We want your views about proposed changes to this children’s centre

We would like you to come to a meeting to be part of the discussion around changes to your Children’s Centre.

The Council needs to make changes to children’s centres across Lewisham. Because of the savings the Council has to make from its budget, it can no longer afford the level of provision we have had in recent years.

We know that parents, carers and children value our Children’s Centres. We do too.

That’s why all centres will stay open under the Council’s proposals.¹

To achieve this it might however be necessary to reduce the hours of opening and to change the services offered at a number of the centres.

This is your opportunity to help to shape those changes.

What the Council is proposing

- Four Children’s Centres remain as they are now – one in each area of the borough. These would be Clyde, Ladywell, Downderry and Bellingham.

- 12 centres offering the sorts of services that parents have told us are most important to them such as stay and play sessions, messy play, a chance to meet other parents, advice and information. The opening hours of these centres may be reduced.

- Some children’s centre services will still be delivered in other buildings such as health centres.

We have thought long and hard about how we can save money without closing Children’s Centres and still ensure quality services. And we have talked with parents and listened to your ideas and suggestions.

Whichever centre you use you will always be able to speak to someone on the phone or visit another centre in your area to speak with someone.

Health visitors, midwives, schools, GPs and other professionals will still be able to make referrals to local centres and continue to work from centres and families will still be able to refer themselves.

Meeting

Please come along to hear more about proposals for this centre, talk to us about your concerns and let us know what you think.

Manor House Children’s Centre

Lower Ground Floor, Manor House Library, Old Road, Lee SE13 5SY

Thursday 28 May, 2–3pm

¹ Except the Heathside and Lethbridge centre which is due to be demolished as part of the regeneration of the estate.
Questionnaire

1. We want to know which services you think it is most important to have at this local centre. Please rank this list in order of priority from 1 to 5, where 1 is the most important.

| stay and play for children of specific ages | a chance to meet other parents in similar situations |
| messy play | a person I know and trust to ask for advice |
| practical tips and advice on how to do the best for your child | experts who can inform me how my child is developing |
| parenting programmes | child developmental checks |
| support with breastfeeding | parenting courses |
| health visitor appointments | one to one help |
| advice and info on where to get other help | help with domestic abuse, drug/alcohol use or mental health problems |
| immunisations | maternity appointments and clinics |
| help to get employment | one to one help and advice in the home |
| help with finance problems |

Please tell us if there are other services we have not listed that you think are most important.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. We want to know which times in the week you think it is most important that this local centre is open. **Please select up to five sessions.**

- [ ] Monday morning
- [ ] Monday afternoon
- [ ] Tuesday morning
- [ ] Tuesday afternoon
- [ ] Wednesday morning
- [ ] Wednesday afternoon
- [ ] Thursday morning
- [ ] Thursday afternoon
- [ ] Friday morning
- [ ] Friday afternoon

3. By making some of the changes, it is possible that some of our centres might no longer be inspected by Ofsted.

Would that change how you use centres?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No