

**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 1.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: Keme Nzerem

Member to reply: Councillor Maslin

**Question**

The official government population projections show Telegraph Hill Ward is expected to lose nearly 300 Primary School age children (under 11s) by 2025. The same data shows Central Lewisham is to gain nearly 1000.

<http://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/2014-round-population-projections/resource/07a22673-64ae-4456-8f73-39ddb593b6e1>

Across 'planning area 3' the only other ward to show a projected increase in under 11s is Brockley - with less than 100 extra. Crofton Park and Ladywell both show a decrease, of nearly 400 combined. Do you agree that the clear need for additional Primary School Places in planning area 3 is in Central Lewisham, where significant new housing has been approved and built? Can the council detail all steps taken to increase Primary school provision in Central Lewisham to cater for the new housing over the last and next decade up to 2025, and explain in full detail why sufficient capacity has not been provided?

Please explain in your wider analysis why Prendergast Vale is only 1 form entry? Why was it not expanded to accommodate the obvious need right on its doorstep?

Can the Council name the officials who were in charge of the strategy that has manifestly failed to provide Primary School places where they are needed in Central Lewisham?

### **Reply**

It is very difficult to forecast population numbers precisely. The issues involve, among several other things, the interplay between dynamic birth rates and dynamic migration numbers; as well as the short to medium term impact of housing developments. The overall long range forecast (for Lewisham's population) by the Greater London Authority (GLA) differs markedly from that produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). This is because of different underlying assumptions used in migration patterns. Planning school places therefore involves more than simply identifying where new housing developments are happening and applying some ratio for the numbers of young children who will move there or be born there.

Lewisham Council uses the available demographic forecasts (from ONS and the GLA) for planning services at the borough level. Obviously, for planning, some services smaller spatial scales are required. The issue for many services is the degree of reliability of forecasts at lower spatial scales than at the borough level. Our planning for primary school places takes account of forecasts at a level below the borough but above wards (there are six school planning areas but 18 electoral wards in Lewisham). At this school planning area level we are able to supplement and refine the straightforward population forecasts with known changes in housing developments so as to generate projections of future demand for school places across Lewisham. In each school planning area there will, of course, be a mix of size of school and faith/community places.

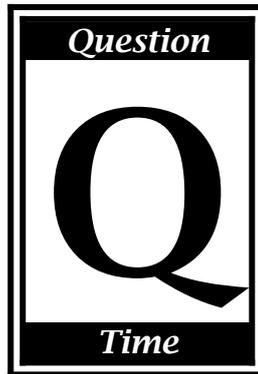
Demand for primary places has risen over the last decade. The Council has taken appropriate measures to meet its statutory duty to ensure that a school place is available for all children whose families request one. These measures have included temporary enlargements, permanent expansions and new provision, and have ensured that all children care offered a place.

The presentation to the Children and Young People Select Committee (January 12<sup>th</sup> 2016), which is available through the Lewisham Council website, shows the areas of future projected demand for primary places. These include Primary Place Planning Locality 3, (Brockley, Central Lewisham and Telegraph Hill). The following table sets out how schools in the locality have been enlarged to meet this demand since 2008 when the first additional places were required.

	School	Year(s)
<b>Temporary Enlargements</b>	Ashmead Beecroft Gardens Brindishe Green Edmund Waller Holbeach Lucas Vale Myatt Garden Prendergast Vale St Stephen's, Turnham	2010,2012 2008,2014 2016 2010,2015 2008, 2009 2012, 2014 2012 2013 2012 2011, 2012
<b>Permanent enlargements</b>	Beecroft Gardens, Gordonbrock, Holbeach, John Stainer, Turnham	+1FE, 2012 +0.5FE 2012 +1FE 2015 +1FE 2013 +1FE 2015
<b>New provision through the conversion of secondary schools into all-through schools</b>	Prendergast Primary,	2FE 2014
<b>No expansion possible because of site constraints</b>	St Mary Magdalen, St Mary's Lewisham, St Saviour's,	

The Council continues to work actively to identify opportunities to meet future demand and has plans to meet that demand up to the end of the decade and beyond. The opportunities include expansion on current school sites and working with the Education Funding Agency to commission new provision on vacant sites. Proposals will be taken to Mayor & Cabinet at the appropriate times. There is no intention to increase provision permanently at Prendergast Vale, which has no site capacity for expansion. In addition to 1FE primary, Prendergast Vale provides 4FE secondary places per year. This central Lewisham site was developed in 2012 in response to an identified need for secondary places accessible for families living in the centre of the borough.

