

**QUESTION No. 1**  
**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Question by Councillor Curran**  
**of the Cabinet Member for Housing**

**Question**

Will the former neighbourhood housing office site in Willow Way be used for much-needed social housing?

**Reply**

All relevant sites in Council ownership across the borough are to be considered for opportunities to provide more affordable homes for the borough's residents in housing need.

Although the site in question is not part of the current housebuilding programme (2018-22), the site does form part of our long-term pipeline of opportunities.

As with all directly delivered sites, local residents, businesses and Councillors will be asked to engage to help shape the area during the development of any plans.

**QUESTION No. 2**  
**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Question by Councillor James-J Walsh**  
**of the Cabinet member for Environment and Transport**

**Question**

Could the Council please produce a list (type, location) of accessible play equipment in public parks in the borough, specifically highlighting those accessible to mobility impaired/wheelchair users?

**Reply**

Play equipment is normally based on inclusivity rather than specifically made for people with disabilities. So, for example, a cradle swing is not specifically designed for people with disabilities.

The following parks have play equipment that are specifically designed to encourage inclusivity. Play areas in Lewisham also have free standing boards for interaction and musical instruments.

**Basket Swing**

Horniman Triangle, Sydenham  
Friendly Gardens, Deptford  
Southend Park, Bellingham  
Mountsfield Park, Catford  
Hilly Fields, Brockley  
Beckenham Place Park West, Bellingham  
Charlottenburg Park, New Cross  
Hatcham Gardens, New Cross  
Northbrook Park, Grove Park

**Roundabout (specifically with wheelchair access)**

Home Park

**Sand Pits (that are invisibly inclusive)**

Fordham Park, New Cross  
Deptford Park, Deptford  
Mountsfield Park, Catford

Chinbrook Meadows, Grove Park  
Northbrook Park, Grove Park  
Hilly Fields, Brockley  
Horniman Triangle, Sydenham  
Blythe Hill Fields, Sydenham  
Hatcham Gardens, New Cross

Wet Play (April - September)

Beckenham Place Park, Beckenham  
Sydenham Wells park, Sydenham  
Northbrook Park, Grove Park

In terms of future installations, the team that are delivering the Mayor's Greening Fund are ensuring that this area of need is being prioritised. All new picnic tables will be wheelchair-accessible and new play equipment will, wherever possible and practicable, be inclusive.

**QUESTION No. 3**  
**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Question by Councillor Openshaw  
of the Mayor**

**Question**

Now that the Council have agreed a way forward with Renewal and Millwall FC, how do we ensure that:

1. We get the highest amount of social homes possible from the developer?
2. The local community are fully involved in the design of the new development?
3. Any new or improved facilities that are part of the development are accessible and welcoming to the local community?

**Reply**

I am delighted that we have agreed a way forward on the future of the Surrey Canal Triangle with Renewal and Millwall Football Club. I am clear that any development in the area must have community support, deliver new social homes and be accessible and welcoming.

The Council is currently in pre-application negotiations with Renewal and Millwall Football Club about maximising the level of genuinely affordable homes, including social homes, delivered through the development.

The Council's draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the Surrey Canal Triangle, which sets out the vision for the area, is currently out to public consultation. This is an exciting opportunity for the local community to have their say on what the future of the Surrey Canal Triangle should look like. All consultation responses will be carefully considered and the draft SPD updated where appropriate. Once the final SPD has been adopted by Mayor and Cabinet, this paves the way for planning applications to come forward, and the Council will work closely with the community to ensure they are involved in the process.

The draft SPD sets out that the Surrey Canal Triangle should make the most of the opportunities presented by the Millwall Stadium and ensure that the existing football

and sports facilities are enhanced and accessible to the public. It also requires improvements to be made to cycle and pedestrian access, and public transport routes.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Question by Councillor Sheikh  
of the Mayor**

**Question**

The Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL) process has engaged many local residents in the ward I represent in Perry Vale, who have been responding to the online Commonplace consultation to shape our ward NCIL priorities through the local assemblies. Could the Mayor please expand on the next stage of the NCIL process around project pitching, how residents can engage, the timeline around this and what role he foresees ward councillors having in this process.

