approval to Proceed with 1 FE expansion at Ashmead School</b>	14/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
January 2018	<b>Contract awards for 2 supported housing services - people with mental health problems and those with drug and alcohol problems</b>	14/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
January 2018	<b>Development of a Soft Play facility at Glassmill Leisure Centre</b>	14/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
December 2017	<b>Neighbourhood Planning</b>	21/02/18 Council	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
December 2017	<b>Council Budget 2018-19</b>	21/02/18 Council	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for		

<b>FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS</b>					
<b>Date included in forward plan</b>	<b>Description of matter under consideration</b>	<b>Date of Decision Decision maker</b>	<b>Responsible Officers / Portfolios</b>	<b>Consultation Details</b>	<b>Background papers / materials</b>
			Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
December 2017	<b>Excalibur Regeneration Programme Parts 1 &amp; 2</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member for Housing		
January 2018	<b>Brasted Close Development - Land Appropriation</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member for Housing		
August 2017	<b>Response to Consultation regarding changes to Targeted Short Breaks Provision</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
October 2017	<b>Disposal of the former Saville Centre</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		



**FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS**

<b>Date included in forward plan</b>	<b>Description of matter under consideration</b>	<b>Date of Decision Decision maker</b>	<b>Responsible Officers / Portfolios</b>	<b>Consultation Details</b>	<b>Background papers / materials</b>
October 2017	<b>Schools Minor Works Programme</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
August 2017	<b>School Improvement Partnership</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
June 2017	<b>Joint Strategic Depot Review</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		
October 2017	<b>Update on Fire Safety in Lewisham</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member for Housing		
November 2017	<b>Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member for Housing		

**FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS**

<b>Date included in forward plan</b>	<b>Description of matter under consideration</b>	<b>Date of Decision Decision maker</b>	<b>Responsible Officers / Portfolios</b>	<b>Consultation Details</b>	<b>Background papers / materials</b>
December 2017	<b>Catford Regeneration Programme Masterplan Brief</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
January 2018	<b>Lewisham Homes Governance Update</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member for Housing		
January 2018	<b>SEND Consultation Outcome</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
January 2018	<b>Approval to procure three SEND school expansion and remodelling projects using the LCP Framework.</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
January 2018	<b>Contract Award Refurbishment Laurence House as part of Smarter Working Programme</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and 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		
January 2018	<b>Contract award for building restoration works in Beckenham Place Park</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Janet Senior, Acting Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		
January 2018	<b>Approval of the Dynamic Purchasing System</b>	28/02/18 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
August 2017	<b>Fostering Strategy</b>	21/03/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
September 2017	<b>Agreed Syllabus Review and Syllabus Launch</b>	21/03/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
January 2018	<b>Contract award for landscaping</b>	21/03/18	Janet Senior, Acting		

**FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS**

<b>Date included in forward plan</b>	<b>Description of matter under consideration</b>	<b>Date of Decision Decision maker</b>	<b>Responsible Officers / Portfolios</b>	<b>Consultation Details</b>	<b>Background papers / materials</b>
	<b>works in Beckenham Place Park</b>	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Chief Executive and Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		
June 2017	<b>Deptford Lounge &amp; Tidemill Academy Facilities Management and Centre Management Contract Award</b>	21/03/18 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
December 2017	<b>Contract Award for Additional Accommodation Units in Young Persons Pathway for Care Leavers</b>	21/03/18 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
January 2018	<b>Contract award for residential care service for adults with learning disabilities with behavioural support needs (Holmbury Dene)</b>	21/03/18 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
January 2018	<b>PCSA Contract Award for Stage 1 of two SEND school expansion projects.</b>	10/04/18 Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for		

<b>FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS</b>					
<b>Date included in forward plan</b>	<b>Description of matter under consideration</b>	<b>Date of Decision Decision maker</b>	<b>Responsible Officers / Portfolios</b>	<b>Consultation Details</b>	<b>Background papers / materials</b>
			Children and Young People		
January 2018	<b>Housing Revenue Account Business Plan</b>	06/06/18 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member for Housing		
January 2018	<b>Demolition Contract Award for SEND school expansion projects</b>	19/06/18 Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		

**FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS**

<b>Date included in forward plan</b>	<b>Description of matter under consideration</b>	<b>Date of Decision Decision maker</b>	<b>Responsible Officers / Portfolios</b>	<b>Consultation Details</b>	<b>Background papers / materials</b>

Children and Young People Select Committee			
Title	Select Committee work programme		
Contributor	Scrutiny Manager	Item	10
Class	Part 1 (Open)	30 January 2018	

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 At the last meeting on 11 December 2017 it was agreed that “a referral be made to Mayor and Cabinet, requesting a review of funding levels for SEND provision and in particular travel assistant and short breaks. The Chair should draft the referral to take account of the comments made in this meeting and the views of the Mayor under the previous item, and share the draft with the committee by email to enable comment before the referral is submitted to Mayor and Cabinet.”
- 1.2 In view that the committee is meeting again before the referral is due to go to Mayor and Cabinet and to ensure that all Committee Members have equal opportunity to comment on the draft before it is submitted to Mayor & Cabinet, the draft recommendation is to be considered at this meeting rather than by email.
- 1.3 In most cases the wording of a referral to Mayor and cabinet is agreed at the meeting at which the referral is made.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
  - Agree the wording of the referral attached at Appendix A to be considered at Mayor & Cabinet on 7 February 2018.

## 3. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report per se.

## 4. Legal Implications

There are no specific legal implications to consider.

## 5. Equalities Implications

- 5.1 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.

5.2 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.

### **Background Documents**

Item 6 – SEND Strategy Update, CYP Select Committee, 11 December 2017

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/s54014/SEND%20update%20December%202017.pdf>





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<b>Mayor and Cabinet</b>			
<b>Report title</b>	Comments of the Children and Young People Select Committee on funding levels for travel assistance and short breaks for children with complex needs		
<b>Contributors</b>	CYP Select Committee	<b>Item No.</b>	
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	<b>Date</b>	7 February 2018

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the views of the Children and Young People (CYP) Select Committee, arising from discussions held at its meeting on 11 December 2017.

## 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to note the views of the CYP Select Committee as set out in section three of this referral.

## 3. CYP Select Committee views

- 3.1 On 11 December 2017, the CYP Select Committee considered a report entitled "SEND update on transport and short breaks".
- 3.2 The CYP Select Committee would like to make the following comments to the Mayor and Cabinet in relation to funding travel assistance and short breaks.
1. We have heard a number of concerns from parents about the effects on their daily lives resulting from changes to travel assistance and short breaks funding for children with SEND.
  2. We appreciate that the current financial climate necessitates making difficult funding decisions in order to achieve savings and reduce overspends.
  3. We have heard how travel assistance and short breaks provision in particular can make the difference between a family being able to work and not. Making savings in this area can have an undesirable knock-on effect for the wider economy of Lewisham, particularly where parents are no longer able to work, and become reliant on public funds.
  4. We note a reduction in numbers of those being provided with free transport, but no compelling evidence that need has reduced.
  5. We also note that there are proposals to tighten the criteria for eligibility for some short breaks, and that some short breaks may be reduced from full day to half days.
  6. We would welcome a review of SEND funding levels, in particular of travel assistance and short breaks provision.
- 3.3 The Mayor attended the CYP Select Committee meeting on 11 December (under a separate item) to provide the Committee with his view of where the challenges for the new Mayor would lie. The Mayor's view was that Special Educational Needs

and Disability (SEND) was the area that had changed the most over the last 30 years. He acknowledged that the demand for places was increasing and that the complexity of need was far greater, and that this trend was likely to continue.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report per se, but there may be financial implications arising from carrying out the action proposed by the Committee.

#### **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 The Constitution provides for Select Committees to make recommendations to the Executive or appropriate committee and/or Council arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process.

#### **6. Further Implications**

- 6.1 At this stage there are no specific environmental, equalities or crime and disorder implications to consider.

#### **Background papers**

SEND update on transport and short breaks – report to the CYP Select Committee on 11 December 2017.

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Emma Aye-Kumi (Scrutiny Manager) on 020 8314 9534