'Shaping Our Future: Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy' expresses the Council's commitment to "ensuring efficiency, effectiveness and equity in the delivery of excellent services to meet the needs of the community". Lewisham's Children and Young People's Plan includes a commitment to ensuring that places are available for all families who request a place for their child/children. Planning provision on the basis of localities enables the Council to make a timely response to local fluctuations in demand whilst planning ahead to make effective use of all resources.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 2.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: Patricia Richardson

Member to reply: Chair of Council

**Question**

At the 25th November 2015 full Council meeting there were 63 public questions to Council. At the 20th January 2016 full Council meeting there were 68 public questions. In the event all questioners on 25th November 2015 had the opportunity to put a supplementary question. However, on 20th January 2016 the Chair ruled that the half hour allocated to public questions had expired. Therefore, anyone after question 41 was denied the opportunity of asking a supplementary question, if they were present. Is there any way of working around such an issue so that the proper procedure is met? For example, when there are few councillors' questions could not that time be allotted to the public? Or, could some system of pre-booking a supplementary question be organised.

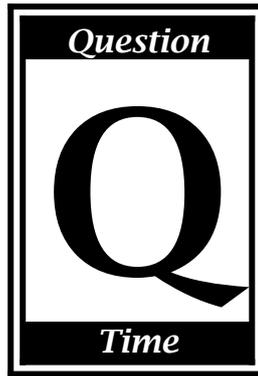
**Reply**

In November, few of the questioners wished to ask supplementary questions but in January a greater number of people attended and raised secondary questions thereby utilising the time allowed. I am happy to confirm that everyone who

submitted a question in January did have the opportunity to raise at least one supplementary question.

Our question time procedures are reviewed from time to time by the Constitution Working Party. I can confirm both the November and January meetings correctly followed the procedure currently laid down in the Constitution.

Suggestions from the public as to how we can improve transparency and democratic engagement are always welcome and I will ensure your suggestions are considered whenever the next review of question time procedures takes place.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 3.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: Scott Barkwith

Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

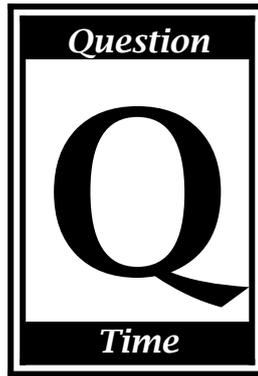
I have been unable to find any documentation on the issue of legacy funding for Skate Park at Folkestone Gardens. How are repairs and maintenance for this amenity to be funded given LBL's claims that there is not enough money in the budget for basic services and local amenities such as the children's playground planned alongside the skate park? How will ongoing maintenance and supervision be funded and for how long?

Which councillors were involved in the planning, location, design and funding (with s106 monies) of Folkestone Gardens Skate and Play.

**Reply**

On completion the new skate park will be included in the Green Space Contract for parks managed by Glendale through to March 2020. Glendale currently manages the three existing skate parks across the borough.

Officers, together with members of the local youth group, presented proposals for the new skate park to the Evelyn ward assembly. The ward assembly was kept updated as to progress.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 4.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: Peter Richardson

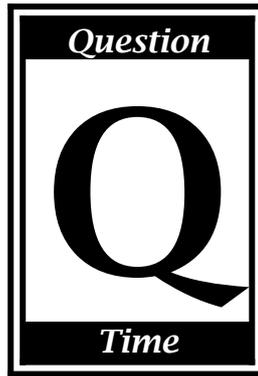
Member to reply: Councillor Best

**Question**

The London Borough of Lewisham recently commissioned Pinnacle ESP Consulting Engineers, to obtain technical and strategic information on the existing mechanical, electrical and building fabric services at the Manor House Library, Old Road, London SE13 and provide a 10 year life cycle cost plan. The Consultancy duly provided a comprehensive 28-page report. How much did this cost and on which Council department budget did this fall?

**Reply**

The Council commissioned Pinnacle ESP Consulting Engineers to produce condition surveys for three library buildings, namely Forest Hill, Manor House, and Torridon Road. The surveys were funded from the Library and Information Service budget and cost £3,400, £3,400, and £2,400 respectively.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 5.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: John Hamilton

Member to reply: The Mayor

**Question**

I would like to know what steps the Council is taking to oppose the Housing and Planning Bill and to inform the residents of Lewisham of the consequences of the Bill. If nothing has so far been planned, will you place a banner on the Council website and an article in the next issue of Lewisham Life.

