

Public Document Pack

Lewisham Council Members

Members of the committee, listed below, are summoned to attend the meeting to be held on Wednesday, 29 June 2011.

Barry Quirk, Chief Executive
June 21 2011

Mayor Sir Steve Bullock

Councillor Jackie Addison

Councillor Obajimi Adefiranye

Councillor Anne Affiku

Councillor Christine Allison

Councillor Abdeslam Amrani

Councillor Pauline Beck

Councillor Paul Bell

Councillor Chris Best

Councillor Kevin Bonavia

Councillor John Bowen

Councillor David Britton

Councillor Duwayne Brooks

Councillor Suzannah Clarke

Councillor Vincent Davis

Councillor Amanda De Ryk

Councillor Damien Egan

Councillor Alexander Feakes

Councillor Peggy Fitzsimmons

Councillor Julia Fletcher

Councillor Joseph Folorunso
Councillor Patsy Foreman
Councillor Vicky Foxcroft
Councillor Helen Gibson
Councillor Sven Griesenbeck
Councillor Carl Handley
Councillor Michael Harris
Councillor Ami Ibitson
Councillor Helen Klier
Councillor Chris Maines
Councillor Jim Mallory
Councillor Paul Maslin
Councillor Joan Millbank
Councillor Pauline Morrison
Councillor John Muldoon
Councillor Marion Nisbet
Councillor Sam Owolabi-Oluyole
Councillor Crada Onuegbu
Councillor Stephen Padmore
Councillor John Paschoud
Councillor Pete Pattison
Councillor Philip Peake
Councillor Alan Smith
Councillor Eva Stamirowski
Councillor Alan Till
Councillor Dan Whittle
Councillor Susan Wise
Councillor Janet Daby

Councillor Alan Hall

Councillor Stella Jeffrey

Councillor Darren Johnson

Councillor Jacq Paschoud

Council Agenda

Wednesday, 29 June 2011

7.30 pm,

Civic Suite

Lewisham Town Hall

London SE6 4RU

For more information contact: Kevin Flaherty (Tel: 0208 314 9327)

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Members of the public are welcome to attend committee meetings. However, occasionally, committees may have to consider some business in private. Copies of agendas, minutes and reports are available on request in Braille, in large print, on audio tape, on computer disk or in other languages.

Agenda Item 1

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Declarations of Interests	
Key Decision		Item No. 1
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive	
Class	Part 1	Date: 29 June 2011

Declaration of interests

Members are asked to declare any personal interest they have in any item on the agenda.

Personal interests

There are two types of personal interest :-

- (a) an interest which you must enter in the Register of Members' Interests*
- (b) an interest where the wellbeing or financial position of you, (or a "relevant person") is likely to be affected by a matter more than it would affect the majority of inhabitants of the ward or electoral division affected by the decision.

*Full details of registerable interests appear on the Council's website.

("Relevant" person includes you, a member of your family, a close associate, and their employer, a firm in which they are a partner, a company where they are a director, any body in which they have securities with a nominal value of £25,000 and (i) any body of which they are a member, or in a position of general control or management to which they were appointed or nominated by the Council, and (ii) any body exercising functions of a public nature, or directed to charitable purposes or one of whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy, including any trade union or political party) where they hold a position of general management or control,

If you have a personal interest you must declare the nature and extent of it before the matter is discussed or as soon as it becomes apparent, except in limited circumstances. Even if the interest is in the Register of Interests, you must declare it in meetings where matters relating to it are under discussion, unless an exemption applies.

Exemptions to the need to declare personal interest to the meeting

You do not need to declare a personal interest where it arises solely from membership of, or position of control or management on:

- (a) any other body to which you were appointed or nominated by the Council
- (b) any other body exercising functions of a public nature.

In these exceptional cases, unless your interest is also prejudicial, you only need to declare your interest if and when you speak on the matter .

Sensitive information

If the entry of a personal interest in the Register of Interests would lead to the disclosure of information whose availability for inspection creates or is likely to create a serious risk of violence to you or a person living with you, the interest need not be entered in the Register of Interests, provided the Monitoring Officer accepts that the information is sensitive. Where this is the case, if such an interest arises at a meeting, it must be declared but you need not disclose the sensitive information.

Prejudicial interests

Your personal interest will also be prejudicial if all of the following conditions are met:

- (a) it does not fall into an exempt category (see below)
- (b) the matter affects either your financial interests or relates to regulatory matters - the determining of any consent, approval, licence, permission or registration
- (c) a member of the public who knows the relevant facts would reasonably think your personal interest so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

Categories exempt from being prejudicial interest

- (a) Housing – holding a tenancy or lease with the Council unless the matter relates to your particular tenancy or lease; (subject to arrears exception)
- (b) School meals, school transport and travelling expenses; if you are a parent or guardian of a child in full time education, or a school governor unless the matter relates particularly to the school your child attends or of which you are a governor;
- (c) Statutory sick pay; if you are in receipt
- (d) Allowances, payment or indemnity for members
- (e) Ceremonial honours for members
- (f) Setting Council Tax or precept (subject to arrears exception)

Effect of having a prejudicial interest

If your personal interest is also prejudicial, you must not speak on the matter. Subject to the exception below, you must leave the room when it is being discussed and not seek to influence the decision improperly in any way.

Exception

The exception to this general rule applies to allow a member to act as a community advocate notwithstanding the existence of a prejudicial interest. It only applies where members of the public also have a right to attend to make representation, give evidence or answer questions about the matter. Where this is the case, the member with a prejudicial interest may also attend the meeting for that purpose. However the member must still declare the prejudicial interest, and must leave the room once they have finished making representations, or when the meeting decides they have finished, if that is earlier. The member cannot vote on the matter, nor remain in the public gallery to observe the vote.

Prejudicial interests and overview and scrutiny

In addition, members also have a prejudicial interest in any matter before an Overview and Scrutiny body where the business relates to a decision by the Executive or by a committee or sub committee of the Council if at the time the decision was made the member was on the Executive/Council committee or sub-committee and was present when the decision was taken. In short, members are not allowed to scrutinise decisions to which they were party.

Agenda Item 2

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Minutes	
Key Decision		Item No.2
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive	
Class	Part 1	Date: 29 June 2011

Recommendation

It is recommended that the minutes of the meeting of the Council which was open to the press and public, held on 6 April 2011 be confirmed and signed (copy previously circulated).

Agenda Item 3

COUNCIL		
Report Title	The Civic Adoption of 1475 Squadron ATC	
Key Decision	No	Item No. 3
Ward	All	
Contributors	Chief Executive	
Class	Part 1	Date: 29 June 2011

The Unit was formed in 1941. It is one of several ATC units across the UK. For many years the squadron and its impressive marching band, has led the various contingents to and from the war memorial in Lewisham on Remembrance Sunday.

The Unit currently boasts over 100 cadets mostly taken from local schools including Forest Hill School.

This figure represents one of the highest numbers of cadets in any squadron across the country. This squadron has an excellent track record of shaping the lives of young people through the teaching of team working, self-confidence, fitness and adventure training.

Last year the squadron was awarded the Sir Alan Lees trophy which is awarded for the best Air Cadets squadron in the whole of the UK. It beat all the other squadrons across the UK of which there are nearly 1,000. It also delivered the best ATC national training and development culminating in several awards for many of its cadets. A wonderful achievement in the year of the 150th anniversary of the cadet movement and the 70th anniversary of the formation of this particular squadron.

The squadron are proposing to cement its relationship with the Council by incorporating the Council's coat of arms on its own standard flag. The squadron's own motto "Certamus Vincere" translates to "Strive to Win".

It is therefore recommended to confer upon the 1475 Squadron ATC the civic honour of the adoption by the London Borough of Lewisham. It reflects the achievements and high esteem in which the squadron is held and to recognise its close co-operation and joint working with the local community and Council since its formation. The squadron will have the right, privilege and distinction of marching through the streets of Lewisham on all ceremonial occasions with its new standard colours flying and band playing.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council agrees the recommendation to be proposed by the Mayor and seconded by Lewisham's RFCA representative, Councillor Pauline Morrison that 1475 Squadron ATC be awarded the civic honour of adoption by the London Borough of Lewisham

Scroll Document

Crest

At its meeting of the full Council held on Wednesday, 29 June 2011, the London Borough of Lewisham unanimously agreed to the formal adoption of the 1475 Squadron ATC.

The wording of the recommendation said:

“It is therefore recommended to confer upon the 1475 Squadron ATC the civic honour of the adoption by the London Borough of Lewisham. It reflects the achievements and high esteem in which the squadron is held and to recognise its close co-operation and joint working with the local community and Council since its formation. The squadron will have the right, privilege and distinction of marching through the streets of Lewisham on all ceremonial occasions with its new standard colours flying and band playing.

This recommendation to be proposed by the Mayor and seconded by Lewisham’s RFCA representative, Councillor Pauline Morrison”.

ATC 1475 crest

Signed:

.....
Sir Steve Bullock
The Mayor of Lewisham

.....
Barry Quirk
Chief Executive

Agenda Item 4

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Announcements or Communications	
Key Decision		Item No. 4
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive	
Class	Part 1	Date: 29 June 2011

Recommendation

The Council is invited to receive any announcements or communications from the Mayor or the Chief Executive.

(1) Queen's Birthday Honours List

The Council is aware of the following persons with a Lewisham connection who have been recognised in the latest Honours List:

Pat Trembath MBE for services to the community in Sydenham.

Lt Colonel Conrad Graham TD DL OBE for services to SSAFA Help in London.

Squadron Leader Kevin Mehmet MBE for voluntary service to the City of London Corporation and to Young People in South East London.

Joan Mary Gibbins OBE, Deputy Council Officer, Institution of Mechanical Engineers for services to Technology.(London, SE6)

Mrs Rosemary Susan Barnes OBE Lately Chief Executive Officer, Cystic Fibrosis Trust for services to Healthcare. (London, SE4)

Ainsley Forbes OBE for services to Social Housing in London. (London, SE14)

Agenda Item 5

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Petitions	
Key Decision	no	Item No.5
Ward	n/a	
Contributors	Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: June 29 2011

- 5. The Council is invited to receive petitions (if any) from members of the Council or the public. There is no requirement to give prior notice of any petitions that might be presented.

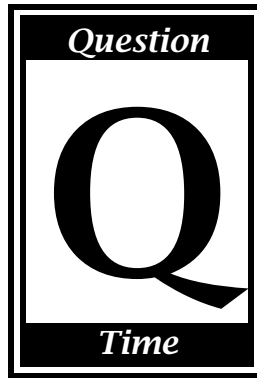
Agenda Item 6

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Public Questions	
Key Decision		Item No.6
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: June 29 2011

The Council has received questions from members of the public in the order shown in the table below. Written responses will be provided to the questioners prior to the Council meeting and they will be entitled to attend and ask a supplementary question should they wish to.

Question **Questioner**

1.	Mr R Baptie
2.	Mr Woolford (on behalf of Deptford & New Cross People before Profit Campaign)
3.	Mr R Stocker
4.	Mr R Stocker
5.	Ms G Raggett
6.	Mr R Stocker
7.	Mr R Stocker
8.	Mrs P Richardson
9.	Mrs P Richardson
10.	Mr G Ambrose
11.	Mr G Ambrose
12.	Mr G Ambrose
13.	Mr G Thurley (on behalf of Friends of Brockley & Ladywell Cemeteries)
14.	Mr G Thurley “ “ “
15.	Mr D McKibbin
16.	Ms U Michel
17.	Mr P Richardson
18.	Mr P Richardson
19.	Mr P Richardson
20.	Mr P Richardson



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr R Baptie

Member to reply: Councillor Maslin

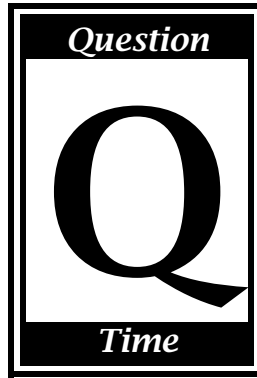
Question

On 1st March 2011 it was announced that Chief Executive, Barry Quirk, would be going part time, working three days a week, until he retires in 2014. The statement noted that his salary would reduce from £192,387 to £115,432 as a result, and this would result in savings of £260,000 over the next three years. It also stated that Mr Quirk would be entitled to start drawing his pension on a reduced basis.

On the assumption that the £260,000 of savings mentioned in the statement does not include the cost of this early pension payout, what is the net saving of the move to part time when taking into account the cost of pension payments to Mr Quirk that have arisen as a result of this arrangement?

Reply

The cost of the early release of pension benefits is recovered within the first year. The projected saving over 3 years, quoted as £260,000, is the net saving after taking those first year costs into account.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 2

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr R Wooldford (on behalf of Deptford & New Cross People before Profit Campaign)

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

Question

Can the Council please give a breakdown as to what they will spend the £4million pounds paid in section 106 money from the Developers of Cannon Wharf Evelyn Street London SE8. (money for local Community need in Deptford,) at a time when Lewisham Council say it does not have the £108,000 to run New Cross Library, or the £85,000 a year needed to run Special Needs provision.

Can the Council also confirm what it will do with the extra money the Council will get from them towards education. Deptford/New Cross are in urgent need of both a primary and a new secondary school.

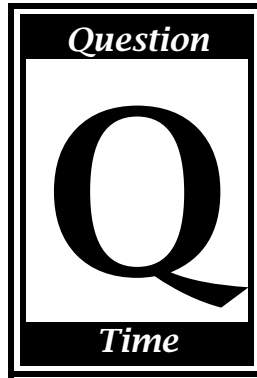
Can the Council also confirm that as these proposals will see the developer build only 20% affordable homes. (Lewisham Council state all developments must be 35% plus). What does the Council see as a fair profit to reduce the Affordable Housing ratio?

Reply

At the time of writing the application is still to be considered by the Strategic Planning Committee on 23rd June 2011.

As part of the consideration of the application the Council has negotiated a package of financial contributions and other measures considered necessary to mitigate the impacts of the proposed development in accordance with the Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document. The timing of these payments and implementation of measures over a likely 6-7 year period is linked to the relevant phases of the development and associated triggers. A breakdown of the payments, including the amounts and purpose, are set out in Section 11 of the committee report. The package includes a financial contribution towards the capital costs of additional or improved facilities for primary and secondary education in the borough, local health facilities, and sustainable transport measures.

The level of affordable housing provision has been assessed in the context of the overall scheme viability on which the Council has received independent advice. This review of the submitted (confidential) financial appraisal concludes that given the costs and values of the proposed development (including the Section 106 package) the scheme is unable to provide additional affordable housing at this time. There will however be a financial review mechanism whereby if values increase above agreed levels then further financial payments will be made towards the provision of affordable housing.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 3

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr R Stocker

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

Question

At the Mayor and Cabinet meeting on Wednesday, 17th November, 2010 a report was approved titled "Local Implementation Plan". This document contained the following statements:-

"A.10 Cycling

Just as with Bus Stop Accessibility, efforts will be made to ensure that all Corridor/Neighbourhood project designs consider the needs of cyclist and include features to encourage and facilitate cycling. The London Mayor however, has set a target of a five fold increase in cycling. LIP performance indicators set by TfL include the proportion of trips made by bike. The LIP outputs the Council must report, include lengths of cycle lane and numbers of cycle parking spaces implemented. Hence it is recommended that £150k be used to open up barriers to cycling (one way streets, road closure etc); introduce cycle parking; create new or improve existing routes etc, away from the other planned Corridor/Neighbourhood proposals."

and

Action

“Programme of events, publicity and promotion to raise awareness of sustainable modes of transport and in particular active travel including national campaigns and local events such as Bike Week, Bike & Kite event, Car Free Day, Walking Works.”

Please could you say what progress has been made on the cycling £150k and when this information will be shared with stakeholders (such as Lewisham Cyclists); what is the delivery plan for this expenditure; what the consultation strategy will be.

Please could you say what progress has been made on the £32k Travel Awareness budget; what is planned for 2011 Bike Week; what is planned for 2011 Car Free Day/Mobility week; Will any of this funding be used to promote active transport to/from local shopping centres e.g. Brockley, Crofton Park and Honor Oak Park so as to encourage Lewisham residents to use local shops rather than multi-national supermarkets.

Reply

Some £150k has been allocated via the LIP programme for cycling measures in the borough for 2011/12. Officers are currently looking through existing studies previously carried out as part of the London Cycle network to help inform a programme of improvements .

This programme is currently being developed further, which will form the basis of a Project Implementation Document which will include the key milestones of delivery .

The detailed programme for Travel awareness is being developed and will support measures to raise awareness of national campaigns and local events.

Supplementary Question No. 3

Mr Stocker

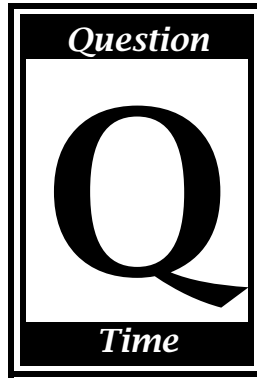
Given the recent report highlighting obesity levels in schoolchildren, notably reception children, and the alarming rise in type 2 diabetes, both conditions partially alleviated by regular exercise that cycling can bring, I am concerned that given funding of £350,000 and the £30,000 as well was approved by Transport for London last December some might detect a reluctance from Lewisham officers to take this 2011/12 funding forward, which if you have not spent it by March 2012 disappears back to TfL. Does the Council have a date when interested stakeholders might be consulted?

Action

The Mayor

Let me just explain something to begin with. I will be taking the supplementary questions to both Councillor Smith and Councillor Egan as well as my own. However, that does mean that you may not get quite the erudite answer you would have received from Councillor Smith and I am afraid I will have to take advice on that one and will drop you a line.

ED Regen.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 4

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr R Stocker

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

Question

Next Wednesday is Lewisham Cyclists AGM. Would it be possible for you to let us have information on the following:-

1. details of this years cycling projects with timescales and when we can expect draft designs for comments
2. details of proposed new cycle parking (especially those linked to last years car club project)
3. a response to our earlier query about CSH designs
4. any feedback from your departments discussions with Lewisham Housing about secure cycle parking
5. some highlights of your departments input to planning applications
6. When there will be a LCN+ project closure report given the 10 year lifespan of this project. Much was delivered and this would be very useful.

Reply

1. The programme is currently being developed.
2. New Cycle parking for new developments is secured via the
3. Planning process. In terms of Car clubs, some 56 sites are
4. included in the designation of car club bays as part of the Traffic
5. order. This information was published last month.

6. The Cycling Super Highways (CSH) proposals are part of the
7. London Mayors initiative, design questions need to be addressed
8. by TfL. If there are specific design issues these should be sent
9. to TfL and borough officers copied in.

10. The management of Council housing is provided by separate
11. management companies, so secure parking for cycles in these
12. properties would be a matter for these bodies.

13. We are consulted on all planning applications and where appropriate
14. Transport improvements are always considered, including pedestrian
15. and cycling enhancements.

16. There may be some merit in developing a project closure for the
17. LCN+ generally, but funding would need to be identified as LCN is
18. no longer funded from TfL.

Supplementary Question No. 4

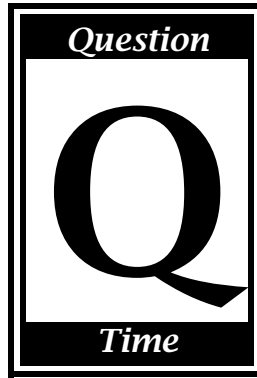
Mr Stocker

This initial email was sent to Lewisham Transport in February of this year. It was followed up in April of this year. Neither one has been responded to. It was relating to last year's cycling schemes. There seems to be a reluctance from Lewisham officers to talk to interested stakeholders, so most of the answers to this question are not answering the exact question. I just thought I would clarify that. I would more than welcome a meeting with Councillor Smith to discuss any of these issues, because I understand it is trying times these days.

The Mayor

I will endeavour to see if I can arrange that.

ED Regen.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 5

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Ms G Raggett

Member to reply: Councillor Best

Question

In respect of the library at Age Exchange in Blackheath:

- 1) What is the actual cost to Lewisham council of fulfilling orders for books?
- 2) Did the 50p previously charged cover the full amount?
- 3) Given the very small number of books on the shelves at Age Exchange, with almost none at all until the reopening in autumn 2012, how many book orders has Lewisham budgeted to fulfil, both this year and in subsequent years?
- 4) Can you confirm that ALL books, whether in Lewisham's catalogue or obtained from elsewhere, will be available free of charge?

Reply

- 1) The Library & Information Service supplies the libraries with new books on a regular basis. This service also allows for the circulation of the stock. This logistical task is covered by the Service's driver and will include the cost of his salary and the cost of maintaining and running the

van, e.g. £59,359.

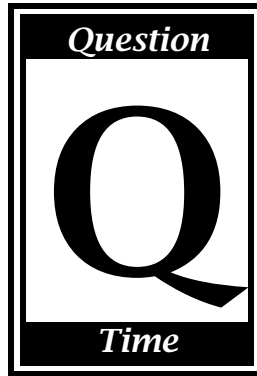
We estimate that 40% of the workload of the driver relates to moving requests from library to library in Lewisham.

We had 33,143 requests from library to library last year.

On the above premises and given the administrative charge of 50p on each request, the Service is subsidising each request with 22p.

Transport costs	£	59,359
Requests in 2010-2011		33,143
Cost of request on 40% workload	£	0.72
Administrative charge	£	0.50
Subsidy per request	£	0.22

- 2) Officers are clear that they can make efficiency savings in the delivery of stock without impacting on the quality of the service. We do estimate however that the development of the community libraries provision will yield increased requests for this service. It is estimated that the cost will be £20,000 to the service but this will also provide a free service for requests from Lewisham's catalogue. Reservations from other catalogues will be charged for, including Inter Library Loans, London Requests, London Library Consortium, and British Library loans.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 6

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr R Stocker

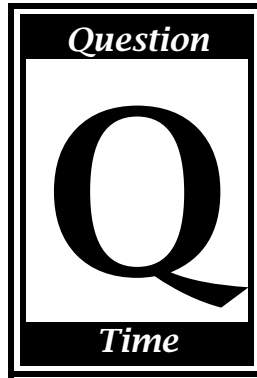
Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

Question

Is there a public record of approved planning applications with S106 funding specifically for walking and cycling over the last 3 years?

Reply

There is currently no publically available summary for walking and cycling contributions secured through Section 106, however, all of the Council's Section 106 agreements are available on-line via the Council's Website and for viewing on the Planning Register at Laurence House. The recently adopted Planning Obligation Supplementary Planning Document has introduced the intention to publish annual reports on the Council's Section 106 activities and these reports will include a summary of Section 106 monies secured, received and spent in each financial year. The first report will be published to cover the 2011/2012 financial year and will be made available on the Council's website.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 7

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr R Stocker

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

Question

In a response to a mayoral question from John Biggs AM (Question No: 1460 / 2011), Mayor Johnson stated:-

"If Barclays Cycle Superhighway Route 2 had continued to Ilford, the London Borough of Newham would have been given the opportunity to bid for up to a further £20,000 of cycle training funding. Newham would have also been able to bid for up to around £100,000 for residential and estate cycle parking, and around £5,000 for bicycle safety checks."

As Cycle Superhighway 5 will coming to Lewisham next year can you please let me know:-

- 1) Have timescales been indicated by TfL for bids for this funding?
- 2) What will the timeframe be for the preparation and submission of these bids?
- 3) What preparatory work has been done to identify which estates/areas in the zone might benefit from secure cycle parking?

- 4) Have there been any communications with local residents/tenant associations regarding this opportunity?
- 5) Have local councillors been contacted about this project?

Reply

- 1) A preliminary timescale has been circulated indicating the programme from now until the Project is due to commence in June 2013. Detailed design is progressing and TfL are undertaking a large modelling exercise to inform the design. Officers are not aware of details being received relating to funding bids for any complementary measures. This will be raised with TfL.
- 2) This is dependent on TfL, when these are known Lewisham will consider a bid.
- 3) The Route 5 programme is due to commence in June 2013, so officers will establish if any preliminary work has been undertaken. The key priority appears to be establishing the base model and detailed design.
- 4) This can be raised with TfL, as it is their proposal.
- 5) It is understood that TfL are willing to provide a briefing to raise awareness about the project.

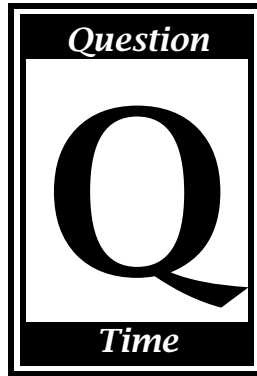
Supplementary Question No. 7

Mr Stocker

This question was put forward because I feel that a lot of advance preparation needs doing to work with tenants and residents within 1.5 kilometres of the proposed cycle superhighway site. That means making sure that local councillors are aware that up to £100,000 is available for secure cycle parking in residential properties, something that is lacking and I think the Council would welcome that. Again, I would welcome a meeting with Councillor Smith or any other Lewisham officers as deemed appropriate.

The Mayor

I am not sure I can add to my previous response. Thank you.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 8

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mrs P Richardson

Member to reply: Councillor Best

Question

The budget for Community Education Lewisham was not available for the Healthier Communities Select committee meeting on 8th June 2011. Therefore how much is the grant allocated from Central government? What are all the other funding streams and how much is each worth?

How will this money be allocated to provide the CEL service for the next academic year from September 2011 to July 2012?

Reply

The majority of funding for Community Education Lewisham (CEL) is allocated by the Skills Funding Agency (SFA), an agency of the Department for Business Innovation and Skills. The funding for the 2011/12 academic year has been allocated to CEL under the following funding streams:

Adult Safeguarded Learning - £1,873,761

Adult Skills - £1,397,747

First Steps- £440,364

Additional Learning Support - £186,057

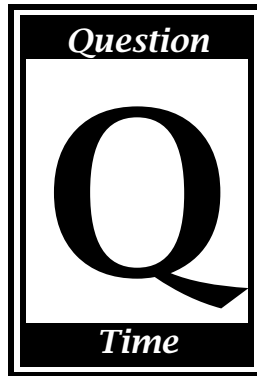
CEL employs the funding in accordance with the priorities set out by the Skills Funding Agency. Accordingly, the Adult Skills funding focuses upon Skills for Life (Adult Literacy, Numeracy and ESOL) Childcare and ICT; First Steps funds courses which provide the first 'step' on the ladder before progression to an accredited qualification; Adult Safeguarded funding is used to support Family Learning, Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities and Personal and Community Development learning.

Additional Learning Support funding is used for activities that provide direct support for learning to individual learners, which may arise from a learning difficulty and/or disability.

In addition to the programmes funded from the SFA funding, CEL now provides a range of courses through the 'Extras' programme. These offer specially designed short courses in popular subjects and are self financing.

In addition to the funding from the SFA, in 2010/11, CEL also received £400k from course fees, including those from the Extras programme.

For 2011/12 the Council has also provided funding of £250,000 to support non-accredited learning and associated running costs.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 9

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mrs P Richardson

Member to reply: Councillor Best

Question

Is the council still paying the rent on the Blackheath Village Library building?
When do they expect to be able to sublet it?

How many expressions of interest have they had? How many interested parties are still interested and who are they? Who does the council deem the preferred new occupant?

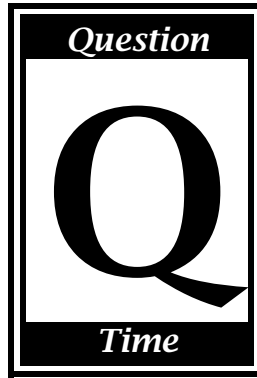
Reply

The Council is still paying rent for Blackheath Library.

The Council is proposing to assign the residue of its lease and is aiming to complete this as soon as possible, but is bound by the requirements and time scale of the landlord.

There have been two expressions of interest. One from a firm of solicitors who have withdrawn as the premises are too large for them. The other from a Preparatory School already located in Blackheath.

The Council is proceeding to negotiate an assignment of the lease with the landlord and the preparatory school as soon as possible.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 10

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr G Ambrose

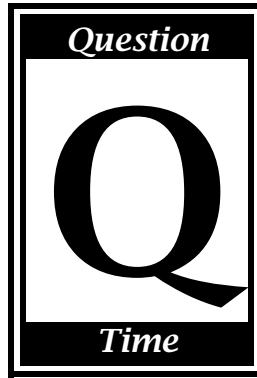
Member to reply: Councillor Best

Question

How much are the annual buildings insurance costs underwritten by Lewisham council for each of the former library buildings of Crofton Park, Grove Park and Sydenham from 28th May 2011? How much is this? From which budget does it come? Is this cost being borne solely by the council or is a contribution coming from another organisation? If so, which organisation? How much is being contributed?

Reply

The Council has cover under an all Risks Policy for these 3 buildings. The cost of £3,529 will be charged to the lessee, all other insurance costs are the responsibility of the lessee.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 11

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr G Ambrose

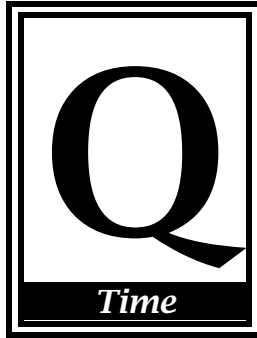
Member to reply: Councillor Best

Question

Was Lewisham Council paying rent for the use of the Lewisham Homes building which formerly housed New Cross library? If so how much was this rent and from which budget was it paid?

Reply

Lewisham Council did not pay rent to Lewisham Homes for New Cross Library as the company and the building are wholly owned by the Council.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 12

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr G Ambrose

Member to reply: Councillor Best

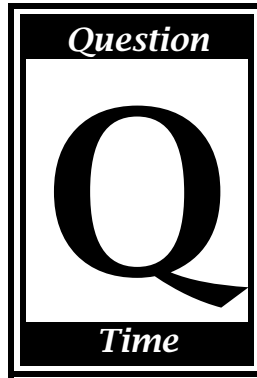
Question

Will the Mayor, any Lewisham councillors or officers be attending the Olympic opening ceremony, closing ceremony or events, courtesy of donated tickets? Have any tickets been purchased for these events by the tax payers of Lewisham for these people?

Reply

No tickets have been purchased for any events or ceremonies for the Mayor, Councillors or any officers. There have also not been any courtesy invitations to any of the above.

The Council has contributed £5,000 to purchase tickets for sports clubs in the borough. We will be announcing the criteria for distribution of these later in the year.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 13

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr G Thurley (on behalf of Friends of Brockley & Ladywell Cemeteries)

Member to reply: Councillor Wise

Question

When is it expected that the repair of the only toilet in the Ladywell and Brockley Cemeteries will commence, and how long will the work take?

Reply

The work has already began and all works should be completed by end of June. Unfortunately because of the current financial constraints facing the Council we will only be able to repair rather than improve the toilets.

Supplementary Question No. 13

Mr Thurley

Thank you, Councillor Wise, for your reply on the work to be done on the Ladywell and Brockley toilets, but as of this morning it appeared that no work had started – members of the Friends group do obviously go through the cemetery very regularly. Therefore, your reply that work should be finished by

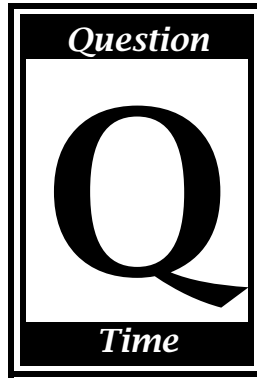
tomorrow is, I think, a little bit optimistic. I would be grateful if you could pursue this and find out what is happening. Thank you.

Councillor Wise

Thank you very much for your question, Mr Thurley. I have asked officers to move the date on this further back, because although we had thought we could do it earlier it was obvious that was not going to happen. However, I am told it should be done by tomorrow, but I am very happy to meet you perhaps on Friday and see if it has not happened. I will be chasing it up in the meantime though, okay? Thank you very much.

Action

**ED Cust.
Serv.**



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 14

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr G Thurley (on behalf of Friends of Brockley & Ladywell Cemeteries)

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

Question

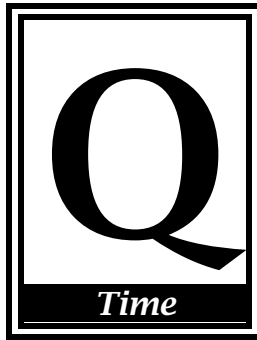
The Ladywell Training Centre at 1 Slaygrove Place, Ladywell, was recently sold for £730,000. Is it possible for some of these monies to go towards refurbishing (as opposed to just repairing) the toilet in the Ladywell and Brockley Cemeteries, and towards essential work on the Ladywell Playtower, Ladywell Road?

Reply

The receipt from the sale of the Ladywell Training Centre will be used to finance the Council's capital programme. Capital receipts are not usually earmarked for specific projects or programmes; they go into the overall capital programme funding pot and are allocated to projects based on need.

Priorities for the Council's Capital Programme are agreed annually and in the very tightly constrained financial climate in which we operate the toilets in Ladywell & Brockley Cemeteries were not considered sufficiently high priority to receive an allocation. They will be considered for funding again next year. This year limited resources have however been allocated to Ladywell Playtower (and another listed building) to avoid further deterioration to the

fabric of the building. The Council continues to work with English Heritage to identify further funding for essential repairs on the building. There is also ongoing work with a consortium of local organisations who have recently formed themselves into a Trust for the sole purpose of refurbishing the Playtower and bringing it back into beneficial use.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 15

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr D McKibbon

Member to reply: Councillor Wise

Question

Please list the housing associations in the borough that operate fixed and variable service charges for their weekly assured and assured shorthold tenants. In view of the fact that weekly tenants with variable service charges can apply to the leasehold valuation tribunal for a determination of their service charges and such an application can be backdated for up to 7 years will the council use its influence to ensure that in any future development work that housing associations are required to use variable service charges for their weekly tenants? Are the relevant council staff trained in the availability of this remedy for weekly housing association tenants? See LON/OOAL/LSC/2007/0422 for an example of where a weekly tenant successfully challenged their service charges.

Reply

Lewisham Council is not responsible for setting the rents or service charges for housing association properties. Where possible the Council will influence the levels of service charges but ultimately it is the housing associations' decision.

We would also not be directly involved in any tribunals between a tenant and their housing association landlord.

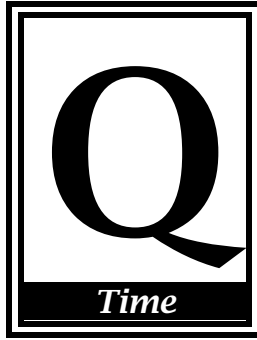
The Tenant Services Authority set guidelines for housing associations, one of which is "Registered providers should endeavour to keep increases in Housing Benefit-eligible service charges to no more than the guideline limit of RPI+0.5%." but do not state whether charges should be fixed or variable. L&Q and Hyde HA, two of the boroughs largest housing association landlords have variable service charges on some of their properties.

For cases involving council owned stock (managed by either Lewisham Homes, Regenter B3 or Tenant Management Organisations) we have specialist housing lawyers and where necessary can outsource legal representation.

For information please see below details of housing association service charges.

