

QUESTION No. 1
Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

Question by Councillor Kalu
of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning

Question

Will the Cabinet Member make a statement to update local residents on the future plans for Plot 21 of the Convoys Wharf development?

Reply

Plot 21 is a safeguarded wharf. The Council have consistently outlined that the safeguarded wharf status and London Plan and Local Plan policies would resist residential development on the wharf.

The developer has been advised by the Council that if they wish to consider alternative uses for the wharf, they must first present a clear and robust policy-based argument for such – this justification has not been provided and officers have therefore declined to meet to discuss the detail of a housing scheme for Plot 21.

Officers continue to encourage the developer to put forward a realistic programme of engagement, both with the Council and with the public.

QUESTION No. 2
Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

Question by Councillor Curran
of the Cabinet Member for Culture, Jobs and Skills (jobshare)

Question

What possibility is there for the Council to seek a Co-operative solution to prevent the closure of The Bridge Leisure Centre in Lower Sydenham?

Reply

The Council is committed to exploring all options for the building in the future. However, there are extremely high fixed costs when opening a building of the age of the Bridge and these may be prohibitive for a co-operative solution which, presumably, would not be able to meet these costs given the lack of income to the site. Notwithstanding this Officers will consider any reasonable proposals that come forward and actively explore other options.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

Question by Councillor Ingleby
of the Cabinet Member for Children Services and School Performance

Question

Following the motion passed in November by the Council concerning 'decolonising the curriculum' which predicated the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Education to call for an urgent review of the current curriculum with regard to Black and minority ethnic history, civil rights and contributions to world history, is the Council aware of LB Hackney's 'Hackney's Diverse Curriculum – the Black Contribution', which has been made available for free to all UK Boroughs?

Is Lewisham similarly exporting best practice, such as its - jointly produced with LB Greenwich in the 1990's - music teaching packs on the life, times and music of Ignatius Sancho, and any more recent materials on Olaudah Equiano more widely in the UK? How will these and other Lewisham black and minority ethnic historical and cultural resources be further highlighted and celebrated in schools and communities in the Lewisham Borough of Culture Year 2022?

Reply

I'm pleased to report that our school-led improvement partnership, Lewisham Learning, is leading on a project to embed racial equality in all our schools. Decolonising the curriculum is a key strand in this work. The project leaders are aware of the Hackney resources and are raising awareness of them in our schools alongside other high quality resources produced by other organisations.

I look forward – post-Lockdown – to a proper launch to showcase this exciting project. But already several schools in Lewisham have been developing similar resources localised to Lewisham and have been sharing them with other schools. The steering group believes that these resources should be properly curated and uploaded to our resources page as soon as possible and they are working on this now. The embedding

racial equality project is also developing training packages and resources and we will ensure that the best of these are published for others to benefit from.

Three significant initiatives currently underway around the theme of decolonising the curriculum for this year are;

- A decolonising the curriculum conference for Lewisham schools
- A large-scale drama project based on the migration stories of Lewisham residents
- The development of an audit tool to help schools identify the strengths and areas to develop in decolonising the curriculum.

The project has representatives on the borough of culture planning group and these ideas are being fed into that.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

Question by Councillor Holland
of the Cabinet Member for Children Services and School Performance

Question

Following national secondary offer day on 1st March please could we have update on the numbers of families choosing Lewisham schools and how this compares to previous years?

Reply

In a year like no other, it's been disappointing that circumstances have made it difficult for parents and children to see first-hand what Lewisham's schools have to offer, by visiting as would normally be the case.

Nevertheless, with secondary National Offer Day fast approaching, I'm pleased to see a modest increase in the number of 1st preferences made by Lewisham families for Lewisham secondary schools. As the table below shows, for September 2021 there are currently 1650 first preference applications, This increases to 1819 when we include Out of Borough and late for good reason applications. It is also encouraging that eight secondary schools have had their first preference numbers increase year on year and that on National Offer Day 12 out of the 14 schools will have places fully allocated.

