

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	Young Mayor of Lewisham – Budget Proposals	
Key Decision	No	
Ward	All	
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration	
Class	Part 1	Date: 3 December 2014

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report summarises the proposed budget expenditure of the Young Mayor of Lewisham for 2014, Emmanuel Olaniyan, and outlines activities undertaken by the Young Mayor and Young Advisors during the year.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Mayor agrees the Young Mayor's budget proposals as described in section 8 of this report.

3 Policy Context

- 3.1 The Young Mayor Programme is a key priority for the Council in delivering on its commitment to enhancing young people's achievement and involvement.
- 3.2 The Young Mayor Programme makes an important contribution to the objectives *Empowered and responsible* and *Ambitious and achieving*.
- 3.3 The work of the Young Mayor further relates and makes a contribution to many of the outcomes set out in the Children and Young People's Plan.

4 Background

- 4.1 The Young Mayor Programme has been in place since April 2004. The Young Mayor of Lewisham is allocated a budget of £30,000 to spend on services that help to improve the lives of children and young people in the borough.
- 4.2 On Wednesday 16th October 2013 Emmanuel Olaniyan was elected the tenth Young Mayor of Lewisham. Emmanuel won the election on a turnout of 49.4%, which represents 9417 young people voting.

5 Budget 2013 Expenditure Achievements

- 5.1 The Young Mayor for 2013 was Jamel Higgins. Following consultation with young people across the borough, his budget was allocated to a programme of activity that would aim to help raise the career aspirations of young people, creating opportunities for young people to experience business, enterprise and the world of work.

Jumpstart Work Experience Programme

- 5.2 Local early intervention and mentoring charity Urban Synergy were commissioned to deliver a programme of work experience for young people during the summer of 2014. The scheme was promoted through introductory sessions and workshops at youth clubs where candidates were also identified.
- 5.3 Placements were secured with the following organisations: Thomson Reuters (media/journalism/technology/sales), BPTW Partnership (architecture), Amosu Robinshaw (solicitors), Lloyds Bank, A A Tikare & Associates (dental surgery), YSC (psychology).
- 5.4 27 young people were placed on work experience during the allocated period, the majority on one week placements. All but one candidate said the placement matched their overall career aspiration.
- 5.5 Two of our young people were given further opportunities to continue work on other projects linked to their placement after the completion of their initial work experience programme.
- 5.6 Feedback was uniformly excellent, with the young people saying they felt more prepared for the workplace and employers pleased with the calibre of young people they worked with. Urban Synergy also see the scheme as a model they can replicate in future with other partners.

6 Activities during 2014

- 6.1 Since October 2013, the Young Mayor and Advisors have continued to represent their peers at local, regional, national and international level. Working collaboratively with the Mayor and Cabinet, select committees, councillors, officers, partner agencies and other key stakeholders, the Young Mayor and Advisors make an important contribution to local policy development. They have also continued to support projects that relate to and address issues which concern young people.
- 6.2 Examples of work and activities include:

Young Advisor's Meetings	Regular weekly meetings for young people to plan and organise their activities and for partners/ colleagues
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	to consult and discuss issues with the group.
Civic events	Representing young people of the borough at events including the Nelson Mandela Memorial Service, Holocaust Memorial Day, Remembrance Day Commemoration, World War 1 Memorial Service at St Mary's Church.
Social justice and diversity	<p>Participating in events on social justice and diversity in conjunction with organisations including Stephen Lawrence Centre, Black Staff Forum, Index On Censorship, Equaliteam.</p> <p>Participation in the Women's Achievement Awards, Black History Month, International Women's Day, White Ribbon Week, British Youth Council Equalities conference.</p> <p>Developing the Lewisham Young People's covenant in partnership with schools and the 10,000hands project.</p>
Intergenerational Activities	<p>Working together with older people to build understanding through intergenerational projects.</p> <p>Christmas event with Positive Aging Council and Deptford Green School at Deptford Lounge.</p> <p>Working with Healthwatch visiting older people's homes and taking part in activities and events.</p>
Health	<p>Working with the Headstart Project to improve young people's mental health and well-being including organising events and consultations in schools and in the community.</p> <p>Working with the drugs team to review services for young people in Lewisham.</p> <p>Discussing young people's access to and experience of health services.</p> <p>Working with the NHS commissioning group</p>