I would like to ask if the Mayor, Cabinet and Councillors will join housing activists, tenants, trade unionist and local councillors across London and further afield on the third demonstration against the Bill which will take place on Sunday 13th March, starting at Lincolns Inn Fields WC2A 3TL at 12 noon.

**Reply**

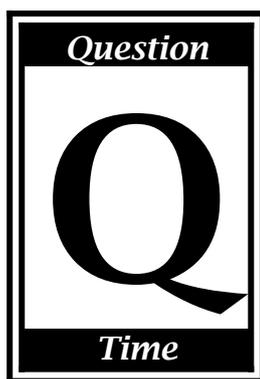
The Housing and Planning Bill is a very wide ranging piece of legislation. It contains some provisions which have been welcomed, such as those relating to "Rogue Landlords" but it is the sections dealing with high value Council Stock Sales, the voluntary Right to Buy scheme for Housing Association properties and "Pay to Stay" that have raised particular concerns. It also gives the Secretary of State a great degree of discretion not least in relation to the allocation of funds raised by the forced social housing.

The Local Government Association (LGA) has been active in briefing parliamentarians about the Bill and the problems with it generally while London Councils have focussed on the specific implications for London not least the risk of resources being lost from London. I have been directly involved in the shaping of both organisation's response and have taken part in briefing events in connection with this. Information setting out our concerns in detail can be found on both organisation's web sites.

I am aware that some political parties, including the one that I am a member of, have been campaigning against this Bill and raising awareness of the implications it may have for London and it is being opposed by all our local MPs. Labour is seeking to amend the bill in ways which significantly improve it and I am pleased to say that Cllr Lord Kennedy is most ably leading this work in the Lords as a member of the Labour Front Bench.

The bill will have far reaching consequences for many residents and once it becomes law the Council will need to fully understand these and make sure that affected residents are given information as quickly as possible.

I cannot answer for Councillors with regard to the demonstration against the Bill and whether or not they may wish to take part. Unfortunately I have a personal commitment which will prevent me joining the march but I will keep my diary under review.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 6.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: Emma Bushell

Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

The 'Skate and Play' project is currently under construction in Folkestone Gardens. The consultation and the posters that went up in the park a week before construction started, clearly stated there would be a new play area. Is it true that there is to be no new playground as there is no funding available? Skate parks are a sub regional amenity while children's playgrounds are a local amenity. The purpose of Section 106 funding is to support local community assets. Why has the 'play' element been removed from this project with the reason that there is "no funding available" when £230,000 of Section 106 funding has been used for the skate park?

Existing play equipment has been relocated onto a smaller footprint. All SEN equipment has been removed. How does creating play spaces only for young people without mobility issues and who can afford specialist equipment, fit with local authority disability and financial inclusion policies?

As an amenity that will attract people from all over the borough and neighbouring boroughs why are there no other facilities to support this. The nearest public toilets in Deptford Park are not open regularly and there are no restaurants or pubs or any other toilets nearby. Where will the skate park users go to the toilet?

Are you aware that there is no park keeper and no plan made with the Safer Neighbourhoods team regarding this amenity? Building has commenced and the site is not secure. There are groups of 15 to 30 people currently using the unfinished skate park at evenings and weekends. These people (not small children) are also hanging off and messing about with the relocated playground equipment. Is there any plan in place to protect the space from ASB and other nuisance issues?

Please address with regard to Skate & Play:

- Removal of the "play" element of this project to the detriment of a local playground.
- Inclusion
- Toilets
- ASB and Supervision

Which councillors were involved in the planning, location and design of the "Skate & Play"?

### Reply

Some 2 years ago, officers were approached by a local youth group, based at the Salvation Army meeting rooms in Deptford, who were keen to see the limited skate facilities improved. The youth group presented their case which included their own consultation with their peers living in the Folkestone Gardens and Deptford area. Officers agreed to support their project and a bid to the London Marathon Charitable trust was successful. Additional section 106 funding was secured to make the project viable.

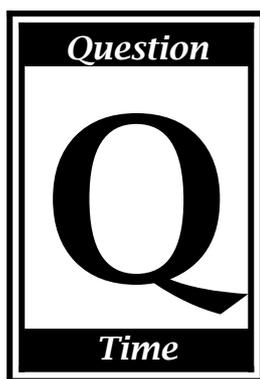
Officers and members of the youth group (both boys and girls), attended the Evelyn Ward assembly in the summer of 2014 to present the project which was favourably received. Further consultation was carried out with the youth group and members of the public.