**Reply**

I am pleased that the Council's new NCIL strategy gives residents a greater say over how funding levied on developers will be spent in their community.

Officers from the Planning and Communities teams were due to hold all priority-setting workshops through the ward assemblies in November and December as part of the first stage of the NCIL process. However, due to the general election campaign period, the Council regrettably had to cancel these workshops. They are now being rescheduled for January and February 2020.

Once all the workshops have taken place and the ward priorities agreed, we expect to launch the open call from projects in spring. Groups and individuals will be able to apply for NCIL funding for projects in their ward that meet one or more of the agreed priorities for their ward.

Once officers have checked compliance with regulations and that proposals meet the criteria, the Council will publish a long list of projects for each ward. Residents will then be able to have their say online on which projects should be allocated NCIL funding in their ward. This consultation will inform a short list of preferred projects, called the project bank, which will be presented to and ratified by the ward assembly and appropriate funding allocated.

Ward councillors will have an important role in guiding and shaping the NCIL process at every stage, including by:

- Working with communities and ward assemblies to identify priorities
- Leading on the development of cross-ward priorities (where relevant)
- Working with communities and ward assemblies to develop project proposals
- Directly submitting project proposals during the open call for projects
- Liaising with Neighbourhood Forums on NCIL priorities and projects
- Working with communities and assemblies to prioritise projects and develop a project bank
- Engaging with the project delivery in each ward and across the borough
- Leading on the coordination between wards where joint projects are proposed
- Evaluating the effectiveness of delivered projects and reviewing annual monitoring

**QUESTION No. 5**  
**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Question by Councillor Curran**  
**of the Mayor**

**Question**

What information has the Council from SGN regarding the potential for the use of the former gasholder sites at Bell Green to be used for geo-thermal and any other forms of energy distribution?

**Reply**

Officers have received no information from SGN in relation to the potential for energy distribution at the site of the former gasholders at Bell Green.

The Heat Network Delivery Unit at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy is currently conducting a techno-economic feasibility study for the Bell Green area, including assessment of the heat potential of the void of the gas store. The Council is also undertaking energy master planning in Lewisham and BEIS' study at Bell Green will inform this work. Both studies are due to be completed by the end of February.

The BEIS study and the Council's wider energy master planning will provide the geographical basis for using planning policy to support the implementation of decentralised heat and low carbon energy across Lewisham, including at Bell Green.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Question by Councillor James-J Walsh**  
**of the Cabinet Member for Housing**

**Question**

What insight does the Council have on the satisfaction of residents living in shared ownership schemes in the Borough?

Does our insight include ongoing charges being levied against shared owners? Examples include: £250 to get permission to install bathrooms and kitchens, £150 to re-mortgage.

Will the Mayor and Cabinet consider lobbying appropriate agencies to reform shared ownership schemes, including (non-exhaustively):

- Regulation of service charges, fees and top-up rents
- Proportional maintenance costs

Will the Mayor and Cabinet look at how it can make this “gateway to homeownership” fairer in the future.

**Reply**

The Council does not currently hold any data on the satisfaction of residents living in shared ownership schemes in the borough. Unfortunately there is also no publicly available data currently undertaken regarding satisfaction with shared ownership.

We are aware of the issues faced by many shared owners, including disproportionate maintenance costs and rapidly increasing fees and charges. Where the council is made aware of cases of inappropriate charges for shared owners, officers will work with the shared ownership provider and the resident to seek a resolution, where possible.

Lewisham Council has discussed these issues with London Councils and the London Government Association, and will continue to seek to lobby government where possible to ensure that shared ownership remains a fair option for those households who wish to access it.

If councillors have specific cases that they would like to highlight with the Council, then please email them to [housingstrategy@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:housingstrategy@lewisham.gov.uk).