Looking at all six preferences, there is however a dip in the number of overall preferences.

Application s for intake year	1st Preference	2nd Preference	3rd Preference	4th Preference	5th Preference	6th Preference	Grand Total
2020 (Lewisham residents only)	1618	1393	1280	963	796	637	6744
2021 (Lewisham resident only)	1650	1336	1183	901	695	572	6337
2021 (including Out of Borough)	1819	1514	1400	1127	888	727	7475

QUESTION No. 5
Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

Question by Councillor Elliott
of the Cabinet Member for Children Services and School Performance

Question

The 2018 Timpson review of School exclusions, commissioned by the Secretary of State for Education, found that children from certain ethnic groups, as well as children with special educational needs (SEN), or those eligible for free school meals (FSM), were more likely to experience exclusion.

The Department for Education's commissioned independent literature review - Schools exclusions: a literature review on the continued disproportionate exclusion of certain children, published in 2019, also found that Black Caribbean boys, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children are 'more likely to be excluded...' It also included those eligible for free school meals.

Can you provide an update on the number of permanent and temporary exclusions for all Lewisham schools, from 2016 to date, along with a breakdown of their ethnicity, gender, those identified as having SEN and those eligible for free school meals?

Reply

Exclusion from school is a serious sanction. Only the headteacher of a school can exclude a child and this must be on disciplinary grounds. The number of permanent exclusions in recent years has been a concern, both in Lewisham and nationally. That is why the Council's Corporate Strategy includes as a priority working with schools and parents to reduce exclusions.

We are encouraged by the progress schools have made in recent years in reducing permanent exclusions – in school year 2015/16 there were 78 permanent exclusions from Lewisham schools, the highest in London. In 2018/19 (the last published DfE figures), this had fallen to 22. Local data for 2019/20 shows a further reduction to 17, a fall of 78 per cent since 2015/16.

The table below provides detailed figures from annual figures published by the Department for Education on Lewisham's:

- Fixed term exclusions (numbers)
- Permanent exclusions (numbers)
- Ethnicity (numbers)
- Gender (numbers)
- Special education need (numbers) – with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or SEN support.
- Free school meal (FSM) eligibility (numbers)

The table includes data for the academic year 2015-16 and up to 2018-19 (last published data).

Academic Year		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Total	Permanent exclusions	78	64	50	22
	Fixed period exclusions	1,670	1,832	1,603	1,847
Ethnicity					
Any Other Ethnic Group	Fixed period exclusions	32	25	17	15
	Permanent exclusions	2	0	0	0
Any other Asian background	Fixed period exclusions	13	12	7	18
	Permanent exclusions	1	0	1	0
Any other Mixed background	Fixed period exclusions	64	69	75	91
	Permanent exclusions	5	2	0	1
Any other black background	Fixed period exclusions	108	113	117	110
	Permanent exclusions	2	0	1	1
Any other white background	Fixed period exclusions	50	60	50	78
	Permanent exclusions	0	6	3	0
Bangladeshi	Fixed period exclusions	2	1	4	1
	Permanent exclusions	0	0	0	0
Black African	Fixed period exclusions	384	395	269	351
	Permanent exclusions	15	9	10	5
Black Caribbean	Fixed period exclusions	491	581	448	520
	Permanent exclusions	28	25	15	6
Chinese	Fixed period exclusions	2	1	1	0
	Permanent exclusions	0	0	0	0
Gypsy Roma	Fixed period exclusions	1	2	0	0
	Permanent exclusions	0	0	0	0
Indian	Fixed period exclusions	1	3	3	2
	Permanent exclusions	0	0	0	0
Irish	Fixed period exclusions	9	10	4	5
	Permanent exclusions	0	1	0	0
Pakistani	Fixed period exclusions	3	11	2	2