August 2010	One bedroom			Two bedrooms			Three bedrooms			Four bedrooms			Five bedrooms		
	net rent	s. chg	gross rent	net rent	s. chg	gross rent	net rent	s. chg	gross rent	net rent	s. chg	gross rent	net rent	s. chg	gross rent
Lewisham															
A2DOMINION LONDON LTD	85.59	9.78	95.37	93.68	10.48	104.16				12.57		12.57			
AMICUS HORIZON LTD	83.04	6.59	86.63	94.22	7.61	97.83	10.73	5.59	10.33	12.75	5.61	12.1	12.95		129.45
ASRA GREATER LONDON	81.98	9.17	91.15	10.1	14.60	11.71	11.94	7.14	11.8	13.58	1.7	13.28			
BROOMLEIGH	69.18	4.68	73.86	81.47	5.41	86.88	95.79	3.47	98.28	10.44	1.2	10.66			
CENTRAL AND CECIL	98.13	2.62	100.75												
CIRCLE 33	82.21	17.72	99.93	86.48	14.71	101.19									
FAMILY MOSAIC HOUSING	78.86	8.07	83.93	90.87	7.28	93.15	10.39	5.73	10.5	11.88	2.79	11.92	13.48	2.79	135.15
HABINTEG	74.20	8.81	83.01	94.97	7.56	102.53	10.93	10.47	12.0	12.36	7.56	13.17			
HEXAGON	75.95	7.08	78.03	86.35	5.24	87.59	96.91	4.03	97.78	11.03	2.5	11.03	12.18		121.89
HYDE	84.53	11.43	89.51	95.99	9.89	100.18	10.84	6.73	11.0	12.06	1.7	12.68	12.43	3.28	125.69
L&Q HT	76.80	6.35	80.44	89.11	5.64	92.75	99.14	2.80	10.6	11.39	2.8	11.45	13.22	1.35	132.78
LANDMARK							10.45		10.6						
METROPOLITAN HT	77.16	7.88	85.04	94.42	8.76	103.18									
MOAT HOMES				11.63	3.31	11.94				13.69	3.79	14.07			
ORBIT SOUTH HOUSING				87.31	13.06	100.37									

PEABODY TRUST							10 7.9 4	7.8 3	11 5.7 7	11 9.8 4	7. 8 0	12 7.6 4			
PHOENIX COMM HAL	70. 09	4.8 9	74. 27	80. 35	2.3 5	81. 29	88. 07	1.2 0	88. 33	95. 11	0. 8 8	95. 27	12 0.1 6		120 .16
PRESENTATION	81. 61	11. 30	92. 73	96. 03	10. 08	10 2.3 7	11 1.3 5	2.3 2	11 2.3 6	12 0.1 2	5. 2 7	12 0.8 2	12 9.7 2	1. 1 4	129 .83
RAGLAN	79. 17	11. 99	91. 16												
SERVITE	81. 37		81. 37	87. 28		87. 28	85. 53		85. 53						
SOUTHERN HGL	76. 84	5.8 5	82. 69	85. 27	5.9 3	91. 20									
THE RIVERSIDE GROUP LIMITED	74. 12	8.7 6	82. 88	79. 85	9.0 7	88. 92	95. 04	1.5 2	95. 68						
WANDLE	77. 25	9.7 5	86. 29	90. 73	7.0 5	97. 63	11 2.6 9	2.9 4	11 4.7 5	12 1.8 9	2. 2 3	12 4.0 0	13 7.2 2		137 .22
Lewisham average /total	76. 50	6.7 2	80. 69	86. 86	5.6 4	89. 56	96. 25	3.4 1	97. 26	11 0.3 7	2. 6 2	11 1.3 5	12 9.5 2	1. 5 0	129 .90



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 16

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Ms U Michel

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

Question

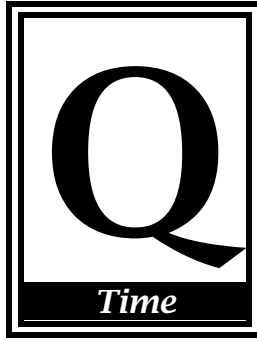
Are there plans to replace the cycle racks on Lewisham Road which were removed when the pavement in front of the shops in the shopping parade near the railway arch at Lewisham station, opposite the petrol station, was renewed recently?

If yes, what is the timeframe?

If no, why not - especially considering that some of the shops attract not just local customers?

Reply

These were removed to facilitate other works at this location. Officers have instructed the contractor to put them back.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 17

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr P Richardson

Member to reply: Councillor Best

Question

Have any library staff been given redundancy notices since January 2011? If so, how many?

How many library staff are due to be made redundant between 1st April 2011 - 31st October 2011?

How many library staff will take retirement between 1st April 2011 - 31st October 2011? How many are being retired early?

Reply

Up to 1 April 2011 no library staff were issued with notice of redundancy as consultation on the proposals were still taking place.

It is anticipated that a total of around 14 library staff will have been issued with notice of redundancy in the period 1 April to 31 October 2011.

Staff are no longer required to retire at the age of 65 and can continue working to the age of 70. No member of staff has indicated to us at this time that they wish to retire before 31 October 2011.

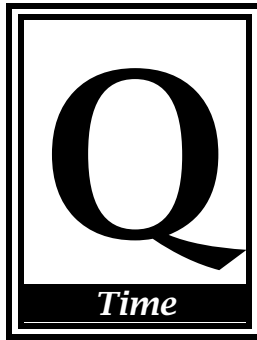
Supplementary Question No. 17

Mr Richardson

Thank you very much and thank you, Councillor Best, for your written reply to my question 17, but in view of the fact that there have been no redundancies yet made when can we expect to see some of the £830,000 of savings on which the decision to close the five libraries in Lewisham was made? Thank you.

Councillor Best

Thank you for that question, Mr Richardson. In the second part of my answer I say 'it is anticipated that around 14 library staff will have to be issued with notice of redundancy in the period 1 April to 31 October', so obviously we will need to keep that money in reserve so that we can work through that period. It may be staff are in the pool and get other opportunities within the Council, but obviously we still need to keep our reserves available.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 18

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr P Richardson

Member to reply: Councillor Best

Question

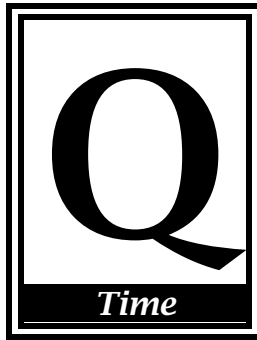
How many Agency Staff have been employed by the Council in the Library Service since 1st April 2011? How many of these have been used in the new "Community Libraries"? What is the cost of each group?

How many 'Workfare' employees have been used in Lewisham's Library Service since 1st April 2011?

Reply

Two agency staff have been employed since April 2011 to cover existing vacancies but not within the community libraries. The cost of this to date is £8,835.00.

The Council and the Service have not knowingly employed staff at risk of losing their benefits, nor do they have a policy of recruiting on the basis of a 'workfare' system. Indeed, a workfare system does not yet exist in the country.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 19

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr P Richardson

Member to reply: Councillor Best

Question

How is it that a small business can take over 3 library buildings (Grove Park, Crofton Park and Sydenham), assets of Lewisham Council, at peppercorn rents and why is a Community Group in New Cross asked to pay £30,000 p.a. rent for New Cross Library?

Did Lewisham Council pay such a rent to Lewisham Homes in the past?

Reply

The rents for Grove Park, Crofton and Sydenham are based on the tenant having a long term full repairing lease and the cost reflects the current physical condition and location of the buildings.

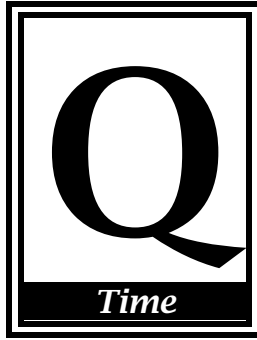
The Council was not paying rent to Lewisham Homes for New Cross library as the company and building are wholly owned by the Council. The potential rent for New Cross library estimated to be £25,000 reflects its High Street location.

Supplementary Question No. 19

Yes, thank you, and also thanks again to Councillor Best for her written reply, but has there yet been any decision made for the future of New Cross Library?

Councillor Best

No, no decision has been reached, although a lot of work is going on. There has been a lot of discussion with key stakeholders in looking at whether we can provide a further opportunity to run the community library. We have talked about a cafe and many other items have been raised and discussed. We can say that officers are working very hard to bring this to a conclusion as soon as is practical, working with local people so we can meet local needs.



PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 20

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

Question asked by: Mr P Richardson

Member to reply: Councillor Best

Question

In view of the advice on the risks identified by officers, (financial, viability of the Company and building case) and given to Mayor and Cabinet (11th May 2011 Report) by offering the leases of 3 library buildings, (Grove Park, Crofton Park and Sydenham) to Eco Computer Systems for a period of 25 years, what measures, provision and/or conditions have been made for the return of these assets to the Council in the event of the failure of the Eco Computer Systems Company?

Who, in the Council becomes accountable?

Reply

Should Eco Computer Systems Ltd become insolvent or, the terms of the leases otherwise fail to be met, the Council will have the right to terminate the leases. The Head of Asset Strategy & Development would be responsible, on the advice of the Executive Director for Community Services and the Head of Law.

Supplementary Question No. 20

Yes, please. This is also a thank you to Councillor Best for her written reply. However, although I am familiar with the Head of Law in Lewisham Council I

would appreciate knowing the name of the Head of Asset Strategy and Development, please.

Councillor Best

We do not normally name officers in this arena, but indeed the said member of staff is with us this evening, one Steve Gough.

Agenda Item 7

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Member Questions	
Key Decision		Item No.7
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: June 29 2011

7. Questions from Members of the Council

Section C, paragraph 14 of the Constitution, provides for questions relevant to the general work or procedure of the Council to be asked by Members of the Council. Copies of the questions received and the replies to them will be circulated at the meeting.

QUESTION No. 1

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Harris
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

Question

Does the Council expect the government's adoption of the Sir Justice Jackson Review of Civil Litigation Costs to have a significant affect on our overall legal costs?

Reply

The Government has not yet adopted the recommendations in this review. Whilst the government intends to implement most of the recommendations, this will not happen until Parliamentary time allows because most of the changes will need new legislation to have effect.

The changes to be implemented relate more to the funding of litigation by private claimants rather than the Council itself. Premiums on "after the event" (ATE) insurance, paid by the losing party, are to be abolished and success fees on Conditional Fee Arrangements (CFA) in future will be paid by the CFA funded person, even where they succeed in litigation. Also, legal fees will be related to the damages awarded to a successful litigant rather than to how much work the lawyer has actually undertaken in winning the case.

Currently a payment into court by way of settlement offer will mean that the person paying in will not have any liability for costs after the payment in if it is not accepted and the amount awarded does not exceed the payment into court. In future if the recommendations are implemented there will be an added sanction (equivalent to 10% of the value of the claim) which will be payable by litigants who do not accept a reasonable offer that is not beaten at trial.

There is to be a new test of proportionality in costs assessments to act as a long stop and so control costs that are clearly disproportionate to the value, complexity and importance of a claim.

The tenor of the recommendations is to discourage the use of lawyers in litigation in what the government sees as relatively minor matters by increasing exposure to possible legal costs and to bring protracted litigation to an end as soon as possible.

Generally, the changes will have most impact on lawyers that carry out personal injury work and work under CFA's with success fees and ATE insurance. Save in the largest cases, costs awarded currently to the Council do not generally reflect the work undertaken by its lawyers. So, the Council should not see any significant change in civil litigation costs and may even see a reduction should the reforms be implemented and the number of cases brought against the Council as a result decreases. However, it will not be possible to measure that impact with any certainty unless and until the reforms are put into practice.

Supplementary Question No. 1

Action

Councillor Harris

I would be grateful for specific details of how reductions in after the event insurance recoverability and a cap on CFA uplift will affect our overall legal costs, based on figures from last year, and details of specific cases from civil litigation claims.

ED Res.

Councillor Maslin

Thank you, Councillor Harris. I think that is the kind of question that requires a written answer.

QUESTION No. 2

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Hall
of the Mayor**

Question

What assessment has the Mayor made of the Localism Bill and the strategic implications for Lewisham?

Reply

The Localism Bill proposes to devolve decision making and power to councils and neighbourhoods. However, there has been substantial debate through the various stages of the Bill, many seeking to effect changes. Further stages of Parliamentary debate continue and the current speculation is that the Bill will complete its passage through Parliament by November 2011.

It is too early to assess what the implications might be for local government since there continue to be debate around important points of detail affecting as they do; community right to buy, community right to challenge, neighbourhood planning and reform of social housing. Even when the Bill becomes an Act, it is likely to require secondary legislation and guidance to clarify the finer points.

Supplementary Question No. 2

Firstly, I would like to thank the Mayor for coming here today. I know it is the Local Government Conference, but we did resolve to have our Council meetings on a Wednesday and it is a bit difficult for some Members, I do appreciate that.

I can understand the answer. It says 'it is too early to assess what implications there might be for local government with the Localism Bill'. This

is perfectly understandable with all the changes, u-turns and the massive clauses that there are, so I would like to ask the Mayor with all its clauses, possibilities for secondary legislation, diktats and nasty little clauses, can the Mayor describe this Bill as real localism?

The Mayor

I do not think I can do better than quote George Jones, Professor of Local Government at the London School of Economics and a very long term observer and supporter of local government who said, 'It should not be called the Localism Bill. It is a centralism bill because it contains so many powers conferred on the Secretary of State to interfere in local affairs.' I understand the phrase that has been adopted by the Secretary of State is 'guided localism', which I have to say I find quite bizarre, so I am not filled with enthusiasm and optimism. However, the parliamentary process is not over and there are many parliamentarians who do understand the importance of localism and I trust that they will be listened to over the coming months. I believe it is being discussed in the House of Lords this very week and some improvements may well emerge from that House.

QUESTION No. 3

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

What recent assessment he has made of the state of repair of the 'Welcome to Lewisham' signs and any action he intends to take to improve them?

Reply

A survey of the signs has been carried out and arrangements are being made to complete repairs where needed. Options for replacing the signs are being considered although funding has not yet been identified.

QUESTION No. 4

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Johnson
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

While your desire to retain weekly refuse collections is perfectly understandable, is it acting as a barrier to funding initiatives that would significantly improve Lewisham's poor recycling rate - such as the introduction of a weekly collection for food waste?

Reply

Weekly refuse collections, in Lewisham, do not act as a barrier to fund initiatives, such as a weekly food waste collection service. In many boroughs, without Lewisham's advantage of a waste incineration facility, diversion from more expensive landfill would act as a financial incentive to collect food waste separately.

Without this financial imperative, Lewisham can approach the issue of food waste disposal from a broader perspective. For example, a recent Defra paper on Waste Economics and Policy states that for every tonne of food waste treated through incineration, 89kg of CO₂ emissions are saved, whilst a tonne treated by Anaerobic Digestion produces 162kg of CO₂ and landfill produces 450kg of CO₂.

Supplementary Question No. 4

Lewisham now has the lowest recycling and composting rate in the whole of London. Are you embarrassed by that?

Councillor Wise

I am afraid not much embarrasses me anymore, Councillor Johnson. One thing I would like to say, I do appreciate that compared to other boroughs, mainly outer London boroughs, that our recycling rate looks very poor, but I think we have to take into account that the leafy, rural and outer London areas will always fare better because they collect garden waste and most inner London authorities do not.

I think it is not taken into consideration that we also have the lowest landfill rate compared to many authorities at 9%, so I do not think we can just pick a figure out of the air and compare it to anybody else without looking at the bigger picture, but thank you for your question.

QUESTION No. 5

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Jacq Paschoud
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

How much of the reported £94.5 million funding for Decent Homes has been guaranteed by the government?

Reply

Allocations for 2011/12 and 2012/13 are committed expenditure.

Allocations for 2013/14 and 2014/15 are provisional.

2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	Total
£11,000,000	£14,500,000	£24,000,000	£45,000,000	£94,500,000

Confirmation of the 2013/14 and 2014/15 allocations will be dependent on successful delivery by Lewisham Homes in 2011 -13, the continuing availability of capital resources for the programme, and policy decisions of Government and the Mayor for London.

Supplementary Question No. 5

In light of it, is she as surprised as me to read in literature from the Liberal Democrats – I have a copy here in case of any doubt about what I am talking about – stating that £94.5 million has been confirmed by the Minister of State?

Councillor Wise

I am a little surprised, Councillor Paschoud and thank you very much for your question, because most of us will appreciate that the funding is over four years and only the first two years have been confirmed. The last two years, 2013/14 and 2014/15 have not been confirmed and I have that from the mouth of Grant Shapps, the Housing Minister himself. He will not confirm that back-loaded funding, which adds up to £69 million, will be delivered of that £94.5 million, because it depends on the economic climate at those later dates and I think the Treasury will have a say in that matter.

I think this coalition government has treated sixth round ALMOs, of which Lewisham Homes is one, very poorly, but we will endeavour to make sure that they do their Decent Homes work with the money that they have at their disposal.

QUESTION No. 6

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Bonavia
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

Can the Cabinet Member for Customer Services provide a report on the progress of the Mayor's plan to set a list of criteria to which LBL shall have regard when considering whether to approve applications to hold events on Blackheath and other green spaces managed by Glendale on behalf of LBL?

Reply

I am pleased to inform Cllr Bonavia that the parks events policy paper is ready for consultation and officers have forwarded the paper to be distributed to the Blackheath Joint Working Party and to the Blackheath Ward Assembly. Feedback and comments are requested for the 15th July. The paper contains events assessment criteria for discussion by the BJWP and clear guidelines for applicants when booking events on the heath.

The Group manager for Green Scene will attend the ward assembly on 5th July and the Green Space Regeneration Manager will attend the Blackheath Joint working party on 21st July to receive feedback and discuss comments already received. It is also intended to place the paper on the Council's website for comment.

QUESTION No. 7

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Jeffrey
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

What representations has the Deputy Mayor had from residents regarding the possible future use of the Ladywell Centre site as a cinema? What assumptions are the Council currently making about the future use of the site?

Reply

The Planning Policy Team released the Lewisham Town Centre Area Action Plan further options report (The AAP) for public consultation in April and May 2011. As part of the response to this consultation, eight local residents sent in representations requesting that the Ladywell leisure centre site be considered for redevelopment as a cinema following its proposed closure in 2013 (following the opening of the new Loampit Vale leisure centre).

The AAP further options report identified three options for the redevelopment of the Ladywell leisure centre site. The preferred option is Option 2 – redevelopment of the site for a mix of uses including retail and residential uses. This option promotes suitable town centre uses on this accessible site and maximises a key opportunity to help support the vitality and viability of the southern part of the town centre. The preferred option, while promoting retail and residential uses, seeks to retain some flexibility as more detailed design and feasibility work is required.

Planning Policy are currently reviewing the consultation responses with a view to creating an AAP draft plan by autumn 2011.

Supplementary Question No. 7

Councillor Jeffrey

Simply, can I ask that the option about using the Ladywell Leisure Centre as a cinema be actively considered in a way that perhaps it has not been so far? We do lack a cinema in Lewisham and I know there are a great many local filmmakers who would appreciate the possibility for having a cinema as well as those people who want to go and see films, but we need to encourage the creative aspects of our population.

Mayor

I am aware that in discussions in particular around Lewisham town centre efforts have been made in the past to try to attract a cinema operator to become involved. There was interest, but partly because of changes in market conditions that development has not advanced as quickly as we might have hoped. I do not think that I could say that we could guarantee anything on that, not least because there is a film called *Field of Dreams*, 'build it and he will come'. The risk is, of course, that you build a cinema and they do not come and that, I think, is at the heart of this. Nevertheless, I will ask our planners to be aware of this when we get to the point of deciding what sort of brief we need for that site.

QUESTION No. 8

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Foxcroft
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

Question

How many apprenticeships have been offered by the Council and partner organisations since 2009? (please break the figures down by organisation and by date).

Reply

Since 2009, a total of 129 apprenticeship opportunities have been created through the Lewisham apprenticeship scheme by the council and partner organisations.

Below is a breakdown of the apprentice positions and where they have been established over the years:-

- London Borough of Lewisham (48)
- Lewisham Homes (27)
- Lewisham College (13)
- Creative Process (12)
- Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust (10)
- Millwall Community Scheme (5)
- Teachsport (5)
- Phoenix (Mullaley 5)
- L+Q (2)
- Ravensbourne Project (1)
- WideHorizons Outdoor Education Trust (1)

The Council is continuing to work with partners to create additional apprenticeship opportunities for our citizens.

Supplementary Question No. 8

Councillor Foxcroft

Can you give an assurance that getting young people and NEETs into work in this borough will continue to be a priority?

Councillor Maslin

Yes, I can indeed give that assurance that the Council is committed to doing all it can to alleviate youth unemployment within, of course, the resource constraints that have been placed upon us by this coalition government.

QUESTION No. 9

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Peake
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

What lessons have been learned since the last two winters from the disruption caused by heavy snowfalls, particularly on the steep roads in Forest Hill? In what ways has the Council's Winter Service Plan been revised and what will be done differently in the event of similar weather this winter?

Reply

Discussions have been carried out with the Tewkesbury Lodge Estate Residents' Association regarding problems with access to the steep roads in Forest Hill. The Council's contractor, Conway, has agreed to trial the use of snow chains on the gritting lorries and the use of 'slush blades' to assist with snow clearance. However they have encountered problems with snow chains elsewhere, as the chains clogged quickly and performance was limited. Conway did trial the use of a 'slush blade' in Bromley last winter. This would move slush or loose snow, so would save time when clearing prior to salting. It has a rubber blade so would deflect over speed humps or cushions. Despite their obvious benefits, there would still be problems with parked cars etc. They also require extensive modifications to gritting lorries. As these are not included in the Council's contract with Conway, the Council would have to reimburse Conway with the cost of the modification works.

Following the severe winters, a Winter Service Practitioners Group has now been set up. This group meets regularly to exchange advice on best-practice and is attended by TfL and most London Boroughs, including Lewisham. Advice gained from these meetings will be incorporated in the next revision of the Council's Winter Service Policy and Plan.

Supplementary Question No. 9

Councillor Peake

I would like to ask a couple of things. The answer is not completely clear that says that Conway has agreed to trial the use of snow chains and the use of slush blades. Can you confirm that they will be trialling the use of that, because a bit later on the answer is discussing the problems with that, so can you confirm that those two things will definitely be used?

Also, I see the next revision of the Winter Service Plan is coming. Could you tell me when it will come and ensure that it is emailed to the ward members in Forest Hill in particular? I am sure other people may be interested in it as well.

The Mayor

I am not sure I caught quite all of that, but I suspect the trialling has to await further falls of snow, but my understanding is with the contractor that it is the business of if the snow chains do not work trying this other way of doing it.

On your second point, I will endeavour to ensure that officers do provide you with that information when it is available and I can assure you that the issue of snow on roads in Forest Hill is something which does gain my attention on a regular basis.

Action

ED Regen.

QUESTION No. 10

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Clutten
of the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People**

Question

How many individuals and groups have now come forward with proposals for free schools within the Lewisham borough? Could you please give details of how the council is working with these groups to discuss the potential validity of their plans?

Reply

To date 16 individuals or groups have approached the Council with ideas for free schools in Lewisham.

In all cases an offer to meet with officers has been made, and in the majority of cases, taken up, in order both for the Council to understand the proposal, and for the proposer to understand better the Lewisham context. The Council has also responded to any requests for further information, for example data on demographics, demand for places, and educational standards. Officers have explained the Council's plans particularly for the expansion of primary provision in relation to particular sites, and the general difficulty in finding suitable sites for new schools in Lewisham.

In no cases have detailed plans been subsequently shared with the Council which are sufficiently developed, not least in relation to potential sites, to inform further discussion on their merits, for example in helping to meet the Borough's need for additional high quality primary places.

QUESTION No. 11

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Daby
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

Question

Can the Cabinet Member for Community Services provide details of the government cuts to Adult Education? What is the total expected percentage cut in Lewisham's funding?

Reply

Grant funding levels from the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) have dropped by 18% since 2006/07. The SFA has announced that over the period of the spending review, 2011/12 - 2014-15, Adult Skills funding will reduce by a further 25%. Specific details of Lewisham's settlement have not been provided but a 25% reduction in the relevant funding elements would represent a reduction in funding of approximately £625,000 for Lewisham.

This is based on the current level of funding for 2011/12 of £3,897,929 made up of the following funding streams:

Adult Safeguarded Learning - £1,873,761

Adult Skills - £1,397,747

First Steps- £440,364

Additional Learning Support - £186,057

In addition, the SFA has announced that there will be major reform of the Adult Safeguarded Budget, the largest stream. This is the budget that provides funding for non-accredited learning and changes will be implemented in September

2012.

For 2011/12, the SFA has reduced the funding for English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes. These classes had previously received a higher funding amount per taught hour. This additional funding will now be removed from September 2011/12 and further reduces the funding available to CEL.

SFA has also announced major changes to funding eligibility as there is an expectation that individuals will make a greater contribution towards the cost of their learning. Concessionary fees will now only be available to learners who are on an employment seeking benefit, i.e. job seekers allowance or employment support allowance. It is not known what impact this will have on projected learners numbers or fee income in September.

In response to these cuts CEL has kept the 50% concessionary rate for older learners (aged 65 years and over) so that these learners will pay £2 per hour rather than £4. There has been a significant amount of lobbying of John Hayes, the Minister for Business, Innovation and Skills to review the cuts for learners as part of the changes in the Disability Living Allowance.

QUESTION No. 12

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Folorunso
of the Cabinet Member for Community Safety**

Question

Can you let me know if Lewisham Metropolitan Police uniformed staff will be affected by budget reductions?

Could you also provide ranks of officers whose post will be deleted?

Reply

As I understand it, the MPS have submitted the proposals for managing the reduction in budget through the Policing Plan 2011-14. The officer and PCSO numbers are being managed in a controlled way as part of the MPS Territorial Policing Development Programme. The aim is to maintain a strong focus on delivering policing services as efficiently as possible to mitigate the impact of the reductions that are required.

Under these proposals there will be no reduction in the number of PC's and PCSO's within Safer Neighbourhood Teams. However, changes are being made to supervisory roles where sergeants may be responsible for more than one team. If the proposals are accepted on the 30 June 2011 it is likely that there will be a reduction of 4 SNT sergeants across the borough.

Supplementary Question No. 12

Councillor Folorunso

Can you name some of the wards that are likely to be affected?

Councillor Onuegbu

Right, thank you. Please take this list with a pinch of salt. Although four wards have been identified, we will not know for sure until the MPAs' meeting, which will take place on the 30th, so I am afraid you have to wait until after the 30th to know definitely if those wards that have been identified will be the ones.

The wards which are under consideration are: Catford South and Whitefoot, Downham and Grove Park, Blackheath, Lee Green, Crofton Park and Ladywell. However, please, we do not know for sure until after the meeting on the 30th.

QUESTION No. 13

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Maines
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

Following the increase in the cost of parking permits are you considering any changes in the CPZ ? Will you introduce hourly visitor passes and look at ways easing the burden on carers and other regular visits to homes within CPZs?

Reply

There are no plans at present to alter the CPZ times in Blackheath. Visitor vouchers are charged by half day (5 hours) or full day. The half day tariff is charged at £2.80 the same price as the two hour pay and display tariff. Which equates to five hours parking for the price of two for resident's visitors, when parking in resident bays.

Alternatively, pay and display parking can be used if visiting for less than one hour.

QUESTION No. 14

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

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

Question

When does LB Lewisham envisage the finalisation of the sale of land behind 98 Sydenham Road (adjacent to Girton Road car park) Sydenham, London SE26 5JA to Temple Stone London Ltd?

Reply

Council Officers agreed to declare the land surplus to the Council's requirements at a meeting in April 2010, and contractual terms for the land sale were agreed with the prospective purchaser recently, after protracted negotiations.

A report seeking formal authority for the disposal of the land is currently being prepared by officers and will shortly be submitted to the Executive Director for Resources, acting under delegated authority, for formal disposal consent.

It is anticipated that the land sale will complete shortly thereafter.

Supplementary Question No. 14

Councillor Curran

I do not normally raise items of constituency casework, as it were, or ward casework, but each of the questions I have raised tonight have their genesis from more than six years ago and I have a feeling that one more email or telephone call is not going to make much difference. I have been worried that in four years time I will still be dealing with these issues, that is why I raise them in this way and, to a degree, they do represent a little bit of a corporate failure. I am very glad that having brought it to your attention they are now

saying there is going to be a solution to this, but I would ask the Mayor, if he is answering for the Deputy Mayor on this point, if he would have a word with the relevant departments so that I will not have to raise it again at a subsequent Council meeting.

The Mayor

I am happy to ask the director of the relevant department to ensure that this is dealt with speedily.

Action

ED Regen.

QUESTION No. 15

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor De Ryk
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

Question

How many lunch clubs are funded by the Council and what criteria do you use to grant funding?

Reply

The Localities Fund has given support to the following lunch clubs across the borough

Locality Fund 2010-11

- Bellingham ward: Bellingham Lunch Club £1,759.15 (SAGE Ageing Well)
- Bellingham ward: BEGO Xmas Party £920 (Bellingham Community Project)
- Blackheath ward: Heathside & Lethbridge over 60s Luncheon club Christmas lunch and outing £1,200 (Quaggy Development Trust)
- Lee Green ward: Senior Citizen Christmas lunch £1,060 (Lee Senior Citizens Social Club)
- Telegraph Hill ward: Sector J Pensioners Christmas dinner £125 (Sector J Pensioners Club)

Localities Fund recommendations are based on ward members' identification of local need. The proposals are usually then endorsed through the local assembly.

Small Grants budget 2010-11

The following lunch clubs were funded from the 2010/11 Small Grants budget:

- South London Turkish Elders who meet in Catford
- Turkish Elders who meet in Sydenham

The criteria for small grants are attached.

In addition, some transitional funding was given to the Heathside and Lethbridge luncheon club when the neighbourhood management programme funding came to an end and the local assemblies were in their infancy. The estate was undergoing considerable change and it was recognised that the Quaggy Development Trust would need time to seek alternative sources of funding for the programme of activities.

The transitional funding has now come to an end and the luncheon club would need to seek funding from the small grants programme or the local assembly.

CRITERIA FOR FUNDING VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS 2010/2011

Lewisham Council has a vision of making Lewisham the best place in London to live, work and learn, and this drives the local change agenda.

The Council recognises that changing and modernising Lewisham requires involvement from all sections of the community. The voluntary and community sector has a key role in developing partnerships for inclusive communities. The Council is committed to working with and supporting a vibrant, innovative and effective voluntary and community sector and the unique role of voluntary and community groups in enabling local people to articulate their needs and to develop services to meet those needs.

The Council is inviting applications for funding from voluntary organisations for 2010/2011. Local Authority expenditure levels are not yet known and it may be that the overall level of funding available is less than previous years. The Council cannot therefore guarantee that organisations funded in previous years will be funded in 2010/2011. Funding will depend on the overall funding available and the strength of individual applications in meeting the funding criteria. It is expected that decisions on applications will be taken in March 2011.

Organisations applying for funding will be assessed against general, key service and operational criteria. **PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR APPLICATION SHOWS HOW YOU CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THESE CRITERIA.**

KEY CRITERIA

In allocating funding, officers ensure that the grants programme is directed to organisations that demonstrate the willingness and capacity to make cost effective contributions to the corporate priorities identified in the Community Strategy. Applicants meeting the general criteria will be assessed against how they contribute towards these ten priorities which are:

1. crime: reduce crime and the fear of crime and make Lewisham a safer place.
2. health: sustain and improve the health and well-being of local people.
3. education: raise educational attainment, skill levels and employability.
4. enterprise and business growth: foster enterprise and sustainable business growth, including the creative industries.
5. cultural vitality: develop cultural vitality – building on Lewisham's distinctive cultures and diversity.
6. regeneration: secure sustainable regeneration of Lewisham as a place – its housing, transport and environment.

7. welfare dependency: reduce welfare dependency, promote independence and increase the life chances of vulnerable members of the community.
8. engage local communities: help local communities to develop their own capacity for mutual support and independent action and ensure the centrality of community involvement in public service decision-making processes.
9. ensure equity in service delivery: design diversity into local institutions and design out discrimination.
10. improve effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of local public services: optimise investment in infrastructure and improve the stewardship of assets.

Using the Community Strategy priorities outlined above, the criteria for grant aid will be assessed against the following considerations:

- Is delivering services representing interests which meet one of more priorities in Community Strategy priorities 1-7 'Improving the well-being of Lewisham'?
- Is delivering second-tier support and development to the sector in keeping with priority 8 in the Community Strategy, 'Develop and engage local communities'?
- Is delivering important services outside of the statutory sector remit, contributing to priorities 9 and 10 in the Community Strategy, 'Improving public sector performance and delivery'?

As a prerequisite for receiving grant aid, organisations will also need to demonstrate

- compliance with the Council's conditions of grant aid;
- the viability of the organisation;
- the promotion of good value and quality;
- evidence that funding applied for could not have been accessed elsewhere;
- ensuring active promotion of equality of opportunity and social inclusion.

GENERAL CRITERIA

Your application must:

- be for activities or services that mainly benefit people who live within the London Borough of Lewisham
- be from a voluntary organisation
- include a constitution clearly setting out aims and objects
- include a written equal opportunities policy
- where appropriate, include a child protection / vulnerable adult policy
- demonstrate clear financial management procedures and arrangements which allow the management committee to ensure the effective use of resources

We will not fund:

- × individuals
- × projects that do not mainly benefit people living within the borough of Lewisham
- × worship or activities that promote the views of a religious organisation (although religious groups may apply for non religious activities)
- × activities that promote the views of a political party
- × commercial or business related activities
- × spending that has already taken place

OPERATIONAL CRITERIA

Applicants meeting the general and key criteria will then be assessed against the operational criteria detailed below:

- the organisation's efficiency and effectiveness in providing its services
- whether the organisation's services duplicate council or other Lewisham based services
- how the services relate to other similar activities
- how effectively the organisation measures its performance and successes
- whether volunteers are involved and if so whether they provide 'added value' in the delivery of the organisation's services
- whether the organisation is able to attract funds from other sources and if so how successful has it been
- how well the organisation is able to support and manage both paid and unpaid staff
- its ability to effectively measure the performance and success of the project both quantitatively and qualitatively

QUESTION No. 16

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Fletcher
of the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People**

Question

Did the Children and Young People Directorate send in a submission to the Wolf review of vocational education for 14-19 year olds? What advice is the Directorate giving to schools in light of the Wolf report's findings that many young people are doing vocational courses that do not prepare them sufficiently for a job or further study and that vocational qualifications should be removed from league tables? If this were to happen what impact will this have on Lewisham's position in national league tables?

Reply

The Lewisham 14-19 Strategic forum did not make a single response to the Wolf review of vocational education for 14-19 year olds. Instead, we supported schools and colleges in making individual submissions to the review. The Wolf report is right to stress that schools and colleges only offer those qualifications which are useful to young people in finding a job or future study. The 14-19 Strategic Forum has welcomed the review.

In relation to advice to schools, the Wolf Review and the Government's response to it have been discussed with Lewisham providers through the 14-19 Forum, Secondary Heads Strategic Group, and the 14-19 Policy and Programme Steering Group.

Although Wolfe's recommendations have been accepted by the Government in full it is unlikely that any changes in legislation will be enacted before September 2012.

In anticipation of future changes to the status of some pre-16 vocational qualifications, we are continuing to support schools and colleges in reviewing

their curricula. The 14-19 Partnership is ensuring the right balance of KS4 courses is available across the Borough to Lewisham students. Schools and Colleges will consider individually and within the Partnership what constitutes a broad KS4 offer, and what qualifications they adopt outside the core curriculum.

If the proposals of the Wolf review were enacted and current eligible vocational qualifications were removed from national league tables, it is likely that it would have a beneficial effect on Lewisham's position in the league tables.

Supplementary Question No. 16

Councillor Fletcher

Please could the Cabinet Member expand further on the last paragraph of her response? In particular, why the withdrawal of vocational qualifications from national league tables is likely to have a beneficial effect on Lewisham's position.

Councillor Klier

In your question, you posed the question to me about the change in vocational qualifications and the number of vocational qualifications that students can study before they are 16. You asked if the change were to happen what impact would this have on Lewisham's position in national league tables. My answer was that it would have a beneficial effect, i.e. we think that we use the BTEC route to gaining five A-Cs less than many councils. Indeed, I was talking to the Member for Children and Young People from another borough in London, who said he was working very hard in his borough to try to introduce more of the, shall we say, academic subjects into his schools, even though they had very high A-C pass rates.

QUESTION No. 17

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Brooks
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

What steps has the Council taken to ensure Lewisham Homes has carried out its statutory duties under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 in respect of all the council blocks it manages?

Reply

The Council has taken the following action to ensure Lewisham Homes has carried out its statutory duties under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 in respect of all the council blocks it manages.

The Council has received the Lewisham Homes Health and Safety policy and is undertaking action to confirm it is up to date and that the measures they have in place, including specialist advice, are suitable and sufficient to discharge their duty effectively.