**QUESTION No. 7**  
**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Question by Councillor Sheikh**  
**of the Cabinet Member for the Community Sector**

**Question**

Members were recently informed about the immediate implementation of a reduction in opening hours to Forest Hill Library and Manor House Library, with the latter Library no longer opening on a Sunday. Could the Cabinet member update us on what equalities impact studies were undertaken regarding the change to reduce opening hours in both libraries, and please could he share the content of these equalities impact studies?

**Reply**

It is important to note that the reduction in the opening hours is a temporary measure subject to full review.

As detailed in a briefing to all members, the reduction in hours is a measure which V22 and the library officers will report on before the end of the financial year. The report will measure the impact – including an impact assessment on protected groups – that any permanent changes would bring, should the recommendation be to reduce the hours in the longer term from 1 April 2020.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Question by Councillor Curran**  
**of the Cabinet Member for Housing**

**Question**

Are there any more details of progress for improvements to remaining parts of the Wells Park Estate that are still waiting?

**Reply**

At present the following works are taking place on the Wells Park Estate

- 17-28 COOMBE ROAD is being carried out by Breyer as part of Decent Homes including works to roofs and windows
- HOLLOWCOMBE is in the sheltered programme and window and roof replacement works are being carried out.

With regards to the rest of the estate there are no ongoing works at present. However, Lewisham Homes are undertaking a stock condition survey of all the stock which will shape the ongoing programmes for the next 10 years. The survey of Wells Park is planned for Q4. We will use this survey to look at the stock investment need.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Question by Councillor Walsh**  
**of the Cabinet Member for the Community Sector**

**Question**

At the Council meeting on 2 October 2019, I asked a question about implementing the adopted recommendations from the "Provision for the LGBT+ Community in Lewisham. At the end of the question it referred to additional details across each of the 21 recommendations. Can these be provided?

**Reply**

**Recommendation 1**

**That the London Borough of Lewisham should resource, produce and adopt a Lewisham LGBT+ Community Action Plan. The Action Plan should be annually reported back to the SSSC throughout the next administration.**

Officers are in the process of refreshing its strategic approach to equalities in Lewisham and will be consulting with the Safer, Stronger Communities Select Committee on the approach by the New Year.

**Recommendation 2**

**That the Mayor should work to ensure that through the Council's internal and external communications, the Council includes positive and celebratory stories and imagery that reflect all protected characteristics, including LGBT+ people, with these woven through specific interest pieces, and also through more generic topics.**

The inclusion of positive and celebratory stories and imagery that reflect all protected characteristics, including LGBT+ people has been embedded and will continue in our approach to managing all our external and internal communication channels.

This year we have increased awareness of our LGTB+ community across our external and internal communication channels. As part of LGTBQ+ month in 2019, we have promoted a range of events and activities happening throughout the borough. Our communication plan has included a range of events and activities from film screenings to disco nights, clothes swaps to theatre performances and meet ups.

We have created a dedicated LGBTQ+ mailing list and promoted more events including book displays, International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia, Pride and Anti-bullying Week. Further, as part of the Local Democracy Review, our communications plan has supported dedicated engagement with the LGBTQ+ community.

In recent months we have been working to promote Pride in Practice, an initiative that works with GPs, dentists, chemists and sexual health clinics to educate them on the varied needs of their LGBTQ+ patients. We anticipate that the first gold standard GPs surgery will be announced in the coming weeks and we will take this opportunity to further promote the initiative.

We also issued a press release and included a story in the summer edition of Lewisham Life about the launch of the trans-sexual health clinic at Kings College Hospital, funded by Lewisham, Lambeth and Southwark.

### **Recommendation 3**

**That a consistent and ‘whole-organisation’ approach (including via contractors/commissioned partners) to equalities data gathering/monitoring be implemented.**

The Council is already taking this recommendation forward as part of its wider review of equalities monitoring. Guidance has been circulated to Directorate Management Teams on the approach to equalities data collection, to ensure a consistency and standardisation across the Council. Oversight for corporate co-ordination of this work is high on the agenda of the Corporate Equalities Board, which is chaired by the Executive Director for Community Services. The Board is also working to ensure that Council policies also ensure consistency of approach with services that are commissioned externally.