	Permanent exclusions	0	0	0	0
Traveller of Irish heritage	Fixed period exclusions	0	0	0	1
	Permanent exclusions	0	0	0	0
White British	Fixed period exclusions	276	255	325	320
	Permanent exclusions	14	5	8	2
White and Asian	Fixed period exclusions	3	4	8	5
	Permanent exclusions	0	0	1	0
White and Black African	Fixed period exclusions	32	43	52	56
	Permanent exclusions	3	2	2	2
White and Black Caribbean	Fixed period exclusions	98	159	150	156
	Permanent exclusions	3	4	5	2
Free school meals					
FSM – Eligible	Fixed period exclusions	631	636	561	663
	Permanent exclusions	28	22	18	6
Gender					
Gender female	Fixed period exclusions	451	561	535	530
	Permanent exclusions	18	15	16	10
Gender male	Fixed period exclusions	1,219	1,271	1,068	1,317
	Permanent exclusions	60	49	34	12
SEN and SEN support					
SEN provision - SEN with EHCP	Fixed period exclusions	119	120	139	180
	Permanent exclusions	0	0	1	0
SEN provision - SEN Support	Fixed period exclusions	641	634	523	573
	Permanent exclusions	27	17	9	6

QUESTION No. 6
Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

Question by Councillor Jacq Paschoud
of the Cabinet Member for Democracy, Refugees and Accountability

Question

Can the Cabinet Member outline the actions taking place to ensure that the May elections will be as safe as possible for both our residents and our polling day staff?

Reply

The Returning Officer and her electoral services team have made the following preparations:

- Participated in the review of 'normal' electoral practices in light of the pandemic, with the Electoral Commission, the Cabinet Office and the Association of Electoral Administrators
- Risk assessment of the polling station voting process and polling places
- Consultation with PHE and health & safety officers
- Large scale postal vote encouragement campaign – reaching out to all electors to recommend voting by post
- Procurement of thousands of items of PPE, sanitiser fluid and Perspex screens
- Early production of postal vote materials to enable us to meet the expected demand of postal votes

A number of practical changes in the set-up and management of the voting process in polling stations are currently being developed to focus on resident and staff safety, including:

- Compulsory face coverings, unless exempt
- Limit on number of voters and staff inside a station at any time (exact number dependent on the size and layout of the polling station)
- Socially distanced and one-way system inside the station

- Socially distanced markers outside polling places and staff to manage the queues
- Sanitiser stations at the entrance and exit of polling places
- Single-use pencils for all voters
- Regular cleaning of all touchpoints
- Staff sat at individual desks, with screens, medical grade masks and visors
- Masks available for voters who forget to bring their own
- Teams of mobile staff to assist at stations where large queues develop

We will also be changing the staffing and management of the opening of postal votes, including:

- Separation of the team into 4 separate bubbles that will be kept apart throughout the whole election, to enable resilience
- Increase in number of staff and number of sessions, to cope with a greater number of postal votes
- Regular testing of all staff – twice a week

Notwithstanding all these safety precautions, we still believe postal voting is the safest way for residents to participate in these elections. All electors are entitled to vote by post and can download an application at

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/mayorandcouncil/elections/voting/how-to-vote-by-post-or-proxy>

The deadline to apply for a postal vote is 5pm on Tuesday 20 April.

QUESTION No. 7
Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

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

Question

I'm pleased to note that Lewisham now has five Covid-19 testing centres in operation across the borough, with plenty of volunteer support. Would you let me know what challenges and learning you have on the roll out or opening the five testing centres?

How many people in Lewisham have received the vaccine across the borough: I'd be interested to note the numbers that fall into the four priority categories?

There have been some concerns raised that people from African, African Caribbean and Asian communities have been reluctant to take the vaccine; has the Council identified strategies to increase the uptake of the vaccine across these and other demographics including disabled people?

How does Lewisham's vaccine uptake compare to the boroughs within the same Integrated Care System?

Reply

The public test centres open across the borough are a mix of test centres for symptomatic individuals, and rapid test centres for members of the public who are not displaying symptoms and need to leave home for work or to volunteer in the community.