Through its Housing Clienting Team the Council is monitoring the Lewisham Homes Fire Safety Action Plan and policy for managing fire safety. This includes regular monitoring of how risks are managed, their approach to risk assessments, fire safety works and the actions they are taking in relation to the fire enforcement notices and deficiency notices they have received from the Fire Authority.

QUESTION No. 18

Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Feakes
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

Question

What work has the cabinet member undertaken to investigate the sufficiency of GP coverage within the borough?

Reply

In addition to it being raised by Councillor Feakes, the issue of GP coverage has previously been brought to my attention by officers supporting the local assemblies. I have therefore been in contact with health colleagues and I have been assured that there is sufficient GP coverage across the borough.

There are currently 48 GP practices in Lewisham, including one walk in centre. I have been informed that all roads in Lewisham are covered by a GP practice. I have been further informed that, at this time, all practice lists are open for patients to register and that any resident can of course attend the walk in centre without an appointment and without being registered at that centre.

Supplementary Question 18

Councillor Feakes

Thank you to the Cabinet Member for her response. I was wondering whether the Cabinet Member is aware that the furthest point from any GP surgery within zone three lies within Forest Hill ward and I was wondering whether she

would agree to meet with me to discuss making sure that there is sufficient coverage in terms of geography let alone population for the Forest Hill area.

Councillor Best

Action

Yes, quite happy to meet, Alex. I am aware that there is no GP surgery in Forest Hill, but of course being the Councillor for Sydenham I am aware of where the surgeries are, the nearest one being Wells Park Road. This is adjacent to Forest Hill ward in that it is on our ward boundary. However, yes, let us follow it forward. I do feel we have good coverage and of course we have the benefit of the walk in. Although it is in New Cross, it does mean that our residents can literally walk in from eight until eight 365 days a year.

**ED Comm.
Serv.**

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Griesenbeck
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

- (1) What is the income from CPZ fees in Lewisham by ward?
- (2) How much of this money is invested in transport-related projects in the London Borough of Lewisham?
- (3) Is any money from CPZs spent outside the London Borough of Lewisham?
- (4) What are the projects which CPZ money is invested in?
- (5) How much CPZ money is invested in which ward?

Reply

- (1) The CPZ income is not calculated by ward it is calculated by CPZ. The overall surplus from parking income 2009/10 was £681,559. The figure for year 2010/11 is not yet available.
- (2) All the parking income surplus is statutorily ring-fenced for spend on highway improvements.
- (3) Money from CPZs is not spent outside of the London Borough of Lewisham.
- (4) Income received from CPZs is invested in projects such as Traffic Management Schemes, footway/carriageway improvements and lighting.

- (5) CPZ Investment is not undertaken on a ward basis. An holistic approach is undertaken when spending the surplus from the parking account and many of the schemes will cross ward boundaries.

QUESTION NO. 20

This question has been withdrawn by Officers.

QUESTION No. 21

Priority 2

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Harris
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

Question

Does the Council have any guidelines around investing in authoritarian regimes whether through our prudential borrowing or pensions investments; if not, is this a policy that could be developed?

Reply

When investing the pension fund's cash the primary consideration must be the maximisation of return with social, ethical and environmental issues being secondary to this.

Within this context the Pension Fund's current Statement of Investment Principles encourages managers to "refrain from investing in organisations engaged in unethical practices, provided that there are suitable alternative investments, which will not in the long term result in a loss of Fund performance." The political instability which is associated with authoritarian regimes will obviously be a factor which managers consider when assessing the long term commercial viability of investment in such countries.

Supplementary Question No. 21

Councillor Harris

Being that authoritarian regimes are more unstable, can we be proactive on this and make efforts with our fund managers to make ethical choices that reflect the risks inherent in investing in places like Belarus, Syria or Iran?

Councillor Maslin

Yes, I think up to a point you have phrased your question very well. I think the key thing to understand is that the fund is there to benefit the beneficiaries of the scheme. It is not there for the Council to pursue its foreign policy by another means. However, clearly there is investment risk where there is insecurity because, plainly, there is a risk that you cannot get your money out and I want to assure everybody that our fund managers are very keen on pursuing the security of the investment and principles of good governance. If I can give an example, at a recent meeting of the Pensions Investment Committee our commodities fund managers made the point that they would not invest in a particular company that was heavily involved in Kazakhstan and had recently got into some trouble getting rid of members of the board precisely because they had serious concerns about governance.

QUESTION No. 22

Priority 2

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Bonavia
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

Question

Can the Cabinet Member for Community Services explain what steps have so far been taken by the Council to obtain a new tenant for the premises formally occupied by the Blackheath Village Library?

Reply

Following the decision taken by the Mayor at the Mayor and Cabinet meeting on the 11 May, officers have been in discussion with Heath House School who wish to have the existing lease of the library assigned to them. Solicitors have been instructed and the final terms are currently being negotiated.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Cabinet Member for Older People**

Question

Please provide an update on the implementation of the Mayor's manifesto commitment to set up a Positive Ageing Council?

Reply

In response to the Mayoral pledge in 2010 to set up a council for older people, the Positive Ageing Council was launched in May 2011.

The Positive Ageing Council operates as a forum for older people to raise issues that affect them locally and nationally. It is also a place to celebrate getting older in Lewisham. Its aim is to create a network for older peoples' groups to share learning and experiences, and link groups together.

A smaller steering group of 20 older local people was also formed at the launch who will work with elected members, who will be supported by council officers, to take an active lead in the running of the Positive Ageing Council. Representatives of the steering group will sit on various Council partnership boards to represent the Positive Ageing Council.

A constitutional change will be recommended to the council to enable the Positive Ageing Council to take key matters of importance to older people to Mayor and Cabinet for review.

Future Council strategies will also be taken to the Positive Ageing Council to ensure that the needs of older people in Lewisham are represented in all service areas of the Council.

At the Positive Ageing Council launch in May 2011, older people in Lewisham were asked to put forward their top three local topics of concern that they would like to Positive Ageing Council to focus on in the first year these were:

- 1) The isolation of older people impacted on by Lewisham Council services and decisions such as : controlled parking zones in the areas they live, a lack of information or promotion about the services and activities available to older people in their local area, and the closure of third sector older people's services due to funding cuts.
- 2) Transport issues affecting older people: dial a ride and taxis to hospital, pensioners experiences of buses / TFL.
- 3) The experiences of the care of older people: in care homes, in hospital / doctors surgeries and visiting agency home carers.

The Steering Group will be reviewing this feedback in the summer and deciding how to take these topics forward. The first steering group meeting is scheduled for 23 June. The next Positive Ageing Council event will happen at the Civic Suite on 8 September.

Supplementary Question No. 23

Councillor Whittle

Thank you to Councillor Fitzsimmons for that response. As one of the youngest boroughs in London I hope she will be able to assure me that the Positive Ageing Council will continue to prioritise intergenerational working and continue to work closely with the young Mayor and his advisers.

Councillor Fitzsimmons

I can assure you that this is already very much in being. We plan about seven or eight different intergenerational events in the next few months, so we are very keen and so is the Young Mayor and all his team. They are working very closely with us.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Foxcroft
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

What assessment has the Council made of the potential increase in planning powers outlined in the Localism Bill?

Reply

The Council has been keeping up to date with the various announcements on the Localism Bill which impact on planning and has been responding to government consultation on related matters. It is clear that there is still a good deal of detail to be worked out on how neighbourhood forums will promote Neighbourhood Development Plans for their areas but the Council has already learnt a lot about how to work with local residents and groups on a Ward basis. It is therefore good to see that we can take that experience forward so that our communities have a key role in working with the Council to promote the right development in the right place.

However, there are still some aspects of change in relation to planning which cause concern, including the proposal to remove the need for consent for a change of use from commercial uses to housing. In a London context, this appears highly inappropriate with small offices and businesses likely to be lost due to the higher land value of residential use. In such cases, where we do not feel that changes to planning powers are in the interest of residents and businesses in the borough, we will continue to lobby for a different approach.

Supplementary Question No. 24

Councillor Foxcroft

Has the Mayor had any indication of the new planning rules envisaged in the Bill and the introduction of the neighbourhood plans will, as Eric Pickles puts it, 'deliver a shot in the arm for local democracy'?

The Mayor

I think the short answer to that is no. I have to say that I have had a couple of conversations over the last few months with two parliamentarians who were, until very recently, senior figures in local government, one of whom will be very well known to members of the previous council she was my deputy, but another was someone who was a council leader on the other side, i.e. sitting on the government benches. Both of them expressed frustration in that they had been unable to persuade ministers to listen to people who have experience of the planning system. Now, I do not think I am making a party political point here. I think there are real concerns that the planning aspects of this Bill will simply not work in the way that ministers appear to believe they will and, as I said in answer to an earlier question, I hope that our colleagues in the House of Lords are going to have a go at some of this and try to get some commonsense into it.

QUESTION No. 25

Priority 2

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Johnson
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

Following your positive response to my previous question on the possibilities tightening up the borough's planning policies on the protection of back gardens, can you give me an update on any progress that has been made?

Reply

The response to the Council question in March 2011 stated that the UDP policy HSG 8 'Backland and In-Fill Development', that deals with this issue, is currently retained and is under review as part of the preparation of the Development Management, Development Plan Document (DPD).

As a formal planning document the Development Management DPD has to go through a number of statutory processes. This involves a review of the existing UDP policy, collection of relevant evidence and consultation on options for change. Then a final plan is submitted to the Secretary of State for an Independent Examination, following that the Council can adopt the new Development Plan.

Consultation on options for change will now take place in the Autumn. When the further options report is published it will contain, amongst other policy options, a revised approach to backland and in-fill development and include reference to garden development.

It is anticipated that the policy options will include a criteria based approach that will focus on protecting the neighbourhood character; the residential amenity of both existing and proposed residential properties; traffic and parking issues and landscape and nature resource issues.

Supplementary Question No. 25

Councillor Johnson

I would like to thank the Deputy Mayor for his positive response to my question. I do look forward to revised and, hopefully, strengthened policy on development and protection of back gardens.

Given how close to the heart this is of many of the local amenities societies and local residents groups, can I ask the Mayor is it possible that some initial feedback can be received from the local groups on these proposals on the way forward prior to the official consultation in the autumn?

The Mayor

I will endeavour to pass the question on to the Deputy Mayor and to the Head of Planning, who will be much better placed than I am to do that. It seems a sensible course of action, but I do not want to pre-empt their response.

Action

ED Regen.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Jeffrey
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

Question

- (a) What is the extent of Lewisham's exposure to Southern Cross care homes?
- (b) What are the latest plans to ensure that all elderly and vulnerable residents are protected if Southern Cross becomes financially unviable?

Reply

a) What is the extent of Lewisham's exposure to Southern Cross care homes?

Southern Cross, a national care home provider, recently announced losses of over £300m. As a result, the organisation reported that it intended to underpay the rent to its landlords by 30% for four months starting 1 June to September 2011. In addition, Southern Cross announced that there will be home closures and job losses of around 3,000 members of staff. Southern Cross state that job losses will not come from within the managerial or care staffing structure but the organisation has yet to clarify from which areas the job losses will come. Southern Cross met with Landlords and Ministers on 17 June 2011 to discuss its recovery and restructure plans. This work is being led by KPMG.

In Lewisham, Southern Cross Healthcare operates two care homes: Alexander Care Centre (owned by NHP Group) and Beechcroft Nursing Home (owned by Bondcare). Lewisham is the primary referring local authority to these homes, although there are a few residents in the homes from other boroughs.

In addition, a number of placements have been purchased by Lewisham in other homes owned by two of the landlords affected by the Southern Cross rent reductions. Information on these placements is as follows:

Barchester Healthcare: 4 placements in borough, 7 placements out of borough;
Four Seasons Healthcare: 5 placements out of borough.

The risks of immediate cessation of operations in Lewisham can be summarised under two key areas. First, the impact upon the Council's statutory duties to provide care for vulnerable residents with assessed need and, secondly, the cost pressures for the Council in re-providing these beds.

As of 1 June, there were 55 vacancies in local nursing and residential care homes in the borough. This would not be enough to accommodate all the clients currently in Beechcroft and Alexander. The greatest risk to the Council would be in the provision of nursing care beds. Currently there are only 25 nursing vacancies in borough and very few in neighbouring boroughs as they too are looking to source any available beds. This means that Lewisham would be compelled to look further afield to accommodate all existing clients. The situation regarding residential beds is not quite as acute as that for nursing beds.

b) What are the latest plans to ensure that all elderly and vulnerable residents are protected if Southern Cross becomes financially unviable?

So that Lewisham can continue to meet its statutory duty to provide care for vulnerable residents with assessed needs, officers are actively working on a number of levels to ensure that the council has contingency plans in place should it need to take action to protect those residents placed in establishments run by Southern Cross.

Officers have undertaken an analysis of placements to ascertain the number of residents that Lewisham has placed in and out of borough. Discussions have also taken place with other boroughs that have placements with Southern Cross so contingency plans can be shared.

Discussions have also taken place at the Residential and Nursing Providers Forum and Domiciliary Care Providers' Forum to agree proposed recovery plans, should they require implementation.

Contact has been made with a number of care homes in the borough who have vacancies. Should the need arise, they have indicated that they would give the Council first choice of any vacancies.

In relation to the two Southern Cross homes in the borough, regular contract monitoring visits are being conducted. Four such visits have been made during June. Contract Monitoring Officers interviewed residents, relatives and staff to gather feedback on the quality of care and any adverse working conditions arising as a result of the current situation. The observations by Contract Monitoring Officers and Lay Visitors indicated that both Alexander and Beechcroft staff are continuing to provide good nursing and residential care, despite the

highly publicised discussions surrounding the financial standing of Southern Cross Healthcare. Contract Monitoring Officers will continue to observe working practices and examine relevant documentation and ensure that appropriate action is taken to prevent any decline in quality standards.

I would like to reassure all Members that we have place robust procedures for working with our providers that is part of our culture of joint roles and responsibilities in securing the safety and well being of all vulnerable residents.

Supplementary Question No. 26

Councillor Jeffrey

Can I thank the Cabinet Member for a full response and just ask that Members be kept informed of any subsequent developments on this?

Councillor Best

Yes, of course. As you know, this discussion is happening on a national level. There is an awful lot of to-ing and fro-ing to try to seek a solution. I would really like to reassure everyone this evening that we have robust procedures in place for working with our providers. We want to make sure that we can continue those joint roles and responsibilities, because it is so important to reassure vulnerable residents. Therefore, I will, of course, keep everyone fully informed.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Clutton
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

What is the current situation regarding the re-categorisation of pot holes across the borough? Please also provide a details list of all those that have been reported since May 2010 and how many of these have been permanently repaired?

Reply

The Council's defect threshold for repair of pot holes is unchanged. The Council's Highway Maintenance Code of Practice defines a pot hole as "a hole in the carriageway surface caused by failure of the surfacing material, more than 100cm² and more than 50mm deep".

Approximately 8800 pot holes have been repaired since May 2010. It is not possible to determine how many of those have been permanently repaired. However the Council's Carriageway Resurfacing Priority System includes the cost of pot hole repairs as one of the factors that determines a road's place on the Priority List, so roads with numerous pot holes are likely to be high on that list.

A detailed list of reported potholes is not readily available.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Maines
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

Question

Who are the members of the shadow Health and Wellbeing Board. When the Board is fully established how many members will be elected councillors or representatives of local patients?

Reply

The members of the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board are:

Sir Steve Bullock, the Mayor, who chairs the board
Chris Best Cabinet Member for Community Services
Aileen Buckton and Frankie Sulke, the Executive Directors for Community Services and for Children and Young People
Martin Wilkinson, the Managing Director of the Lewisham Business Service Unit (BSU), NHS SE London
Dr Helen Tattersfield , GP, Chair of the Lewisham Primary Care Federation and (Vice Chair)
Dr Simon Parton, GP, Local Medical Committee (LMC)
Dr Danny Ruta, Joint Director of Public Health
Tim Higginson, Chief Executive, Lewisham Healthcare Trust (LHT)
Steve Davidson, Service Director, South London & Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust
Martin Howie, Director, Voluntary Action Lewisham (VAL)
Val Fulcher, Chair of the Lewisham Local Involvement Network (LINK)

The formal establishment of Lewisham's Health and Wellbeing Board will not take place until the Health and Social Care Bill has completed its passage through Parliament. Final membership will of course reflect statutory requirements.

QUESTION No. 29

Priority 2

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

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

Question

Will the LB Lewisham instal a gate at the (non-public) access entrance to from behind the shops at 94-98 Sydenham Road with keys for traders to prevent recurrence of frequent flytipping?

Reply

The Council does not own the shops in the entire terrace of 80 to 104 Sydenham Road or the land between the shops and the car park and therefore will not be installing a gate to the access entrance.

Supplementary Question No. 29

Councillor Curran

I am a little perplexed by the answer given to this one. Again, it relates to an issue that has been running for many years. The answer says, 'The Council does not own the land between the shops and the car park at Girton Road' and, in fact, in answer number 14 the Council says it is selling a piece of that land to one of the shopkeepers. Therefore, I think that needs to be clarified and I would be grateful if the relevant officer can explain who does own which bit of land or if no one claims ownership.

The Mayor

I share your puzzlement. I was also slightly surprised that the answer was, I thought, relatively dismissive. I know that at other authorities they have found ways of installing alley gates, as they call them, in order to deal with these issues, so I will undertake to ask the officers to come back with further information on this.

Action

ED Regen.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Fletcher
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

Increasingly sophisticated methods are being used by insurance companies to assess flood risk. These address not just the risk of rivers overflowing but also the risk of surface water flooding and flooding from groundwater, which have become increasingly common in recent years. Has any work been done to look at this issue in Lewisham, assess the risks to Council owned properties and to monitor those parts of the borough where this is a problem?

Reply

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 – most of which came into force on 1 April 2011 and the Flood Risk Regulations 2009 have placed a range of new duties and responsibilities on local authorities, the Environment Agency and other partners. The principal duty for Lewisham Council, with its new status as a ‘Lead Local Flood Authority’ will be to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a local flood risk management strategy (LFRMS) which covers flood risk from surface water run-off, groundwater, and ordinary watercourses (including lakes and ponds).

Since 2006, the GLA ‘Drain London’ Project - with funding from Defra - has been working to help London boroughs manage and reduce surface water risk by improving knowledge of the surface water drainage systems and identifying areas at greatest risk of flooding.

The aim was to find ways to tackle the problem of surface water flooding in London by establishing ownership of London’s drainage assets, assessing the condition of these assets and securing a better understanding of the risk from surface water flooding so that boroughs and the GLA could better plan to manage and improve drainage assets and mitigate the risk from this type of flooding.

The main outcome for the Drain London Project is that each London borough will have a Surface Water Management Plan that will contain a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment and a Flood Risk Management Plan. Lewisham is also involved in the Drain London Partnership and is part of Group 6 which involves the boroughs of Lewisham, Greenwich, Bexley and Bromley. Halcrow - an international company which specialises in planning, design and management services for developing infrastructure – are consultants for the 'Drain London' Project and have worked with officers from each of these boroughs to prepare their Preliminary Flood Risk Assessments and Surface Water Management Plans.

Lewisham's Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment and Surface Water Management Plan will be used to inform the local Flood Risk Management Strategy and the future update of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and other high level documents, such as the Thames Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP).

Supplementary Question No. 30

Councillor Fletcher

It is pleasing to see that work is being done on the issue of the potential of surface water flooding and I just wondered if the Mayor knows of the timetable for the introduction of the Surface Water Management Plan given, I think, just this week there have been warnings of the possibility of surface water flooding in south London.

The Mayor

I think this is one that needs a written answer, I will get you that.

Action

ED Regen.

QUESTION No. 31

Priority 2

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Brooks
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

How many housing blocks owned by Lewisham Council or who's management is connected to Lewisham Council, do not have an up-to-date fire risk assessment as required by the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005?

Reply

There are no housing blocks owned by Lewisham Council that do not have an up-to-date fire risk assessment.

Both Lewisham Homes (ALMO) and Regenter B3 (Brockley PFI) have reported that they are up to date with their fire risk assessments on housing blocks.

QUESTION No. 32

Priority 2

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor De Ryk
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

Question

Please state how many credit cards are held by each Directorate, and which officers are authorised to use them. Please give the outstanding balances on the cards for each of the past 4 years per directorate?

Reply

Lewisham Council issues Purchasing Cards to certain employees to ensure that we purchase goods, supplies and services in the most efficient manner. They are treated as controlled stationery and when issued are limited in scope depending on service area (accessing cash is not allowed). Each card transaction needs a requester and approver to ensure that good financial management is maintained. The monthly statements are checked by members of the procurement team to ensure probity and that the Council's financial procedures are followed. Currently, prior to using the purchasing card proposed expenditure of any level that relates to hospitality, staff travel, attendance at conferences, management development training, IT equipment or office furniture, and all expenditure over £5000, has to be accepted by the Departmental Expenditure Panels (DEP's).

The numbers of card holders in the various directorates is shown below :-

46 – Children & Young People
24 - Customer Services
34 - Community Services
8 - Regeneration
23 - Resources

Total = 135

Authorised officer names are covered by the Data Protection Act

There were no balances on cards as they are all paid automatically by Direct Debit.

The expenditure figures for the 4 years :-

2007/8 £374,999.17

2008/9 £637,186.74

2009/10 £947,542.28

2010/11 £825,232.13

Supplementary Question No. 32

Councillor De Ryk

I wonder whether as the credit card expenditure is authorised under the headings supplied the Cabinet Member for resources would be kind enough to supply a written breakdown of the totals in those categories.

Councillor Maslin

Yes, although I think that probably quite a lot of it is on the website under the £500 invoice scheme, which is a very good use of taxpayers' money.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Feakes
of the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People**

Question

What steps has the cabinet member taken to ensure that each of the borough's schools has sufficient numbers of governors with enough breadth of expertise to adequately fulfil the role governing body?

Reply

Governor Services work closely with Chairs of Governors to support them to ensure that they fill all vacancies as soon as possible once they arise.

All new Local Authority governors meet with the Head of Governor Services and a School Improvement Officer to discuss the role and assess suitability before they are put forward to be appointed to the school governing body.

School Improvement Officers work closely with Governor Services and particularly where there is a need to strengthen governing bodies to support them to fulfil their role successfully. This is where the LA or Ofsted identify where governance is less than good or where the school is in need of rapid improvement.

Supplementary Question No. 33

Councillor Feakes

Thank you very much for your answer, but I wanted to ask whether you were aware that clause 37 of the Education Bill currently before the House of Lords proposes to remove the requirement for local authority governors on maintained governing bodies and I was wondering if you are supportive of the efforts I am making to get the clause amended to make sure that LEA governors are kept as part of the mix.

Councillor Klier

Thank you, Councillor Feakes, for promoting me. I do not think I am quite in the position of getting a clause amended, although we can lobby. Your general thrust of these questions about governors is really about their capacity and how well they run their schools. I would pay tribute to most governors as they are the biggest volunteer force in the country and we are indebted to the amount of time they spend on schools. We will see what happens in the Bill.

QUESTION No. 34

Priority 3

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Harris
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

Question

In light of the defamation action funded by South Tyneside Council on behalf of individual members; does Lewisham Council allow for individual members and or officers to be funded using taxpayers' money for taking legal action for slander or libel? And if so, will officers remove this provision from the Council's constitution and working practices?

Reply

Lewisham Council does not fund slander or libel actions by members or officers.

Supplementary Question No. 34

Councillor Harris

A final one on law, can I just get confirmation that under no circumstances council taxpayers' money will be used to fund deformation actions and that our Constitution will reflect this?

Councillor Maslin

The answer is clear: we do not fund slander or libel actions. We have no plans to do so in the future.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Johnson
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

Question

Given the approval of the Libraries Implementation Plan at the Mayor and Cabinet meeting of 2 December 2009, why was no cost-benefit analysis of the proposals completed prior to the decision to close five of the libraries on 1 March 2011?

Reply

The Mayor's Commission on Libraries and Learning, published in May 2009, recommended that any proposed library building closure should only be considered after a full cost benefit analysis. This recommendation was written in a particular context. The commission recognised that some but not all our library plans had redevelopment plans for the modernisation of the library buildings with no obvious way of attracting redevelopment investment , a building move or co-location might have to be considered. It was agreed that a proposal of this kind which related to a particular building should be accompanied by a cost benefit analysis and a financial modelling tool that lends itself well to the analysis of a building and its usage..

However by Spring 2010, the scenario had changed substantially, presenting the Council with potentially unprecedented challenges. This is why, since the Summer of 2010, the Council needed to radically review the approach to delivering services into the future. While embracing the spirit and vision of the Commission, the Library & Information Service developed a comprehensive plan that delivers substantial savings for the Council while offering the opportunity to maintain quality library services for all residents. It was necessary at this point to undertake a different kind of analysis which balanced the need to maintain a comprehensive and efficient service against the need to make unprecedented savings and to take into consideration the

level of capital and service investment that had already been made in relation to the remaining libraries.

The current plan includes a reorganisation of the service, a reduction of library buildings that the Council manages directly, the development of opportunities to transfer buildings to community groups, and an increase in cross border working.

The aspects of this change programme that pertain to five library buildings (Blackheath, Crofton Park, Grove Park, New Cross, and Sydenham) have been extensively consulted on since the Summer of 2010.

QUESTION No. 36

Priority 3

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Clutten
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

In light of current budget constraints, what new ways for repairing pot holes have been investigated?

Reply

The Council's Highways Maintenance Team receive many offers to trial alternative pot hole repair systems. Several companies have carried out demonstrations at no cost to the Council. Unfortunately none of the repairs demonstrated any benefits over the standard repairs carried out by Conway, although they were all considerably more expensive.

QUESTION No. 37

Priority 3

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Maines
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

Question

Has the Council been offered £50,000 to create the "look and feel" of Olympics by decorating their streets with flags, banners and bunting for the 2012 Olympic Games ? As Blackheath will be the area closest within the borough to an Olympic event and many attendees will be arriving at Blackheath Station will you consider using some of this funding in Blackheath Village?

What consultation are you planning or how this funding will be spent?

Reply

The Council has indeed been offered funding of £50,000 by the Greater London Authority (GLA) to use on the London 2012 *Look and Feel* programme. The GLA has requested that boroughs use this funding to decorate town centres or parks.

The GLA has asked boroughs to return their plans for the use of the *Look and Feel* funding by the end of July. However an extension to this deadline is being requested by London Councils so that clarification can be sought on how the *Look and Feel* funding can be used and on the costs of official decorations. Once known, the Council will be able to develop proposals on what could be purchased within the budget available and where those decorations might be placed.

The Council is also in discussion with the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) about the 2012 venues, including the venue for the equestrian event at Greenwich Park. Part of these

discussions seek to establish who will be responsible for dressing the designated routes that spectators will take to each venue. In the case of Blackheath this covers the route from Blackheath train station to the Greenwich Park entrance on Shooters Hill Road.

Discussions with LOCOG are also ongoing about the London 2012 Torch Relay. Once the route through Lewisham has been agreed, the Council may also want to consider using some of the *Look and Feel* funding to decorate it.

Supplementary Question No. 37

Councillor Maines

Can I ask that Councillor Best does perhaps consult with Blackheath Society on expenditure of this money? 2012 is their 75th anniversary and they might add some funding towards the money that the Council's receiving to ensure that we do have a fantastic welcome for people arriving in Blackheath to attend the Olympics.

Councillor Best

Thank you very much for asking me to answer. We are very keen on getting the look and feel right. We will have the £50,000 - anyone else who can contribute to that will make our bunting go further. Let me explain that this is branded bunting and other paraphernalia that does have to be returned. Yes, it is quite true that LOCOG wish to keep all their brands in a tight box and that we will have to account for it, so we cannot have any stray bunting, I am afraid. Therefore, we would welcome any conversations, because we have to purchase any additional amount.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

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

Question

When will the resurfacing work to the highway in Lawrie Park Road in the vicinity of Cricketer's Walk following Thames Water roadworks in 2008 and other roadworks in the years previous to that?

Reply

An order for the resurfacing of Lawrie Park Road, from Cricketer's Walk to the Borough boundary at Border Road, has been issued to the Council's resurfacing contractor, FM Conway Ltd. A programming meeting has been arranged in June 2011 to enable them to prepare a programme of works. Ward Councillors will be informed of the Lawrie Park Road resurfacing date as soon as it has been confirmed by FM Conway.

The Council's policy is to ensure that works on major roads such as Lawrie Park Road are carried out during July or August when traffic flows are lower.

Supplementary Question No. 38

Councillor Curran

Another long-running issue, dating to 2008 or 2005 depending on who you speak to. I have had previous assurances this work would have begun already, the resurfacing, but I have been to Cricketers Walk myself, stood in the building and when a lorry goes past it feels like it is under mortar attack from the neighbouring borough of Bromley, which is just down the road. It is a very serious problem for these residents in Cricketers Walk and it is damaging

the foundations to buildings in that area. I am grateful for the response; again, I hope that this will be resolved, as the answer says.

The Mayor

I am not sure I can add anything to that. It is clearly in the programme and unless something very unfortunate happens, like it snows in the week that it is meant to be done, I am sure it will be done in July or August, as indicated.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Fletcher
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

In view of the recent budget cuts in relation to street cleaning can any more be done to encourage behavioural change to deter people from dropping litter and allowing their dogs to foul the pavements and parks?

Reply

With a reduced street cleansing budget there is a need for us to continue to raise awareness and engage with people to change their behaviour towards dropping litter. This forms a crucial element in the Cleanest Streets Programme that is currently underway which includes a number of initiatives to address this. These include:

- Running four local environmental quality campaigns over the course of the year around dog fouling, food on the go, chewing gum and smoking related litter. These often piggyback national campaigns to gain extra publicity.
- Developing and implementing a rolling programme of works with Community Payback to assist in street cleansing services including cutting back over hanging vegetation, weeding & leafing.
- Encouraging more people to use Love Lewisham, and the recently launched Love Clean London to report environmental issues and provide feedback on activities people have undertaken using the 'I Cleaned London' category.
- Facilitation and co-ordination of community clean up activities with a range of partners and community groups, including participating in the annual Capital Clean Up campaign, which saw the launch this year take place in Lewisham (Sevenoaks Rd) and other activities such as graffiti removal.

- Carrying out a number of education / enforcement action days to assist in the reduction of street litter.
- The annual Clean & Green Schools programme works with 25 schools a year, where litter is one of the themes that schools can choose. This culminates in an annual awards ceremony at the Civic Suite whereby schools are awarded for their efforts to improve their environment.
- Attendance at community events and fares to raise the issue of littering as well as talks to ward assemblies.
- Other events, such as the recent Responsible Animal Ownership days in Lewisham town centre, also talk to people about the responsible disposal of dogs mess.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Brooks
of the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People**

Question

Lewisham Council wrote to all Lewisham secondary schools and colleges in January 2011 to inform them of the proposals to amend the provision of careers education and guidance from April 2011. The letter advised that the LA will in future focus its resources on the reduction of the number of young people in the borough who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) and that it will no longer supplement the statutory duty of schools to provide general programmes of careers education and guidance. LB Lewisham also informed schools, colleges and Babcock PLC of its intention not to renew or to re-let the contract with Babcock for the provision of Information, Advice and Guidance services from April 2011.

No responses from schools have been received to date from the letter, and no schools or colleges have indicated that they will be unable to meet their statutory duties in this area.

What indication from Lewisham schools and Colleges has there been that shows that they are able to meet their statutory duty ?

Reply

Indications so far are that schools are meeting their current duties to provide careers education and we are confident that over the next year all schools will meet the duty to deliver careers guidance. Through the Careers Coordinators Forum and directly with individual schools, we are supporting schools and colleges in reviewing their current provision of careers education and guidance. This will continue over the coming academic year which the government has indicated is a transition year prior to changes in legislation intended to take force from September 2012.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor De Ryk
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

Question

Can you explain how the Council organises terms with its suppliers, and what those terms are. How much is currently outstanding 'on account' to suppliers? How much of this amount is owed to local suppliers and on what terms?

Reply

Lewisham's terms and conditions are attached to our purchase orders. The standard is that we pay undisputed invoices within 30 days of receipt.

The current outstanding commitment as at 23 June 2011 is £6.172m, which we would expect to be paid within the agreed standard. The system does not split this total by supplier types or terms, and the balance will fluctuate on a daily basis.

For larger contracts the payment terms and conditions are included within the contract documents, and these mostly mirror the standard, however, on some negotiated contracts (e.g. Private Finance Initiatives) this period varies.

QUESTION No. 42

Priority 3

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Feakes
of the Mayor**

Question

How many of the 'Sorry I missed you' calling cards did you personally deliver?

Reply

Please see the answer to question 71.

Supplementary Question No. 42

Councillor Feakes

Thank you to the Mayor for the comprehensive answer to the written questions as well on this issue. Given that the cards are produced by the Council, I was wondering whether anonymised information from the cards which are physically returned would be available to Members so that they can understand the issues that people have been raising as well.

The Mayor

I will ask the officers who have that information if it can be put into a suitable and understandable format.

Action

ED Res.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Harris
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

How many complaints have been made to the Council about the Family Mosaic housing association; how many tenants does Family Mosaic have in our borough, and how does this compare to the ratio of complaints against tenancies received by the Council in regards to Lewisham Homes?

Reply

Housing Associations each have their own complaints procedure that tenants are referred to if they complain to the council. If they are unhappy with how their complaint is being dealt with by the organisation or have been through the full procedure, they can contact the Housing Ombudsman Service.

Family Mosaic have 842 rented homes in Lewisham.

As Lewisham does not deal with Family Mosaic complaints it is not possible to make a comparison of complaints against Lewisham Homes.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Clutten
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

What has been done to engage newly elected councillors (those elected May 2010 and on) with the Supplementary Planning Document? And specifically what has been done to inform those who are currently sitting on planning committees?

Reply

The Council currently has seven adopted Supplementary Planning Documents ('SPD'), the most recent of which is the Planning Obligations SPD. The Planning Obligations SPD was reported to Mayor and Cabinet in December 2010 and to Full Council in January 2011. Hard copies of the SPD and associated report were circulated to members at that time. Following on from adoption of the SPD, a presentation was given to Planning Committees A and C on the 5th and 19th May 2011 to introduce the document and highlight some of the key issues that may be raised in officer reports and influence decision making. A third session had been scheduled for Planning Committee B, however, based on feedback from the first two sessions, it was considered that a longer more detailed session for all members would be of more value. A member training session has now been scheduled for the 4th July and an introduction to the SPD will be included as part of that session.

QUESTION No. 45

Priority 4

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Maines
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

How much has the Council projected to receive from the New Homes Bonus over this financial year and next?

Reply

Lewisham has received £705,698 in New Homes Bonus for the financial year 2010/2011 (based on 2009/10 delivery). This figure will be received annually over a 6 year period.

The 2011/2012 figure will not be calculated until October this year and will depend on the number of completions and demolitions that happen, and are recorded, between last October and this October.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Brooks
of the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People**

Question

In regards to the Mayors NEET programme, what numbers of young people from Lewisham will benefit from this targeted programme?

- (a) How do young people access the programme?
- (b) How many staff are on the Mayors programme?
- (c) What steps will Lewisham be taking to ensure that NEET's and those with SEN continue to receive impartial iag ?

Reply

The Mayor's NEET programme currently supports 75 young people per year. The NEET strategy intends to double the number of young people benefiting from the programme.

- (a) Young people access the programme in two ways:
 - (i) Young people are contacted directly as a result of information from the NEET list, which is regularly updated.
 - (ii) Young people are referred to the programme from partnership Agencies

The Mayor's NEET programme has a success rates of between 80% and 100% per programme in getting participants into education employment and training.

(b) There are two full time members of staff running the programme and three part-time staff. The part-time staff are young adults who have previously been through the programme themselves. Additional sessional youth workers are employed for the residential element of the programme.

(c) Two officers with a SEN specialism are employed within the NEET Reduction Strategy to ensure continued impartial IAG to young people with SEN.

QUESTION No. 47

Priority 4

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Feakes
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

Do 'pirate' radio stations deliver a public good?

Reply

The licensing and regulation of radio stations is a matter for OFCOM and not a council responsibility.