### **Recommendation 4**

**Service provision across the Council should look at the “whole person” and consider multiple characteristics when ensuring the best options for individuals. This may necessitate reviews of screening questions.**

A framework for the above recommendation is being taken forward as part of the new Comprehensive Equalities Scheme. As part of this services and Directorate Management Teams, in their scrutiny and decision making roles are being asked to consider intersectionality as one of a number of equality prisms through which to test proposals before they are adopted or presented to Members for consideration.

### **Recommendation 5**

**That the Council’s workforce should match where possible the community it serves, consideration should be given by the Mayor on how to identify any protected characteristics where this is not the case, and the causes for it, and seek to improve the levels of representation.**

It has been identified that we have underrepresentation of BAME employees at a leadership level in the council, which is a similar issue across most London Councils. The Mayor has appointed a special advisor to support this area.

The employee self-service element of the new Oracle HR system is progressing, with its implementation and it is envisaged this will be in place either late this year or early next year.

#### **Recommendation 6**

**That during staff induction, new staff should be informed about the different staff forums available and HR should include new starter information/staff packs with clear information and signposting about support and staff forums. Councillors also should receive copies of the staff pack for information. Equalities training should be mandatory for all Councillors, and where appropriate for staff. Human Resources should look at the best practice provided by Leicester County Council and apply it locally in consultation with the LGBT+ staff forum. This should include producing: a “Managing LGBT+ Staff Guide”; auditing Council policies to be more LGBT+ inclusive (i.e. family leave, and removing gender-based pronouns); and creating a pan-organisation network of forums to support and join up good practice and joint LGBT+ initiatives.**

A Trans policy for staff has been introduced and Trans awareness training has taken place for councillors and online training has been made available for staff on Trans awareness. We are working with staff to set up a BAME forum. When this is set up we will connect the chair with both the LGBT+ and disability forum chair

#### **Recommendation 7**

**That the LGBT+ Staff forum and other staff forums (and the staff that facilitate them) be given the time and resources to bring their communities’ interests and knowledge as a resource to embed across the Council. The Council should see these forums as a rich resource for canvassing opinion on policies and proposals and should introduce processes to support and embed this across the Council.**

The Trans awareness training that the LGBT+ forum were consulted on has now been put in place and is available for staff. Mandatory equalities training is being developed for new staff. Unconscious bias training has been procured for all managers and will be taking place from November onwards. We sponsored a staff organised Black History Month event on the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

#### **Recommendation 8**

**That the Council should adopt a system where there is an elected member appointed Council Lead/Champion for each protected characteristics under the Equalities Act 2010. The appointment should be made through Full Council.**

The appointment of champions is a matter for the Mayor. The Cabinet Member for the Community Sector is the Council lead for equalities.

### **Recommendation 9**

**That the Council should ensure there is a specific joint strategic needs assessment (JSNA) for the LGBT+ community. This review by the Safer Stronger Select Committee should be used as part of the evidence base. The Health and Wellbeing Board should be instructed to consider this as an urgent priority, making use of the evidence from this review.**

The proposal submitted to the JSNA steering group of Lewisham's Health & Wellbeing Board to undertake a JSNA review of the needs of LGBT residents was prioritised and accepted by the group. Work on the substantive needs assessment has commenced, along with two other assessments and will be completed this financial year. Within the wider topic of needs of the LGBT+ population the assessment will focus on Sexual Health, Mental Health and Substance Misuse.

### **Recommendation 10**

**The Committee also noted that not all Equalities Act protected characteristics had a specific JSNA needs assessments. The Committee felt that the Mayor should also look into this further, to ensure commissioning is based on the needs of all residents.**

As described in the response from March 2019, officers strive to obtain information by protected characteristic for analysis in all JSNAs. Where this is not possible to obtain it will be explicitly stated.