The rapid test centres have been set up by Lewisham Council under the community testing programme. Since opening the first site on the 6th January, over 10,000 tests have been conducted. The success of the test centres is testament to the hard work of staff who have been redeployed from across the Council to run and manage the test centres.

There have been many learnings from the experience of setting up and running the centres. Early on, we had to quickly adapt our approach to rapid testing in light of the

national lockdown, responding to new guidelines and adjusting our communications appropriately.

The largest challenge has been mobilising in a very short period of time. The first test centre was opened 12 working days following confirmation of the rapid test roll-out. There have been logistical challenges of setting up multiple centres to run safely and within clinical guidelines. We have also had to mobilise, train and sustain a workforce. This has meant the creation of 21 new jobs, and the redeployment of 18 council staff (10 FTE).

The rollout of the Covid-19 vaccination programme is being led by the NHS with the Council offering support where possible. Over 45,000 people registered with a Lewisham GP have now been vaccinated.

Percentage uptake by age/priority group in Lewisham was as follows, as of 22 February:

Lewisham	
80+	77.5%
75-79	78.3%
70-74	76.4%
Clinically extremely vulnerable	50.37%
65-69	64.98%

This data changes on a daily basis as more vaccinations are administered.

Percentage uptake by age/priority group (segmented by ethnicity) across South East London as a whole was as follows, as of 22 February:

Cohort	Ethnic Group	Eligible Individuals (cohort 1-4)	First Dose	% Vaccinated / Eligible First Dose
80+	African	1,992	961	48%
	Asian	3,058	2,354	77%
	Caribbean	4,358	2,303	53%
	Mixed	760	492	65%
	White	44,819	39,636	88%
	Other	6,471	3,948	61%
	Total	61,458	49,694	81%
70-74	African	2,749	1,262	46%
	Asian	3,525	2,658	75%
	Caribbean	2,092	960	46%
	Mixed	711	405	57%
	White	42,338	36,450	86%
	Other	7,592	4,740	62%
	Total	59,007	46,475	79%

Cohort	Ethnic Group	Eligible Individuals (cohort 1-4)	First Dose	% Vaccinated / Eligible First Dose
75-79	African	1,847	903	49%
	Asian	2,433	1,905	78%
	Caribbean	2,101	1,117	53%
	Mixed	554	359	65%
	White	29,607	26,108	88%
	Other	5,002	3,333	67%
	Total	41,544	33,725	81%
CEV	African	5,843	2,509	43%
	Asian	3,416	2,457	72%
	Caribbean	4,226	1,708	40%
	Mixed	1,496	769	51%
	White	37,880	30,213	80%
	Other	6,419	3,543	55%
	Total	59,280	41,199	69%

South East London CCG colleagues have worked with Lewisham Council to produce a borough vaccination plan, which includes work to ensure that vaccination uptake is maximised across all priority groups. To inform the plan, a specific review of existing

evidence to increase COVID-19 vaccination uptake in Black and Asian ethnic groups was performed and specific actions on this have been included in the borough plan.

The table below shows how vaccination uptake in Lewisham compares to other South East London boroughs, as of 22 February.

	80 and over	75-79	70-74	CEV	65-69
Bexley	92.4%	91.7%	90.6%	70.40%	79.97%
Bromley	92.0%	91.7%	90.3%	76.16%	80.81%
Greenwich	85.7%	84.6%	83.1%	56.48%	73.33%
Lambeth	72.9%	74.1%	72.5%	47.67%	61.49%
Lewisham	77.5%	78.3%	76.4%	50.37%	64.98%
Southwark	72.4%	73.3%	74.5%	45.56%	63.04%
SEL	84.6%	84.4%	83.0%	56.1%	71.4%

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

Question by Councillor Krupski
of the Cabinet Member for Democracy, Refugees and Accountability

Question

In March 2020 due to the Covid-19 crisis the refugee resettlement programme was stopped. There was due to be a new scheme starting this year to settle a further 5,000 refugees that has also been put on hold. Please can you inform us as to how Lewisham is addressing this and what we intend to do to continue to welcome refugees into our borough, something that has been done so successfully up until last year?