Supplementary Question No. 47

Councillor Feakes

I normally do not get this far down. I am a bit disappointed, to be frank, with the responses given to this and the written question on this issue. Although Lewisham as a Council does not necessarily have the responsibility relating to regulation, I think it does have a natural and, indeed, moral responsibility relating to aerials and antennae put up by pirate radio stations when they are on the blocks owned or controlled by the Council. This has happened recently in my ward and I wanted to get a feel for how seriously and how completely the Council is taking this issue and whether they will expedite removal of the aerial on top of 16-34 Knapdale Close.

Councillor Wise

Perhaps you should have put that as a question rather than asking do they deliver a public good, because you want an objective answer to a subjective question. I was only going to say my experience of pirate radio stations is

Radio Luxembourg and Radio Caroline, which were great vehicles for popular music. Therefore, if you want to put in another question in the future about what we should do about aeriels, etc, then I suggest you do.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Harris
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

To the Cabinet Member for Customer Services, in each of the following years, how much has the Council charged traders for our various administrative costs, against the number of stallholders:

- (i) 2000
- (ii) 2005
- (iii) 2010

And what is the predicted charge for the current financial year?

Reply

In answer to part 1 of the question

- Records for the 2000/2001 period no longer exist.

In answer to part 2 of the question

- Records for 2005/2006 have been archived and are not readily retrievable. The earliest retrievable records are those for 2007/2008 from which the average administrative cost per street trading licence issued is calculated as £72.72.

In answer to part 3 of the question

- For 2010/2011, the average administrative cost per street trading licence issued is calculated as £36.90

In answer to part 4 of the question [predicted cost for 11/12]

- For the current financial year [2011/2012], the predicted average administrative cost per street trading licence issued is £38.38.

Supplementary Question No. 48

Councillor Harris

I am delighted to see that the administrative charges for street trading licences are falling. Can we just confirm that we will do all we can to make sure that traders do not have over-burdensome licence costs?

Councillor Wise

We can only do what we can in that respect, Councillor Harris, but I will see what can be done.

QUESTION No. 49

Priority 5

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Brooks
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

On May 3rd 2011, the cost of a resident's parking permit doubled. The cash hall was closed on May 2nd for a scheduled bank holiday, and also on April 29th for the additional public holiday to celebrate the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Why was the planned closure of the cash hall on April 29th not communicated to residents in Lewisham Life magazine?

Reply

The cash hall has never been open on a bank holiday. Planned closures are advertised locally in the cash hall at least a month in advance rather than relying on Lewisham Life where the timing of editions may not be appropriate.

It should be noted that the cash hall will close permanently on the 8 July 2011 as part of the Council's budget savings. Customers will still be able to pay by cash at the 200 PayPoints and 20 Post Offices in the borough. A communications plan is in place to warn customers about the change.

QUESTION No. 50

Priority 5

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Feakes
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

What input did the cabinet member give into the proposal included in Transport for London's Sub-Regional Transport Plan to extend the DLR from Lewisham to Catford and on to Forest Hill?

Reply

TfL have developed 5 Sub –Regional Transport plans, which includes proposals to address the transport needs of London for the next 20 years, in the light of the expected population growth and economic development forecasts in the London Plan. The plans were published shortly before Christmas 2010.

The East Region Sub-Regional Transport Plan included a number specific challenges identified by TfL in the Sub Region which are:

- Maximising the benefit of committed investment
- Improving connectivity to, from and within key locations
- Reducing physical barriers to travel
- Supporting the efficient movement of freight
- Addressing public transport , crowding, congestion and reliability.

The Transport Plan recognises that more transport investment will be needed in future years, to offer potential solutions to the challenges faced, by the Sub Region.

This scheme was one of a number of further enhancements of the Dockland Light Railway (DLR), considered by TfL which could contribute to improve connectivity and congestion relief. The Plan, while pointing out that extending the DLR south of Lewisham has various benefits, more work will be required on the tricky alignment needed to bring DLR out of Lewisham towards Catford. Clearly this will need to be the subject of future study by TfL and consideration by the Council.

Current funding constraints means the priority will need to be given to maintaining the existing DLR network and providing essential upgrades where necessary . Any new extensions are unlikely to obtain funding until after the current TfL business Plan period ends in 2017/18, and this is likely to be a longer term transport aspiration.

While these are very much longer term options, TfL have set up a regular officer sub Regional Panel, and engagement with elected members takes place through the Thames Gateway London Partnership, via the Transport and Connectivity standing Committee, where members are invited to attend from all part of the sub-region.

QUESTION No. 51

Priority 6

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Brooks
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

Please give a break down of the stall ownership, Sq ft, and rent of all residents in Catford Mews.

Reply

Units in Catford Mews are let on a licence basis and unit holders pay licence fees. The table below gives an anonymised breakdown of the units, their weekly or monthly licence fee, notice period and the current status of the unit.

A breakdown of the square footage of individual units is not kept, as these are internal subdivisions within the overall retail space of Catford Mews and may be subject to change. The gross internal area is 23,532sq ft.

UNIT	LICENCE FEE	NOTICE PERIOD	CURRENT STATUS
A	£345.50 per week	One week	
B	£64.88 per week	One week	VACANT
C	£37.85 per week	One week	
D	£281.19 per week	One week	Arrears
E	£118.96 per week	One week	VACANT
F	£462.00 per month	One month	
G	£100 per week	One week	VACANT
H	£102.75 per week	One week	
I	£519.08 per month	One month	
J	£519.16 per month	One month	
K	£129.79 per week	One week	VACANT

L	£129.79 per week	One week	
M	£64.99 per week	One week	Arrears
N	£75.70 per week	One week	VACANT
O	£89.25 per week	One week	Arrears
P	£380 per month	One week	VACANT
Q	£91.93 per week	One week	
R			VACANT
S	£162.21 per week	One week	
T	£519.00 per month	One month	
U	£519.08 per month	One month	Arrears
V	£162.23 per week	One week	
W	£216.28 per month	One month	Arrears
X	£216.33 per month	One month	VACANT
Y	£54.07 per week	One week	Arrears
Z	£59.48 per week	One week	
AA	£220 per month	On month	Arrears
BB	£194.67 per week	One week	VACANT
CC	£76.77 per week	One week	
DD	£307.08 per month	One month	
EE	£153.57 per week	One week	Arrears
FF			VACANT
GG	£167.64 per week	One week	Arrears
HH	£529.91 per month	One month	
II	£367.72 per month	One month	
JJ	£932 per month	One month	
KK	£250 per week	One week	VACANT

QUESTION No. 52

Priority 7

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Brooks
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

After the fire at Marine tower in Deptford:

- (a) How many families indicated they required counselling?
- (b) How many families were given counselling?
- (c) Have all the families in temporary accommodation now been rehoused?

Reply

- a) Lewisham Homes report that no families indicated that they needed counselling. The bereaved family were offered counselling via the Police and were also supported by the Sri Lankan community. Lewisham Homes spent time with the family assisting with their needs following the incident. They also spent time assisting the families most affected by the fire offering re-housing and other support.
- b) No families specifically requested counselling and none were referred for counselling.
- c) Twenty families were housed temporarily on the night of the fire, all were promptly rehoused. One tenant relinquished her tenancy to move into private rented accommodation.

QUESTION No. 53

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

Question

How have recent changes to the remuneration of Council managers changed the ratio of the lowest to highest paid in the council, and if the council will bring forward plans to set a target to further improve the ratio over the next 3 years?

Reply

There has been no change to the ratio.

The Mayor, as part of his budget considerations, proposed that an independent panel be established to examine, among other things, senior pay and the ratio of remuneration levels between the lowest and highest paid staff.

QUESTION No. 54

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

What plans does the Council have to roll out cycle awareness training to its HGV drivers and the nature and content of that training?

Reply

Cycle awareness training forms part of a mandatory Certificate of Professional Competence qualification. Our drivers are each required to attend at least 35 hours training during each five year period in order to maintain their Certificate of Professional Competence.

In addition to this, Lewisham has installed audible 'Turning Left' indicators, safety barriers between the front and rear wheels and warning signs to cyclists at the rear of our trucks, advising cyclists not to overtake trucks on the inside.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

What changes in air quality have been noted on New Cross Road since the Kender Triangle 'Streets for People' work began and if I could have the raw data?

Reply

The work on Kender Triangle 'Streets for People' is an ongoing project and improvements to the area are still taking place. However, the changes to the road layouts along Queens Road and New Cross Road were implemented in October 2010.

LBL has an automatic monitoring station in place on New Cross Road (opposite New Cross Gate station) as well as diffusion tubes to measure monthly averages of nitrogen dioxide concentrations at a number of locations around the borough. The closest diffusion tube to the Kender Triangle is located at the junction of Hatcham Park Road and New Cross Road while we also have triplicate tubes at the New Cross monitoring station so that we can compare results from the two monitoring methods.

As air quality tends to show seasonal trends, it is better to compare a month's data from one year to the same month in the next rather than comparing month by month. Also, it is better to analyse general trends over time as air quality is affected by many variables. For example, the meteorological conditions experienced in south-east England in April and May resulted in unusually high levels of particulates for this time of year. Therefore, it is still rather early to be looking at the effects on air quality as a result of this project.

Also, there have been other initiatives in the local area such as the improvements to Fordham and Macmillan Parks and the additional pedestrian signage which is aimed will encourage more journeys to be made on foot instead of by motor vehicles.

However, I now provide the raw air quality monitoring data for the two sites mentioned. The diffusion tube data is shown in the tables below:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Hatcham Park Rd 2010	61.1	57.1	--	99.6	46.4	40.3	53.5	52.5	48.2	43.4	46.0	52.8
Hatcham Park Rd 2011	49.1	52.1	39.7	38.0								
New X Rd (1) 2010	72.2	--	58.5	67.4	67.3	61.0	62.7	90.5	93.8	51.8	90.2	83.7
New X Rd (1) 2011	71.1	65.61	73.14	85.2								
New X Rd (2) 2010	74.4	--	59.5	69.2	63.9	62.4	62.0	84.7	88.4	72.7	86.6	72.1
New X Rd (2) 2011	87.4	86.0	85.0	102.9								
New X Rd (3) 2010	69.9	--	57.1	64.2	58.1	64.2	59.6	101.3	93.4	74.4	89.0	85.2
New X Rd (3) 2011	86.5	81.8	105.3	83.7								

The automatic monitoring data is available from the following website:
www.londonair.org.uk

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

What data is available on the road traffic accidents that have occurred on Queen's Road and New Cross Road since the Kender Triangle 'Streets for People' work began and if he would provide previous data for comparison?

Reply

Since the introduction of the scheme at the beginning of November 2010, stats are only available up to and including 28th February 2011 i.e. 4 months of data:

- Queens Road: 0 personal injury accidents recorded
- New Cross Road: 3 personal injury accidents recorded all classified by the police as "slight".

In the 3-years up to and including October 2010, i.e. 36 months of data:

- Queens Road: 7 personal injury accidents recorded. One classified as "serious", 6 classified as "slight".
- New Cross Road: 24 personal injury accidents recorded. One fatal, 4 classified as serious", 19 classified as "slight".

QUESTION No. 57

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

What plans are there to improve and increase hanging baskets, flower troughs and trees around the New Cross Road and Queens Road area and if she will involve local community garden groups in any projects?

Reply

Following the recent large scale budget reduction exercise, funding for hanging baskets and street planters is no longer available.

This is regrettable as I know that they make a real difference to the look of the borough during the summer months and are enjoyed by both residents and visitors alike.

However residents will still be able to enjoy hanging baskets and planters in many areas of the borough as a number of projects have been paid for by individual ward assemblies or have been provided directly by local community groups and businesses.

As regards new tree planting, a total of 78 new trees have been planted in New Cross ward since 2009. Unfortunately both New Cross Road and Queens Road are managed by TfL so we are unable to plant any street trees along these roads.

If any local community groups are interested in providing floral displays they can obtain advice and guidance from officers in the Council's Green Scene Service Group.

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

What options have been considered for alleviating parking problems in Pepys Road?

Reply

The only option available to alleviate intrusive parking is the introduction of a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ).

It is the Council's policy only to implement parking controls where there is a clear majority from residents in support of this action. The Council undertook a borough wide consultation to identify areas where parking problems existed. The responses to this consultation formed the borough's CPZ programme.

From the responses received from Pepys Road residents, 58% did not want parking controls introduced. As a result of this consultation, Pepys Road was not included in the borough's CPZ programme.

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

Question

What definition of (1) Mutual (2) Co-operative (3) Social enterprise, the Council's officers are working to.

Reply

These are broadly the definitions that the Council and others are working to. Some of these terms have legal status and their definition is more exact than others which define purpose rather than legal form.

MUTUAL

In a public sector context, mutuals are businesses that are owned by their members. They can operate as employee owned, co-operative or wider social enterprises. They can include or participate in a variety of commercial arrangements, including joint ventures with government or other parties.

CO-OPERATIVE

Co-operatives are businesses that are fully or majority owned by their members – who may be employees, consumers, others in the community or a mix of these. Co-operatives work on one member, one vote – rather than one share, one vote – and sign up to an agreed set of values and principles.

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

A social enterprise is any business or service with primarily social objectives whose surpluses are principally reinvested for that purpose in the community, rather than being driven by the need to maximise profit for shareholders and owners.

QUESTION No. 60

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

For how many weeks has 32a New Cross road has been unoccupied in the last 2 years and what efforts are being made to get tenants in?

Reply

This property has been empty for 78 weeks over the last 2 years.
62 of those weeks were due to squatting

It is currently still squatted and Lewisham Homes are taking legal action to regain possession.

This is under internal investigation by Lewisham Homes.

QUESTION No. 61

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

Question

What examples from other councils of community run libraries has she had assessed?

Reply

Lewisham's model is different in that it sought to transfer the responsibility of library buildings (not library services) to third parties, while the Council retains the responsibility for the library service provision. Indeed, Lewisham is unique in having developed this model.

Other approaches include:

- Authorities paying community groups, charities or social enterprises, to deliver statutory services at sites of their own choosing – e.g. Hereford's Peterchurch Library and Shropshire's Cleobury Country Centre at Cleobury Mortimer.
- Communities establishing their own services where the authority is withdrawing funding – e.g. Buckinghamshire's Little Chalfont, Chalfont St Giles and West Wycombe, in Northumberland's community libraries, and in Cambridgeshire's Local Access Points.
- Authorities encouraging and working with communities to continue to deliver services where the authority is withdrawing funding – e.g. North Yorkshire's Grassington, Bainbridge and George & Dragon libraries.

We looked at all these models but concluded that we would prefer to build on our own outreach library model which has already been established on Pepys Estate, Honor Oak Estate and in Bellingham. The major reason for this was for us to be able to retain the outreach services as part of the authority's library service, ensuring that we could continue to offer professional library support and a planned exchange and circulation of stock.

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

Question

What consideration has been given to increasing the allocation of memory to Councillor's e-mail mailboxes?

Reply

The default limit for Members is set at 100Mb, routinely raised to 300Mb and, last year, Officers considered that it may be helpful, where a request is received, to raise the limit yet further to 500Mb. As a consequence many Members now enjoy a 500Mb limit.

Ten long-serving Members, who began using the email system before limits were introduced, have mailboxes in excess of 500Mb. Officers are examining ways of assisting these Members to reduce storage through 'offline' archiving. The limits are designed to conserve space so that Officers will not need to purchase additional costly storage capacity.

Very large individual email boxes can also become unstable and, at a certain point, will fail to function altogether. There is then a risk of data loss for the user

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People**

Question

What activities will be available for 5-8 year olds this summer on the Honor Oak Estate?

Reply

There will be an exciting range of activities for 5-8 year olds this summer on the Honor Oak Estate.

Firstly, The Honor Oak Adventure Playground (AP) provides play activities for children and young people from the age of 5 upwards.

Honor Oak AP is a well established facility which has been delivering play and educational activities for over 25 years, and its continuity has ensured it is a major hub for the local community. It provides access to large Adventure Play structures – swings, climbing frames, connecting platforms, walkways and bridges. The indoor building caters for activities such as table tennis, pool, cookery, arts and crafts and small group work; it also has a well resourced and utilised carpentry workshop where young people can learn new and varied practical skills. The primary focus of this year round facility is to provide active play and informal education in a caring but challenging environment. Honor Oak AP has a long history of working in partnership with voluntary, statutory and community based organisations, both local and inter-borough.

In addition, there are also unsupervised sporting facilities, including Football, Volleyball, Cricket, Rounders and Mini-tennis nearby.

QUESTION No. 64

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Whittle
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

What sanctions can the council take against landlords who will not work with the council to deal with the anti-social behaviour of their tenants?

Reply

In general terms there are no real sanctions the Council can use against Private Sector Landlords who are not dealing effectively with tenants who are causing anti social behaviour. In cases of anti social behaviour caused by noise nuisance the Environmental Enforcement team can take varying forms of action depending on the severity of the nuisance. However, in these instances action is usually taken against the Tenant rather than the Landlord.

Where the Council has placed tenants in the private rented sector through schemes such as the private sector leasing scheme the Council has greater influencing powers and can ultimately terminate the lease if the Landlord is not co-operating.

QUESTION No. 65

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Maines
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

What discussions has Lewisham Council recently had with Transport for London (TfL) to discuss the future of the empty properties on Brownhill Road, which were are currently owned by Transport for London and first purchased by the Department of Transport in 1987? Can you provide some indication as to when a decision will finally be made as to the future of these properties and ensure that the scandalous situation of these properties remaining empty for so long is finally resolved?

Reply

No recent discussions have taken place with TfL on the future of the empty properties on Brownhill Road. Officers will contact TfL regarding the future of these properties.

QUESTION No. 66

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Maines
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

The Mayor of London recently stated that improving the Courthill Road junction would not now take place until late 2012, so there appears to have been a delay of 6 months or even more from his original statement. What representations have been made by Lewisham Council to ensure this scheme is not delayed?

Reply

TfL have been in liaison with Council Officers on the development of the current proposals, the last meeting was in May. Lewisham Council needs to decide, in the near future, whether to support these proposals. Thereafter, TfL will progress with the necessary internal approvals and a full public consultation should be later this year.

TfL are currently finalising the modelling proposals and these should pass their internal processes for approval by November 2011.

As the proposals are on the TfL's junction, the programme for the implementation is within their control.

QUESTION No. 67

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Maines
of the Deputy Mayor**

Question

The Catford Dog Stadium closed in 2003, it has now become an eyesore. What actions have you taken since last May when you became Deputy Mayor responsible for regeneration to find a scheme that will provide the much need new housing and revitalisation on this site?

Reply

The Catford Stadium site is owned by the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) and has full planning consent, granted by the Council in January 2009, for a residential development with 589 new homes, commercial space, and a new community centre. The consented scheme comprises 13 apartment blocks, rising to a maximum of 8 storeys in height, and offers 248 parking spaces and 649 cycle spaces.

The HCA are currently procuring a new development partner for the scheme through their Delivery Partner Panel (DPP), after the previous development arrangements with Countryside Properties and Hyde Housing Association became stalled as a result of the economic downturn. The HCA advise that the current timetable for appointment of a partner is Summer 2011.

As a key stakeholder for the development and bearing in mind the Council's wider plans for the regeneration of Catford town centre, we are working closely with the HCA to assist in the procurement process and ensure that the Council's aims and objectives continue to be reflected in the new development management arrangements for the site. We will seek to continue this positive working relationship with the HCA once a partner is appointed, as well as working with the appointed partner directly.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Maines
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

Question

What is the total number of adults placed in residential homes by Lewisham Council? Is there a right of inspection by elected members to residential homes in Lewisham or that Lewisham purchase places in?

In view of the recent controversy about the conditions and treatment of some residents in care homes, would it help build confidence in homes if a strengthened inspection regime were to exist?

Reply

The total number of adults placed in care homes by Lewisham in borough as at 20 June 2011 is as follows:

Nursing

ELDERLY ADULTS	CLIENT NUMBER
PLACEMENTS IN THE BOROUGH	159
PLACEMENTS OUT OF BOROUGH	120
YOUNGER ADULTS	
PLACEMENTS IN THE BOROUGH	3
PLACEMENTS OUT OF BOROUGH	27
MENTAL HEALTH	

PLACEMENTS IN THE BOROUGH	0
PLACEMENTS OUT OF BOROUGH	10

Residential

ELDERLY ADULTS	CLIENT NUMBER
PLACEMENTS IN THE BOROUGH	204
PLACEMENTS OUT OF OROUGH	93

YOUNGER ADULTS

PLACEMENTS IN THE BOROUGH	4
PLACEMENTS OUT OF BOROUGH	35

MENTAL HEALTH

PLACEMENTS IN THE BOROUGH	49
PLACEMENTS OUT OF BOROUGH	30

Learning Disability

In Borough Registered Residential Care Homes (directly commissioned): **23**

In Borough Supported Living Services (directly commissioned): **160**

Out of Borough Registered Care Homes: **164**

Is there a right of inspection by elected members to residential homes in Lewisham or that Lewisham purchase places in?

Those care homes with whom the council has a contract in place are receptive to working with partners to ensure that they deliver high quality care for Lewisham residents. Currently elected members are able to visit care homes by invitation. However, I am talking to officers to consider how the role of elected members in relation to care homes in Lewisham could be enhanced.

In view of the recent controversy about the conditions and treatment of some residents in care homes, would it help build confidence in homes if a strengthened inspection regime were to exist?

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is responsible for the overall regulation of care homes. The Commission's inspectors are responsible for carrying out both unannounced and announced visits to registered establishments, including care homes. CQC is reviewing its inspection regime and the Council is working closely with CQC to ensure that this dovetails with the Council's contract monitoring activities in and out of borough. I have already asked the Executive Director for Community Services to write to CQC to clarify its plans for strengthening the inspection regime.

In Lewisham, placements in care homes are only made to those homes with whom the Council has entered into contracting arrangements. The Council has a number of block contracts for some nursing beds and the remainder are purchased through spot arrangements.

Within the contract, Clause 17: Information Sharing Protocol, Monitoring and Performance Review states that:

The Contractor shall:

- *permit any person authorised by the Council on production of an official means of identification to enter at any reasonable time, on reasonable prior notice, to inspect the Care Home;*

In addition, the Council has a team of Contract Monitoring Officers who monitor care homes. The aim of the monitoring is to ensure that the services delivered by the Care Home Providers are being carried out in line with the Contract and Specification, are providing the highest quality and adhere to the principles of value for money. Evidence is also gathered from other sources including social work reviews, host boroughs where residents are placed in out of borough homes, the Providers' Forum, Lewisham's Local Involvement Network, relatives and carers services.

A positive addition to above has been the introduction of a Lay Visitors Scheme for Care Homes in the borough. This group of trained volunteers work independently alongside the Contract Monitoring Officers to review the quality of care being experienced by residents in residential and nursing homes in the borough. Officers will continue to work with the Lay Visitors and other stakeholders to ensure the delivery of high quality services.

In my role as Cabinet Member for Community Services I have also met with officers to discuss the implementation of the new Pan London Safeguarding Adult Procedures. These new procedures introduce a more robust approach to the safeguarding of adults across London.

I believe that, in addition to ensuring robust monitoring and inspection regimes are in place, there is a need to build a culture in which all professionals, service users and members of the community recognise their joint roles and responsibilities in securing the safety and well being of all vulnerable residents.

QUESTION No. 69

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Feakes
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

Question

Please give the number of illegal antenna identified in the borough in each of the past four years and give the number which have been successfully removed in each year?

Reply

The licensing and regulation of radio stations is a matter for OFCOM and not a council responsibility.

QUESTION No. 70

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Feakes
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

Question

Please state the areas of competence within which the council can pass a by-law (or similar) and briefly describe the necessary procedure. Please list the by-laws currently in effect in the borough.

Reply

There are a number of powers that Local Authorities may use to make byelaws that cover a wide range of areas. For example, byelaws relating to open spaces may be made pursuant to the powers contained with the Public Health Act 1875 and Open Spaces Act 1906 and those relating to the general good rule and government pursuant to the powers contained within the Local Government Act 1972.

Currently the procedure to be followed in making byelaws is set out in S236 of the Local Government Act 1972 regardless of what powers are used to make them. They are required to be made under seal of the Council and notice of the Council's intention to apply for their confirmation has to be advertised in one or more local newspapers, however, they cannot have effect until confirmed by the confirming authority. This is usually the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, although, for example, in respect of byelaws relating to common land eg Blackheath, this is the Secretary of State for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

In addition those government departments responsible for confirming byelaws have guidelines, including model byelaws, that local authorities are expected to follow and further details can be found on their respective websites.

However the procedure for making byelaws is expected to change shortly. S129 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, which was brought into effect in 2010, now enables regulations to be made that would enable local authorities to make byelaws without the need to obtain confirmation from the relevant Secretary of State. DCLG have confirmed that an announcement in respect of this provision is imminent.

Currently the Council has two sets of byelaws in effect in the Borough. The 1980 Pleasure Ground Byelaws and the byelaws relating to Blackheath made by the Greater London Council dating back to 1932. Both sets are currently under review.

QUESTION No. 71

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Feakes
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

Question

Last year the council produced an A6 calling card headed 'Sorry I missed you' inviting the public to let the Mayor know "what's good about living around here and how you think your local area could be improved." Please state how many of the cards were produced; how many were distributed and by whom; what were the costs of production and distribution; when they were distributed; and how many were returned. When will the data from this exercise be available to members?

Reply

10,000 cards were produced in July 2009 at a cost of £1097. The intention behind the cards was that they would be made available at public events and meetings where the Mayor was engaging with local citizens (particularly for people who wouldn't get the opportunity to speak directly to the Mayor at the event). As such, there have been no distribution costs incurred. The Council remains keen to explore as many avenues as possible to give our residents the opportunity to engage with the Council, comment on our services or have their say about local issues.

The cards were made available on an ongoing basis from July 2009 at appropriate events or external meetings. As the card offers the Mayor's public email address, it is not possible to gauge or evaluate total levels of correspondence received to date resulting directly from the card (as citizens may have decided to email in, rather than return the card).

Finally, the format and subject matter associated with the card ensured that they were not limited to a specific period of time so they will be used over the

remainder of this administration. In line with the progression of the Council's approach to engaging with residents (reducing the number of issues of Lewisham Life being a case point), renewed consideration is being given to how best these cards can be used moving forward. One option for extending the scope of the cards could be that they are made available to other Councillors for use at future events, surgeries or at local assemblies.

QUESTION No. 72

Written Reply

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

29 JUNE 2011

**Question by Councillor Feakes
of the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People**

Question

Please state the number of each type of governor place in each of the borough's schools and give the current number of vacancies for each type.

Reply

In the table below we have given details of the different types of governors and indicated in brackets how many there are of each type.

The types of governors in our schools with the total complement in brackets are:

STAFF: Staff Governors (281)
LA: Local Authority Governors (208)
PARENTS: Parent Governors (383)
COMM: Community Governors (219)
FOUND: Foundation Governors (220)

In total, across the borough, there are :-

- 5 staff governor vacancies (2% of the total number of staff governors)
- 9 LA governor vacancies (4% of total number of LA governors)
- 36 parent governor vacancies (9% of total number of parent governors)
- 19 community governor vacancies (9% of total number of community governors)
- 13 foundation governor vacancies (6% of total number of foundation governors)

VACANCIES (total)	5	9	36	19	13
	STAFF	LA	PARENTS	COMM	FOUND
ABBEY MANOR	(3) 1	(2)	(1)	(7)	---
ADAMSRILL	(4)	(3)	(6) 1	(4)	---
ADDEY & STANHOPE	(3)	(2) 1	(4)	---	(11)
ALL SAINTS CE	(3)	(1)	(3)	---	(9)
ASHMEAD	(3)	(3)	(4)	(3)	---
ATHELNEY	(4)	(2)	(4) 1	(2)	---
BARING	(4)	(3)	(5)	(3)	---
BONUS PASTOR CATHOLIC COLLEGE	(3)	(2)1	(4) 1	--	(11) 1
BRENT KNOLL	(3) 1	(3)	(5)	(3)	---
BRINDISHE FEDERATION	(5)	(3)	(6)	(3) 2	---
BROCKLEY IEB (N/A)					---
CHELWOOD NURSERY	(3)	(2)	(2)2	(3)	--
CHILDERIC	(3)	(2)	(4)2	(3) 1	---
CHRIST CHURCH CE	(3) 1	(1)	(3)	---	(9)1
CLYDE NURSERY	(3)	(2)	(4) 1	(3)	---
*CONISBOROUGH	(4)	(4) 1	(6) 6	(4) 1	---
COOPERS LANE	(5)	(3)	(6)1	(3)	---
CROSSWAYS SIXTH FORM	(2)	(3)	(5) 1	(5) 1	---
DALMAIN	(4)	(3)	(5)	(4)	---
DEPTFORD GREEN	(5)	(3)	(5)	(3)	---
DEPTFORD PARK	(3)	(3)	(5) 1	(3) 2	---
DOWNDERRY	(3)	(3)	(6)	(3) 1	---
EDMUND WALLER	(4)	(4)	(6)	(4)	---
ELFRIDA	(4)	(3)	(5)	(4) 1	---
ELIOT BANK	(4)	(3)	(5)	(3)	---
FAIRLAWN	(4)	(3)	(6)	(4)	---
FOREST HILL	(4)	(4)	(6)	(4)	---
FORSTER PARK	(4)	(3)	(6) 1	(4) 2	---
GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC	(3)	(1)	(1)	---	(7) 2
GORDONBROCK	(4)	(3)	(5)	(4) 1	---
GREENVALE	(3)	(3)	(5) 4	(3)	---
GRINLING GIBBONS	(3)	(2)	(4)	(3)	---
HASELTINE	(3)	(3)	(5)2	(3)	---
HOLBEACH	(3)	(2) 1	(5)	(4)	---
HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC	(3)	(1)	(3)	---	(9) 1
HOLY TRINITY CE	(3)	(2)	(2)	---	(9)
HORNIMAN	(3)	(2) 1	(5)	(3) 1	---
JOHN BALL	(4)	(3)	(6)	(4)	---
JOHN STAINER	(3)	(3)	(4)	(3)	---
KELVIN GROVE	(4)	(3)	(5)	(3)	---

	STAFF	LA	PARENTS	COMM	FOUND
KENDER	(3)	(3)	(4) 1	(3)	---
KILMORIE	(3)	(2)	(4) 1	(3) 1	---
LAUNCELOT	(4)	(3)	(6)	(4)	---
LEATHERSELLERS FEDERATION	(3)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(6)
LEE MANOR	(4)	(3)	(5)	(4)	---
LEWISHAM BRIDGE	(4)	(3)	(5) 1	(3) 1	---
LUCAS VALE	(3)	(3)	(5) 1	(3)	---
MARVELS LANE	(4)	(3) 1	(6)	(4) 1	---
MEADOWGATE	(3)	(2)	(4) 1	(3)	---
MYATT GARDEN	(4)	(4) 1	(6) 1	(4)	---
NEW WOODLANDS	(3)	(2)	(4) 2	(3)	---
OUR LADY& ST PHILIP NERI CATHOLIC	(3)	(1)	(1)	---	(7)
PENDRAGON	(3)	(2)	(4) 1	(3)	---
PERRYMOUNT	(3)	(2)	(3)	(2)	---
RANGEFIELD	(3)	(3)	(4)	(3)	---
RATHFERN	(4)	(3)	(5) 1	(4)	---
RUSHEY GREEN	(4)	(4)	(6)	(4)	---
SANDHURST INFANTS	(4)	(3) 1	(5)	(3)	---
SANDHURST JUNIORS	(4)	(3)	(6)	(4)	
SEDGEHILL	(4)	(4)	(6) 1	(4) 1	---
SIR FRANCIS DRAKE	(3)	(3)	(4)	(3)	---
ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC	(4)	(1)	(2)	--	(9)
ST BARTHOLOMEWS CE	(3) 1	(1) 1	(3) 1	---	(9)
ST JAMES HATCHAM CE	(3)	(1)	(2)	---	(8)
ST JOHN BAPTIST CE	(3)	(1)	(2)	---	(8) 1
ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC	(3)	(1)	(2) 1	---	(8) 1
St MARGARET'S, LEE C/E	(3)	(1)	(3)	---	(9) 1
ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC	(3)	(1)	(1)	---	(7) 1
ST MARY'S CE	(3)	(2)	(3)	---	(10) 1
ST MICHAEL'S CE	(3)	(1)	(2)	---	(8) 1
ST SAVIOUR'S CATHOLIC	(3)	(1)	(3) 1	---	(9)
ST STEPHEN'S CE	(3)	(1)	(1)	---	(7)
ST WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC	(3)	(1)	(2)	---	(9)
ST WINIFRED'S INF CATHOLIC	(3)	(1)	(2)	---	(8)
ST WINIFRED'S JUN CATHOLIC	(3)	(1)	(2)	---	(8) 1
STILLNESS INFANT	(4)	(4)	(6)	(4)	---
STILLNESS JUNIOR	(4)	(3)	(6) 1	(4) 1	---
SYDENHAM	(4)	(4)	(7)	(5)	---
TIDEMILL	(3)	(3)	(5)	(3) 1	---
TORRIDON INFANT	(3)	(3)	(5)	(3) 1	---
TORRIDON JUNIOR	(3)	(3)	(5) 1	(3)	---
TRINITY	(4)	(1)	(3) 2	---	(10) 1
TURNHAM	(2)	(1)	(3)	(1)	2

	STAFF	LA	PARENTS	COMM	FOUND
					partnership
WATERGATE	(3)	(3)	(5)	(3)	---
TOTAL	281	208	383	219	220

Council			
Report Title	Safer Lewisham Strategy 2011 – 2014		
Key Decision	Yes	Item No.	8
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director for Community Services		
Class	Part 1	Date: 29 June 2011	

1. Purpose of the Report

This report presents the Safer Lewisham Strategy 2011 – 2014 and its priorities. The strategy should be read in conjunction with the Safer Lewisham Plan 2011 -12 which outlines the strategic priorities for this financial year and is attached to this report at Appendix B

2. Recommendation

Council is recommended to:

Agree the 3 year strategy for the partnership to deal with crime and disorder in Lewisham.

3. Policy Context

3.1 The Sustainable Community Strategy outlines the strategic direction for delivery of services and developments in Lewisham. Specifically linked to the 'Safer' agenda are the following priorities:

- Reduce the overall levels of crime to below the average for London
- Tackle anti social behaviour and ensure people feel confident and safe throughout the borough
- Keep our young people safe from harm, abuse and criminal activity.

3.2 In addition the Council's priorities specifically focus on safety, security and visible presence.

3.3 The national and local policy context is outlined in detail within the strategy. The Government intends to make significant changes to legislation and strategic direction in the way crime and disorder is tackled. There are a number of consultations underway by central government that will shape the future policy direction.

- 3.4 This strategy has been written with these changes in mind, including levels of flexibility to ensure that the partnerships are well placed to deliver on a changing landscape.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Strategy is a statutory requirement under the Crime And Disorder Act 1998. This strategy has been developed with all partners involved in the Safer Lewisham Partnership (SLP) and sets a direction local delivery on this agenda, whilst acknowledging that changes in policy are forthcoming.
- 4.2 The 5 aims of public protection through crime reduction set out in the Strategy are:
1. Reducing anti social behaviour (ASB)
 2. Reducing reoffending – rehabilitation, punishment and payback
 3. Working with young people – both victims and perpetrators of crime – Youth Justice
 4. ‘Volume Crime’ – offending that affects most people in Lewisham
 5. Making Lewisham safer through crime prevention and working with communities.
- 4.3 The strategy outlines in detail why these areas have been identified as priorities and what residents will see as a result of the partnerships focus on these areas. Please see Appendix A for the full strategy.
- 4.4 Each year of the strategy will be reviewed and a strategic assessment undertaken to refocus on changes that may occur in the year. The strategic assessment will develop an annual plan for the partnership to deliver against. Please see Appendix B for the annual plan for 2011-2012.
- 4.5 The Strategy and the Plan have previously been to the Safer Stronger Scrutiny Committee on 18 May 2011 and to Mayor and Cabinet on 1 June 2011.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 places an obligation upon Local Authorities to have a committee that scrutinises Crime & Disorder within its area.
- 5.2 Within the context of the powers of this committee, the section provides that it should have the power to “ (a) review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities for example, police and other relevant partner agencies of their crime and disorder functions; (b) to make reports or recommendations to the local authority with respect to the discharge of those functions.” Further, where this committee makes a report or recommendations it shall provide a copy— (a) to each of the responsible authorities, and (b) to each of the persons with whom, and bodies with which, the responsible authorities have a duty to co-operate under section 5(2) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (“the co-operating persons and bodies”).