With regards to children's play it is hoped, subject to funding, that a phase 2 of the project can take place, following the completion of the skate park, in order to re-new the playground equipment. Consultation will take place with users who, once the new café is in place, may wish to re-site the under 5's play nearer the café, as was done at Ladywell Fields.

The café lessee has attended the new Deptford Folk user group and indicated that café toilets will be available to park users. It should be noted that this area of the borough has many wonderful parks which have new play equipment. Deptford Park is only 400 meters away and has facilities for the under 5's and under 12's as does the nearby Fordham Park. In addition a brand new park is due to be constructed this year at Amersham Grove, only 400 meters from Folkestone, and this will also have new play equipment for the under 5's and under 12's.

With reference to anti-social behaviour and supervision, the Councils parks contractor Glendale will be responsible for managing the space following handover from the contractor. Works are due for completion at the end of February and officers have spoken with the contractor with regards to securing the site outside of working hours.

Two additional projects are also taking place, helping to make improvements to the park. In addition to the new café and toilets the new quietway cycle route will see improved cycle routes with lighting, improved sightlines to make the park safer and to improve links to Surrey Canal Road, Deptford Park and Fordham Park.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 7.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: Carolina Ocares

Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

The consultation exercise for the Folkestone Gardens 'Skate & Play' was not available on the Lewisham consultation portal. The consultation document was at the bottom of the park user group web page where it is still available and open for comment.

1. Why was there no proper public consultation via the planning portal as would be usual for this kind of scheme and as there was for other Skate Parks in the borough?
2. Did it not raise an issue when there were no responses whatsoever to the consultation online which was only available via the park user group web page?
3. The plan for 'Skate & Play' has changed considerably to not include any new playground facilities. This should have resulted in a new consultation to ensure local people would be happy to lose over half of their local playground to a sub-regional amenity. Why was there no second consultation on the revised plan?
4. Do you agree that at no stage in the presentation was it disclosed that £230k of Section 106 funding would be used to fund the Skate Park. Some local young people raised £50k via the London Marathon Charitable Trust and some local residents

were told the council was "match funding" this. Why was the council not open and honest about how this sub-regional amenity would be funded?

5. Which councillors were involved in the planning, location and design of the Folkestone Gardens Skate & Play?

### **Reply**

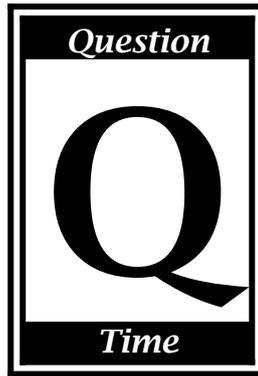
Officers have attended the newly formed DeptfordFolk user group and have apologised for any perceived lack of consultation regarding the play equipment. Some 2 years ago, officers were approached by a local youth group, based at the Salvation Army meeting rooms in Deptford who were keen to see the limited skate facilities improved. The youth group presented their case which included their own consultation with their peers living in the Folkestone Gardens and Deptford area. Officers agreed to support their project and a bid to the London Marathon Charitable trust was successful. Additional section 106 funding was secured to make the project viable.

Officers and members of the youth group (both boys and girls), attended the Evelyn ward assembly in the summer of 2014 to present the project, which was favourably received. Further consultation was carried out with the youth group and members of the public.

It is important to note, that the Skate park development was very much a local youth group initiative with funding secured following their support and commitment to the project.

Officers would have liked to have been able to renew the children's play equipment as part of the project however, at this stage the design of the skate park took precedent. It is hoped, subject to funding, that a phase 2 of the project can take place, following the completion of the skate park, in order to re-new the playground equipment. Consultation will take place with users who, once the new café is in place, may wish to move the under 5's play nearer the café, as was done at Ladywell Fields.

It should be noted that this area of the borough has many wonderful parks which have new play equipment. Deptford Park is only 400 meters away and has facilities for the under 5's and under 12's as does the nearby Fordham park. In addition a brand new park is due constructed next year at Amersham Grove, close to Folkestone, and this will also have new play equipment for the under 5's and under 12's.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 8.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: Moira Kerrane

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

**Question**

Please give a breakdown of Section 106 and or Community Infrastructure Levy monies for education purposes that the Council has negotiated from Trundleys Road both developments, Neptune Wharf, Marine Wharf East and West, The Timberyard, Deptford (formally The Wharves) and any other known developments in Evelyn Ward for which education income is or will be payable to Lewisham Council under those agreements- the totals received and to be received with dates please.