### **Recommendation 11**

**That the Council facilitates a meeting with the Lewisham clinical commissioning groups (CCG's), the LGBT+ Foundation and other key stakeholders, with the aspiration of Lewisham being the first London Borough to launch the 'Pride in Practice' or similar LGBT+ health quality assurance scheme.**

In December 2018 the LGBT foundation, with the support of Lewisham Council, successfully bid to the Government Equalities Office for funding to pilot expanding the programme in different areas of the country including across Lewisham, Southwark and Lambeth.

The Pride in Practice programme is now working closely with Lewisham Council and CCG, offering GPs, pharmacies and other primary care services an award package *free of cost*. In just a few simple steps, it enables services to evidence their commitment and compliance with the Equality Act 2010, General Pharmaceutical Council's ethics and best practice guidelines, CQC requirements, and more.

In the first three months of delivery in Lewisham, Pride in Practice has seen 63% of GP services sign up, with a large majority aiming to reach a gold standard. Our hope is that by the end of the pilot we will have worked with 100% of GP practices and public health commissioned pharmacies in the borough.

## Recommendation 12

**That to begin to tackle the issue of LGBT+ substance misuse, the council should review and take lessons from the recommendations outlined in the National LGB Drug and Alcohol Database "Part of the Picture" Briefing Sheet for Commissioners and Policy Makers and Department of Health funded London Friend's "Out of your mind" research, and advocate for other health partners to do similarly.**

All substance misuse service for Lewisham residents are based within the borough.

These services are:

- the main complex needs service delivered by CGL which has base on Lewisham High Street and a range of outreach provision including at Lewisham Hospital, Lewisham Police Station and a range of appropriate community settings
- the shared care service delivered by Blenheim CDP in conjunction with 8 GPs across the borough which two located in each of the health and social care neighbourhoods
- the young person's health and wellbeing service delivered by Compass whose main based is in Catford but has outreach at a range of accessible locations across the borough.

Unfortunately the Part of the Picture Briefing sheet for commissioners was unable to be located and therefore this response is based on a review of a range of other guidance and an assessment of the current provision against those standards.

All services are commissioned to meet the needs of the LGBTQ community in Lewisham and meeting the needs of minority groups also take a priority in the Substance Misuse Treatment Plan 2018 – 2020, which aims to raise the awareness of LGBTQ service provision, improve pathways into specialist services and reduce harm from problematic substance misuse.

CGL are Stonewall endorsed and are a Stonewall Diversity Champion and are also ranked in the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index. There are Diversity and Inclusion champions in each service who are currently exploring the need for specific LGBTQ service user groups.

All services work to LGBTQ specific guidance around service delivery as well as specific documents such as the Neptune Guidance/Research: Club Drug Use among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Trans (LGBT) People (2016) and Public Health England (PHE) publications such as Promoting the health and wellbeing of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (2015) and PHE Commissioning support packs which have guidance around LGBTQ engagement and chemsex support.

To raises awareness of LGBTQ provision, commissioned services deliver Sexuality and Substance Misuse Training to Lewisham's workforce with a focus on chemsex and referrals pathways i.e. Antidote/Metro and, where appropriate, The Havens. Services use London Friend and refer into Stonewall and other counselling services specific to LGBTQ individuals when needed and there are specific access points to services including 1-2-1 therapies, detox and rehab pathways.

### **Recommendation 13**

**That the Mayor should ask the Council's Public Health Team to carry out a review of LGBT facing sexual health services in the borough. This should include, where appropriate, focus groups with LGBT+ communities to ascertain why so many choose to access services out of Borough and to better understand their views of LB Lewisham commissioned health services in the borough. An action plan should be generated to help LB Lewisham and where appropriate NHS partners to improve services to better meet needs.**

Please refer to the progress made against recommendation 9.