5.3 The Local Government Act 1999 places a duty on the local authorities to secure continuous improvement in the way its functions are exercised having regard to the combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

5.4 These statutory duties amongst others are relevant to the production of the Council's Safer Lewisham Strategy.

6. Financial Implications

There are no specific financial implications arising from this report. Work described in the strategy and plan will be met from the agreed revenue budgets of the various partner organisations.

7. Environmental Implications

Specific environmental implications of crime and disorder are reviewed annually through the strategic assessment process and appropriate action taken as required.

8. Equalities Implications

Equalities implications will be considered throughout the delivery of this strategy. An Equalities Impact Assessment is produced annually as a result of the development of statutory annual assessments and plans.

9. Crime and Disorder Implications

9.1 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1988, as amended places a duty upon Local Authorities to consider crime and disorder implications and in particular, "to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area." This statutory obligation is the same for the Authorities "responsible partners" too. The level of crime and its impact is influenced by the decisions and activities taken through the day-to-day functions of local bodies and organisations.

9.2 Responsible Authorities are required to provide a range of services in their community from policing, fire protection, planning, consumer and environmental protection, transport and highways. They each have a key statutory role in providing these services and, in carrying out their core activities, can significantly contribute to reducing crime and improving the quality of life in their area.

For further information on this item please contact Geeta Subramaniam, Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting people on 020 8314 8561.

SAFER LEWISHAM STRATEGY 2011-2014



Agreed by the Safer Lewisham Partnership on 28/03/2011

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Mayor's Foreword

Reducing crime is a priority for us all. The Council, the local Police, our public agency partners, and most importantly the citizens of Lewisham, all share a deep commitment to tackle crime and its root causes. We can only do this by working in partnership. In Lewisham, the practice of working together extends well beyond local public authorities. It is embedded in our community and exemplified by the work of the many individuals and groups working tirelessly across the borough.

We know from talking to local people that crime is one of their top concerns. We have a duty and responsibility to address these concerns. Doing so requires a multi-layered response, one that both cuts across and involves the various service providers, and critically, the local citizens of Lewisham. The Safer Lewisham Partnership brings together input from all of these agencies, including the Police, Probation Services, Housing providers, the local Community and Voluntary Sector and the Council, and this Strategy has been developed by the partnership collectively. Discussions have also taken place at Neighbourhood Panels, Local Assemblies and a range of other fora to ensure that the strategy reflects the priorities for Lewisham.

Public Services face a huge challenge over the next few years. The financial constraints within which each of us has to work are very tight. This is why it is so important that we work together effectively and efficiently as our combined efforts will have a greater impact than any one agency acting alone. The role of the Safer Lewisham Partnership remains the same: by working together we will do all we can to tackle crime, drugs and alcohol issues in our borough – making Lewisham a safe place for all.

Sir Steve Bullock

1. INTRODUCTION

This Strategy provides the framework to coordinate efforts to fight crime and the fear of crime - making the borough a safer place and providing sanctions and appropriate interventions for Lewisham offenders. The Strategy has been developed with the full involvement of all the agencies that make up the Safer Lewisham Partnership and sets out the priorities and actions for the next three years. The Strategy draws on a detailed analysis of a number of data sources, including community intelligence and follows consultation with a wide range of statutory and non-statutory agencies.

2. SAFER LEWISHAM PARTNERSHIP

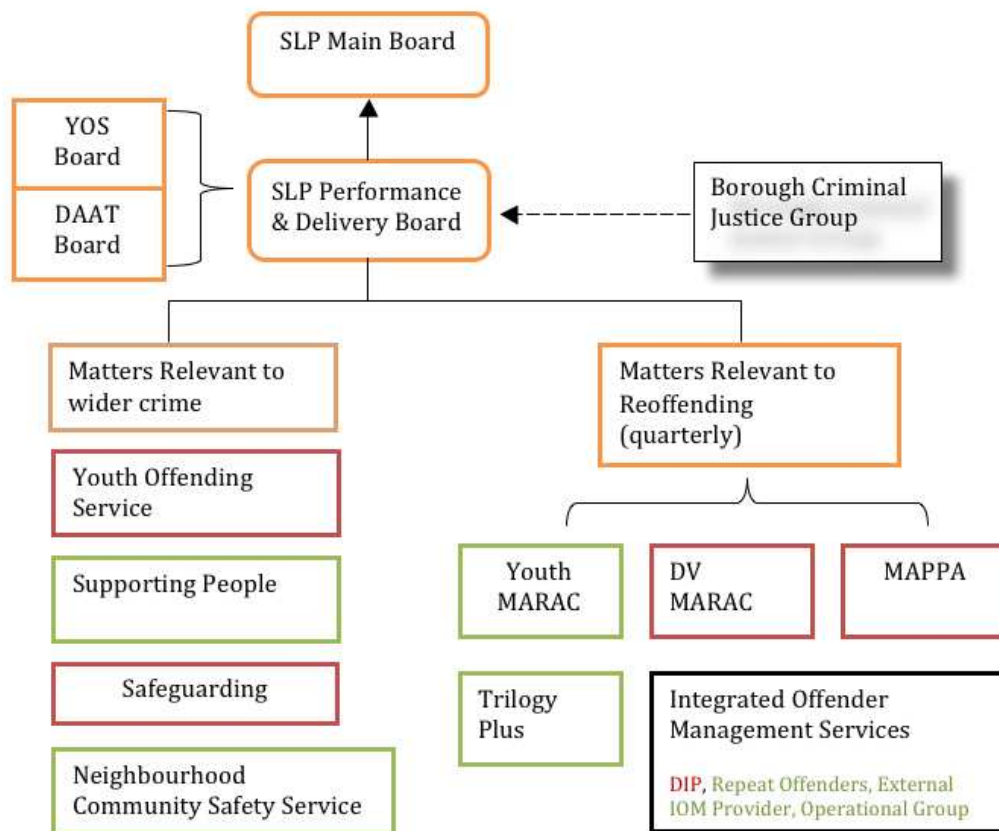
Effective partnership working is key to creating and maintaining safer communities. The Safer Lewisham Partnership (SLP) brings together representatives from those agencies who are focused on reducing crime and the fear of crime and is one of six Strategic Partnerships that make up the Lewisham Strategic Partnership (LSP). For more details on the work of this strategic body please visit <http://www.lewishamstrategicpartnership.org.uk>

The Safer Lewisham Partnership co-ordinates multi-agency action to reduce crime and ASB, to reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol abuse and to develop a safer and stronger community in which residents, families and businesses can thrive.

The Partnership Board is chaired by the Mayor of Lewisham and members include representatives from Lewisham Police, the Metropolitan Police Authority, the London Probation Service, the Public Health Service, Victim Support, the UK Border Agency, the London Fire Brigade and Lewisham's Community Police Consultative Group (LCPCG). Advisors to the partnership include the Youth Justice Board and the National Treatment Authority.

Through the LCPCG, local assemblies and other fora, the Partnership ensures that the voice and experiences of local people are reflected in this strategy.

The governance structure for the Safer Lewisham Partnership and related boards and the links to operations and projects are outlined in the chart below:



(Items in orange are executive, performance and oversight structures, items in red are primarily statutory functions, and items in green are on-going projects and teams, who are working to make Lewisham safer.)

The activity undertaken within this structure is coordinated with that of other local agencies, such as those responsible for regeneration, children, families and learning, the economy and health.

This strategy should be read in conjunction with the plans of these boards.

3. NATIONAL AND LOCAL POLICY CONTEXT

This strategy has been developed against a background of change to national and local policies. The year 2010 saw many changes introduced by the Government, with significant changes being made to the way partnerships work to deliver crime reduction, and the announcement in various Green and White Papers of plans to implement additional policies.

The majority of old, centrally set, Local Government targets and indicators have been deleted, with a new emphasis on localism. Authorities are expected to select and implement their own performance frameworks and to be held locally accountable for the delivery of these performance measures.

The overall vision for Lewisham is established in *Shaping our future – Lewisham’s Sustainable Community Strategy*, ‘*Together, we will make Lewisham the best place in London to live, work and learn.*’

Shaping our future incorporates some key assumptions about the changes the borough is likely to experience between now and 2020, based on projections, evidence prepared for the borough’s Local Development Framework and national and regional strategies such as the London Plan.

Drawing upon all this information and reflecting the concerns and aspirations of Lewisham’s citizens, the Sustainable Community Strategy sets out six priorities. It states that the Lewisham Strategic Partnership will work alongside citizens to build and support sustainable communities that are:

1. **Ambitious and achieving** – where people are inspired and supported to fulfil their potential.
2. **Safer** – where people feel safe and live free from crime, antisocial behaviour and abuse.
3. **Empowered and responsible** – where people are actively involved in their local area and contribute to supportive communities.
4. **Clean, green and liveable** – where people live in high quality housing and can care for and enjoy their environment.
5. **Healthy, active and enjoyable** – where people can actively participate in maintaining and improving their health and well-being.
6. **Dynamic and prosperous** – where people are part of vibrant communities and town centres, well connected to London and beyond.

This strategy is the document that details how the Safer Lewisham Partnership will contribute to the achievement of the **Safer** strand – where people feel safe and live free from crime, antisocial behaviour and abuse and which commits partners to work together to:

- Reduce the overall level of crime to below the London average.
- Tackle antisocial behaviour and ensure that people feel confident and safe throughout the borough.
- Keep our children and young people safe from harm, abuse and criminal activity.

- A reduction in the rates of crime that impact most upon Lewisham, such as serious violent crime, serious acquisitive crime and repeat incidents of domestic violence.
- A reduction in the number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System.
- A reduction in reoffending and substance misuse among Lewisham’s adults and young people.
- An improvement in the stability of placements for looked after children.
- A reduction in the numbers of people killed or seriously injured on Lewisham’s roads.

These objectives are over-arching ambitions that support the vision of a Safer Lewisham. Each year priorities will be set based on an evidence-based, ‘bottom-up’ approach through the Partnership Intelligence Development Cycles as outlined later in this document.

As highlighted above, alongside the strategic direction set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy, a number of key papers have been issued by central Government to which the Partnership will need to take into account as it takes forward its work. The content of a number of key documents is summarised below:

Policing in the 21st Century - Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill¹

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill is making its passage through Parliament, following its introduction to the House of Commons on 30 November 2010.

Its stated primary aims are to make the police service “more accountable to local people” and tackle “alcohol-related violence”.

One of the critical changes to existing structures is the introduction of directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) to be introduced from May 2012, as well as the creation of Police and Crime Panels (PCP) in each force area. These structures will replace the current role of the Police Authorities and the National Police Improvement Agency. In London, The Mayor of London will assume the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Mayor will be able to appoint and delegate to a Deputy Mayor for Police and Crime, who will be able to undertake the Mayor’s functions in office but the Mayor will retain ultimate responsibility.

Breaking the Cycle : Effective Punishment, Rehabilitation and Sentencing of Offenders²

This Green Paper, published by the Ministry of Justice on 7 December 2010, details the broad approach of the Government’s ‘Rehabilitation Revolution’.

The paper’s initial premise mirrors Lewisham’s local Total Place findings – that despite record investment in prison and offender management structures almost half of all adult offenders released from custody reoffend within a year, and 75% of offenders sentenced to youth custody reoffend within a year.

¹ <http://goo.gl/45hxl> - Policing in the 21st Century - Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill

² <http://goo.gl/hyVMp> - Breaking the Cycle : Effective Punishment, Rehabilitation and Sentencing of Offenders

There will be a renewed thrust toward rehabilitation of offenders, through a more integrated approach through joint commissioning and 'Payment by Results'. This is a radical and decentralising reform that will deliver a fundamental shift in the way rehabilitation is delivered. It will make the concept of 'justice reinvestment' real by allowing providers to invest money in the activity that will prevent offending rather than spending money on dealing with the consequences. The payment by results approach will encourage innovation and bring out the diverse skills from all sectors. The Government plans to apply these principles to all providers by 2015, however they will pilot the concept in a number of local areas, of which Lewisham is one:

146. We plan to introduce a local incentive scheme. This model asks local partners to work together to develop a plan to prevent offending and reduce reoffending. They will then jointly commission innovative services to fill any gaps. They will be free to target their resources on specific groups of offenders in line with their local priorities and crime patterns. If they were able to reduce crime and hence demand for criminal justice services through their joint efforts they would share in any savings made. These could then be reinvested in further crime prevention activity at the local level.

147. To test the feasibility and benefits of such a model we will launch and run two projects from April 2011 for two years: one project in Greater Manchester; and one project across a number of London Boroughs, including Lewisham and Croydon.

Since November 2009, the Total Place project focused on examining offender management. Lewisham has been at the forefront of innovation in this area, and is working very closely with Central Government on the developments in this field in order to deliver a sustained reduction in re-offending in Lewisham and to prevent crime, disorder and harm to the public.

National Drugs Strategy 2010³

The new Drug Strategy has three main themes:

1. Reducing demand on drugs – through treatment of drug users
2. Restricting supply – through enforcement of suppliers
3. Building recovery in communities - Recovery Network Support
Recognises the importance of support networks in facilitating recovery and wellbeing - key things are peer support, work with families and children of drug users.

The strategy has two overarching aims:

1. Reducing illicit and other harmful drug use
2. Increase the numbers recovering from their dependence

National ASB Consultation

'Anti-social behaviour' describes a range of everyday nuisance, disorder and crime, from graffiti and noisy neighbours to harassment and street drug dealing. It is sometimes dismissed as trivial, but anti-social behaviour has a huge impact on victims' quality of life, and it is the public's number one concern when it comes to local crime issues.

³ <http://goo.gl/WFvap> - National Drugs Strategy 2010

Reducing ASB is the new Government's priority, and in its 2010 review of ASB it was found that the toolkit practitioners currently use is extensive, and runs from warning letters all the way up to court orders like the Anti-social Behaviour Order (ASBO).

As a result, the Government are proposing a radical streamlining of the toolkit:

- Repeal the ASBO and other court orders for anti-social individuals, and replace them with two new tools that bring together restrictions on future behaviour and support to address underlying problems – a **Criminal Behaviour Order** that can be attached to a criminal conviction, and a **Crime Prevention Injunction** that can quickly stop anti-social behaviour before it escalates
- Ensure there are powerful incentives on perpetrators to stop behaving antisocially - by making breach of the new orders grounds for eviction from social housing
- Bring together many of the existing tools for dealing with place-specific anti-social behaviour, from persistent litter or noisy neighbours, to street drinking and crack houses, into a **Community Protection Order**
- Bring together existing police dispersal powers into a single police power to direct people away from an area for anti-social behaviour
- Make the informal and out-of-court tools for dealing with anti-social behaviour more rehabilitative and restorative;

Lewisham Crime Reduction Service and its partners in the Safer Lewisham Partnership will work closely with the Government on development of the new ASB toolkit in order to ensure that it can be effectively deployed to tackle low-level criminality and ASB for the benefit of Lewisham residents and visitors to the borough.

Financial policy

Alongside new policies, there has been a well-publicised effort to reduce public deficit with associated reductions in funding available to local areas. Lewisham Council's Crime Reduction Service, Lewisham Police, Probation and other partners are not exempt from these reductions in funding and are having to make challenging decisions on where to focus remaining resources.

Many of the remaining funding sources available from Central Government have had 'ring-fencing' taken off them, meaning that local areas can now decide how this money is best spent. This concept of 'Localism' runs strongly throughout the Government's policies – local areas are receiving much more freedom and independence to act in the interests of local people on issues that are important locally.

Safer Lewisham Partners are focused to deliver better services for less, wherever possible – and where services need to be changed or even stopped due to funding shortfalls the Partnership is committed to listening to residents and being evidence-based and transparent in our service planning. An intelligent commissioning process will be adopted in all cases and where appropriate payment by results contracts will be considered to help achieve defined outcomes for Lewisham residents.

Targets and Performance

In the past, Crime Reduction activity, along with many other area of local government work, was measured through a comprehensive set of process targets. These targets relied upon gathering and processing large amounts of data.

While providing a comprehensive picture of local activity this process had significant resource implications for all partner agencies, and the targets that were monitored were often distant proxies for more general 'positive' outcomes. Another challenging aspect of the previous system of monitoring and measurement was that some of the targets across the Partnership were contrary to each other. For example the Police had to meet 'Sanction/Detection' targets for every crime type, while the Youth Offending Service had to divert appropriate young people from the Criminal Justice System, meaning Police would not receive a 'Sanction/Detection' for those cases.

The Government has decided to delete Local Area Agreements and National Indicator performance framework that focused on processes and instead measure outcomes and 'Payment By Results'. This indicates that there will be fewer targets in the future. Responsibility for monitoring performance will be more clearly delegated to the SLP which is accountable to Lewisham Strategic Partnership and with its individual partners accountable to their own organisations. Ultimately, through Select Committees and Scrutiny Panels, all partners are accountable to the democratically elected representatives of the people of Lewisham.

The future performance framework for Safer Lewisham Partnership will be determined annually by the **Partnership Intelligence Development Cycle**:

"At the start of every fiscal year we will undertake a detailed assessment and consultation in order to set priorities for the Partnership, and will be accountable for their delivery by the end of that year."

4. WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT CRIME IN LEWISHAM.

Aggregate crime and offending levels in Lewisham are average when compared to other London boroughs that are policed by the Metropolitan Police Service. When comparing against other Inner London boroughs, Lewisham has consistently one of the lowest crime boroughs in the group.

Some 35,000 Notifiable Offences – those that Police have to report to Home Office - are reported to Lewisham Police annually.

The British Crime Survey estimates the total number of crimes committed in Britain in 2007/08 as 10.14 million. According to 2001 Census revisions, Lewisham has 0.4% of the UK population. Assuming, conservatively, that the Borough has 0.4% of UK crime then this implies that approximately 41,000 crimes are committed in the Borough each year.

This is some 9,500 crimes more than the recorded statistics for Lewisham or approximately 30%. This is broadly in line with national estimates that a third of all crime is unreported. Given these very broad and general assumptions it would appear that Lewisham's rate of reporting to the Police is broadly in line with national average.

There are challenges in Lewisham. As a statistically 'young' borough Lewisham has a much higher number of young people compared with adults, and young people tend to be more criminogenic between the ages of 15-21. There is an ongoing challenge of tackling Personal Robbery, Knife Crime and Youth Violence – the number of these offences tends to be higher in Lewisham than for its statistical neighbours.

This document does not contain detailed crime statistics in this document, given that the data will soon be out of date. However, there is a huge range of detailed, publicly available crime information available online:

To see detailed Police street-level crime maps and data, as well as details of your local policing team and beat meetings for your area, please visit:

<http://www.police.uk/>

To see detailed crime statistics for Lewisham – and other Met Boroughs – please visit:

<http://www.met.police.uk/crimefigures/>

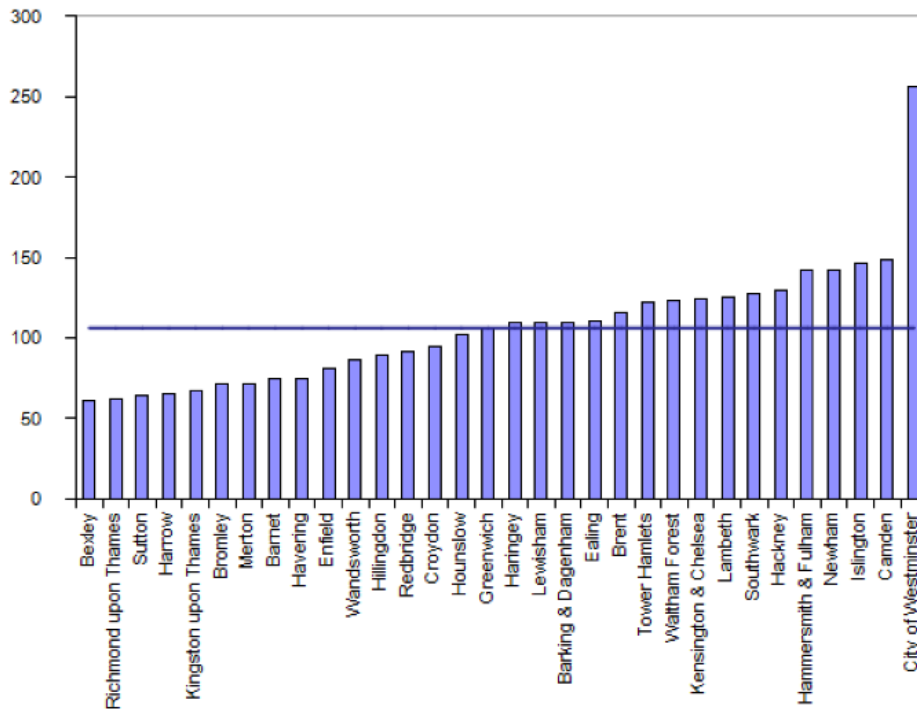
If information you require is not available online, you may request statistics from the Safer Lewisham Partnership, the contact details are listed at the end of this document.

5. WHAT WE ACHIEVED IN 2008-2011

Crime Statistics

On the whole, Lewisham has an average amount of crime in London, and one of the lowest in Inner London:

**iQuanta Barchart Force - Crimes per 1000 Residents
Metropolitan Police BCUs
All Crime
01 Apr 2010 - 31 Mar 2011**



**Overview Report - Metropolitan Police and CDRPs
Crime
Data to the End of Mar 11**

	All Crime	Most serious violence exc GBH without intent	Serious Acquisitive Crime	Domestic Burglary	Robbery	Vehicle Crime (excluding Vehicle Interference)	Other Wounding	Racially or Religiously Aggravated Offences
Lewisham								

Key to Performance Comparisons

Across Time - Shape

- Clearly Improving
- Clearly Deteriorating
- Improving
- Deteriorating
- No apparent change

Based on Significant Change

Against Peers - Ladder

- Better than
- In line with peers
- Worse than

Based on last 3 months

Click on the ladder to view corresponding charts

Source – iQuanta, 31-March 2011⁴.

⁴ iQuanta is intended to provide management information. In order to do this effectively, timeliness is considered more important than complete accuracy. Data based on returns from forces are therefore not subject to full checks, which would delay inclusion on iQuanta. For these reasons, the accuracy of data from iQuanta or about iQuanta usage cannot be guaranteed. Such data should not be used explicitly or implicitly in circumstances in

There have been 434 incidents of Most Serious Violence (MSV) recorded in Lewisham over 08/09. In 09/10 the MSV category has been reduced by 3.7% to 418 offences. In 10/11 the number of allegations has fallen further to 338.

Domestic Violence – one of the key priorities for the Partnership – has remained level over 08/09 with 2949 offences recorded that year. It was an increase of 2 offences on 07/08. However, in 09/10 the Partnership has deployed a range of measures to tackle Domestic Violence, and in 09/10 the number of offences has dropped by 19.8% to 2356 offences.

Robbery – a key statistic for Lewisham. Robbery is a crime that combines many important elements: it makes people feel unsafe on the streets, most of it is perpetrated by young people against other young people, and it is the key ‘knife enabled’ crime in the borough. Most recorded knife crimes are street robberies. In 08/09 there was a reduction of 17.9%, to 1374 offences compared to preceding year. In 09/10 there was a further reduction of 5.3% to 1304 offences. However, in 10/11 the category showed an increase of 24% to 1621 offences. The Partnership is aware that this increase is unacceptable and has prioritised activity to focus on this area.

Residential Burglary is a critical ‘volume crime’ type. In 08/09 there were 1978 Res. Burglaries recorded in Lewisham, a 10.5% drop from 07/08. Over the course of 09/10 there had been a minor increase of 2.7% in this category, to 2029 offences. There has been another increase in 10/11 to 2376 allegations. As above, activity is prioritised and closely monitored to support a reduction.

Preventing young people entering the criminal justice system

Lewisham Youth Offending Service (YOS) have successfully developed the Triage scheme to incorporate the Youth Justice Liaison and Diversion (YJLD) work. Triage has been firmly embedded into mainstream practice over the last three years with partners from the YOS, Police and other partner agencies working together to divert young people from the youth justice system. Since 2008 when Triage commenced, the number of young people who have received criminal disposals has reduced in line with other London Boroughs.

The YJLD is a pilot programme funded by Department of Health that aims to identify concerns regarding young people's mental health at the earliest stage. We have experienced an increase in young people receiving support from our mental health team for issues such as bereavement and for young people who have a family member dealing with a terminal illness. Through early intervention we have been able to address the cause of their offending behaviour in order to prevent an escalation.

Young people sentenced to custody

There has been a 17% reduction in the numbers of young people who receive a custodial disposal from the courts. The percentage of young people who receive a custodial disposal stands at 10.2% of all disposals. This reduction has been achieved due to improved relationships with the Courts, greater confidence in local provision and greater focus on interventions to both support and rehabilitate.

which complete accuracy and certainty are required. Whenever data from iQuanta is circulated or used in appropriate public contexts, it should be made clear that it has not usually been fully checked and finalised.

The Government is focused on outcomes with an associated interest in developing opportunities for 'payment by results'. For drug treatment it is anticipated that the positive outcomes will relate to reduced substance use, improved rates of abstinence, improvements in individuals' health and social functioning, reductions in offending, and clients moving closer to achieving employment and stable housing.

The Partnership has undertaken a comprehensive redesign of the treatment system and, commissioned of a provider, a single integrated drug treatment provider, to deliver an end to end provision for drug and alcohol users.

The new integrated treatment system will focus on recovery throughout a service users care pathway. There will be a specific recovery team will provide counselling, after care, alternative therapies, group work, peer mentoring and Education Training and Employment (ETE). All service users with primary alcohol issues will also have the ability to access one-one, group work, counselling, after care, alternative therapies, peer mentoring and ETE.

Evidence indicates that carers can have a significant positive impact on treatment outcomes and community integration. Therefore Lewisham intends to ensure that carers have their own assessment of needs, that they have access to a carers group, are found support through mainstream services e.g. Lewisham Carers. This will enable carers to be more supported and therefore more involved in service users treatment, especially care planning and recovery goal setting for positive outcomes regards re integration as well as aftercare.

6. INTELLIGENCE DEVELOPMENT CYCLE

The annual priorities for the SLP and the wider performance framework will be determined annually by the Partnership Intelligence Development Cycle.

At the start of every fiscal year a detailed Strategic Assessment will be undertaken and public consultation carried out in order to set annual priorities for the Partnership, who will be accountable for their delivery by the end of that year.

The SLP's Strategic Assessment is an annual document which aims to identify the key crime, disorder, drug/alcohol misuse and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) issues that affect the borough. Its key aim is to outline measures that will improve community safety, including how the local community can feel reassured and confident that their concerns and fears are being addressed.

The Strategic Assessment also helps to identify intelligence/knowledge gaps, from which the Partnership can develop a plan of intervention aimed at reducing the problems. This includes directing analysis and consulting with communities on crime, disorder and ASB problems to enable us to be intelligence-led, problem oriented and evidence-based in our interventions, leading to specific and measurable intervention strategies.

In line with the Crime and Disorder Act 2007, this 3-year strategy will be reviewed annually as a part of this process.

7. OUR AIM : PUBLIC PROTECTION THROUGH CRIME REDUCTION

There are 5 overarching strands of work that will help us deliver a safer Lewisham:

7.1 REDUCING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB)

Antisocial behaviour is any aggressive, intimidating or destructive activity that damages or destroys another person's quality of life. Lewisham Council's Neighbourhood Community Safety Service along with the police and housing partners are integral in tackling ASB on the borough. They ensure those who cause ASB are appropriately enforced and evicted from social housing if necessary. These teams will also work with private landlords to tackle issues of ASB as well as undertake mediation, dispute resolution and Restorative Justice interventions in appropriate cases.

Good Practice - DPPPO 'Controlled Drinking Zone'

Street drinking has been an issue in Lewisham for some time but over the last two years, complaints from both residents and traders alike have increased in frequency and frustration. Particular areas of the borough have long been associated with street drinking and the Safer Lewisham Partnership has made a commitment to alleviating this problem for all concerned.

Following the use of Drinking Control Zones in various areas of the borough, it was proposed in 2010 that a Designated Public Place Order be introduced across the whole of the borough as a method of addressing street drinking and alcohol related anti-social behaviour. A public consultation was undertaken on the pilot proposal.

A public consultation was conducted during February and March 2011 on the effectiveness of the DPPPO in the borough to address alcohol related anti-social behaviour and to establish future options for the scheme. The consultation was delivered through a Public Survey which was available online, and a Safer Neighbourhood Team Survey which was sent to all SNTs across the borough during the same period.

Overall the response to the DPPPO from the public consultation was extremely positive. 91% of responders thought the DPPPO was a good idea. 85% of responders thought the DPPPO should be made permanent.

WHAT WILL RESIDENTS SEE?

- A minimum standard across all agencies dealing with ASB
- Prompt, co-ordinated Multi-Agency response to ASB problems focusing on long-term solutions
- More visible presence of Council and Police tackling ASB through street briefings and weekly local surgeries.
- Integrated working relationship with Social Landlords in Lewisham to achieve better outcomes for Lewisham's tenants in response to Crime and ASB.

7.2 REDUCING REOFFENDING – REHABILITATION, PUNISHMENT AND PAYBACK

Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) are a key part of the local 'Reducing Reoffending' delivery landscape, helping to co-ordinate the work of local partners. The **Police and Crime Act 2009** extends the statutory duty of CSP's to include reducing reoffending and to make probation a *responsible authority* rather than a *co-operating body* as at pre-April 2010.

Nationally, over half of all crime is currently committed by people who have previously been through the criminal justice system and who go on to re-offend (Home Office, 2006) . Within

one year of being of being discharged from prison 39% of people with sentences over one year will reoffend. Over two years 64% of this cohort will reoffend.

Approximately 830 people per year are released from prison into the community in Lewisham , with 500 having served under 12 months and 330 having served over 12 months. Based on these national estimates of reoffending, 578 people from this cohort will re-offend within Lewisham within two years of release.

In reality repeat offences are likely to be much higher than this, given that only a proportion of crime gets caught or results in conviction. Research by the Social Exclusion Unit estimates that for each reconviction five recorded offences are committed. Ethnographic work with Offender in Lewisham also reveals that for all of the sampled offenders, there are a large number of crimes they have committed for which they were never convicted.

These offences are estimated to cost the people, businesses and public bodies of Lewisham at least £95 million per year.

Good Practice – Specialist DV Court

Since July 2010, the London Mainstream Model (LMM) cluster court has been in operation at Greenwich Magistrates Court for domestic violence cases originating in Lewisham. The aim is to provide an enhanced criminal justice response for victims of domestic violence.

The borough development of the LMM aims to adhere closely to all the components of a Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC). Lewisham DV cases are clustered on Thursday mornings at Greenwich Magistrates Court. All staff present in the court are trained in domestic violence, including magistrates, legal clerks, list callers, prosecutors, probation staff, police officers and Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs), and there is a Coordinator for the LMM in court who acts as a single point of contact for Thursday mornings.

It is important to recognise that adults and young people convicted of offences are some of the most socially excluded within society. The challenge is to punish those who break the law while also helping rehabilitate those who have offended through improved management of offenders so they are less likely to commit crime again.

This is being done by tackling the root causes of their offending behaviour, reducing social exclusion, and by working right across the Partnership to:

- Tackle the high prevalence of drug and alcohol misuse;
- Deliver programmes and services to tackle the root causes of offending behaviour;
- Improve basic skills and ability to find and retain suitable employment and tackle debt;
- Improve mental and general health
- Ensure offenders can access and retain appropriate accommodation;
- Work with children and families of offenders to break the intergenerational cycle of offending

This will be delivered in conjunction with robust police enforcement and Criminal Justice outcomes for those that choose to continue offending.

Good Practice - Integrated offender management (IOM)

As a result of Total Place, Drugs intervention Programme, prolific and priority offenders and the Diamond Initiative Lewisham have developed a comprehensive offender management model based on an external organisation providing an innovative supervision and rehabilitation service for mainly non-statutory offenders.

In addition to this, we are working jointly with Probation to deliver joint effective interventions to the statutory cohort, as well as working with Police to target and enforce prolific offenders who are prepared to change their offending lifestyle through the Repeat Offenders (ROs) group. All three strands are joined up through SLP Reducing Reoffending governance structure to ensure mutual assistance and elimination of duplication.

This approach should ensure that we cover all profiles of offenders on the borough with some level of intervention.

WHAT WILL RESIDENTS SEE?

- More integrated and cost-effective offender management services
- Higher quality drug treatment services available to offenders to assist them in rehabilitation.
- Fewer Lewisham offenders re-offending upon release from prison
- Better, more targeted use of resources aimed at rehabilitating offenders in the community

7.3 WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE - BOTH VICTIMS AND PERPETRATORS OF CRIME - YOUTH JUSTICE

Lewisham Council's Youth Offending Service (YOS) is responsible for managing young offenders in the community, to ensure the risk to public is minimised while the young person is supported to pursue educational opportunities and activities that will divert them from offending lifestyles. In addition to this, the YOS offers Restorative Justice interventions and preventative work with children at risk of becoming offenders.

Lewisham children's Partnership provide a range of activities, clubs and projects across the borough. These engage young people in a controlled and supervised setting and divert them from loitering in public spaces, causing ASB and potentially turning to crime. Detached Youth Workers engage with young people on the streets.

Together with Police, these services work closely with Schools in Lewisham to ensure appropriate preventative work is undertaken in partnership.

Safeguarding young people will be a critical aspect of work with victims and perpetrators and will link into services related to children social care and health.

Good Practice : Victims of serious Youth Violence MARAC

The Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) is part of Lewisham's coordinated partnership response to Victims of Serious Youth Violence, it follows the Domestic Violence MARAC and the framework is set by CAADA.

The project aimed to work with young victims and witnesses of crime (and their families) in the London Borough of Lewisham to:

- Reduce the number of incidents of serious youth violence in local communities
- Support victims to feel safer and more secure
- Increase young victims' confidence in agencies, such as the police, with the aim of increasing the numbers of young people accessing the services available to them and reporting crimes
- Reduce the number of young victims adapting offending behaviour

WHAT WILL RESIDENTS SEE?

- Integrated services for young people at risk of offending, in partnership with the Lewisham Youth Services
- Robust enforcement of those young people who persist in offending
- Help and interventions for young people who wish exit gangs and gang lifestyles.
- Offender Behaviour Programmes will address the causes of criminality and prevent further offending

7.4 'VOLUME CRIME' – OFFENDING THAT AFFECTS MOST PEOPLE IN LEWISHAM

Volume crime is a technical term for mainly low-level offences that happen in large numbers and affect many Lewisham residents. This includes offences like Residential Burglary and Theft From Motor Vehicle., the impact on residents is significant and the aggregate a large direct cost placed on the people of Lewisham through property lost and damaged and increased insurance premiums.

Good Practice – DV MARAC

The MARAC aims to safeguard the highest risk victims of domestic violence as well as their children, whilst making links with other public protection arrangements in relation to perpetrators and vulnerable adults and to safeguard agency staff as well as to address the behaviour of the perpetrator. This is achieved by an information and action planning process at MARAC with case management and specialist support before, during and after the meeting provided by the Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA).

Lewisham MARAC has recently undergone CAADA's (Coordinated Action Domestic Abuse) Quality Assurance process. The final report, which was recently furnished by the Home Office, shows that 89% of the 10 key principles were awarded a green rating, meaning all key aspects of those principles have been met. 11% were awarded an amber rating, meaning most key aspects of those principles have been met. No principles were awarded a red rating. The report states this is "an excellent achievement by all agencies involved and reflects a well-established MARAC."

WHAT WILL RESIDENTS SEE?