	<p>Developing an alcohol app with the Drugs Action Team.</p> <p>Working with Healthwatch and Healthwatch Ambassadors</p> <p>European healthy eating and exercise project at TNG and residential weekend at Kingswood Outdoor Centre</p>
Employment and Enterprise	<p>Supporting and publishing opportunities for young people i.e.: Job Fair, apprenticeship opportunities</p> <p>Making Christmas cards and selling them at Sydenham Market</p> <p>11 work experience students with the Young Mayor Team</p>
Lewisham Youth Service and The New Generation (TNG) Centre	<p>Supporting the development of the new youth venue.</p> <p>Organising showcase events at the TNG</p> <p>Participating in the youth-led element of the commissioning process for groups to deliver youth services and projects.</p>
B-involved Website	<p>Actively contributing to the new site, developing media skills, promoting opportunities for young people, raising issues of interest and maintaining social media contact with peers. Work experience students in particular support the site and social media.</p>
Children and Young People's Plan	<p>Ongoing process working and reviewing the CYPP through Young Advisors meetings.</p>
Community Safety, Policing and Youth Justice	<p>Joining the discussion about young people being safe and policing in the borough through regular contact with the Safer Neighbourhood Team. Contributing to the development of their youth participation strategy.</p> <p>Taking part in the new Lewisham Safer Neighbourhood Board</p>

	<p>Developing knowledge of and supporting young people involved in the youth justice system, through the Youth Offending Service engagement group.</p> <p>Participating and helping to organise stop and search workshops and events with the Stop and Search Sub group.</p> <p>Working with partners including the Police, TFL and community through the 10,000hands project.</p> <p>Supporting the 10,000 Hands project, promoting peace and safe havens in the borough. Working with the police improve relationships between young people and the police.</p>
Regeneration	<p>Contributing to consultations on current and future projects including Lewisham Town Centre, Catford Town Centre, Beckenham Place Park.</p>
Working with Schools	<p>Raising awareness and consulting through assemblies, citizenship days and school councils. Supporting peers at exhibitions, achievement events and activities.</p> <p>Feeding back to the electorate about the activities of the Young Mayor and Team.</p> <p>Consultations on the Young Mayor's budget.</p> <p>34 visits to schools</p> <p>10 school visits to the civic suite including school council meetings, primary school visits and euroscola</p>
Sports and Arts	<p>Supporting young people's achievements at awards events and promoting opportunities for young people to participate.</p> <p>Producing Showcase events at the TNG centre and promoting young people's talents and interests.</p> <p>Supporting and promoting three</p>

	<p>football tournaments at the Jubilee Ground</p>
<p>Democratic Engagement</p>	<p>Visits to Westminster and the House of Commons, meeting politicians and supporting voter registration events.</p> <p>Participation in local Labour group meetings discussing young people and politics.</p> <p>Promoting League of Young Voters and other ways to promote participation</p> <p>Attendance at UK Youth Parliament, UK Youth and British Youth Council.</p> <p>Participation in "Make Your Mark" ballot to decide on national campaigns.</p> <p>Representing all groups at the BYC Equalities Conference</p> <p>BYC Votes at 16 lobby of Parliament</p> <p>Children's Commissioner's Takeover Day</p>
<p>European Visits / visitors</p>	<p>Visit to Warsaw, Poland, to work with academics, officers and young people to develop their youth participation strategy.</p> <p>Youth in Action projects with youth groups in. Sortland in Norway, and Alingsas near Gothenburg in Sweden.</p> <p>Visit to Prague to meet with their youth council in partnership with the Jimmy Mizen Foundation.</p> <p>Invitation from the Council of Europe for young people to speak at session on youth participation in Strasbourg.</p> <p>New partners in Mallorca, Reggio Emilia, Italy, Santa Maria de Faire in Portugal and Sainte Saint Denis in Paris who we are hoping to develop projects with through the new European programme Erasmus +</p>

	<p>For the 10th election there were observers from Norway, Italy and the Czech Republic</p> <p>Over the year we have had visitors from Seine Sainte Denis, the Japanese Local Government Association, and Palestine.</p>
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10 Year Evaluation

- 6.3 The evaluation of the Young Mayor Programme has been led by Dr Kalbir Shukra of Goldsmiths College, University of London. Her work has included observing the election process; interviewing young people, officers and politicians; an exit poll to identify what factors influence voting behaviour; two reunion events of former young mayors and young advisors; and following the progress of candidates during and after their involvement in the programme.
- 6.4 Key findings include:
- The Young Mayor Programme acts as a hub supporting other forms of youth participation and representation in the borough.
 - The election process encourages a high level of identification with the borough and pride in being ‘Lewisham young people’.
 - Young People are motivated to stand for election for a combination of altruistic and personal development reasons and hold the position of Young Mayor in high regard.
 - Voters, campaigners and candidates develop political literacy and awareness.
 - Voters say that speeches, manifestos, meeting the candidate, posters and leaflets are most important in deciding who to vote for.

The “Lewisham Young Peoples’ Covenant”

- 6.5 The Young Mayor and Young Advisors, with the 10,000hands project have continued to work on the “Lewisham Young Peoples’ Covenant”, a pledge identifying what young people can expect from the borough and what the borough and partners can expect from young people. The 10,000hands project took the covenant to every primary school in Lewisham in the summer term 2014, and will be visiting every secondary school in the spring term. Many schools are producing their own covenant in their schools as well as making their own 10000hand peace cloth. This coincides with the anniversary of the Magna Carta in 2015.