Reply

Lewisham has so far welcomed 30 refugee families since 2017 under the existing UK resettlement scheme (with 27 still remaining in borough). This is currently the highest number welcomed by any London borough and before the Covid-19 pandemic stuck last year we were on track to meet our commitment to welcome 100 additional families by 2022.

Our families have arrived as part of the Vulnerable Persons' Resettlement Scheme (VPRS), a Home Office scheme which aims to resettle 20,000 refugees of the Syrian conflict in the UK. The VPRS was due to be completed in 2020 to be followed with a replacement global resettlement scheme

Due to suspension of new arrivals in March 2020, the target of welcoming 20,000 refugees under the VPRS was not achieved.

We had seven families waiting to be resettled in Lewisham when Home Office suspended new arrivals.

During the suspension of arrivals we have focused on:

1. Supporting families already living in Lewisham stay safe, continue to integrate into their community and are encouraged towards independence;
2. Making improvements to Lewisham's Refugee Resettlement programme;

3. Lobbying Home Office and wider UK Government to begin new arrivals.

Throughout we have held regular meetings with Home Office to better understand the criteria for re-starting resettlement, however, we became increasingly frustrated as other countries began resume their respective resettlement schemes and more people were attempting dangerous crossings to the UK.

On 6 November 2020, we authored and coordinated a pan-London letter to the Home Secretary, emphasising the willingness and capacity of London local authorities to continue to resettle refugees and the humanitarian case for doing so.

This has resulted in some qualified success. Within days of receiving our letter, November 2020 Home Office committed to resettling 232 families in the UK, in order to reach the 20,000 target for resettling victims of the Syrian conflict.

Of these 232 families, four families were previously referred to Lewisham Council as part of the seven families due for arrival in March 2020. These four families are being resettled in Yorkshire.

On 3rd February 2021, three families were referred to Lewisham for resettlement. We have accepted these cases and are aiming to house them in Lewisham in week commencing 12th April.

Next steps

We are currently completing the logistics to ensure that we can welcome the three families, including organising accommodation and making sure arrivals can be Covid-safe.

The Home Office has so far committed only to reaching its target of settling 20,000 people via VPRS and resettling those it had already referred in March 2020. Any other form of refugee resettlement remains suspended pending the Government's general review of refugee resettlement apparently due to start later this year.

This is unacceptable. The success of VPRS has shown that refugee resettlement can and should continue while the general review is undertaken. We continue to lobby Home Office strongly in this regard.

QUESTION No. 9
Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

Question by Councillor Rathbone
of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport

Question

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the allocation of TfL LIP funding for Lewisham and how this can be used to build a greener borough?

Reply

Transport for London (TfL) suspended the usual Local Implementation Plan (LIP) funding for all boroughs in spring 2020. Lewisham Council are reliant on this funding to deliver the majority of our transport programme. Instead funding was only available to deliver schemes as part of the London Streetspace Plan.

Late last year, TfL started to reinstate a limited amount of this funding, however, the Council did not receive notification of its full allocations until January 2021. This makes delivering the remainder of the programme within a short space of time incredibly challenging. Using this funding we are seeking to progress a range of schemes that are in alignment with our [transport strategy and local implementation plan 2019–2041 \(LIP3\)](#). This includes additional school streets, pedestrian improvements, the re-starting of the 20mph compliance programme, a cycle route link, further cycle hangars, further Electric Vehicle Charging Points, proposals aimed at making children's journeys to school safer and healthier within the LTN and other complementary measures, some interim measures as part of the Deptford Parks Liveable Neighbourhoods programme, and a range of road safety education initiatives. All of these measures contribute to encouraging people to use sustainable and active travel and making Lewisham greener.

TfL will be seeking to reinstate LIP funding in full from 2021/22, subject to the DfT agreeing a funding deal. This would enable the Council to return to its intended LIP3 programme, but with adjustments to take account of the schemes that have been delivered over the past year and any lessons learnt.