Can the council also show how they calculate/d educational purposes for the above s106 / Cil agreements.

**Reply**

<b>PLANNING PERMISSION REFERENCE</b>	<b>DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>CONTRIBUTION TYPE</b>	<b>S106 CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT</b>	<b>S106 MONIES RECEIVED (Incl. tax)</b>	<b>DATE S106 MONIES RECEIVED</b>
DC/08/68523	Cannon Wharf Business Centre, 35 Evelyn Street	Education Contribution	975,000.00	1,088,372.03	04/11/2014
DC/08/68523	Cannon Wharf Business Centre, 35 Evelyn Street	Education Contribution	325,000.00	0.00	

<b>PLANNING PERMISSION REFERENCE</b>	<b>DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>CONTRIBUTION TYPE</b>	<b>S106 CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT</b>	<b>S106 MONIES RECEIVED (Incl. tax)</b>	<b>DATE S106 MONIES RECEIVED</b>
DC/09/73189	Oxestalls Road (Deptford Wharves)	Education Contribution	2,100,000.00	0.00	
DC/10/73437	MARINE WHARF WEST, PLOUGH WAY, LONDON, SE16 7UE	Education Contribution	200,000.00	218,181.82	23/10/2014
DC/10/73437	MARINE WHARF WEST, PLOUGH WAY, LONDON, SE16 7UE	Education Contribution	550,000.00	588,615.85	18/12/2015
DC/10/73437	MARINE WHARF WEST, PLOUGH WAY, LONDON, SE16 7UE	Education Contribution	330,000.00	0.00	
DC/10/75331	Site of Parkside House buildings and adj yard, Grinstead Rd (Neptune Wharf)	Education Contribution	92,260.00	0.00	
DC/10/75331	Site of Parkside House buildings and adj yard, Grinstead Rd (Neptune Wharf)	Education Contribution	247,735.00	0.00	
DC/11/77408	7-17 Yeoman Street	Education Contribution	76,090.52	80,278.89	09/12/2013
DC/13/83358	Convoys Wharf, Prince Street, London, SE8 3JH	Education Contribution	6,900,786.00	0.00	
DC/13/83358	Convoys Wharf, Prince Street, London, SE8 3JH	Education Contribution	440,000.00	0.00	
DC/13/85917	MARINE WHARF EAST, LAND ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF, PLOUGH WAY, LONDON	Education Contribution	347,324.00	0.00	
DC/13/85917	MARINE WHARF EAST, LAND ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF, PLOUGH WAY, LONDON	Education Contribution	200,000.00	0.00	
DC/14/86930	Childers Street, London SE8 (S R House)	Education Contribution	117,320.00	0.00	

DC/14/88613	VACANT LAND TO THE NORTH AND, 54B TRUNDLEY'S ROAD, LONDON, SE8 5JG	Education Contribution	104,664.00	104,664.00	05/12/2014
DC/14/89985	Thames Tunnel	St Josephs RC School	3,000.00	3,014.16	20/03/2015
DC/14/89985	Thames Tunnel	St Josephs RC School	6,500.00	0.00	
DC/14/89985	Thames Tunnel	St Josephs RC School	6,500.00	0.00	
DC/14/89985	Thames Tunnel	St Josephs RC School	6,500.00	0.00	
DC/14/89985	Thames Tunnel	St Josephs RC School	6,500.00	0.00	
DC/14/89985	Thames Tunnel	St Josephs RC School	6,500.00	0.00	
DC/14/89985	Thames Tunnel	St Josephs RC School	6,500.00	0.00	
DC/14/89985	Thames Tunnel	St Josephs RC School	169,000.00	169,797.68	20/03/2015
DC/14/89985	Thames Tunnel	St Josephs RC School	80,000.00	80,377.60	20/03/2015
DC/14/89985	Thames Tunnel	St Josephs RC School	6,500.00	6,530.68	20/03/2015
DC/14/89985	Thames Tunnel	St Josephs RC School	24,000.00	24,113.30	20/03/2015
DC/95/38679	Evelyn Estate and New Deptford Green Site, Arklow Road/Edward Street	Education Contribution	318,500.00	318,500.00	07/06/1994

NOTE: Multiple contributions for sites are either multiple payments at different phases of the development or in the case of St Josephs RC School & Thames Tunnel it is for specific impacts of the Thames Tunnel development on the school

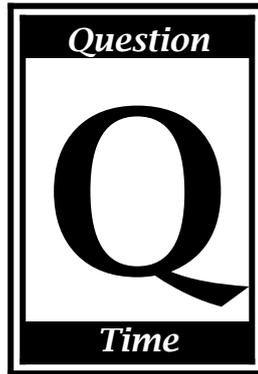
The Council cannot provide anticipated dates for monies yet to be received, as there are various requirements to be fulfilled and payment triggers to be enacted before payment is due – if the development goes forward.