### **Recommendation 14**

**That the Mayor and Council seek to support the LGBT+ Community by setting a clear Council aspiration for attracting and supporting LGBT+ services to the Borough and, where appropriate, protecting LGBT+ spaces through planning policies and other instruments available to it. Should appropriate LGBT+ operators come forward, the Council should give significant consideration to using community assets to enable the provision of an LGBT+ centric community space.**

It is intended to publically consult on the local plan in early 2020 following Member consultation which has already begun. We will be seeking to engage with a wide range of groups, including the LGTBQ+ community.

The Cultural and Community Development Service work with all community groups to support the establishment of services in the borough and would welcome early discussions with appropriate LGBT+ operators to explore their needs and how best these might be met.

Funding for LGBT+ support is currently provided via a main grant to Metro who are currently working to improve their footprint in the borough as well as to deliver innovative and accessible services locally.

### **Recommendation 15**

**That the following reports be reviewed by the Public Health Team and other key departments to evaluate whether findings can be incorporated into Council policy, and that of partner organisations: the DoH/Public Health England endorsed LGBT+ Public Health Outcomes Framework companion; The LGBT Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework Companion and Public Health England's research on promoting the health and wellbeing of gay and bisexual men and other men who have sex with men (MSM).**

Please refer to the progress made against recommendation 9.

### **Recommendation 16**

**When receiving reports on the Safer Lewisham Plan, the Committee request that a specific sub-report is included on hate crime statistics affecting the**

**LGBT+ community as well as all other communities with protected characteristics.**

The 2019/20 Safer Lewisham Plan is currently being drafted and will be seeking to access the data outlined in recommendation 16, which will be included where possible.

**Recommendation 17**

**That the Council emulate good practice from Manchester City Council and Leicestershire County Council in respect to their excellent partnership working with other statutory service authorities, public bodies and universities.**

The Council will where practicable explore good practice and identify ways in which to improve practice by learning from other entities. As part of this, officers are currently reviewing the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index criteria to assess which aspects of this could be incorporated into the policy and practice of Lewisham.

**Recommendation 18**

**That the Council ensures its social care providers have a commitment to equalities including a specific LGBT+ Policy and that their staff have completed equalities training. The Council should look at ways it can assist signposting and embedding the Opening Doors London checklist for Social Care providers as a resource for providers who are unsure of how to improve provision.**

There is a well-established quality assurance approach in place that monitors care provision. The approach detailed below as an integral component of the QA measures that are in place. This is ongoing and forms part of the regular QA arrangements with the care providers.

**Recommendation 19**

**That the Strategic Housing Team and the Cabinet Member for Housing should progress the work with Tonic Housing to scrutinise the viability of an LGBT+ Extra Care facility, and if appropriate, support progressing the project. This should be considered in the context of ensuring groups are integrated well with the Lewisham Community.**

Officers are continuing to look at ways in which Tonic and other providers of LGBT+ housing can be accommodated in the borough. The challenges around this centre on the availability of land and suitable sites. However, we are continuing to encourage partners to realise opportunities where they arise and will continue to provide support and advice on behalf of the Council to this effect.

**Recommendation 20**

**That the Council increase the awareness of the specific LGBT+ youth provision in the borough by requesting other commissioned youth work**

**providers and schools regularly communicate details to their students/young people. The Council should encourage schools to reach out to the LGBT community to ensure their services are as robust an offer as possible. The Council should ensure it has a thorough understanding of the distances young people are travelling to access LGBT youth groups in order to identify if distance of provision is a hidden barrier to access. The Council should work with LGBT young people and commissioned providers to ensure that the provision available is meeting their needs.**

Youth First are still working in partnership with METRO and providing additional support to LGBT+. This includes continuing to provide more targeted youth provision and support via their weekly youth group, Live. The support offered to LGBT+ young people will be further explored through future youth service development.

As a council we have successfully worked with the LGBT foundation to expand their award-winning Pride in Practice scheme to Lewisham with the aim of reviewing and improving LGBT people's experience of primary care. We have recently agreed that this programme can be expanded to look at sexual health clinics in Lewisham, a national first and this will include working directly with our Young People's Health and Wellbeing Service delivered by Compass.