QUESTION No. 10
Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

Question by Councillor Hall
of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport

Question

How many public health funerals, known as paupers' funerals, has the Council conducted and what is the total cost for the last three years that figures are available?

Reply

The total costs requested are in the middle column (expenditure) however some are offset against income we are able to find subsequently through property searches and the deceased person's estate therefore the net costs column highlights the actual annual costs to the Council.

	Funerals - Number	Expenditure	Income	Net costs
YEAR				
2017-18	69	£54,675	£40,296	£14,379
2018-19	67	£45,013	£29,728	£15,285
2019-20	83	£68,617	£50,041	£18,576
2021 T/D	74	£68,013	£35,257	£32,756

QUESTION No. 11
Priority 2

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

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

Question

How are we using Environmental Health Officers to support the contact tracing as they'd have experience of this type of work?

Reply

A number of Environmental Health Officers with previous experience of Infectious Disease investigation and control have been trained and are available as a 'surge capacity' for contract tracing if needed. This arrangement was agreed between the Director of Public Health and Head of Environmental Health. Officers within Environmental Health are still undertaking other statutory duties including providing advice and enforcement around the Coronavirus legislation. Officers within Environmental Health are also assisting the Public Health team around complex situations and where workplaces have COVID-19 confirmed cases.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

Question by Councillor Krupski
of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport

Question

In comparison to other neighbouring boroughs we are lagging behind in terms of our segregated cycle lane provision. Not including TfL controlled roads, since the last London Mayoral election we have only built 300m, whereas Lambeth has built just over 4km, Southwark 5km and Greenwich just under 2km. While the distances of the other boroughs are not awe inspiring, to say the least, they are significantly better than Lewisham's and it is startling that we have not built anything to completion since 2016. Please can you give us some indication as to how this is going to be remedied into the future and we show a proper commitment to safe segregated cycling where it is desperately needed. Thank you.

Reply

Since 2016, the borough has delivered a programme of Cycleways in conjunction with TfL. The route alignments are agreed with TfL based on an analysis of cycling demand, with priority given to those routes that have the highest demand. Each route then goes through a process where interventions are developed in alignment with the London Cycling Design Standards. Routes with relatively low traffic volumes will not require a dedicated cycle lanes.

Pre-lockdown officers had been working in conjunction with TfL to bring forward further safer cycleway schemes through the emerging Healthy Neighbourhood programme. However, this component of the work was subsequently put on hold. Similarly, officers had been progressing work on Cycleway 4 along Evelyn Street, a route along the A21 and the A2 pre COVID, but this work had all been put on hold based on TfL guidance at the time. Officers will be looking to restart this work in conjunction with TfL when TfL budgets allow for this.

As part of the London Streetspace programme officers undertook initial feasibility work on a number of pop up cycle lane schemes, as shown on the Commonplace website. However, at the time of assessment, none were considered to be viable under the strict criteria stipulated by TfL, which included ensuring a minimum width of continuous cycle lane, and no civil works such as kerb realignments. However, this work can be revisited as part of the Cycleways/LIP programme with a view to increasing cycling provision in the borough. However, this will need to be assessed against competing priorities within the budget available.

QUESTION No. 13
Priority 2

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

Question by Councillor Hall
of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning

Question

How much is the Repairs and Maintenance budget for Lewisham Homes? Please give the last five years figures and include the projected budget for 2021/2.

Reply

The repairs and maintenance budget and expenditure for 2015/16 to 2020/21 is outlined in the below table. Also included is the projected budget for 2021/22.