The Council has not yet allocated any CIL funds to any purposes. Again there are procedures to be followed for the payment of CIL. The Council is still determining its procedures for allocation of CIL monies to infrastructure/Capital projects.

The Timberyard (Deptford Wharves) development will fall under CIL – so there are no S106 obligations relating to education contributions for this development (the S106 obligation that is listed in the table above is for the original planning permission that the Council understands will not be built out).

The Council calculated the S106 contributions following the guidance with the Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in combination with the Planning Obligations Calculator as a basis for negotiations based on the development proposals.

These documents are available on the Council's website.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 9.**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: Patricia Richardson

Member to reply: Councillor Egan

**Question**

It appears that the London borough of Greenwich has completed its required quota of new housing units. If this setting of a quota is the case what was required of the London Borough of Lewisham since 2005? Is more new build required to complete the quota, if so how many new housing units are still required and by when do they need to be completed? Who sets the quota?

**Reply**

In answering this question, "quota" has been interpreted to mean the London Plan annual housing target.

The London Plan is the regional spatial strategy, prepared by the Greater London Authority. The Council is required to take its policies into account in plan making. The London Plan sets out minimum annual average housing targets and requires all London Boroughs to achieve and exceed them. Column 2 of the table below shows that for the London Borough of Lewisham the London Plan target has increased over the last 10 years from 870 units to 1,105 units. Column 3 shows housing completions

delivered to date and column 4 shows the number of housing units that have been completed above or below the London Plan target.

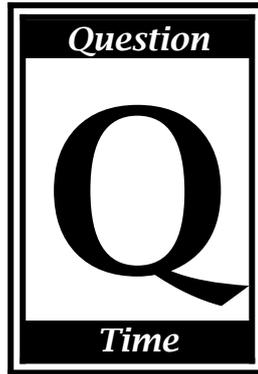
<b>Year</b>	<b>London Plan target for the London Borough of Lewisham</b>	<b>Net housing completions plus long term vacants brought back into use</b>	<b>Number of housing units above or below the London Plan target</b>
2005/06	870	1,197	+327
2006/07	975	628	-347
2007/08	975	1,278	+303
2008/09	975	1,223	+248
2009/10	975	1,179	+204
2010/11	975	1,096	+121
2011/12	1,105	1,653	+548
2012/13	1,105	1,972	+867
2013/14	1,105	928	-177
2014/15	1,105	1,776	+671
<b>Cumulative total</b>	<b>10,165</b>	<b>12,930</b>	<b>+2,765</b>

The table shows that housing completions fluctuate annually but in general, the London Borough of Lewisham has performed well. Only two out of the last 10 years experienced a shortfall and the remaining eight years experienced significant surplus housing completions compared to the London Plan target. Cumulatively there has been a significant over-supply (2,765 housing units) compared to the cumulative London Plan target.

Current predictions show that there are sufficient housing sites up till 2021. However, more new housing is required in the future. Additional sites will need to be found in order to meet the current London Plan target, which has been increased to 1,385 from 2015/16 onwards. A Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment is currently being prepared to identify additional housing capacity to meet this target.

The Planning Service Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) monitors house building progress against the London Plan target on an annual basis. The AMR can be found on the Council's website:

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/planning/policy/LDF/Pages/Annual-monitoring-report.aspx>.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 10.**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: Peter Richardson

Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

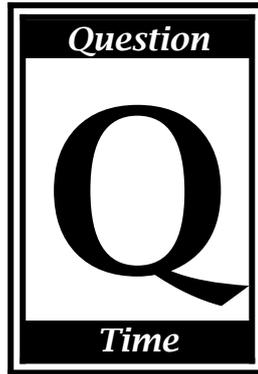
**Question**

In early 2015, the company Ralph Scaffolding destroyed an Ornamental Pear street tree situated in the middle of Manor Lane Terrace, SE13, when the lorry the company owned drove over the specimen.

Subsequent to a report by local residents, the Council contacted the Ralph Scaffolding who accepted responsibility and agreed to fund its replacement. The tree was one of three, purchased with funds from the Lee Green Local Assembly, following a bid by the residents of Manor Lane Terrace. An impressive replacement specimen was planted in January 2016 on the site of the original. Has Ralph Scaffolding followed through and paid for its replacement, including the planting costs?