- Coordinated partnership action delivered through Problem Solving Processes
- Visible Police & Council presence in order to deter offender and reassure residents
- Enforcement and preventative measures aimed at reducing the number of Volume Crimes in Lewisham

7.5 MAKING LEWISHAM SAFER THROUGH CRIME PREVENTION – AND WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES

Our broader preventative aim is ensuring vulnerable people - in the broadest sense of the word - receive appropriate crime prevention advice, interventions and referrals to services that will maximise their safety.

There have been a number of recent Consultations on matters related to Policing and Crime Reduction – in 2010 we have had Anti-Social Behaviour Consultation which fed into the ASB Review, as well as the Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) Consultation around the issue of 'street drinking' in some parts of the borough.

There is an annual consultation on the priorities set by the Safer Lewisham Partnership, where residents get the opportunity to highlight what is important to them so that Partnership can include their concerns in the Partnership Intelligence Development Cycle.

Each ward in Lewisham has its own **Local Assembly**⁵. Anyone who lives, works or studies in the ward are encouraged to attend. Meetings take place up to four times a year.

⁵ Local Assemblies Team : email localassemblies@lewisham.gov.uk Telephone 020 8314 7034, <http://goo.gl/CJHwn>

There will be open discussion and debate about what matters in the local area. Real action will be taken to solve the issues raised. The community will work together with the Council to make a real change to your area.

We are committed to consulting and seeking the views of residents on all major issues related to Policing and Crime Reduction.

A key part of consulting the residents comes in the form of Partnership engagement with Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group (LCPCG), which is an independent Community Forum. The Group discusses aspects of policing, community safety and related issues that matter to the communities of Lewisham.

WHAT WILL RESIDENTS SEE?

- Residents able to affect the what annual priorities the Partnership sets
- Residents consulted on major crime-reduction projects
- Police & Council listening to resident's views and opinions

8. FURTHER INFORMATION AND CONTACT DETAILS

Further copies of this Strategy can be obtained on request to the Crime Reduction and Supporting People Service within the Council. It will also be made available on-line on the new Lewisham Council's website.

If you would like the information in the document translated into a different language, provided in large print or in Braille or the spoken word, please contact the Crime Reduction Service.

Tel No. : 0208 314 8056

Post: Crime Reduction Service

 London Borough of Lewisham

 Mercia Grove

 Lewisham

 London SE13 6BJ

The Partnership is committed to ongoing improvements in the services we deliver. We would welcome any feedback, suggestions or proposals from individuals or organisations.

For practical advice in relation to community safety and crime prevention, please visit the website:

www.crimereduction.gov.uk

Call Crime Stoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 to give information about a crime

For advice and support in relation to drugs and alcohol problems, visit Frank at :

www.talktofrank.com or call 0800 776600

For information on your local Safer Neighbourhood Teams please visit:

<http://www.met.police.uk/teams/lewisham/index.php>

To see detailed Police street-level crime maps and data, as well as details of your local policing team and beat meetings for your area, please visit:

<http://www.police.uk/>



Safer Lewisham Plan 2011/2012



Agreed by the Safer Lewisham Partnership on 28/03/2011

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1. Introduction

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as amended by section 97 and 98 of the Police Reform Act 2002, places a requirement on Safer communities Partnerships to develop a three year Crime and Disorder Strategy, which includes how Anti Social Behaviour will be tackled, how drugs and alcohol impact on crime and disorder, to set outcomes upon which success will be measured and to establish how partners will come together to effect change. Lewisham has now reviewed the Safer Lewisham Strategy for 2008- 11 and has set the following over arching objectives:

- **Reducing Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)**
- **Reducing Reoffending – rehabilitation, punishment and payback**
- **'Volume Crime' – Offending that affects most people in Lewisham**
- **Working with young people - both victims and perpetrators of crime – Youth Justice**
- **Making Lewisham Safer Through Crime Prevention – and working with communities**

The Safer Lewisham Partnership (SLP) is Lewisham's Community Safety Partnership and is accountable for delivery in relation to Crime and Disorder, and Community Safety issues for Lewisham.

In line with this three year Strategy, the Partnership are required to reassess annually and prepare an annual Plan to help prioritise areas where additional work is required.

The Safer Lewisham Plan presents a public summary of the key findings of Lewisham's Strategic Assessment 2010/11. The Strategic Assessment, identifies the key crime and disorder issues in Lewisham. It is based upon a detailed analysis of the latest crime and disorder data as well as consultation activity with local citizens.

The information contained in the Strategic Assessment has allowed Lewisham's Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (Safer Lewisham Partnership) to prioritise activity in 2011/12 around the following areas:

- Young people – under 25 years, reducing serious violence
- Tackling Anti Social Behaviour
- Violence against women and girls
- Reducing reoffending.

This Safer Lewisham Plan outlines how these priorities have been identified and the actions that will be taken forward across the Safer Lewisham Partnership to improve local outcomes.

2. National and Local Context

The Government has signalled a significant change of direction in the way it oversees and incentivises local areas. Localism agenda means finding local solutions to local problems, rather than importing a centralised solution. In these difficult economic conditions it also often means doing it with local resources and trying to achieve better outcomes with fewer resources.

One of the critical changes to existing structures is the introduction the Policing in the 21st Century - Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill¹. It will bring about directly elected **Police and Crime Commissioners** (PCC) to be introduced from May 2012, as well as the creation of **Police and Crime Panels** (PCP) in each **force area**. These structures will replace the current role of the Police Authorities and the National Police Improvement Agency.

The PCC is not an alternative to the current statutory arrangements for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs.) Under these statutory arrangements individual CSPs will need to continue to carry out a strategic assessment and produce a partnership plan, and local authority crime and disorder overview and scrutiny committees will need to continue to scrutinise the functioning of their local CSP.

In London, the public already directly elect an individual to have oversight of London-wide issues; the **Mayor of London**. The Mayor, with the oversight and scrutiny of the **London Assembly**, will continue to be responsible for the policing budget, setting the policing plan and holding the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) to account for delivering policing to the people of London.

Government intends to create a functional body of the GLA called the **Mayor's Office for Police and Crime**, which will own the MPS assets and hold the policing budget. The Mayor will hold this office as part of his or her Mayoral duties. The Mayor will be able to appoint and delegate to a Deputy Mayor for Police and Crime, who will be able to undertake the Mayor's functions in office but the Mayor will retain ultimate responsibility. The Mayor will be supported by an Executive Director and Finance Director appointed as executive officers of the GLA.

Police performance and Targets

The Home Office is taking measures to reduce the police inspection and targets regime. They are working to reduce centralised performance

¹ <http://goo.gl/45hxL>

management and the data requests placed on forces in order to free up the police to focus on local priorities.

Policing Pledge, Public Confidence measures have been removed and the **Assessment of Policing and Community Safety** (APACS) is to be abolished. This allows new arrangements to be developed that best meet the aims of strengthening local accountability, removing undue direction from the centre and supporting professional discretion. Government will also annually review requests made of the police by the 'centre' to ensure they keep meeting needs as the new inspection and accountability arrangements develop.

The Government has piloted the return of charging decisions to the police for more routine cases. These pilots were run by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and the Crown Prosecution Service in Essex, London, Staffordshire, Thames Valley and West Yorkshire. The results showed approximately 90% of decisions taken by the police to be the right ones. Government will now extend this approach nationally.

Rehabilitation of Offenders Breaking the Cycle Green paper: Effective Punishment, Rehabilitation and Sentencing of Offenders²

This Green Paper was published by the Ministry of Justice on 7 December 2010. It details the broad approach to the 'Rehabilitation Revolution' promised by the Coalition Government.

The paper's initial premise mirrors Lewisham's Total Place findings – that despite record investment in prison and offender management structures almost half of all adult offenders released from custody reoffend within a year, and 75% of offenders sentenced to youth custody reoffend within a year.

However, there has been a clear commitment from the Coalition Government to:

- Keep 'Short custody' as a sentencing option
- No early release schemes
- Robbers and Knife offenders will continue to get custody disposal.

A renewed thrust toward rehabilitation of offenders, nothing radically new but rather a more integrated approach through joint commissioning and payment by results:

- Probation, police and other local services taking an integrated approach to managing offenders;
- Getting drug dependent offenders off drugs and into recovery; getting offenders into jobs and with somewhere to live so that they can pay their own way;
- Tackling mental health problems

² <http://goo.gl/hyVMp>

- The Government will develop a 'payment by results' approach that addresses all the key areas which support recovery: in other words, freedom from clinical dependence, reducing reoffending, and getting a job.
- A review of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act to bring it more up-to-date and make it easier for offenders to find employment.
- Pilots will include tackling the problems of those offenders released from prison after short prison sentences and those who are serving community orders with a drug rehabilitation requirement. The Government will work with the pilot areas to co-design the payment by results approach for offenders. Local areas will be invited to tender to take part. Work to co-design the pilots will start early in the New Year. The initial set of pilots will begin in **September 2011**

Payment By Results

This is a reform that will deliver a fundamental shift in the way rehabilitation is delivered. It will make the concept of 'justice reinvestment' real by allowing providers to invest money in the activity that will prevent offending rather than spending money on dealing with the consequences. The payment by results approach will encourage innovation and bring out the diverse skills from all sectors. The Government plans to apply these principles to all providers by 2015.

The Government aims to pilot at least six new rehabilitation programmes, delivered on a 'payment by results' basis. Providers will be paid to reduce reoffending, funded in the long run by the savings to the taxpayer that this new approach is expected to generate. We expect that independent providers, backed up by ethical investment, will support the early stages of this rehabilitation revolution.

The principles of payment by results will not be restricted to the private and voluntary sectors. MoJ will pilot ways in which local partnerships, including public services, can participate.

The Government aims to:

- Design the payment by results model for reducing reoffending; commissioning at least six new payment by results projects covering a significant proportion of the offender population;
- Publish a comprehensive competition strategy in June 2011;
- Define how it will pay providers for rehabilitating offenders;
- Increase discretion and enabling frontline professionals to innovate in the way they work with offenders.

To test the feasibility and benefits of such a model the Government will launch and run two projects from April 2011 for two years:

- One project in Greater Manchester; and
- One project across a number of London Boroughs, including Lewisham and Croydon.

3. Progress against 10/11 Priorities

This year's priorities have been set using the same methodology and mechanism's as last year's. The following areas had been identified by Safer Lewisham Strategic Assessment 10/11, which took into account consultation with residents.

Overall, the 2010-2011 financial year has been very challenging for the Safer Lewisham Partnership. The early part of the year has seen a large spike in Residential Burglary, and whilst this had been stabilised through Operation Bumblebee and other preventive measures, by the end of the year residential burglary was showing a minor increase once again. Motor vehicle crime has also seen an increase. Whilst usually Theft From Motor Vehicle is the volume player within Vehicle Crime basket, there has been an increase across the board. It has been suggested that the economic downturn may be one of the many factors that has led to the increase in Acquisitive Crime..

Towards the end of the year street crime such as personal robbery has become an issue particularly in the north the Borough. Lewisham police have undertaken a large number of proactive operations aimed at reducing these types of criminality, with other safer Lewisham partners focusing on prevention and reducing reoffending in order to achieve a reduction in these crime types.

On the other hand, Gun Crime has been almost halved, and all violence categories have seen a reduction with the exception of Serious Youth Violence. This is assessed to have been the result of successful police operations aimed at tackling organised criminal activity in Lewisham. Unfortunately, knife crime has seen a major increase. Personal robbery is a key volume driver of knife crime and knife enabled offences. The vast majority of knife crimes are 'intimated', in other words during a robbery the offender suggests to the victim that he or she has a knife, which the victim never sees. The other side of knife crime is the result of tensions and violence amongst Lewisham's young people who have organised themselves into gangs. Knives and similar implements are often prepared in advance with the expectation that they will be used in confrontations. Unfortunately these often result in stabbings and other injuries.

The following figures are the latest available at time of publication – 20th February 2011. All comparisons are to 2009/10 fiscal year-to-date. They are unverified and are not suitable for wide circulation

Priority & Performance	Summary Activity																						
<p>Reducing reoffending Serious Acquisitive Crime Total 6,604 (+12.8%) Theft from Motor Vehicle 2,077 (+2.9%) Residential Burglary increase of 2153 (+16.8) Theft of Motor Vehicle 953 (+11.9%)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further development of tailored YOS interventions for individual young people • Expanding the Intensive Supervision and Surveillance (ISS) service in order to prevent reoffending • Working with voluntary sector to deliver targeted group programmes for young offender 																						
<p>Serious Youth Violence Personal Robbery 1,295 (+26%) Serious Youth Violence 311 (+14.3%)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decipher programme • (Young) Offender Behaviour Programmes will address the causes of criminality and prevent further offending • Trilogy+ interventions coordinated with YOS tailored activities for young offenders • Youth MARAC on-going interventions for victims 																						
<p>Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) (27 July to 24 November 2010)</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Rowdy Or Inconsiderate Behaviour</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3224</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rowdy / Nuisance Neighbours</td> <td style="text-align: right;">632</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Noise</td> <td style="text-align: right;">335</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Malicious / Nuisance Communications</td> <td style="text-align: right;">295</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hoax Call To Emergency Services</td> <td style="text-align: right;">207</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Animal Problems</td> <td style="text-align: right;">168</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Veh Nuisance / Inappropriate Use</td> <td style="text-align: right;">165</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Veh - Abandoned Not Stolen</td> <td style="text-align: right;">137</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fireworks</td> <td style="text-align: right;">108</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Begging / Vagrancy</td> <td style="text-align: right;">62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Street Drinking</td> <td style="text-align: right;">58</td> </tr> </table>	Rowdy Or Inconsiderate Behaviour	3224	Rowdy / Nuisance Neighbours	632	Noise	335	Malicious / Nuisance Communications	295	Hoax Call To Emergency Services	207	Animal Problems	168	Veh Nuisance / Inappropriate Use	165	Veh - Abandoned Not Stolen	137	Fireworks	108	Begging / Vagrancy	62	Street Drinking	58	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with housing associations and RLS to targets offenders living in their properties • Developed ASB minimum standards of response • Developed PSPs to focus on key issues in localities • New ASB 'Casework' system developed
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<p>Victimisation of Women</p> <p>(Police CRIS Data, calendar year 2010)</p> <p>Female Victims – 17,830 Under - 21 Victims - 6,467 DV Offences 1,904 (-10.8%)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Risk management process has been addressing the partners of known offenders in order to support and prevent victimisation and harm.• Work to reduce numbers of Domestic Violence offences through DV MARAC• Working with perpetrators of DV – Tryangle project – aimed at reducing repeat offending.
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Safer Lewisham Partnership understands that the Acquisitive crime basket has substantially increased, and that this crime performance is unacceptable. Crime performance has been the subject of extensive Partnership scrutiny and discussion. As a result, this basket of crimes has been prioritised for 11/12 and a Partnership Action plan has been developed to address this increase given the reduction in available resources.

<p>Good Practice: Victims of serious Youth Violence MARAC</p> <p>The Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) is part of Lewisham's coordinated partnership response to Victims of Serious Youth Violence, it follows the Domestic Violence MARAC and the framework is set by CAADA.</p> <p>The project aimed to work with young victims and witnesses of crime (and their families) in the London Borough of Lewisham to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce the number of incidents of serious youth violence in local communities• Support victims to feel safer and more secure• Increase young victims' confidence in agencies, such as the police, with the aim of increasing the numbers of young people accessing the services available to them and reporting crimes• Reduce the number of young victims adapting offending behaviour• Over 900 young victims (of crimes including violence, robbery, sexual offences and racial harassment), aged 11 – 25, have come to the attention of the MARAC, with referrals coming from the police, voluntary sector organisations, Youth Offending Service and Housing. Only those deemed the highest risk are referred through to MARAC Board.• Over 135 high-risk young people aged 11 – 25 have been supported by the Youth Advocate since May 09; of crimes including violence, robbery, sexual offences and racial harassment), referred from services - including police, voluntary sector organisations, Youth Offending Service and Housing.

4. The Strategic Assessment

The Safer Lewisham Partnership's (SLP) Strategic Assessment Process aims to identify the key crime, disorder, drug/alcohol misuse and anti-social behaviour (ASB) issues that affect the borough.

The Strategic Assessment is part of the intelligence tasking process that is used by the Safer Lewisham Partnership to tackle crime and disorder, and improve community safety. It is produced annually (Financial Year) and is complemented by regular detailed tactical Police & Partnership Problem Profiles that monitor the Partnership's activities, and explore priority and emerging crime problems in Lewisham. This activity enables the Partnership to be intelligence-led, problem oriented and evidence-based in its interventions, leading to specific, measurable and ultimately successful intervention strategies.

The Strategic Assessment is a Police 'Restricted'³ analytical document that draws on many available datasets from across the Partnership and identifies key problem areas and crime types in Lewisham. The document is classified as Restricted as detailed information inside can be used to identify individual victims or perpetrators of crime thereby or prejudice the investigation or facilitate the commission of crime.

This information is complemented by consulting with our communities on crime, disorder and ASB problems. The key findings from the Strategic Assessment allows the Safer Lewisham Partnership to focus its resources on the key issues and quickly align its strategic and tactical priorities to focus on emerging problems.

5. Methodology

'Scanning' is a section of the Strategic Assessment that undertakes a broad assessment of the borough's community safety problems, including consultation with residents and any apparent recent trends. Detailed 'Volume crime' statistics provided by Police are analysed and presented in terms of who commits offences, the section of the population who are most vulnerable and areas where most offending takes place. This is also known as the "Victim/Offender/Location" methodology. This is a standard approach to crime

³ The Protective Marking System (often referred to as the Government Protective Marking System/Scheme or GPMS) is the Government's administrative system to ensure that access to information and other assets is correctly managed and safeguarded to an agreed and proportionate level throughout their lifecycle, including creation, storage, transmission and destruction. The system is designed to support HMG business, and meet the requirements of relevant legislation, international standards and international agreements. The Protective Marking System comprises five markings. In descending order of sensitivity they are: TOP SECRET, SECRET, CONFIDENTIAL, RESTRICTED and PROTECT

analysis that is employed nationally by Police, Government and Local Authorities

In addition to this, other agencies in the Partnership – such as the Fire Service, the Youth Offending Service and the Drugs and Alcohol Action Team, Children's Services, Probation - provide their statistical and performance data.

These datasets are analysed together and a view is taken on which problems are causing the most harm to the communities in Lewisham, and which can be addressed by the Partnership.

In addition to this, a public consultation is held to ensure that community concerns are heard and that the final priorities are set on the basis of more than simply statistics.

6. Lewisham Community Consultation on Strategic Assessment 10/11

There is a statutory requirement to consult the residents of an area when preparing the Strategic Assessment in order to ensure that views and perceptions of the public are reflected in the setting of strategic priorities. Lewisham uses the facilities and network of the Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group (LCPCG) to organise a public meeting where a structured discussion takes place with residents putting forward their concerns and opinions on what areas should be prioritised.

The LCPCG consultation was held on 4th February 2011 in Lewisham Town Hall Civic Suite's Council Chambers.

Those residents attending raised the following specific concerns:

- Antisocial behaviour on buses by young people in the afternoons
- Rushey Green - IC3 youth Burglary forcing UPVC doors
- Parenting – need to engage schools and parents
- Youth Provision – there may be lots of it but it is seen as ineffective
- Gang culture in schools
- Parents don't know what their children do outside the home.
- Assemblies – ask for solutions and see if young people have innovative new ideas
- Youth service – more generic provision. Current specialised youth clubs and services are too narrowly focused.
- Cycling on the pavement
- Sydenham/Ladywell – speeding in residential roads
- Domestic Violence – link between violence in the home and on the streets
- Groups of intimidating youths
- Young boys' attitudes to girls

- Need to break down young people/police barriers and build relationships
- Girl gangs and 'passing' of girls between gang members
- Need to focus on young women
- Need to talk about violence and sex in primary schools – how can we do this?
- Need to use Street pastors and churches more
- Fly-tipping
- Cowboy builders in Ladywell
- Lewisham has less graffiti and feels safer than last year
- Parks and antisocial behaviour – more targeted approach needed in parks (Ladywell)
- Youth unemployment, but cannot blame unemployment for behaviour
- Young people need to be able to hang about

In addition, ward priorities for Ward panels and Local Assemblies were noted as part of public consultation and input into this assessment.

From this consultation the following areas will feed into priorities for 2011/2012:

Anti-Social Behaviour	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Intimidating groups of young people on buses 2. Fly-Tipping 3. Cycling on Pavement 4. Speeding in residential roads 5. ASB in parks
Serious Youth Violence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gang culture in schools
Victimisation of girls and women	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Domestic Violence 2. 'Gangs', sexualised behaviour and young women

The 'scanning process' and consultation identified the following issues that will be made a strategic priority for 2011/2012:

- Reducing serious violence focusing on Young people – under 25 years,
- Tackling Anti Social Behaviour
- Violence against women and girls
- Reducing reoffending.

If an emerging trend is identified at any time by the tactical analytical products (Problem Profiles) that Lewisham Joint Action Group (JAG) or SLP Performance and Delivery Board consider appropriate for elevation to a strategic priority, it will be incorporated into a revised document, and subsequently approved by Safer Lewisham Partnership Main Board.

7. Identified Priorities

Reducing serious violence focusing on Young People – under 25 year olds

Last year, the partnership prioritised Gang Violence. As a result of multi—agency activity we have seen a change in the scale and type of offending that takes place in the Borough as a result of gang criminality.

The decrease in gun crime by nearly 50% compared with 2009/2010 shows that the scale of gang offending – at the extreme "organised criminal network" end of offending – has been curtailed.

On other hand, we have seen a few cases of extreme violence – including murder – which has resulted in a number of Lewisham young people being remanded in custody for long periods of time in anticipation of a Crown Court trial later this year. As a result of this, many of the key gang nominals have decreased their activity and are "laying low" until the result of these trials.

Over 2010/2011 the Safer Lewisham Partnership has put in place a wide range of measures designed to curb gang offending and serious youth criminality:

- Youth MARAC
- Trilogy Plus
- Serious Youth Violence Menu
- End Of Term Activity
- Youth Offending Service activity
- Drug Treatment Service for Young People
- Girls and Gangs Forum
- Partnership gangs intelligence and tasking meeting

All these projects and processes are now in place and the number of evaluations as well as anecdotal evidence suggests that they are having an impact on the problem. At is hoped that their effects will also eventually feed into the statistics around aggregate gang criminality and Serious Youth Violence.

The current problem facing the Borough is a very sharp peak in Personal Robbery and Knife Crime. These two metrics are related, as the bulk of knife crime is personal robbery which features a threat of knife. Many of the offenders who are behind these crimes are previously unknown to the criminal justice system. This is a problem as it suggests a new cohort entering offending, which would impact on life chances of these individuals and cause harm to their victims,

Many of the perpetrators of Personal Robbery and Knife Enabled Crime – and those linked to gangs and youth violence – are young people over 18. This

cohort straddles the statutory landscape, i.e. between the Youth Offending Service and Probation Service.

Given the rapid increase in these offences it is important that the partnership prioritises this group, its offending, and the harm it causes to residents and visitors of Lewisham for the forthcoming year.

The SLP will measure success against this category by measuring:

- The volume of under 25 victims and offenders
- Serious Youth Violence
- Knife Enabled Offences
- Personal Robbery

Anti-Social Behaviour

Anti-Social behaviour has featured heavily in community consultation. It is the 'crime' that affects most residents, and one they expect the Partnership to focus on tackling. The performance measurement of ASB continues to be a challenge, however Police Computer Aided Dispatch CAD system which records 999 and non-emergency calls examined in the 'Scanning' section suggest some decline in the number of ASB callouts. However, given the link between young people causing ASB and the risk of their further development into more serious offences - such as truancy and involvement with 'gangs' - it is crucial to tackle this aspect of Community Safety to ensure a higher quality of life for residents.

In terms of fear of crime and perceptions of ASB, a careful balance needs to be achieved by the Partnership, with a careful mix of reassurance communications as well as key prevention messages.

Anti Social Behaviour continues to be high on Government agenda, and is under intense scrutiny from the media and the public. The new Government has indicated that Anti Social Behaviour Orders will be withdrawn and replaced with Criminal Behaviour Orders. Safer Lewisham Partnership must be at the forefront of this agenda to ensure that residents receive full benefits of new legislation and that there is an appropriate and rapid transition to the new arrangements.

Violence Against Women and girls

The scanning process in 09/10 identified women as a group that is on the whole much more likely to be victims of crime. Domestic violence is a primary factor in this area, but a range of both violent and acquisitive crimes are also represented. From the evaluation of our progress against 10/11 priorities in section 3 it is apparent that, despite a 10% in the number of Domestic

Violence offences, women continue to be over-represented as victims of crime.

The scanning process for 11/12 has identified that there has been no significant change in the age/gender profile of female victims since 2009 dataset.

Females between the ages of 16 and 35 are much more likely to become victims of recorded crime in Lewisham.

Good Practice – Specialist DV Court

Since July 2010, the London Mainstream Model (LMM) cluster court has been in operation at Greenwich Magistrates Court for domestic violence cases originating in Lewisham. The aim is to provide an enhanced criminal justice response for victims of domestic violence.

The borough development of the LMM aims to adhere closely to all the components of a Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC). Lewisham DV cases are clustered on Thursday mornings at Greenwich Magistrates Court. All staff present in the court are trained in domestic violence, including magistrates, legal clerks, list callers, prosecutors, probation staff, police officers and Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs), and there is a Coordinator for the LMM in court who acts as a single point of contact for Thursday mornings.

Progress against the Domestic Violence crime type is a result of a large number of measures taken by the Partnership, achieving a 20% reduction compared with 08/09, as well as a 10% reduction in 2010/2011. We are confident that we have achieved a great deal in this area, with a range of services and interventions and processes victims and perpetrators of domestic violence. However, it would be unrealistic to expect the huge pace of these reductions to continue. Some of the services that were available to victims of domestic violence in 2010/2011 may not be available in the future.

Therefore, this priority has evolved to focus on violent offending, the most serious subsets of crime affecting women in Lewisham. This area of work remains vital for the partnership – both to ensure that we continue to build on the successes achieved so far, and to explore other avenues of reducing violence against women by focusing on different crime types or finding new vulnerable cohorts that we can work with.

Good Practice – DV MARAC

The MARAC aims to safeguard the highest risk victims of domestic violence as well as their children, whilst making links with other public protection arrangements in relation to perpetrators and vulnerable adults and to safeguard agency staff as well as to address the behaviour of the perpetrator. This is achieved by an information and action planning process at MARAC with case management and specialist support before, during and after the meeting provided by the Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA).

Lewisham MARAC has recently undergone CAADA's (Coordinated Action Domestic Abuse) Quality Assurance process. The final report, which was recently furnished by the Home Office, shows that 89% of the 10 key principles were awarded a green rating, meaning all key aspects of those principles have been met. 11% were awarded an amber rating, meaning most key aspects of those principles have been met. No principles were awarded a red rating. The report states this is "an excellent achievement by all agencies involved and reflects a well-established MARAC."

In addition, Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults with specific reference to Older adults, and physical and learning disabilities and abuse has been identified as an area of concern regarding women. "Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person or persons". No Secrets Department of Health (March 2000). In line with this the Safer Lewisham Partnership will, alongside the Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Board, look to establish improved arrangements for this client group.

Reducing Reoffending

Nationally, over half of all crime is currently committed by people who have previously been through the Criminal Justice System (CJS) and who go on to re-offend (Home Office, 2006). Within one year of being discharged from prison, 39% of people with sentences over one year will reoffend. Within two years, 64% of the same cohort will be re-convicted of another offence. For offenders who receive short-term custody of less than 12 months, this increases to 73% reoffending rate after two years.

Within Lewisham, our exact repeat offender figures are estimated to follow the national trends. Approximately 830 people per year are released from prison into the community in Lewisham. Based on national estimates of reoffending 578 people from this cohort will be convicted as a result of re-offending in Lewisham within two years of release.

Good Practice - Integrated offender management (IOM)

As a result of Total Place, Drugs intervention Programme, prolific and priority offenders and the Diamond Initiative Lewisham have developed a comprehensive offender management model based on an external organisation providing an innovative supervision and rehabilitation service for mainly non-statutory offenders.

In addition to this, we are working jointly with Probation to deliver joint effective interventions to the statutory cohort, as well as working with Police to target and enforce prolific offenders who are prepared to change their offending lifestyle through the Repeat Offenders (ROs) group. All three strands are joined up through SLP Reducing Reoffending governance structure to ensure mutual assistance and elimination of duplication.

This approach should ensure that we cover all profiles of offenders on the borough with some level of intervention.

In reality, the actual numbers of repeat offences is likely to be much higher than this given that only a proportion of crime results in conviction. Research by the Social Exclusion Unit estimates that for each reconviction five recorded offences are committed.

These offences are estimated to cost the people, businesses and public bodies of Lewisham at least £95 million per year. This figure does not include 'un-costed' damage to perceptions of public safety and community cohesion as well as psychological impact of crime on the victims.

In 2009, Lewisham was part of the 'Total Place' pilot, aimed at exploring how delivery of public services can be streamlined and optimised for greater efficiency through collaborative working.

Lewisham chose "management of offenders and minimising harm " as one of its Total Place strands, and after detailed research and engagement with stakeholders the final report had been submitted to the Central Government in January 2010. This report and its findings are available online at <http://goo.gl/52sR>.

In addition to this, from April 2010 the Police and Crime Reduction Act extends the statutory duty of Community Safety Partnerships (CSP)'s to include reducing reoffending and to make Probation Service a 'responsible authority' rather than a 'co-operating body'.

Given the change in legislation and the work already done to examine re-offending in Lewisham it is was appropriate to make this work a priority for 2010/2011 in order to reduce volume crime through a reduction in reoffending. Over the course of 2010/2011 we have done extensive structural work on reoffending, and this has evolved into the Financial Incentives Model led by the Ministry of Justice, who have been working with partners in Manchester City Region, Lewisham and Croydon to develop a local incentive scheme to reduce demand on the criminal justice system. The Green Paper published

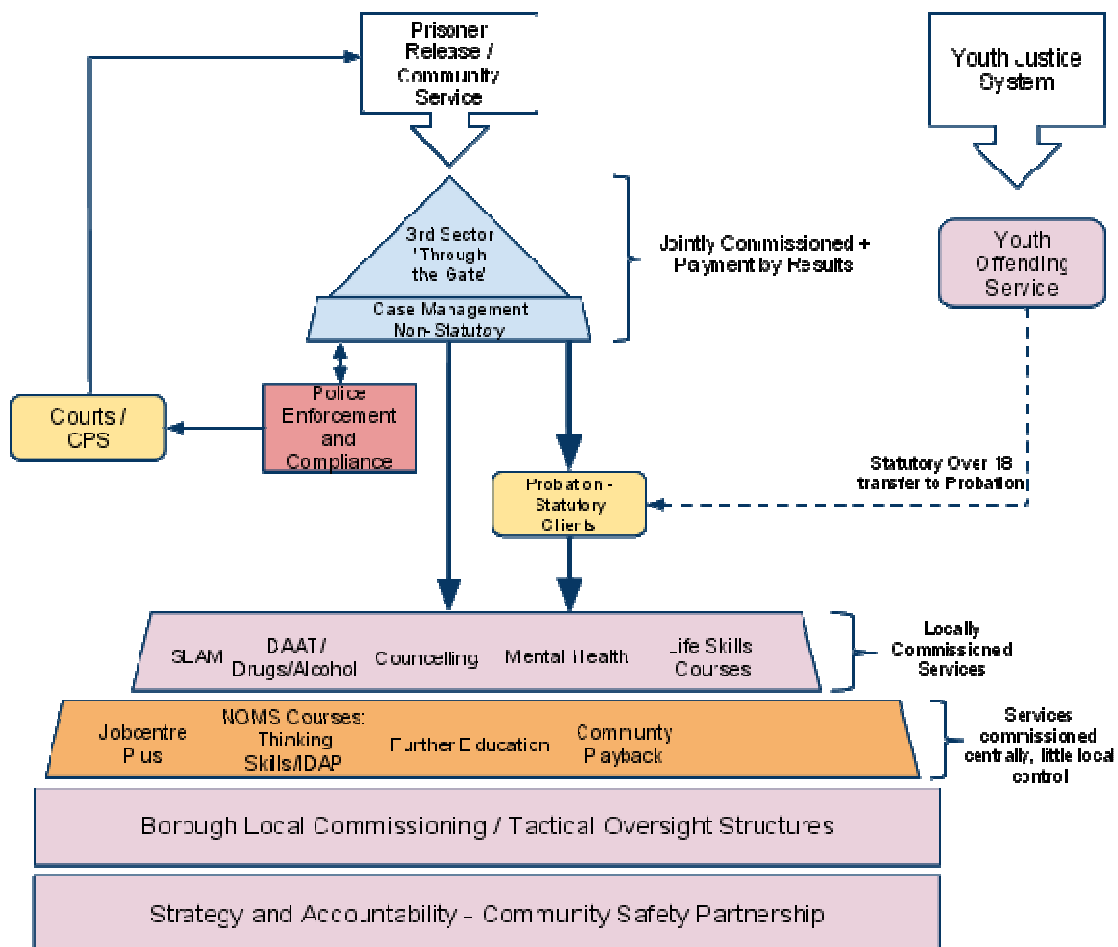
on 7 December 2010 - "Breaking the cycle: effective punishment, rehabilitation and sentencing of offenders" – sets out in sections 146 and 147 the intention to test this model:

146. We plan to introduce a local incentive scheme. This model asks local partners to work together to develop a plan to prevent offending and reduce reoffending. They will then jointly commission innovative services to fill any gaps. They will be free to target their resources on specific groups of offenders in line with their local priorities and crime patterns. If they were able to reduce crime and hence demand for criminal justice services through their joint efforts they would share in any savings made. These could then be reinvested in further crime prevention activity At the local level.

147. To test the feasibility and benefits of such a model we will launch and run two projects from April 2011 for two years: one project in Greater Manchester; and one project across a number of London Boroughs, including Lewisham and Croydon.

As a result of Total Place, Drugs intervention Programme, prolific and priority offenders and the Diamond Initiative Lewisham have developed a comprehensive offender management model based on an external organisation providing a service for mainly non-statutory offenders.

The figure below serves to illustrate what the proposed system structure may look like:



Our intention is for this model to help us achieve the reduction in demand on the criminal justice system we need to support the delivery of the financial incentive model.

In terms of volume crime it is assessed that this priority will mainly have an impact on the Acquisitive basket of offences, as it will work with offenders having served short-term prison sentences or community sentences. These offenders tend to engage in acquisitive crime in order to feed an alcohol or drug misuse problem.

It is right to continue with Reducing Reoffending as a priority for Lewisham as we have put in place the structures and the strategies required for success and are now entering into the operational phase of the exercise. It is important to maintain focus and ensure that all the resources dedicated to this task deliver a measurable and sustainable reduction in reoffending, demand on the Criminal Justice System and deliver public protection for visitors and residents of Lewisham.

If we're successful in delivering these outcomes it is likely our approach will be replicated on a national scale by the Ministry of Justice.

Priority Matrix

The matrix below summarises priorities set for 2011/2012. It also lists individual criminal offences that will be strongly associated with identified priorities. Next year we will measure our performance on these areas by examining the number of these offences committed in the borough and comparing them against 2010/11 figures.

Priority	Strongly Linked Offences
Reducing serious violence focusing on Young People – under 25	Personal Robbery Knife Crime Gun Crime ABH GBH Murder Victims and Perpetrators <25 years
Anti Social Behaviour	Alcohol/Street Drinkers Criminal Damage to M/V Incidents of Hate Crime Arson/Secondary Fires Environmental Crime/Noise Nuisance Rowdy Behaviour (CAD) Intimidating or Threatening Behaviour Dangerous Dogs

Reducing Violence against Women and girls	All violence against females
Reducing Reoffending	Theft From M/V Theft of M/V Residential Burglary Theft Other Shoplifting Drug Offences

8. What will we be doing?

The Safer Lewisham Plan connects Strategic Priorities identified in the Strategic Assessment to ongoing and planned activities. They are in turn linked to the National Indicators and Local Area Agreements, so we can estimate how our focused action on Strategic Priorities can impact and be measured at National Indicator level.

Each service will outline its activities in relation to the priorities identified in the Strategic Assessment. In addition to this, any activity that covers areas outside the defined priorities will be highlighted. This is in order to emphasise that in addition to priorities identified by the Strategic Assessment each service must also provide key routine activities.