<u>Housing Revenue Account Budget and Actuals</u>							
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Budget Allocation							
Lewisham Homes properties	16,249,000.00	15,003,000.00	15,162,000.00	15,303,000.00	15,174,397.00	15,379,800.00	14,687,000.00
HRA Hostel accommodation	360,000.00	375,000.00	383,000.00	390,000.00	691,603.00	715,200.00	408,000.00
Total Allocation	16,609,000.00	15,378,000.00	15,545,000.00	15,693,000.00	15,866,000.00	16,095,000.00	15,095,000.00
Actual Expenditure							
Lewisham Homes properties	13,703,113.60	13,410,563.12	14,891,132.32	18,063,810.10	13,578,425.50	14,379,800.00	
HRA Hostel accommodation	459,190.20	580,923.83	534,260.09	728,163.16	425,241.48	715,200.00	
Total Expenditure	14,162,303.80	13,991,486.95	15,425,392.41	18,791,973.26	14,003,666.98	15,095,000.00	

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

Question by Councillor Hall
of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources

Question

How does the Council discharge its duties in relation to Best Value?

Reply

The Council fulfils and discharges this duty in a number of ways. These include, but are not limited to:

- The use of a clear decision-making framework, set out in the Constitution, to ensure all policy and service changes are considered and consulted on – for example, the current three year voluntary sector main grants programme;
- The adoption of a framework for fairly and openly assessing social value as part of all contracting and commissioning activity;
- Our registration under the Ethical Care charter, the Co-operative Party Charter against Modern Slavery and our publication of a Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement to ensure good practice contracting with all suppliers and partners;
- In considering service configuration, the Corporate Strategy has a presumption to insource as a required option;
- Tendering activity is published in advance on the national Contracts Finder site and locally via the key decision plan to ensure all potential bidders can access Council opportunities;
- All key decision reports, for the Executive or under delegation, include options and risks for the decision maker supported with legal, financial, equalities, and environmental implications; and
- The Council has an identified member of Cabinet responsible for overseeing relations with the Voluntary and Community Sectors.

There will be many other examples across the wide range of services the Council provides and for which, in line with the corporate strategy, the Council is proud and continues to work closely with its partners, including those in the voluntary and community sectors, to secure continuous improvement.

Best Value is also considered by the Council's external auditors in determining their value for money conclusion on the Council's activities as part of their opinion on the financial statements. The Council received an unqualified value for money conclusion on its latest audited accounts (2019/20).

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

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

Question

Can the Cabinet Member publish the Covid-19 vaccination data - uptake figures - for Lewisham and/or the SE London area?

Reply

The rollout of the Covid-19 vaccination programme is being led by the NHS with the Council offering support where possible. Over 45,000 people registered with a Lewisham GP have now been vaccinated.

Percentage uptake by age/priority group in Lewisham as of 22 February was as follows:

Lewisham	
80+	77.5%
75-79	78.3%
70-74	76.4%
Clinically extremely vulnerable	50.37%
65-69	64.98%

This data changes on a daily basis as more vaccinations are administered.

The table below shows how vaccination uptake in Lewisham compares to other South East London boroughs, as of 22 February.

	80 and over	75-79	70-74	CEV	65-69
Bexley	92.4%	91.7%	90.6%	70.40%	79.97%
Bromley	92.0%	91.7%	90.3%	76.16%	80.81%
Greenwich	85.7%	84.6%	83.1%	56.48%	73.33%
Lambeth	72.9%	74.1%	72.5%	47.67%	61.49%
Lewisham	77.5%	78.3%	76.4%	50.37%	64.98%
Southwark	72.4%	73.3%	74.5%	45.56%	63.04%
SEL	84.6%	84.4%	83.0%	56.1%	71.4%

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

3 MARCH 2021

Question by Councillor Hall
of the Cabinet Member for Democracy, Refuges and Accountability

Question

Following the consultation on the Lewisham Characterisation Study the responses were considered, a separate document 'Responses to the Characterisation' is mentioned on the Council's website, will the document be uploaded to the relevant page?

Reply

Following the public consultation in 2019 on the Lewisham Characterisation Study the Council collated all responses and prepared a consultation response to outline how those responses had been considered in the final document.

As part of the reorganisation of evidence base documents on our website for the Local Plan, this document appears to have been missed. We will seek to upload this as soon as possible.