**Reply**

I can confirm that the skip company responsible for damaging the tree funded by the Lee Green Local Assembly will receive an invoice for the full cost recovery for the replacement tree in Manor Lane Terrace.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 11.**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: Scott Barkwith

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

**Question**

According to the S106/CIL project spend report for the Evelyn Ward, £241,898 of funding was allocated to the Local Labour and Business Scheme. It is unclear what this scheme has given back to the Evelyn community. Please can you answer the following questions:

1. How many Evelyn Ward residents have benefited from the Local Labour Business Scheme in to date?
2. What community involvement activities have been conducted in the Evelyn Ward to date?
3. How have residents of the Evelyn Ward been made aware of the scheme?
4. What local businesses have been awarded funding for the scheme and how has their success been measured?
5. How was S106 funding agreed to finance this scheme and which councillors were involved?
6. How are councillors monitoring whether the targets of the scheme are met, how the funds have been allocated and the long term legacy of such a scheme?

## Reply

The Sustainable Development Select Committee (SDSC) report titled Collection and Use of S106 Funds and Community Infrastructure Levy 2015 Update dated 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2015 shows an allocation of S106 funds in the sum of £241,898 to the Local Labour and Business Scheme 2015 – 2016 (LLBS).

£176,898 of the total sum was allocated to the delivery of the LLBS with £65,000 allocated to the Business Advisory Service (BAS) contract.

The £241,898 S106 allocation is not restricted to use in the Evelyn ward, it is used to benefit residents and businesses throughout Lewisham.

The outputs supplied in this response are approximate outputs achieved to date and relate to all Lewisham residents and businesses, the final verified outputs for 2015/2016 will be available April/May 2016.

### **1. How many Evelyn Ward residents have benefited from the Local Labour Business Scheme in to date?**

In 2015/2016, 26 Lewisham residents secured work, 12 apprenticeships have been safeguarded/continued and 2 completed. 1 graduate was employed, 9 work experience placements have been provided and 52 residents have completed accredited training. In addition to this, over £700,000 worth of contracts were awarded to Lewisham businesses.

### **2. What community involvement activities have been conducted in the Evelyn Ward to date?**

A two day council led job fair took place in June along with a Dragon's Den event delivered by Berkeley Homes. Lakehouse also participated in school employability days and an apprenticeship week event.

### **3. How have residents of the Evelyn Ward been made aware of the scheme?**

General marketing of the LLBS offer is borough wide, specifically through the Lewisham website, Lewisham Life, E-Lewisham Life and the job alerts database.

### **4. What local businesses have been awarded funding for the scheme and how has their success been measured?**

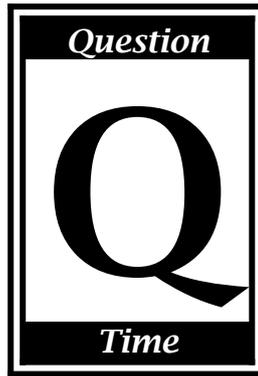
Businesses are all small business based in Lewisham. The funding is used to pay for workshops, advice and mentoring support. Businesses are supported to access government backed loans to help them to start up or grow. The service is monitored against set outputs. This includes evidence that businesses have registered and started training, and evidence to verify businesses have accessed finance or increased turnover and profit as a result of support. The outputs for 2015 /16 will be available in April 2016.

### **5. How was S106 funding agreed to finance this scheme and which councillors were involved?**

The Head of Planning approves all S106 funded projects up to £250,000.

**6. How are councillors monitoring whether the targets of the scheme are met, how the funds have been allocated and the long term legacy of such a scheme?**

Councillors monitor S106 projects and funding allocations through Sustainable Development Select Committee S106/CIL reports and updates.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 12.**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: Moira Kerrone

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

**Question**

How many days since 23 December has there been no access to view and comment on planning applications due to a Server Error.

Why is this happening and can the planning applications be extended by the amount of the days it was not accessible?

**Reply**

Number of days to be input

We estimate that the number of days the system was unavailable for either the whole or part of a day since December 23<sup>rd</sup> was 22 (out of 54).