Each activity will broadly fall into one of three categories – Prevention, Enforcement and Impact Mitigation.

1. **Prevention** - covers those activities that prevent an offence from initially taking place. This may be crime-prevention work with the potential victims or preventing reoffending by known individuals through diversionary measures. Prevention is the most effective and direct way to positively affect most indicators, however its actual contribution to a known reduction can be difficult to quantify and measure.
2. **Enforcement** – key activity primarily undertaken by Metropolitan Police. Detection of crimes, apprehension of offenders and putting them through the Criminal Justice System. Enforcement can have a marked positive effect on some indicators – particularly straightforward ‘crime’ baskets – however, we should be aware that successes here can adversely affect other indicators. Enforcement activity is relatively easy to measure and evaluate.
3. **Impact Mitigation** – activities that aim to reduce negative effects of crime and disorder. These efforts are very unlikely to produce a measurable reduction in crime, however can be critical to overall approach to Community Safety. Victim support activity as well as most of Offender Management would fall under this category. There is an argument that this activity can reduce re-offending – i.e. should be under ‘prevention’ - but until such local effect is measured and proven we cannot plan on these methods achieving any reduction in crime levels.

(a full Strategic Action Plan for 11/12 will be monitored by the Safer Lewisham Partnership)

Reducing serious violence focusing on Young People – under 25 years old

What Changes will Residents See?

- Improved communication about where to access support and advice if you need it.
- Those guilty of the most serious violence targeted and brought to justice
- Partnership work towards a reduction in gun and knife crime and numbers of young victims of serious violence
- Targeted programme by the Lewisham Youth Offending Service working with perpetrators of knife and gang crime

What does this mean for the Safer Lewisham Partnership?

- Continue the work of Trilogy and trilogy+ to enforce, and intervene to help young people get out of the gang environment.
- Targeting of the most serious offenders
- Identify work within schools regarding safety and education on weapon use and gangs including random searches.
- Continue and develop work in relation to girls involved in gangs, sexual exploitation and violence within gangs
- Continued support for the Youth MARAC in reducing the numbers of young people being re-victimised or going on to become perpetrators of violence
- Enforcement focus on drug dealing

Tackling Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)

What Changes will Residents See?

- A minimum standard and a standardised approach across all agencies dealing with ASB
- Prompt, co-ordinated Multi-Agency response to ASB problems focusing on long-term solutions
- More visible presence of Council and Police tackling ASB through street briefings and weekly local surgeries.
- Integrated working relationship with Social Landlords in Lewisham to achieve better outcomes for Lewisham's tenants in response to Crime and ASB.
- Increased communication to the community about actions taken.
- Increase in Neighbourhood Watch schemes.
- Increase the use of 'Third Party Reporting' sites.

What does this mean for the Safer Lewisham Partnership?

- Ensure all agencies fulfil the agreed standardised approach to ASB by all agencies across the Borough which includes swift action, support and enforcement will go hand in hand, progressive expectations, restorative approaches, and in partnership with the community.
- Improved work with Transport for London and British Transport Police regarding safety on the transport system and roads.
- Develop and review the impact of the Neighbourhood Community Safety Service

Reducing Violence against women and girls

What Changes will Residents See?

- Improved communications and information about how to keep yourself safe.
- Improve access to help and advice through statutory and voluntary sector.
- Safe Relationships in Schools Campaign.
- Improved understanding about Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults
- Girls Workshops in schools working those young women who are vulnerable to becoming involved in group offending.

What does this mean for the Safer Lewisham Partnership?

- Targeting specific groups, particularly previous repeat victims of violence through support, education and practical solutions
- Develop the HEART programme aimed at supporting vulnerable girls at risk of exploitation via gangs
- Youth MARAC reducing the numbers of young women being re-victimised or going on to become perpetrators of violence
- The Domestic Violence MARAC, specialist Domestic Violence Courts and continued engagement through the voluntary sector to support victims.

Reducing Reoffending

What Changes will Residents See?

- Support repeat victims through increased crime prevention advice.
- Raise awareness of preventative measures in serious acquisitive crime hotspots.
- Increase the numbers of 'Community Payback' projects where communities will get the opportunity to say where they want offenders to undertake community work.
- Fewer victims of crime
- Increased visible presence in hotspot areas.

What does this mean for the Safer Lewisham Partnership?

- Increase targeted operations to supervise known offenders, combined with streamlining of support services to make them more effective and relevant for offenders.
- Target the top Repeat Offenders on the Borough through enforcement activity
- Develop the work of Integrated Offender management particularly through the Payment by Results pilot
- Ensure vulnerable groups are supported as potential victims of crime across all agencies.
- Ensure appropriate interventions are in place for offenders, including substance misuse, alcohol use and other behavioural support services.
- Support families of offenders in order to facilitate their family relationship with a view to reducing reoffending once the offender is released from custody.

9. Further Information and Contact Details

Further copies of this Plan can be obtained on request to the Crime Reduction and Supporting People Service within the Council.

If you would like the information in the document translated into a different language, provided in large print or in Braille or the spoken word, please contact the Crime Reduction Service.

Tel No. : 0208 314 9569

Post: Crime Reduction Service
London Borough Of Lewisham,
Lewisham Town Hall,
Catford Road,
London SE6 4RU

The Partnership is committed to ongoing improvements in the services we deliver. We would welcome any feedback, suggestions or proposals from individuals or organisations.

For practical advice in relation to community safety and crime prevention, please visit the website:

www.crimereduction.gov.uk

Call Crime Stoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 to give information about a crime

For advice and support in relation to drugs and alcohol problems, visit Frank at :

www.talktofrank.com

or call 0800 776600

For information on your local Safer Neighbourhood Teams please visit:

<http://www.met.police.uk/teams/lewisham/index.php>

Council		
Report Title	Service Plan for Food Law Enforcement	
Key Decision	Yes	Item No. 9
Ward	All	
Contributors	Executive Director Customer Services	
Class	Part 1	Date: 29 June 2011

1 Summary and Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for the 2011/2012 service plan for the Food Safety Team. There is a requirement for the authority to produce and publish a food law enforcement plan which may be scrutinised and monitored by the Food Standards Agency [FSA]. The plan is attached at Appendix 1.

- 1.2 This plan forms the basis upon which local authorities are monitored and then assessed as to their provision of these respective services.

- 1.3 The objectives for the Food Safety Service are contained in the service Plan 2011-12 and include the following:
 - To ensure businesses comply with the relevant legislation in relation to Food Safety.
 - To provide an advisory service to businesses and residents in the borough on consumer rights.
 - To enforce regulation fairly and equitably by ensuring that all businesses compete on an equal basis.

2 Policy Context

- 2.1 The plan supports the significant delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). In particular 'dynamic and prosperous' in improving the quality and vitality of Lewisham's Town Centres and localities.

- 2.2 This is underpinned by the council's 10 corporate priorities which determine what contribution the Council will make towards delivery of the Community Strategy. The Food Safety Service plan contributes towards inspiring efficiency, effectiveness and equity: ensuring efficiency, effectiveness and equity in the delivery of excellent services to meet the needs of the community.

- 2.3 The Food Law Enforcement Plan is noted in article 4 of the Constitution is one of the items that make up the Council's policy framework (and is referred to at paragraph 2.1 within the plan).

- 2.4 Article 4 also refers to the Health & Safety at Work etc Act 1974.
- 2.5 Statutory guidance issued by the Health & Safety Commission (HSC) states that elected Member approval should be obtained for the Health & Safety Service Plan.

3 Recommendation

Full Council are recommended to :

- 3.1 Approve the Food Law Enforcement Plan for 2011-2012 for submission to Full Council.

4 Food Safety

4.1 Key issues for this service include:

- 4.1.1 Targeting 'non broadly compliant' premises (premises that do not meet the minimum legislative hygiene requirements). Taking robust enforcement action against premises that continually have poor hygiene standards. This has recently proven successful in terms of sending out a clear message to food business owners. This is reflected in the significant improvement in the number of broadly compliant premises.
- 4.1.2 To continue to target high risk priorities, reducing the burden on low risk and/or compliant businesses.
- 4.1.3 To focus on manufactures, importers and packers in respect to ensuring compliance with food standards (labelling regulations).
- 4.1.4 To focus on illegally imported foods on sale in the Borough. Targeting food of animal origin and products of non-animal origin that are subject to additional controls or as identified as high risk by the FSA. To increase sampling of these products and to seize and detain products that fail or are illegal.

5 Financial implications

- 5.1 There are no specific financial implications resulting from this report.
- 5.2 The services are all currently projected to operate within the overall net budget allocated for the 2011/12 financial year:
- Food Safety £514,000

6 Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 6.1 The Human Rights Act 1998, which came into force on 2 October 2000, incorporates the European Convention on Human Rights into UK law. The Council, as a public authority, is under a duty, by virtue of section 6 of the 1998 Act, to act compatibly with Convention rights in the exercise of their functions.

- 6.2 The rights that are of particular significance to Members' decisions in this matter are those contained in Article 2, the right to life, Article 6, the right to a fair trial, Article 7, no punishment without law, Article 8, right to respect for private and family life and Article 1 of The First Protocol namely the protection of property.
- 6.3 Articles 2 and 7 are 'Absolute Rights' and thus cannot be balanced with any general public interest. Article 6 provides certain limited rights including the right to have any allegations against a defendant explained to that defendant, the right for a defendant to make representations to defend any such allegations and to have any relevant tribunal hearing held within a reasonable period of time.
- 6.4 Article 8 is a qualified right and thereby enables the general public interest to be taken into account. Article 1 of the First Protocol, namely the protection of property is another qualified right. In determining the level of permissible interference in the enjoyment of possessions, the Courts have held that any interference must achieve a fair balance between the general interests of the community and the protection of the rights of individuals. There must be reasonable proportionality between the means employed and the aim pursued. The availability of an effective remedy and compensation to any affected persons is relevant in assessing whether a fair balance has been struck. The Protocol protects the rights of businesses other organisations as well as those of individuals.

7 Crime & Disorder implications

- 7.1 There are no specific implications.

8 Equalities Implications

- 8.1 The Food Service can positively impact upon the lives of the socially excluded and vulnerable groups. Examples are as follows:
- 8.1.1 By ensuring that food establishments visited by members of the public who are vulnerable or immuno compromised meet statutory requirements.
- 8.1.2 By working with West African communities to advise them of particular hazards associated with the consumption of Calabash Chalk. (taken for morning sickness and found to contain high levels of arsenic and lead).
- 8.1.3 By undertaking sampling surveys relating to nutrition targeting fast food premises located close to schools. The purpose was to identify sugar, salt and saturated fat levels in these foods. Giving advice to premises to try and reduce levels or experimenting using different methods of cooking and ingredients.
- 8.1.4 Working with Indian / Bangladeshi & Bengali food premises. Sampling foods for excessive colourings and salt & fat levels.
- 8.1.5 Through provision of advice and information to help consumers make informed choices through schemes such as "scores on the doors".

8.1.6 The removal of food which is not fit for sale from the market place and continued work around food labelling to ensure that consumers are not put at risk.

9 Environmental Implications

9.1 There are no specific implications.

10 Conclusion

10.1 The appended service plan seek to address relevant national and local issues and can demonstrate clear links to corporate objectives and priorities. Progress against the plans will be monitored and reported as part of the Directorate performance review system. Formal executive approval confirms that the significance of each of these services is recognised, addresses government expectation and also satisfies a statutory requirement.

11 Background papers and report author

11.1 There are no background papers to this report.

11.2 For more information on this report please contact Charlotte Faint, Environmental Health Manager or Paul Magrath Food Safety Manager on 0208 314 2108.

Food Safety Service Plan 2011/12

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The previous 18 months has seen some major changes and re-organisation to the Food Safety Team. It has been necessary to re-evaluate the approach and type of work undertaken in order to meet local priorities.
- 1.2 In April 2009 the M3 food premises database was remapped to correlate with the then, newly introduced 'Food Law Code of Practice'. Much work was undertaken and controls put in place to improve the reliability and accuracy of the Food Premises Register. This has resulted in greater efficiency and most importantly accuracy and consistency amongst the Team.
- 1.3 The biggest challenge the Food Team are faced with is to continue to focus on the high level of non compliant businesses within the Borough.
- 1.4 The recent appointment of three new Environmental Health Officers to the Food Team should increase the effectiveness of the Service.

2 SERVICE AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The Food Safety Service is provided by the Food Safety Team, located within the Environmental Health group under the Customer Services Directorate. The Food Safety Team contributes to the Council's overall vision of making Lewisham the best place in London to live, work and learn, and of the Customer Services vision of delivering high quality, user focused services and driving improved customer service and user involvement. The Team work to ensure all businesses in the borough comply with the law, and all consumers and residents are aware of their rights and responsibilities.

2.2 Aims

- 2.2.1 The Food Safety Service has five main aims:
 - i) To promote, through education and enforcement, the sale and/or production of food which is safe and wholesome for the final consumer to eat.
 - ii) To protect the interest of consumers to allow them to make informed choices in relation to the food that they consume, in particular to prevent fraudulent or deceptive practices such as the adulteration of food, which may mislead the customer
 - iii) To prevent and control the spread of reportable infectious diseases (including food borne illness) through education and enforcement
 - iv) To respond to complaints from consumers and other stakeholders relating to food safety and food standards if food products have been sold or produced in the borough
 - v) Enforcing regulation fairly and equitably by ensuring that all businesses compete on an equal basis.

2.3 OBJECTIVES

2.3.1 In order to achieve the above aims the objectives are set out below.

- i) To undertake a risk based programme of interventions of food premises in accordance with Food Standards Agency Food Law Code of Practice and Practice Guide.
- ii) To register food businesses within 28 days as required by Article 6(2) EC 852/2004.
- iii) To provide a risk-based response to all notifications of food related illness or suspected illness in order to minimise the effects on the community.
- iv) To carry out food sampling in accordance with nationally and locally set programmes.
- v) To provide information, advice and education on food safety and standards issues to the business and residential community.
- vi) To respond to complaints concerning food safety and food standards within 5 working days and to initiate investigation within 5 days.
- vii) Deliver formal training for food handlers working in London Borough of Lewisham.
- viii) Initiate and respond to Food Alert for Actions from the FSA.

3 KEY ISSUES FOR 2011-2012

3.1 Key issues for the team are:

- Targeting 'non broadly compliant' premises (premises that do not meet the minimum legislative hygiene requirements). Taking robust enforcement action against premises that continually have poor hygiene standards. This has recently proven successful in terms of sending out a clear message to food business owners. This is reflected in the significant improvement in the number of broadly compliant premises.
- To continue to target high risk priorities, reducing the burden on low risk and/or compliant businesses.
- To focus on manufactures, importers and packers in respect to ensuring compliance with food standards (labelling regulations).
- To focus on illegally imported foods on sale in the Borough. Targeting food of animal origin and products of non-animal origin that are subject to additional controls or as identified as high risk by the FSA. To increase sampling of these products and to seize and detain products that fail or are illegal.

4 BACKGROUND

4.1 AUTHORITY PROFILE

Lewisham is an inner London Borough covering an area of 13.7 miles (3,473 hectares). It is bordered by the boroughs of Greenwich (east), Bromley (south) and Southwark (west) with the River Thames to the north. A number of main transport routes run through the borough, with the A20 being a major road traffic route into central London.

4.1.1 The area is mainly residential in nature and contains a number of retail centres, the largest of which is Lewisham town centre with smaller centres at Catford, Deptford, Sydenham and Forest Hill. There are a number of small industrial estates, mainly around the northern part of the borough and a substantial number of small businesses exist (over 550 small and medium sized creative enterprises).

4.1.2 The borough has a population of 249,500 with 51:49 ratios of females to males. The residents of the borough are ethnically diverse; with one third of the overall population and 50% of the pupils in Lewisham schools being from black or ethnic minority communities (the largest groups are of Caribbean and African origin). The population is also changing: the 1991 census showed 1 in 5 people of black or ethnic minority origin which had risen to 1 in 3 by the 2001 census.

4.1.3 There is significant deprivation within the area, four of the Lewisham wards are in the worst 10% of wards for employment in the country, 21 are in the worst 10% for housing, five for education and four for child poverty. There are higher than average levels of teenage pregnancy and lone parents make up 15% of the total (almost twice the national average).

4.1.4 There are approximately 1800 registered food businesses. There are approximately a 30% turn over of food businesses.

4.2 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Food Safety team forms part of Customer Services (under the Environmental Health Section). It is led by the Food Safety Manager who reports to the Environmental Health Manager and then on to the Head of Environment, who report to the Executive Director for Customer Services. An organisational chart can be found in **Appendix A**.

4.3 Specialist services

4.3.1 Food Examiner

The appointed Food Examiner is the London and South East Region Public Health Service at the Central Public Health Laboratory, 61 Colindale Avenue, London, NW9 5HT.

4.3.2 Analytical Service and Public Analyst

The Council has appointed Eurofins Scientific Limited of: 28-32 Brunel Road, Westway Estate, Acton, London, W3 7XR +44 20 8222 6070 to provide an analytical service and has appointed Duncan Arthur to act as Public analyst pursuant to the Food Safety (Sampling and Qualifications) Regulations 1990 for analysis of food labelling and composition samples. Lewisham Hospital examines faecal and other clinical specimens associated with infectious

disease control in respect to isolated cases of food poisoning. Barts Hospital (Microbiology Unit) is the nominated centre to process faecal samples in the event of a food poisoning outbreak.

4.3.3 **Enforcer**

The proper officer functions for the purposes of enforcing the provisions of the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984 and associated regulations, lies with the Consultant in Communicable Disease Control (CCDC) of the Health Protection Agency (HPA) and nominated specialist colleagues.

4.4 **SCOPE OF THE FOOD SAFETY SERVICE**

The activities undertaken by the service are as follows:

- 4.4.1 Maintain a database of food businesses in the London Borough of Lewisham, in order to produce a public register of premises rated by inspection category with historic details of previous interventions undertaken within those premises.
- 4.4.2 Provide advice to existing and potential food businesses on all aspects of food hygiene and standards.
- 4.4.3 Identify premises processing, handling and storing food that require approval under EU regulation 853/2004 and 854/2004 ensuring they comply with the additional requirements set out by the regulations.
- 4.4.4 Carry out inspections of food businesses for compliance with food safety, food standards based on risk. Take a variety of enforcement and follow up options including: Service of Hygiene Emergency Prohibition Notices, Improvement Notices, Simple Cautions, PACE Interviews, Prosecutions, Seizure and detention of foods and revisits & re-inspections.
- 4.4.5 Investigate all service requests received relating to items of food, unhygienic premises and practices.
- 4.4.6 Take appropriate, proportionate, risk based enforcement having regard to the Enforcement Policy and in accordance with the adopted principles of the Enforcement Concordat to ensure consistency.
- 4.4.7 Maintain electronic systems to receive and act upon all Food Alert for Actions issued by the Food Standards Agency.
- 4.4.8 Undertake a food sampling programme liaising with the SE Sector Group and other relevant bodies.
- 4.4.9 Provide export certificates to non-EU countries as requested by food manufacturers in the borough.
- 4.4.10 Investigate complaints concerning food related disease, incidents of food poisoning and infectious disease and enforce and advise on precautions and controls.
- 4.4.11 Implement food legislation, codes of practice and guidance and other official documents as proposed by the FSA.

4.4.12 Ensure that staff are properly trained and competent to enable them to deliver the above initiatives.

4.4.13 Maintain up to date information on the food pages on the Council's website.

4.5 At times of staff shortage, external contractors are used to assist with programmed inspections and general complaint work. Suitably qualified contractors are selected from external agencies and employed in accordance with the Council's procurement rules.

4.6 The Service is registered as a training centre with the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health to run Food Hygiene Courses and runs approximately 12 courses per year.

5 DEMANDS ON THE FOOD SAFETY SERVICE

5.1 The main demands on the food service are:

- Approximately 1800 food businesses within the borough all requires some form of hygiene and standards intervention.

Number of premises according to FSA Premises Category type

FSA Food Safety Premises Description	Nos.
Manufacturers	22
Packers	3
Importers / Exporters	13
Distributors / transporters	11
Small Retailers Supermarket / Hypermarket Retailer / Other	555
Restaurant /Café/ Canteen Hotel / Guest House Pub / Club Takeaway Caring premises Schools / Colleges Mobile food units Restaurants and Caterers & other	1232
Total	1836

- 5 premises are subject to EC Regulation 853/2004. These premises refer to manufacturers producing products of animal origin resulting in higher and more intense levels of inspection & supervision.
- A substantial increase in the number of businesses run by communities originating outside of the EU. Resulting in increased resources bringing those businesses up to the minimum legal hygiene standard.
- An increasing number of small-scale food producers working from a residential addresses. Often requiring multiple contacts to access the premises.
- A small number of businesses import, distribute and repack foodstuffs. Resulting in additional resources to ensure food has been imported and labelled legitimately.

- 5.2 Increasingly, new foods and illegally imported foods are being identified and detained / seized. Officers are having to attend court on a much more regular basis which is resource intensive.
- 5.3 The main focus of the team is to concentrate on premises that are 'high' risk. All 'high' risk premises will receive a hygiene intervention. This means in the coming year the team will inspect 878 of approximately 1800 premises.
- 5.4 The remaining premises are not all due for an intervention in this 12 month period. 313 premises will be due for an intervention in the next 12 months and this will be carried out by an Alternative Enforcement Strategy (see paragraph 6.2.3).

6 SERVICE DELIVERY

6.1 Explanation of types of Food Hygiene Interventions

- 6.1.1 Interventions are key to improving compliance with food law by food business operators. The range of possible interventions allows authorised officers to use their professional judgement to apply a proportionate level of regulatory and enforcement activities to each food business.
- 6.1.2 Interventions are applied in a risk based manner such that more intensive regulation is directed at those food businesses that present the greatest risk to public health. Interventions are designed to monitor, support and increase food law compliance within a food establishment.
- 6.1.3 Interventions are made up of 'Official controls' and 'non Official Controls'. 'Official Controls' are defined at Community level at Article 2(1) of Regulation 882/2004. Methods and techniques for carrying out tasks related to Official Controls are specified at Article 10 of Regulation 882/2004.
- 6.2 Interventions 'Official Controls' include;
 - 6.2.1 **Audit** means a systematic and independent examination to determine whether activities and related results comply with planned arrangements and whether these arrangements are implemented effectively and are suitable to achieve objectives.
 - 6.2.2 **Inspection** means the examination of any aspect of feed, food, animal health and animal welfare in order to verify that such aspect(s) comply with the legal requirements of feed and food law and animal health and welfare rules.
 - 6.2.3 **Alternative Enforcement Strategy (AES)**, is aimed at low risk businesses and saves wasting officer time. A questionnaire is sent to these low risk businesses, and a determination is made when the questionnaire is returned as to whether the business requires a physical intervention.
 - 6.2.4 **Monitoring** means conducting a planned sequence of observations or measurements with a view to obtaining an overview of the state of compliance with feed or food law, animal health and animal welfare rules.
 - 6.2.5 **Surveillance** means a careful observation of one or more food businesses, or food business operators or their activities.

6.2.6 **Verification** (Part-Inspection) means the checking, by examination and the consideration of objective evidence, whether specified requirements have been fulfilled.

6.2.7 **Sampling** means taking feed or food or any other substance (including from the environment) relevant to the production, processing and distribution of feed or food or to the health of animals, in order to verify through analysis compliance with feed or food law or animal health rules.

6.2.8 In addition to official controls, interventions also include other activities that are effective in supporting food businesses to achieve compliance with food law, such as:

- targeted education and advice,
- information and intelligence gathering.
- **Food Standards Inspections** – Examination of product descriptions & labelling (ingredients) to ensure accuracy. Also includes assessing potential allergens

6.3 Frequency of interventions

Food Hygiene Risk Category	Frequency
A Highest risk	At least every six months
B	At least every 12 months
C	At least every 18 months
D	A programme of alternative enforcement strategies or interventions every at least every 24 months
E	A programme of alternative enforcement strategies or interventions every 36 months.

Food Standards Risk Category	Frequency
A Highest risk	At least every 12 months
B	At least every 24 months
C	Alternative enforcement strategy or intervention every five years

6.4 Food Hygiene & Standards interventions in Lewisham

It is the policy of the Council to carry out food hygiene and standards inspections in accordance with the Food Safety Act Codes of Practice and associated guidance issued by the Food Standards Agency. The Council therefore operates a programme of inspections using the risk rating system.

6.4.1 Premises are categorised as being A-C for Food Standards (A being the highest risk). For Food Safety premises are categorised A-E. Table 1 below shows the interventions required and the categorisation of the premises.

6.4.2 All A & B premises for food safety are 'non broadly compliant'. Some B (standards) and C (safety) are 'non compliant'. C's (standards) and Ds, Es (safety) are all compliant.

Table 1 – Interventions and categories of Food Premises

Food Standards Risk category	Food Safety Risk Category	Intervention
A	A	Inspection/audit
	B	Inspection/audit
B Non-compliant	C Non-compliant	Inspection/audit
B Complaint	C Compliant	Alternate between inspection/audit and other interventions
C	D	Alternative Enforcement Strategy OR Intervention / non official control.
	E	

6.4.3 The number of premises due for inspection for food safety and food standards are detailed in tables 2 and 3 below.

6.4.4 There are five premises outside of the inspection programme which are subject to regulation 853/2004 and this is inspected by a lead officer who has received appropriate training in that area of work.

Table 2 – Premises due for interventions for Food Safety and Food Standards 2011/12

Food Safety

Risk Category	FSA target no of interventions due	No interventions planned
A	28	56
B	226	226
C Non-compliant	230	180
C Compliant	688	538
D	362	Split between AES* & part inspection
E	184	AES*
Unrated	124	124
Total	1842	1124

* subject to Alternative Enforcement Strategy

Food Standards

Risk Category	FSA target no of inspections due	No interventions planned
A	4	4
B	193	193
C	151	151
Unrated	124	124
Total	472	472

6.5 Priorities

Food hygiene remains the highest priority for 2011/12. A change in strategy since April 2009 has resulted in a massive improvement across the borough in terms of the number of 'broadly compliant' premises satisfying the minimum legal standard. In 2008/09 we achieved 61.9% and were at the bottom of the London table. In 2009/10 we achieved 73.9% and this year 2010/11 we achieved 76% .

- 6.5.1 All premises which are not broadly compliant will receive a food hygiene inspection / audit. The momentum must be maintained and this can be achieved by ensuring non – compliant premises are revisited and the appropriate enforcement action taken until such time they achieve broadly compliance. This has proven to be a very time consuming process, often resulting in the service and enforcement of legal notices, simple cautions, closures and prosecutions. This work can only be carried out by full time permanent employees.
- 6.5.2 Compliant C rated premises for hygiene are lower risk, however these are generally premises that could swing either way between being compliant and non compliant. It is therefore essential that these premises continue to receive an inspection. Using 'price per inspection' contractors for the majority of these premises enable the full time permanent officers to concentrate on the worst non compliant premises.
- 6.5.3 All premises which have undergone Emergency Prohibition Procedures or where a Statutory Notice has been served or which are found to require significant work to be carried out will be subject to follow up revisits within an agreed time scale. The Team will have carried out over 450 Revisits and approximately 80 Re-inspections during 2010/11.
- 6.5.4 It is always challenging to estimate the resources required to undertake this function, but approximately 10.5 FTE officers are required. Using the contract staff to carry out approximately 400 Category C 'Broadly compliant' premises visits reduces the permanent officers required to approximately 8.0 FTE.
- 6.6 **Potential Income to the Food Safety Team**
 In the current economic situation we have been under increasing pressure to generate income. In 2010/11 the Food Team was employed by Leisure Services to audit the catering facilities within the Leisure Centres in the Borough (currently being operated by private companies). This is due to continue in to 2011/12. Whilst the income only equates to £1500 - £2000 it is a step in the right direction.

6.6.1 It is proposed that in 2011/12 we are going to look at charging broadly compliant businesses for re-inspections. It is estimated the charge will be around £150 per re-inspection. It is estimated that we may receive up to 40 requests in the first year, this would bring an income in of approximately £6000. More information on this can be found with section 6.2.2.

6.7 Scores on the Doors

Lewisham has been part of the 5 star Scores on Doors Scheme since 2006 and will continue to be for the foreseeable future. The current scheme has been very successful and evidence shows that business owners and the public find it easy to understand. Table 3 below details the number of businesses in the range of scores in the borough.

Table 3 shows the spread of hygiene scores in the borough.

Star rating	No of premises in LBL
0	115
1	230
2	290
3	466
4	339
5	159

6.7.1 Lewisham are 1 of 127 contributing Councils to the scheme. Scores can be viewed by accessing <http://www.scoresonthedoors.org.uk/> .

6.7.2 There are proposals from the Food Standards Agency to require all Local Authorities nationally to join a new Food Hygiene Rating Scheme. At this stage no further information on dates for implementation are known, this matter will be revisited as and when the need arises.

6.8 Enforcement Actions

6.8.1 Formal closures

A total of 4 Emergency Prohibition Notices (closures) were served in 2010/11. It is likely that this number will increase in 2011/12 due to the fact that there are now more qualified staff in the Team competent to do this work.

6.8.2 Voluntary closures

A total of 6 voluntary closures were issued in 2010/11. This is likely to increase for the same reason as above.

6.8.3 Food Hygiene Improvement Notices

A total of 160 Notices were issued and this is expected to increase in 2011/12.

6.8.4 Seizure and detention of unfit / illegal foods

A total of 54 Notices were issued to seize /detain illegal foods.

6.8.5 Prosecutions

A total of 4 businesses have been successfully prosecuted in 2010/11. Since 2009/10 we have brought in over £26k in fines and costs.

6.9 Food Complaints

All food complaints are recorded on receipt and are then assessed by a member of the Food Safety team. An investigation may then be conducted which can include referral of the complaint to the Public Analyst or to the manufacturer for their own investigation. Where relevant, the home or originating authority will be advised of the complaint for any action as they deem appropriate.

- 6.9.1 All complainants are advised that the authority cannot become involved in claims for compensation and are notified either in writing or by telephone of the outcome of the investigation.

In 2010/11, 183 complaints were received (that includes food complaints, and complaints about the standards in a food premises).

6.10 Home Authority

At the current time, the authority does not act as home authority for any businesses. There are however, a number of small scale manufacturers, small importers and re-packagers who are based in the borough and informal advice is given to these businesses. Sampling from some of these businesses was carried during 2010/11 and further sampling is planned for 2011/12.

6.11 Advice to Businesses

The provision of advice to businesses is an important function of the Food Safety team. This will be carried out during inspections, at other times via contact with the district officers and through information distributed direct to businesses.

- 6.11.1 Advice is provided in the following ways:

- Via the council's website
- Leaflets, SFBB packs,
- Provision of Food Hygiene Courses
- Newspaper articles

- 6.11.2 In 2010/11, 51 enquiries were recorded as being received from new businesses or those requesting information.

6.12 Food Sampling

The inspection and sampling of foods is a key supplement to the food hygiene and standards inspection programmes. It is undertaken to identify areas where standards should be improved and to ensure compliance with legislative standards. It can also be used to assist in the identification of poor practices in food preparation.

- 6.12.1 An annual programme of food sampling is drawn up by the Principal EHO and this is discussed and agreed with the Food Safety Manager. The programme contains relevant suggestions from the South East Sector of the London Boroughs Food Liaison Committee and local issues which have been identified either as a part of routine inspections or complaints received relating to products which have been manufactured, packed, retailed or imported at premises with the borough. It is expected that all officers within the team will be involved in carrying out the programme.

6.12.2 The authority has appointed a public analyst to carry out the analysis of food complaints and samples for chemical and microbiological matters and written reports are provided. An agreement has also been reached with the Health Protection Agency who will examine samples for microbiological matters and provide a written report. These are then followed up with the manufacturer, producer or retailer of the product as appropriate.

6.12.3 **For 2011/12** the Team will aim for approximately 150 samples to be taken. Samples will include bacteriological, chemical and compositional analysis. In addition to this we will be targeting 'high risk' products of non animal origin that have been imported from **NON EU** countries. In these foods we will be testing for: excess levels of pesticide, aluminium, aflotoxins, salmonella, and sudan dyes.

6.13 **Control and Investigation of Outbreaks and Food Related Infectious Disease**

It is the responsibility of Food Safety Team officers to undertake infectious disease control in conjunction with the Clinical Director for Communicable Disease Control (CCDC) at the Primary Care Trust.

6.13.1 The authority has, in conjunction with the CCDC, produced procedures relating to the control and investigation of both single case notifications and outbreaks using a risk based approach. This means that unless indications are received that a person suffering from a notifiable disease is a food handler or there is reason to suspect an outbreak is, or has occurred, a questionnaire is either sent to notified cases or completed via the telephone.

6.13.2 Replies to the questionnaire are checked by the Food Safety Team officers and further investigations are conducted as appropriate. In general, investigations will only be conducted where the notification is received within seven days of the onset of the illness as information available from cases becomes unreliable after this time.

6.13.3 Where an outbreak has occurred (or is believed to have occurred), the local outbreak control plan is implemented irrespective of any delay between the onset of illness and receipt of the notification and full liaison with the CCDC will occur throughout this process.

6.14 **Out of hours**

In the event there is an outbreak outside of regular office hours there is a procedure in place with the Council's Emergency Planning Team. Food Officers can be contacted (Environmental Health Manager, FSM & PEHO) via their mobile telephones.

6.14.1 In 2010/11, 275 notifications of infectious disease were recorded.

6.15 **Food Safety Incidents (Food Alert for Action).**

The service operates a procedure and has arrangements in place to ensure that it is able to implement the requirements of the Food Law Code of Practice.

6.15.1 The authority has procedures in place to respond to notifications of food incidents from the Food Standards Agency. These are received via the Outlook email system which all Food Safety Officers have access to. It is the

responsibility of either the Principal Environmental Health Officer or Food Safety Manager to monitor the FSAenforcement@lewisham.gov.uk and take the appropriate action.

6.15.2 It is the responsibility of the PEHO and FSM to make a determination in respect to the level of action required, and to, where necessary, disseminate to the Team and issue further instructions.

6.15.3 It is the policy of the authority that responding to food incidents will take priority over other work and if necessary, resources will be bought in from other teams to assist. There are arrangements in place for out of hours contacts should a warning requiring immediate action be received.

6.15.4 Where officers become aware of an incident which has implications beyond the boundary of the borough, the relevant Food Safety Manager and or Principal Environmental Health Officer are informed and the FSA duly notified for any action that they deem appropriate.

6.16 Liaisons with other organisations

The authority is aware of the need to try to ensure consistency of enforcement between neighbouring local authorities. The Environmental Health Manager or Food Safety Manager uses the following methods to try to ensure that this occurs and information is disseminated to team members:

- Attendance at the Association of London Environmental Health Managers group.
- Attendance at the South East London Food Liaison Group, which is attended by neighbouring authorities as well as a representative from the Public Analyst and HPA. Contact is also made via email in between the quarterly meetings,
- Attendance at the Environmental Health Working Group (EHWG) along with other LA representatives, PCT's, CCDC and microbiologists,
- Information updates which are regularly received from LACORS and the FSA,
- Officers are encouraged to attend professional meetings, such as the London Food Study group, where there is a benefit to the authority,
- Officers attend regular training in food safety matters to ensure that they are up to date (and all officers attended consistency training on use of the food inspection rating system during 2010/11)
- The Food Safety team also consults on planning applications related to commercial premises and attends planning committee meetings, if requested,
- All officers have access to EHCnet through the Outlook email. The Food Safety Manager and Principal Environmental Health Officer also have access to the FSA dedicated mailbox.

6.17 Food Safety promotion

Educational and promotion activities are considered to be important aspects in the delivery of a comprehensive food safety service.

Promotion of food safety issues is achieved in the following ways:

- Ensuring formal activities such as legal proceedings, are publicised
- Contributing press releases on activities of the service
- Advisory information and links on the Council's web site

- Where resources permit, take active participation in annual National Food Safety Week for communicating messages to the general public and consumers in the Borough.
- Provision of regular food hygiene courses to food handlers to CIEH Level 2.

