



LEWISHAM COMMUNITY POLICE CONSULTATIVE GROUP



ELECTIONS FOR LEWISHAM SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD BOARD
Hosted by LCPCG on 4 March 2014

Six “Community Board Member” positions available

There are 6 “Community Board Member” positions to be filled at this election.

As this is the first ever election for the SNB’s Community Board Member places these positions are not all equal. The elections will determine which 6 candidates get the positions, and also allocation the terms of office. The intention is that apart from the first year, two of these Community Board Members will be elected every year from (and by) the Register. This should allow the Board to reflect changes in the community, but also give continuity and stability, as LCPCG recognise that it may take a while for new Board Members to get up to their full potential. The positions will be evenly split like this:

- 2 positions with 3 year terms of office
- 2 positions with 2 year terms of office
- 2 positions with 1 year terms of office

Officers from Lewisham Council, who are independent of both the LCPCG and the new Board will assist with the election. Thanks to Gary Connors, deputy Head of Crime Reduction Services, Derek Johnson, Civic Manager, and other officers from Lewisham Council’s Governance division.

Who can vote?

Only the 66 people who are on the Register of Affiliated Groups for Lewisham SNB may vote. These people were able to nominate someone to vote on their behalf, but only 2 people did this within the 24 notice period (before the start of the meeting) which is set out in the draft Terms of Reference.

The “Voters” will be those people on the Register (or their nominees) who signed in before the meeting and collected a coloured ballot paper and voter card.

Further information about Candidates

All the candidates were asked to provide a short statement explaining why you should vote for them. These are in the Agenda Pack.

The Election Process

This will be a secret ballot. Voters will have a ballot paper and ID slip from when they registered at the meeting sign in desk.

Each Voter will be simply asked to choose 6, or fewer, of the candidates and to mark them in order of preference on the ballot slip from 1 (top/favourite) up to 6 (bottom). This will leave 5 (or more) candidate names with no mark on the ballot.

It is recommended to rank all nominees on the ballot paper. Ties will not be permitted and any other types of marking or ambiguity may mean the votes will not be counted.

Ballot papers will be collected and the votes will be counted whilst the meeting continues. The calculation of scores section below explains how this will work.

The meeting will be notified of the results later, in between other agenda items, when Gary Connors will announce the names of those 6 people who will serve on the Board and their respective terms of office.

Calculating the Scores

When the ballot papers have been collected, the meeting will continue and Derek Johnson will count the votes. Each ballot will contribute points - with more for the favoured candidates and fewer for the less preferred. This will be worked out as follows from each individual ballot paper:

- Candidate marked 1 - receives 6 points,
- Candidate marked 2 - receives 5 points,
- Candidate marked 3 - receives 4 points,
- Candidate marked 4 - receives 3 points,
- Candidate marked 5 - receives 2 points,
- Candidate marked 6 - receives 1 points
- Candidate with no mark and any ambiguous or spoiled marks will get zero points.

The final scores will then be produced by adding the points from all the ballots together.

Outcome of the Elections

Scores from the 11 candidates will be placed in numerical order to determine how the positions and term lengths are allocated.

The 2 candidates with the highest and second highest score will be elected with a three year term.

The 2 candidates with the third and fourth highest score will be elected with a two year term.

The 2 candidates with the fifth and sixth highest score will be elected with a one year term.

In the event of a tie which affects the allocation of places or terms of office, the Voters will take a second secret ballot on just the tied candidates. This second vote will otherwise be dealt with in the same way as above in order to get new scores which can be placed in order.

The order from this "Tie-off" will be slotted into the original order from the first vote to determine the final order.