7 The Young Mayor’s Budget 2014 - Consultation

- 7.1 The Young Mayor has worked closely with both his Advisors and with schools and youth organisations in identifying how to best spend the allocated budget, as well as consulting more widely than ever through a newsletter and the B-involved website and social media. There has also been dialogue with local groups in the voluntary and community sector.
- 7.2 Initial ideas for spending proposals were gathered from a range of sources and forums and then discussed at the Young Advisors meetings. Following this, a long-list was developed which was taken to schools and youth projects where a wider group of local young people were able to debate and discuss about the merits of the emerging proposals. These proposals were then disseminated through the Young Mayor's newsletter (which is distributed to all the schools and colleges in the borough). The proposals were also available for viewing and comment on the B-involved website, Facebook and Twitter.

Outcomes

Some of the main areas of interest included:

- Participation for young people in arts and sports activities, opportunities to share and showcase talents, festivals, fashion shows, art gallery, film project. More school tournaments, improve skate parks and more outside gyms/access to gyms.
- Promotion of opportunities, activities and talents, document positive contributions of young people
- Health and wellbeing issues including sexual health and mental health
- Life skills; help with understanding money advice and budgeting, housing advice, college fees advice, opportunities to travel
- Provision of youth services; youth centres locally that people want to use and are free.
- Raising awareness about disability issues, including integration and sporting opportunities, transport, access to parks and park events representation of young people with disabilities
- Business, enterprise and employment, more work experience, . promotion of opportunities, apprenticeships etc
- Intergenerational events, create community cohesion, communication between different groups, cultural activities.

8 The Young Mayor Budget 2014 - Proposals

- 8.1 The Young Mayor and Advisors have identified as a priority for this year's budget five projects for funding - to address the needs and interests which have arisen over the year from the consultation process, to complement existing provision and also to recognise the continuing and increasing strain on public resources.
- 8.2 An **arts showcase** for young people to promote their skills and talents. Linking into existing opportunities like Lewisham Live and Deptford X, the

showcase will make the most of existing facilities and widen young people's understanding and knowledge of what is available, as well as enabling young people to get recognised for their talents.

- 8.3 Initial funding to develop a **community media studio**, offering opportunities for young people to develop sound and video producing skills. The project would aim to work with schools and youth projects to build links with existing services, opportunities and activities as well as act as a forum for showcasing talents and achievements of young people.
- 8.4 A **disability awareness event** looking at issues such as accessibility, how young people with disabilities are represented and how they can represent themselves with different decision making bodies.
- 8.5 Improvement works for **Ladywell Fields Skate Park** to maintain and extend the existing provision of this popular park, with involvement of the present user group.
- 8.6 Funding for **primary school engagement**, to build on the work of the Mayor's Office and Young Mayor's Advisors with primary school councils. The funding would provide opportunities for primary school pupils to work with the Young Mayor and Young Advisors, developing ideas and projects to be considered and taken forward.

Summary of proposed expenditure

8.7	Arts Showcase	3000
	Community Media Studio	16000
	Disability Awareness Event	3000
	Ladywell Fields Skate Park Improvements	3000
	Primary School Engagement	5000
	Total	30000

Progress and Evaluation

- 8.8 The new Young Mayor and Young Advisors will report progress in implementing these proposals to the Young Citizen's Panel, School Councils, Mayor and Cabinet and the B-involved website and other social media.
- 8.9 An ongoing consultation and evaluation process will take place with local young people through the Youth Service, School Councils, the Voluntary and Community Sector and People's Day, as well as the B-involved website..

9 Financial Implications

- 9.1 The net costs of the proposed programme is £30k and will be met from the budget for the Young Mayor's programme.

10 Legal Implications

- 10.1 The Localism Act 2011 gives a general power of competence to local authorities which provides them with the power to do anything an individual can, apart from that which is specifically prohibited. In exercising discretionary powers the Council must act reasonably taking relevant matters into account and ignoring those which are irrelevant. It would not be unreasonable for the Mayor to agree the sum of £30,000 for the purposes outlined in this report.

11 Crime and Disorder Implications

- 11.1 The Young Mayor's proposals relate to the development of activities, resources and information that will provide young people with diversionary activities, contribute to community initiatives and provide opportunities for young people to address issues concerned with their safety.

12 Equality Implications

- 12.1 The Young Mayor and Young Advisors have considered the equalities implications in all of the proposals and will ensure an inclusive approach to all activities undertaken.

13 Environmental Implications

- 13.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

14 Background papers

- 14.1 None

For further information on this report please contact Malcolm Ball on 020 8314 6354.