If the system fails between Monday to Friday, we are able to quickly alert our IT department and they will bring the system back up within a couple of hours of being notified. If the system becomes unavailable over the weekend, then it will not normally be restarted until Monday. Usually, if the system is unavailable on a working day it will only be out for a short period. However, over the Christmas and

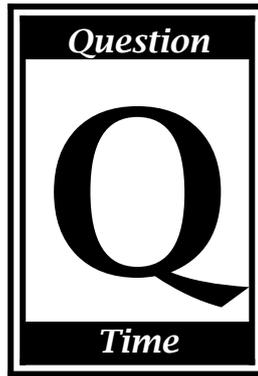
New Year the planning system experienced severe problems and was not available every day.

The cause of the problem has been identified and our engineers, and those of the software company that supplies our planning IT systems, are working on a solution. However, Lewisham Council is currently in the process of up-grading their IT systems and infrastructure and the planning IT issues are unlikely to be fully resolved until the move to the new IT platform is completed.

Whenever the public facing planning web software is unavailable for a period of time, we always consider its effect on the consultation period of planning applications. We do this on a case by case basis. We also make arrangements for paper copies of the planning file to be available in our Planning Information Office in Catford library and we email out documents to individuals where necessary.

We have a statutory consultation period of 21 days, after which the planning application could be decided. In practice, due to the extremely high level of planning applications currently being submitted to Lewisham, we usually issue a decision several weeks after the start of the consultation period. We accept representations right up to the point when a decision is issued.

Any major application or those of significance that were consulted on over the Christmas period, would have been advertised with extended consultation periods regardless of whether the public access system was available or not, due to the public holidays.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 13.**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: John Hamilton

Member to reply: The Mayor

**Question**

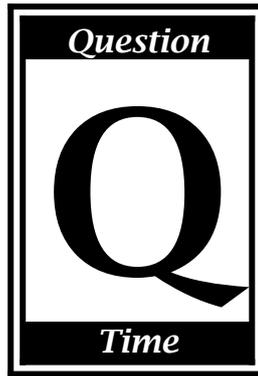
Following the Council's excellent lead in passing a motion condemning the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership last June, I would like if you will consider fulfilling the part of the motion which calls on you to publicise the Council's concerns about TTIP by publishing an article explaining the issue in a forthcoming edition of Lewisham Life.

Are you willing to add the caption to the existing "Welcome to Lewisham" signs as shown in the photo of Queens Road in Telegraph Hill ward, if Lewisham Stop TTIP pays for the signs to be produced and organises their placement in consultation with the appropriate council department?



### Reply

I have asked officers to consider how the Council's concerns about TTIP might best be reflected in a future edition of Lewisham Life. I do not regard it appropriate to use Welcome to Lewisham signs for any purpose other than that which they are expressly for – to welcome all-comers to our borough.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 14.**

**Priority 3**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 February 2016**

Question asked by: Patricia Richardson

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

**Question**

A recent development of residential property has gone ahead on the site off Old Road, between Manor House Gardens and Aislibie Road, backing on to the private gardens of the latter.

When the planning application was made, was notification of the application sent to interested parties, apart from the residents? The site is immediately adjacent to Manor House Gardens. Were the Friends of Manor House Gardens informed? The site is on the boundary of the Lee Manor Society area. Was the Society notified? Were any other local groups, associations or societies notified?

**Reply**

This development is DC/14/87793 – 36 Old Road, SE13 5SR “Construction of 9 x 3 storey, 4 bedroom houses with 12 parking spaces, cycle and bin storage.

For this application we are required by law to undertake the following consultation:

- “(a) displaying on site notice in at least one place on or near the land to which the application relates for not less than 21 days; or
- (b) by notification letter to any adjoining owner or occupier.”

We are also required to publish the application on our website.

Also in accordance with our published Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), we are required to notify the following:

Occupiers of properties immediately adjoining the subject site

Occupiers of other properties if warranted, as determined by the Council.

Consult with any other Consultees where the Council has agreed in advance to do so

We consulted the following groups and individuals:

*Internal council consultees:* Environmental Sustainability, Highways, Conservation Officers, Ecological Regeneration Manager, Parks Manager and Lewisham Central Residents Association.

*External consultees:* Lee Manor Society and 34 x neighbouring residents were sent a consultation letter

In addition the following public publicity was undertaken:

Sites notices in place (resident and public notices)

As the site adjoined a conservation area, the application was considered by the Amenity Society Panel which consists of members from the various amenity societies and their comments fed back to the case officer.

The application was advertised in the New Shopper on 16/7/15.

The Council complied with our statutory requirements and the local requirements as set out in our SCI.

We did not consult the Friends of Manor House Gardens, as they are a local interest group rather than one of our formal consultees. However, the group are free to comment on any planning proposals should they wish. We did not receive any comments from them.