7 Resources

7.1 Financial Allocation

The budget available for 2011/12 for food law enforcement is as follows:

<u>Income</u>	£
Food hygiene training	8000
<u>Expenditure</u>	£
Salaries	320,000
Consultants	39,000
Training (additional training can be accessed via central budgets)	3000
Transport	10,000
Equipment (books, mobile phones, office expenses and miscellaneous)	1,000
Sampling	10,000
Central overheads and support charges(including legal)	139,000
Total	522,000
<u>Net total</u>	<u>£514,000</u>

7.2 Staffing allocation

At the present time, the team is staffed by the following officers who are authorised to undertake enforcement in food premises:

POST	FTE
Food Safety Manager	1
Principal Environmental Health Officer	1
Environmental Health Officers	2
Temporary Environmental Health Officer (Filling vacant post)	1
Senior Food Safety Officers	2
Food Safety Officer (authorised to undertake only lower risk enforcement actions as defined in the Code of Practice)	1
Total	8

Currently 0.5 FTE temporary admin support is allocated to Food Safety.

7.2.1 All food safety staff are subject to annual appraisals and 6-8 weekly one to one interviews, which track and identify training and development needs. It is the responsibility to the FSM & PEHO to ensure that staff maintain adequate CPD hours to maintain competencies.

7.2.2 Officers will be assisted in achieving 20 hours CPD Continual Professional Development (minimum 10 hours food law related), where resources permit.

8. QUALITY ASSESSMENT

8.1 Quality assessment – internal arrangements

8.1.1 With regard to food safety, the quality agenda is pursued via a number of methods:

- Daily monitoring and support by PEHO and FSM
- Validation and accompanied inspections
- Regular Team Meetings
- PES and 1 to 1's
- Cascade training and briefings
- Training exercises which are organised to achieve consistency eg. Risk rating.

8.2 Quality assessment – External arrangements

8.2.1 The service is required to submit an Annual Return, detailing the inspections, enforcement and educational activities undertaken, to The Food Standards Agency via the LAEMS system. The FSA monitor performance to ensure compliance with the FSA framework agreement.

The FSA has the authority to set standards and to monitor local authority food law enforcement services under the Food Standards Act 1999. The Information is collated from all the UK authorities.

8.2.2 The FSA can undertake audits of Local Authorities. An intensive audit includes the following key areas:

- Staff interviews
- Staff competencies
- Organisation / management of the food safety service
- Sampling and complaints
- Internal monitoring
- Accuracy of computer database & consistency
- 3rd party audits and reviews
- Random check of premises files
- Enforcement decisions, in respect to formal / voluntary action including service of notices and prosecution

8.2.3 Inter Authority Audits

The SE Sector of neighbouring authorities carry out benchmarking exercises and these will continue in to 2011/12 with the aim of comparing resources and outcomes across the individual authorities.

9 REVIEW OF 2010/11

- 9.1 The Service has reviewed its performance for 2010/11 against 2009/10 and the figures are set out in table 4 below. Overall the performance has significantly improved over the last 12 – 24 months.

Table 4 – Comparison of Annual Performance

Activity	2009/10	2010/11
Audit / Inspections	1029	1082
Re-inspections	89	94
Revisits	68	450
Formal closures	4	4
Prosecutions	0	4
Improvement Notices	83	160
Seizures and detention Notices	12	54

Activity	08/09	09/10	10/11
Broadly compliant premises	61%	73.9%	76 %

9.1.1 Sampling

During the year approximately 50 samples were taken. **For 2011/12** the Team will aim for approximately 150 samples to be taken. Samples will include bacteriological, chemical and compositional analysis. In addition to this we will be targeting 'high risk' products of non animal origin that have been imported from **NON EU** countries. In these foods we will be testing for: excess levels of pesticide, aluminium, aflotoxins, salmonella, and sudan dyes.

9.1.2 Infectious Disease

275 cases of infectious diseases were reported to the Team last year. It is estimated that a similar number will be reported in 2011/12. The team works in partnership with the Health protection Agency to deal with these cases. Not all cases require investigation, incidents of food borne illness and E.Coli do require our intervention and can require a substantial amount of time in ensuring that it is not part of an outbreak or source within the borough.

9.1.3 Service Requests

Corporate KPI's currently require 96% of Service Requests to be responded to within agreed time scales (within working 3 days). The Service received approximately 200 requests for service in 2009/2010.

9.2 REVIEW AGAINST THE SERVICE PLAN

Monthly reports will be provided to the Environmental Health Manager on performance of the Food Safety Service against performance targets detailed in the service plan.

- 9.2.1 Performance is reviewed through a variety of mechanism. These include:

- Annual Performance Appraisal (PES)
- Six monthly performance review

- Six- weekly one to one meetings
- Monthly Section Meetings

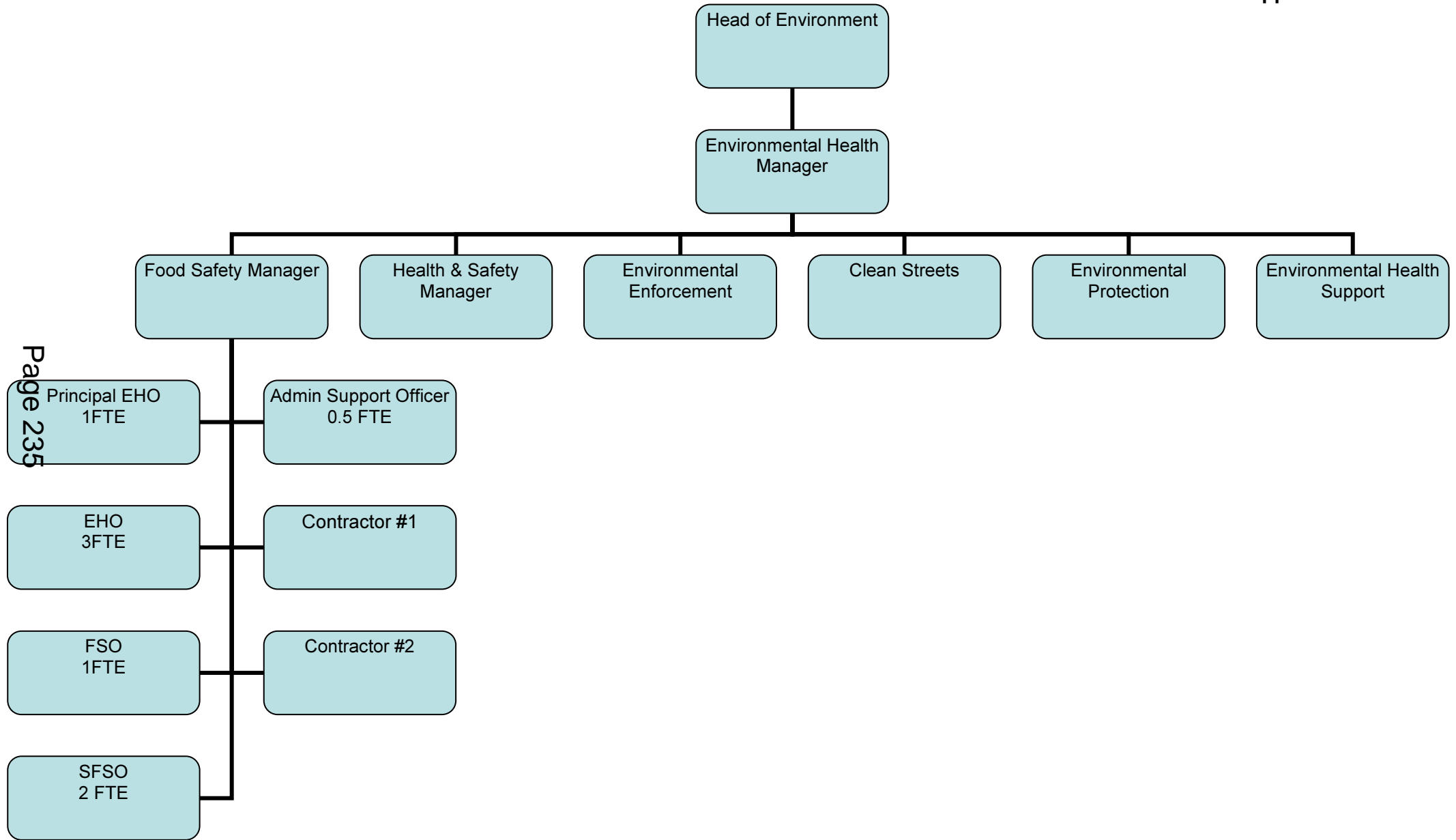
9.3 VARIANCE FROM THE SERVICE PLAN

Reasons for significant variance from expected performance achievements are reported as part of the monthly monitoring.

Any variance in meeting the Food Service Plan will be identified in the review together with the reasons for the variance.

10 CONCLUSION

- 10.1 This service plan seeks to address relevant national and local issues and can demonstrate clear links to corporate objectives and priorities. Progress against the plans will be monitored and reported as part of the Directorate performance review system.



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COUNCIL		
Report Title	Local Development Framework – Core Strategy Adoption	
Key Decision	Yes	Item No. 10
Ward	All	
Contributors	Head of Planning & Head of Law	
Class	Part 1	Date: 29 June 2011

1. Summary

- 1.1 Public consultation on the preparation of the Core Strategy has taken place on a number of occasions. This included pre-production consultation in 2005; issues and options consultation 2005; preferred options consultation 2007; further options consultation 2009 and pre submission consultation 2010. The formal process of preparation concluded with an Examination in Public (EiP) in February 2011 and receipt of the binding Inspectors Report in May 2011. The Inspector who held the independent examination found the Core Strategy sound subject to some modifications. All the modifications were supported by the Council and have been incorporated into the adoption version of the plan.
- 1.2 According to the legal planning regulations a resolution to adopt the Core Strategy is necessary from the full Council. The adoption version Core Strategy is set out as annex 1 to this report. A copy has also been placed in the members room for reference and the document placed on the planning policy web page which can be accessed from the following link:
<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/Environment/Planning/PlanningPolicy/LocalDevelopmentFramework/CoreStrategy.htm>

2. Purpose

- 2.1 This report seeks the Council's formal resolution to adopt the Core Strategy.

3. Policy context

- 3.1 The Core Strategy is part of the Council's policy framework as set out in the Council's constitution and requires the approval of the full Council. The full policy context is set out in the report to Mayor and Cabinet dated 11th May 2011 which is set out as annex 2 to this report.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 The Council is recommended to resolve to adopt the Core Strategy as a statutory Development Plan Document with immediate effect.

5. Background

- 5.1 Members will be aware of the on-going preparation of the Lewisham Core Strategy. The Core Strategy is the key planning document in the Lewisham Local Development Framework (LDF). It sets out the vision, strategic objectives, strategy and policies to guide public and private sector investment and to manage development and regeneration in the borough over the next 15 years.
- 5.2 The Report to Mayor and Cabinet dated 11th May 2011 set out the policy context, background and a summary of the Core Strategy and the Inspector's Report regarding issues of soundness. The Mayor and Cabinet Report of 11th May 2011 is attached as annex 2 to this report.
- 5.3 The Inspector raised two issues which have now been incorporated into the adoption version of the Core Strategy. The first required clarification that new residential development would be required to be built to Code for Sustainable Homes level 6 (the highest level) from April 2016. The second required listing the essential infrastructure that is considered necessary if the strategic sites, mixed use redevelopments, are to go ahead. The Council supported both alterations.
- 5.4 Once adopted by the Council the Core Strategy will become part of the development plan for Lewisham together with the London Plan and saved Unitary Development Plan policies. In accordance with planning law in considering and determining applications for planning permission the local planning authority must have regard to the provisions of the development plan so far as material to the application and to any other material considerations.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The Council is asked to resolve to adopt the Core Strategy attached as annex 1 to this report. The Core Strategy can also be found on the planning policy web page by following the link:
<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/Environment/Planning/PlanningPolicy/LocalDevelopmentFramework/CoreStrategy.htm>

Background documents

Short Title Document	Date	File Location	File Reference	Contact Officer	Exempt
Planning & Compulsory Purchases Act 2004	2004	Laurence House	Planning Policy	Brian Regan	No
PPS 12	2008	Laurence House	Planning Policy	Brian Regan	No

LDF Regulations	2004 & 2008	Laurence House	Planning Policy	Brian Regan	No
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If you have any queries on this report, please contact Brian Regan, Planning Policy, 5th floor Laurence House, 1 Catford Road, Catford SE6 4RU – telephone 020 8314 8774.

Annex 1: Core Strategy Adoption Version, June 2011

Annex 2: Report to Mayor and Cabinet 11 May 2011

Annex 2 To Report to Council 29 June 2011 – Adoption of Core Strategy

Report to Mayor and Cabinet dated 11 May 2011.

Mayor & Cabinet		
Report Title	Local Development Framework: Core Strategy Adoption	
Key Decision	YES	Item No.
Ward	All	
Contributors	Head of Planning & Head of Law	
Class	Part 1	Date: 11 May 2011

1. Summary

- 1.3 The Lewisham Core Strategy sets out the vision, objectives, strategy and policies that will guide development and regeneration in the borough over the next 15 years.
- 1.4 Following submission of the Core Strategy to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in October 2010, an Independent Planning Inspector held an Examination in Public (EiP) in February 2011 into the soundness of the plan, to determine whether it could be adopted.
- 1.5 On 28th March 2011 the Council received the binding Inspector's report, which has found the Core Strategy sound subject to some amendments. The changes required by the Inspector are all supported by the Council and indeed were suggested by the Council, they have therefore been incorporated in the adoption version in accordance with the planning regulations. Formal adoption will require a resolution of the Full Council.
- 1.6 The Core Strategy Adoption Version is set out as Annex 1 to this report. The Planning Inspector's report and associated appendices are set out as Annex 2 to this report.

3. Purpose

- 3.1 This report seeks approval to adopt the Core Strategy as a statutory planning document (a development Plan Document) for the borough.
- 3. Policy Context**
- 3.2 The contents of this report are consistent with the Council's policy framework.
- 3.3 The Core Strategy contributes to the implementation of Council's priorities:
- community leadership and empowerment – developing opportunities for the active participation and engagement of people in the life of the community
 - young people's achievement and involvement – raising educational attainment and improving facilities for young people through partnership working
 - clean, green and liveable – improving environmental management, the cleanliness and care for roads and pavements and promoting a sustainable environment
 - safety, security and a visible presence – partnership working with the police and others and using the Council's powers to combat anti-social behaviour
 - strengthening the local economy – gaining resources to regenerate key localities, strengthen employment skills and promote public transport
 - decent homes for all – investment in social and affordable housing to achieve the Decent Homes Standard, tackle homelessness and supply key worker housing
 - active, healthy citizens – leisure, sporting, learning and creative activities for everyone
 - inspiring efficiency, effectiveness and equity – ensuring efficiency, effectiveness and equity in the delivery of excellent services to meet the needs of the community.
- 3.4 The Core Strategy is a part of the Council's Local Development Framework or LDF for short. The changes to the planning system introduced by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to replace the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) and prepare new planning policy documents known as Development Plan Documents (DPD).
- 3.5 Collectively the new documents are known as the LDF. The Core Strategy is the primary DPD and will set Lewisham's vision, objectives, strategy, policies and delivery framework to guide development over the next 15 years.
- 3.6 Importantly, the Core Strategy is the spatial representation of the Lewisham Sustainable Community Strategy (Shaping Our Future), which was prepared by the Local Strategic Partnership and adopted by the Council in May 2008.
- 3.7 The Core Strategy plays a central role in the implementation of the SCS vision '*Together we will make Lewisham the best place to live, work and learn*' and all of the six strategic priorities, which are:

- Ambitious and achieving – where people are inspired and supported to fulfil their potential
- Safer – where people feel safe and live free from crime, antisocial behaviour and abuse
- Empowered and responsible – where people are actively involved in their local area and contribute to supportive communities
- Clean, green and liveable – where people live in high quality housing and can care for their environment
- Healthy, active and enjoyable – where people can actively participate in maintaining and improving their health and well-being
- Dynamic and prosperous – where people are part of vibrant communities and town centres, well connected to London and beyond

Section 4 of the Core Strategy shows the links between the Core Strategy and the SCS.

3.8 The Core Strategy implements the full range of other Council policies and strategies. These are ‘signposted’ throughout the Core Strategy and include, but are not limited to the following:

- Children and Young People’s Plan
- Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy
- Transport Local Implementation Plan
- Housing Strategy
- Air Quality Management Plan
- Carbon Reduction and Climate Change Strategy
- Municipal Waste Management Strategy
- Physical Activity, Sport and Leisure Strategy.

3.9 The Core Strategy contributes to the achievement of the strategic aims of the Regeneration directorate which are:

- Enabling and supporting the regeneration of Lewisham and helping to strengthen the local economy
- Supporting the creation of a safe, attractive, healthy and sustainable environment for the benefit of local people and
- Connecting people to economic, leisure and learning opportunities.

3.10 The Core Strategy is part of the Council's policy framework as set out in the Council’s constitution and requires the approval of and formal adoption by the full Council.

7. Recommendation

4.2 The Mayor is recommended to adopt the Core Strategy incorporating all the associated amendments outlined in the Planning Inspector’s report, and recommend that full Council formally do the same.

5. Background

- 5.5 The Core Strategy is the principal planning policy document in the Lewisham Local Development Framework (LDF) and it is known as a Development Plan Document (or DPD). The Core Strategy sets out the vision, strategic objectives, strategy and policies to guide public and private sector investment to manage development and regeneration in the borough over the next 15 years.
- 5.2 On Adoption by full Council the Core Strategy as a DPD will, with the London Plan, form the development plan for development management purposes under the Planning Acts. It also provides the policy framework for any Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) the Council intends to produce as well as giving a clear steer on the direction that the Council intends to take, not only in terms of land use planning decisions, but also in terms of actions with other organisations. The Core Strategy will replace some policies currently in the Unitary Development Plan (UDP). A list of UDP policies that will be replaced by the Core Strategy is set out in Appendix 2 of the Core Strategy.
- 5.3 Planning Policy Statement 12 (Creating strong safe and prosperous communities through Local Spatial Planning) (PPS12) sets out government policy on local development frameworks (LDFs) and how they should be prepared. Each local authority in England is required to prepare a Core Strategy and they are expected to cover at least 15 years from the date of adoption. The Lewisham Core Strategy will cover the period 2011 to 2026.

6. What does the Core Strategy say?

- 6.1 The central element of the Core Strategy is showing the expected distribution of new development across the borough, and how this will be managed and delivered. In planning jargon and in accordance with PPS12 this is called the spatial strategy. This is detailed in Section 6 of the Core Strategy.
- 6.2 The spatial strategy shows the location, amount and types of new housing, jobs and shopping facilities that need to be provided as well as the responsibilities of private and public sector groups to ensure schools, public transport, community facilities, parks and recreation areas, and all those things which make a community sustainable, are provided for both new and existing residents.
- 6.3 The Lewisham spatial strategy sets out the following strategy areas:
- **Regeneration and Growth Areas** (covering key localities within Lewisham, Catford, Deptford, New Cross, New Cross Gate)
 - **District Hubs** (covering the District Town Centres of Blackheath, Forest Hill, Lee Green and Sydenham and their immediate surrounding neighbourhoods)
 - **Local Hubs** (covering Brockley Cross, Hither Green and Bell Green)

- **Areas of Stability and Managed Change** for the remaining areas of the borough (largely residential).

6.4 The Lewisham Spatial Strategy ensures the delivery of the vision and strategic objectives whereby:

- New large scale development provides and contributes towards physical and socio-economic benefits for all in the community
- New homes are provided meeting local housing need
- Growth occurs in the local economy
- Environmental management issues can be addressed and
- A sustainable community is built contributing to health and well-being.

6.5 The Lewisham Core Strategy is structured as follows:

- Section 1 provides an introduction and explanation to the document.
- Section 2 sets out the place Lewisham is today.
- Section 3 builds on Lewisham today and outlines the most significant characteristics expected to impact the borough over the next 10 to 15 years and the key issues the Core Strategy needs to cover.
- Section 4 presents the vision for the borough in 2026 based on previous rounds of consultation and the continuing issues we need to address.
- Section 5 contains key strategic objectives for the Core Strategy, which set out more specifically what needs to happen to deliver the vision.
- Section 6 details Lewisham's spatial strategy for the borough showing where and how development, regeneration and change will take place.
- Section 7 sets out the cross-cutting policies to help deliver the Lewisham Core Strategy.
- Section 8 provides the detailed policy guidance for delivering the five key strategic sites.
- Section 9 provides the details on delivery and implementation of the Core Strategy and how it will be monitored and reviewed.
- Appendices provide background and additional information.

7. Planning Inspector's report on the soundness of the Core Strategy

7.1 Members will be aware of the on-going preparation of the Council's Core Strategy. It is a statutory planning document and has been prepared in accordance with the regulations and PPS12. This has involved several rounds of public consultation (commencing in 2005) and each stage of preparation has been reported to Mayor and Cabinet and Full Council.

7.2 This long process culminated in public consultation on a pre-submission draft Core Strategy in February to April 2010, and the submission of a final plan to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government for an

independent Examination in Public (EiP) in October 2010. The EiP was held over two days on 1st and 2nd February 2011.

- 7.3 The Council received the Inspectors Report on the Lewisham Core Strategy DPD on 28th March 2011, which has found the Core Strategy sound subject to some amendments.
- 7.4 Prior to the EiP the Council submitted a schedule of recommended changes to the Core Strategy. The changes were recommended following public consultation of the pre-submission draft version. These changes were agreed by the Mayor and Full Council and formed part of the submission plan. The changes were also subject to a further round of public consultation for six weeks when the Core Strategy was submitted to the Secretary of State.
- 7.5 In his covering letter the Inspector was complimentary of the manner in which the public hearings had been run and the way that the process had been embraced by the Council, those who appeared at the Hearings and the Programme Officer.
- 7.6 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Section 20(5) requires that the Inspector must consider whether the Core Strategy was produced in compliance with the statutory requirements and whether it is sound. The tests of soundness are set out in PPS12 which makes clear that in order to be sound a DPD should be 'justified, effective and consistent' with national planning policy. The Inspectors report on the Core Strategy is binding on the Council and it must include all modifications as set out by the Inspector prior to adoption. The Inspector's report is included as Annex 2 to this report.
- 7.7 The Inspector's report concludes that:

'.. the Lewisham Core Strategy Development Plan Document provides an appropriate basis for the planning of the Borough over the next 15 years. The Council has sufficient evidence to support the strategy and can show that it has a reasonable chance of being delivered. Only two changes are needed to meet legal and statutory requirements. These can be summarised as follows:

- *Changes to Core Strategy Policy 8 to require achievement of the Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4 from 2011, and Level 6 from 2016;*
- *Inclusion of a list of essential infrastructure projects for each Strategic Site Allocation, and in Appendix 7.*

All the changes recommended in this report are based on proposals put forward by the Council in response to points raised and suggestions discussed during the Examination. The changes do not alter the thrust of the Council's overall strategy.

- 7.8 With regard to compliance with the statutory requirements, the Inspector was satisfied that the requirements had been met in all respects and the Core Strategy is a legally compliant document.
- 7.9 With regard to soundness, the Inspector has found that the Core Strategy has been prepared so as to be consistent with national planning policies and is in general conformity with the London Plan. He has, however, made two changes that must be made for the plan to be sound. These are contained in Appendix A to his report. See Annex 2. The Council supports both changes.
- 7.10 The first relates to Policy 8 (Sustainable design and energy efficiency) and the application of the Code for Sustainable Homes to deliver zero carbon homes over the life of the plan, that is, up to 2026. During the EiP the Inspector asked for clarification on how Policy 8 would deliver such requirements. This resulted in the council recommending a change to Policy 8 to state that Code for Sustainable Homes Level 6 would be required from April 2016. This is in line with changes to Part L of the building regulations and the policy contained in the draft replacement London Plan (due for adoption later in 2011).
- 7.11 The second change to ensure soundness concerns the listing of essential infrastructure needed to implement the Core Strategy, in particular that infrastructure associated with delivery of the five strategic sites. These changes were recommended by the council in the schedule of recommended changes submitted to the Inspector prior to the EiP.
- 7.12 The Inspector's report endorses other changes put forward by the Council referred to as minor amendments. These are factual updates, corrections of minor errors, or other minor amendments in the interests of clarity and consistency. Further minor changes were also proposed to respond to constructive comments made by representors at the Hearings. As these changes do not relate to soundness, they are generally not referred to in the Inspector's report but he does support the Council's view that they improve the plan. They are detailed in Appendix B of his report and are included as Annex 2.
- 7.13 The amendments relating to soundness, and those classified as minor amendments, were all put forward by the Council. In effect all the changes required by the Inspector are supported by the Council. As such, they have been incorporated into the adoption version of the Core Strategy set out as Annex 1 to this report. The Inspector has confirmed that he is content for the Council to make any further minor changes to page, figure, paragraph numbering etc and to correct any spelling errors prior to adoption.

8. What happens now?

- 8.1 The Inspector's report and binding recommendations have been published on the Council's website. In view of the fact that the Inspector has now found the

Core Strategy sound, subject to some modifications, it now carries significant weight for planning decisions and after adoption will form part of the Development Plan for the Borough alongside the London Plan.

- 8.2 A final version of the Core Strategy has been produced for adoption which incorporates all the necessary changes. In accordance with regulation 36 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 a formal adoption process must be followed which starts as soon as reasonably practical after the full Council adopts the Core Strategy. This will involve a period of publicity with an adoption statement being published together with details of the places and times where the Core Strategy can be inspected.
- 8.3 The Unitary Development Plan (UDP) (together with the London Plan comprises the current Development Plan for the Borough) will be largely superseded after the Core Strategy is adopted. Although a limited suite of policies are retained until they are replaced by subsequent LDF development plan documents.

9. Legal implications

- 9.1 The procedures which the Council is required to follow when producing the LDF development plan documents derive from the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended), and PPS12.
- 9.2 In accordance with section 23 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 the Council may adopt the Core Strategy by resolution provided the document reflects the modifications recommended by the Inspector who carried out the Independent Examination.
- 9.3 If full Council resolves to adopt the Core Strategy as a Development Plan Document it will, with the London Plan, form the Development Plan for development control purposes under the Planning Acts.

10. Crime and disorder implications

- 10.1 Crime and disorder implications are a central concern of spatial planning and are reflected in the Core Strategy. In particular Strategic Objective 10 (Section 5) seeks to create safer and stronger communities by reducing crime and the fear of crime through innovative design and land use policies. Core Strategy Policy 15 (High quality design for Lewisham) makes specific mention of the need to ensure design acts to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

11. Equalities implications

- 11.1 Equalities issues have been built into the preparation of the Core Strategy. It is one of the 'drivers of change' (Section 3) which underpin the strategy; it is part of the vision statement (Section 4); and at Strategic Objective 11.

- 11.2 A comprehensive Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) was carried out on the Core Strategy Options Report in February 2009. This can ensure, as far as is possible, any negative consequences for a particular group or sector within the community are eliminated, minimised or counter balanced by other measures. Where appropriate the Core Strategy was amended to ensure equality issues are addressed.
- 11.3 The EIA was reported to the Council's Corporate Equalities Board in August 2009. A note updating the EqIA for the Core Strategy Proposed Submission Version (February 2010) was prepared to show the changes resulting from the recommendations of the initial EIA undertaken in February 2009.

12. Environmental implications

- 12.1 The Core Strategy addresses key environmental issues facing the borough and provides a spatial strategy and supporting policies to improve the environmental quality of the borough. This involves a number of coordinated actions including:
- maximising resource efficiency
 - adopting best practice planning and urban design principles to reduce the need to travel
 - encouraging and maximising sustainable travel alternatives to the private car as part of a comprehensive approach to managing the supply of parking and improving local air quality
 - protecting open space and preserving and enhancing local biodiversity
 - managing and reducing flood risk
 - improving water quality
 - adopting resource efficient building design and construction measures and
 - ensuring on-site renewable energy provision and decentralized energy networks within the borough.
- 12.2 The specific environmental implications of the spatial strategy and policies are in accordance with national and regional policy and have been evidenced through local studies assessing (but not limited to) open space provision; biodiversity; flood risk; renewable energy; and transport assessments.

13. Financial Implications

- 13.1 Section 9 of the Core Strategy outlines its delivery and implementation, particularly that related to the provision of infrastructure. Further details are contained in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) accompanying the Core Strategy. This does not commit the Council to, or seek additional, expenditure, other than what is already committed in existing budgets. In terms of the costs associated with the printing and publishing of the Core Strategy Adoption Version and the Sustainability Appraisal, this will be met from the existing Planning Services budget.

14. Conclusion

- 14.1 The Core Strategy sets out the vision, objectives, strategy, policies and delivery framework that will guide development and regeneration in the borough over the next 15 years.
- 14.2 The Core Strategy has now passed through all stages of preparation, consultation and independent Examination in Public. The Planning Inspector who held the examination has found the Core Strategy sound provided some modifications are made. The modifications were all recommended by the council and have been incorporated into the Core Strategy Adoption Version as set out at Annex 1 to this report.

Background documents

Short Title Document	Date	File Location	File Reference	Contact Officer	Exempt
Planning & Compulsory Purchases Act 2004	2004	Laurence House	Planning Policy	Brian Regan	No
PPS 12	2008	Laurence House	Planning Policy	Brian Regan	No
LDF Regulations	2004 & 2008	Laurence House	Planning Policy	Brian Regan	No

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Brian Regan, Planning Policy, 5th floor Laurence House, 1 Catford Road, Catford SE6 4RU – telephone 020 8314 8774.

Annex 1: Core Strategy Adoption Version, July 2011

Annex 2: Planning Inspector's report into the soundness of the Lewisham Core Strategy

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Appointments	
Key Decision	no	Item No.11
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: June 29 2011

1 SELCHP

The Council is asked to note that the Mayor has made the following appointments to SELCHP

Mr T Scott
Cllr M Long (Deputy)

RECOMMENDATION that the appointments made by the Mayor be noted.

2 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS SELECT COMMITTEE & HOUSING SELECT COMMITTEE

The Labour Group wishes to revise its membership on two Select Committees. As these appointments may only be made by the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committee, the Council is asked to briefly adjourn so that these appointments can be considered.

RECOMMENDATION that the Council adjourns to allow a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to take place.

Agenda Item 12

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Action taken by the Chair of Council under Rule 15 of Section E of the Constitution	
Key Decision	No	Item No.12
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: 29 June 2011

11. ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHAIR OF COUNCIL UNDER RULE 15 OF SECTION E OF THE CONSTITUTION

- The Chair of Council agreed under the urgency procedure set out in Rule 15 of Section E of the Constitution, that the matters listed below should be treated as a matter of urgency and not subject to call-in. This determination not to subject two Executive Director decisions and a Mayoral decision to scrutiny was made by the Chair of Council as the delay in considering the item of business would have prejudiced the interests of the Council.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Reason for Urgency</u>
January 17 2011	Award of Contract for the Refurbishment of Laurence House Accesspoint	The report detailing a decision to taken by the Executive Director for Resources was originally scheduled for consideration at the Overview & scrutiny Business Panel on 14 December 2010. However, owing to adverse weather conditions, the tender return date was extended to 8 December 2010 and documents were not able to be dispatched to the Business Panel. Dealying a decision to the next meeting of the Business Panel would have delayed delivery of the scheme at additional cost to the Council.
February 9 2011	Deptford Station contract award	The report deals with the terms for a contract for the rebuild of Deptford Station. The contract was agreed by the Mayor in April 2010 and since then officers finalised the design and gained the agreement of Network Rail. The contractor has increased the price by just under £250k on a £7m tender. Officers considered whether to accept this or re-tender the work. Re-tendering would have delayed work commencement with no certainty of a lower price and on balance officers

		concluded that the Mayor should be advised to agree the change. Owing to the urgent need to resolve the matter and commence work on site in March an exemption from scrutiny was obtained.
February 22 2011	LIP Funding for Surrey Canal Road Station	Mayor and Cabinet on March 2 considered a report containing a request to approve up to £1.5million of LIP funding to deliver new subways for the new Surrey Canal Station. . The report was late and urgent because TfL were very late in supplying the Council with costing details on the design work approved by Mayor and Cabinet on 15 September 2010, and also a very late insistence on a formal decision from the Council before they would be willing to include the specifications in the final contracts. As the contract deadline was March 4 there was be no time to go to through the scrutiny. Failure to get these works in the contract now would have meant any subsequent inclusion would be a very costly contract variation.
March 7 2011	The appointment of Atkins Rail Ltd as the Structural and Service Engineers for the GRIP 5 design stage for Deptford Station.	Further to the exemption agreed on February 9 a variation to the appointment of Atkins Rail as project engineers was signed by the Executive Director for resources. The decision could not wait until the Business Panel scheduled for 15 March as all the Deptford Station related contracts concluded by March 11. This contract needed to be concluded at the same time as the main construction contract in order to ensure that the necessary warranties for the design are effective and tie to together Network Rail, Atkins, Volker Fitzpatrick and the Council.
May 12 2011	Big Lottery Improving Futures fund	The Mayor & Cabinet considered a report on May 11 regarding an application for funding from the Big Lottery Improving Futures Fund by the Pre-School Learning Alliance led consortia. The bid for funding by organisations from the Improving Futures Fund had to be submitted by May 12 2011. Delaying a decision until the Business Panel on May 17 could have led to the bid not being considered and the loss of £900,000 to the borough.

June 7 2011

Extension of
Contract to act as
host organisation for
the Local
Involvement Network
for Lewisham

A decision of the Executive Director for Community Services to extend a contract to Parkwood Healthcare at a reduced level was scheduled for the Business Panel on June 7. However owing to administrative error the report was not included in the agenda dispatch. Waiting until the next Business Panel on June 28 would have delayed the delivery of the contract which was fully funded by a government grant.

Agenda Item 13

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Motion in the name of Councillor Bell to be seconded by Councillor Curran	
Key Decision		Item No.13
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: June 29 2011

“In light of the serious concerns raised in the news recently regarding the care provided by some national social care providers, this Council calls on the Executive Directors for Community Services and Children & Young People to implement a programme of unannounced inspections of all care homes providing residential care facilities for people with disabilities and the elderly. Furthermore, it calls upon the Healthier Communities Select Committee to undertake a review of Lewisham's commissioning of these services.”

Agenda Item 14

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Motion in the name of Councillor Fletcher to be seconded by Councillor Maines	
Key Decision		Item No.14
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: June 29 2011

“Council notes the importance of increasing recycling rates in Lewisham and calls on the Mayor to increase the range of plastic items that can be included in the kerbside collections and to investigate increasing the volume of tetra pak beverage cartons that can be recycled in Lewisham.”

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Motion in the name of Councillor Feakes to be seconded by Councillor Peake	
Key Decision		Item No.15
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: June 29 2011

“Open Data policy

Many public sector organisations are realising benefits from operating more openly to the people they serve, by publishing as much as possible of the information they collect and hold as Open Data. This firstly enables ordinary people to see clearly what an organisation such as Lewisham Council is doing on their behalf, and increases their trust in the people elected and employed to do it. It also recognises the wealth of information-handling skills and ideas in our population. If they cannot just read, but easily analyse council data and combine it with other data, those skills and ideas can build on what we can do ourselves, in ways that we can't afford or have not yet imagined.

Lewisham Council wishes to foster an environment where it's presumed that data will be published, and that 'owners' of the data within the Council and our partners should structure its gathering, storage and access in such a way that it makes publishing and eventual use by the public a straightforward matter.

We therefore ask the Mayor to embrace these ideals and to introduce an Open Data policy for the council that commits it to publishing all information it holds as Open Data, wherever this is practical and excepting only information that would be exempt from publication for existing reasons that would also make it exempt from disclosure in response to a Freedom of Information request; and to designing or updating its data systems whenever opportunities arise to facilitate such publication and use by the public.

We would also ask that when the implementation of or changes to systems, services or processes which involve the collection or holding of data are recommended to any Council committee, such reports should include consideration of Open Data issues and if necessary explain why any data involved should be exempted.

This Council urges our partners in public service in Lewisham to make a similar commitment themselves where they haven't already done so.”