More widely we are working with London Antidote, LGT and local substance misuse to pilot a new in-reach model, service offer and pathway for chemsex which will improve the offer for young people in Lewisham.

Officers from Lewisham's CYP directorate recently attended a Trans Awareness and co-production training.

### **Recommendation 21**

**That the Mayor should request further work be undertaken to better understand the specific experiences and needs of Lewisham's Trans+ Community.**

A review was commissioned by the Corporate Equalities Board in June of 2019. The recommendations of the review are expected to be presented to the Corporate Equalities Board in the New Year.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Question by Councillor Curran  
of the Mayor**

**Question**

Does the Mayor expect any further delays in the Council's processing of the Grove Park Neighbourhood Plan?

**Reply**

The Council has been working proactively with the Grove Park Neighbourhood Forum over the past five years on a Neighbourhood Plan, which we are very supportive of. However, the officer leading on this work has for the past few months been engaged in implementing the new Neighbourhood CIL (NCIL) process, meaning that the Council was unable to launch the consultation on the draft Neighbourhood Plan on the initial date discussed with the Grove Park forum.

The consultation is now live and will run until 20<sup>th</sup> December. The Council will also agree with the Grove Park forum an independent examiner who will assess the plan and determine if it is fit to progress to the referendum stage. This independent examination is set to take place early in 2020, but officers cannot currently discuss possible dates with the forum due to the general election campaign period. Officers will be progressing to that next stage as soon as possible after the general election.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Question by Councillor Curran**  
**of the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care**

**Question**

What actions can the Council take to improve the take up of MMR and/or any other necessary vaccinations?

**Reply**

To improve the uptake of MMR and other necessary vaccinations, the following actions have been taken in Lewisham:

- The Director of Public Health has established a Lewisham Partnership Immunisation Strategy Group which has membership from NHS England, Public Health England, Lewisham CCG, Lewisham & Greenwich Trust, and Child Health Information Services (CHIS). This group meets on a quarterly basis to look at the various strategic issues related to improving the uptake of the childhood and adult vaccinations.
- There is an annual plan that the strategy group implements to ensure that providers and commissioners are aligned to work to improve the uptake of all childhood, school age, adult and seasonal vaccinations.
- Due to the importance of Measles and MMR, a separate plan of action was also developed focusing on commissioning, contracting, information and communication around MMR vaccination uptake.
- A flu plan has been developed to ensure that flu vaccination uptake in young children, school aged children, pregnant women and adults is high during the winter season with a focus on communications, vaccine supply, operations management and leadership.
- Lewisham Council works closely with NHS England to improve immunisation uptake through the London wide groups by ensuring GP practices have robust

call/recall systems in place to identify those eligible and invite/schedule appointments proactively.

- Public Health work closely with the communication teams of Lewisham Council, and Lewisham CCG to ensure right information is disseminated to residents in a timely manner for different vaccination schedules.
- Public Health works closely with the school health service to facilitate improvement in immunisation uptakes of school aged vaccination including HPV, MenACWY and Td/IPV vaccinations.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Question by Councillor Curran  
of the Mayor**

**Question**

What steps can the Council take to ensure that the Surrey Canal development has the highest standards of wildlife protection and promotion, energy conservation and minimising of the borough's carbon footprint?

**Reply**

I am clear that any new development in the Surrey Canal Triangle must be environmentally sustainable and support the Council's efforts to tackle the climate crisis.

The draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the Surrey Canal Triangle, which is currently out to public consultation and will later be approved by Mayor and Cabinet, sets out a green and sustainable vision for the area. The environmental requirements in the draft SPD, which are also guiding the Council's ongoing negotiations with the developer Renewal and Millwall Football Club, include:

- Enhancing new green spaces
- Enhancing ecology and biodiversity
- Incorporating sustainable waste and drainage systems
- Improving and increasing cycle and pedestrian access
- Improving public transport routes and use
- Minimising the use of private transport, including by minimising car parking and incorporating car clubs
- Connection to South East London Combined Heat and Power (SELCHP)