

# Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee Agenda

Tuesday, 27 November 2012  
**7.00 pm**, Committee Room 1  
Civic Suite  
Lewisham Town Hall  
London SE6 4RU

For more information contact: Timothy Andrew (Tel: 0208 31 47916)

## Part 1

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# Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee Members

Members of the committee, listed below, are summoned to attend the meeting to be held on Tuesday, 27 November 2012.

Barry Quirk, Chief Executive  
Thursday, 15 November 2012

Councillor Pauline Morrison (Chair)	
Councillor Joseph Folorunso (Vice-Chair)	
Councillor Jackie Addison	
Councillor Anne Affiku	
Councillor Paul Bell	
Councillor Duwayne Brooks	
Councillor Jim Mallory	
Councillor Stephen Padmore	
Councillor Dan Whittle	
Councillor Alan Hall (ex-Officio)	
Councillor Kevin Bonavia (ex-Officio)	

## **MINUTES OF THE SAFER STRONGER COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, 23 October 2012 at 7.00 pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Pauline Morrison (Chair), Paul Bell, Duwayne Brooks, Jim Mallory, Stephen Padmore and Dan Whittle

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Chris Best, Councillor Janet Daby, Councillor Damien Egan, Councillor Joan Millbank, Paul Aladenika, Timothy Andrew, Aileen Buckton, Liz Dart, Conrad Hall, Mike Haw, Sandra Jones, Robert Mellors, Salena Mulhere, Alison Potter, Hilary Renwick, Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney, Suzanne Wallace (Lewisham, MPS) and Ralph Wilkinson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Joseph Folorunso, Councillor Jackie Addison and Councillor Anne Affiku

### **1. Minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2012**

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2012 be signed as an accurate record.

### **2. Declarations of interest**

Councillor Mallory declared a non-pecuniary interest in item five in relation to his involvement with the organisations Fair Share and Lee Green Lives.

### **3. Lewisham Race equality organisation update**

3.1 Sandra Jones (Head of the Community Sector Unit) introduced the report. The key points to note were:

- Subject to approval for the release of funding by Mayor and Cabinet on 24 October 2012, the new Race equality organisation (EqualiTeam Lewisham) will be launched at the Deptford Lounge on 1 November 2012.
- Organisations representing a range of different groups have put themselves forward for membership and leadership positions.
- Partnership working will be central to the functioning of the new organisation.

3.2 In response to questions from the Committee Sandra Jones advised:

- The new organisation will need to diversify its sources of funding. The current release of funding only covers the period up until the end of the next financial year.
- A range of organisations from the Voluntary and Community Sector have been invited to put forward nominations for the Chair of the new organisation.

- The recruitment of staff will be carried out by the newly constituted supervisory committee in line with the organisation's new constitution.
- The organisation will be independent of the Council.
- As part of its work to establish itself the new organisation will be required to agree equalities objectives across the range of protected characteristics.
- It will be based in Lewisham.

Resolved: To note the item and to request further information regarding the organisations putting themselves forward to become involved in, and chair the new organisation.

#### **4. Future plans for local policing**

4.1 Superintendant Suzanne Wallace from the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) introduced the report and delivered a presentation. The key points to note were:

- Recent data on crime and victim satisfaction indicate that the MPS is facing a number of major challenges.
- Figures demonstrate that the MPS' victim satisfaction levels are low in relation to comparable services and that the MPS does not perform as well across a range of indicators as other major police services.
- The major financial challenge facing the service. The government has made it a requirement to cut £500m from the service budget by 2016.
- The service spends the largest proportion of its budget on buildings and people so it is anticipated that significant reorganisation and rationalisation of the estate will be required along with a major reduction in management costs and a substantial review of support services.
- Economies of scale and major efficiencies are being sought to minimise the impact of the cuts. The service is also looking to improve the efficiency of command and control.
- The service is looking for more intelligent ways of working, which will include making use of new technologies and interacting with citizens through new channels.
- The 'one MET model' is the overarching vision for the service. The model will focus resources on neighbourhood policing with the aim of keeping services on the front line by cutting management and building costs.
- As part of the new model there are plans to provide 25,000 extra constables across the city to bolster neighbourhood services.
- The MPS has the ambition to decrease crime by 20% and increase detection by 30%.
- The service aims to provide at least one staffed front desk service 24 hours a day 7 days a week in each borough.
- There will be an increased emphasis on the sharing of services between boroughs.
- There are plans to recruit additional Police Community Support Officers. More Police Constables will be drawn from the ranks of local PCSOs.
- Conversations are taking place with the Mayors Office for Policing and Crime about the proposals, which are all subject to consultation.

#### 4.2 In response to questions from the Committee SI Wallace advised:

- No plans have yet been agreed for the closure of police stations in the borough.
- There is a balance to be found between providing neighbourhood policing on the street and staffing police stations.
- The preference is to maintain police numbers on the streets where they provide a mobile, visible presence and are able to respond to incidents.
- Safer Neighbourhood meetings can take place in any convenient location.
- PCSOs are being encouraged to become Police Constables, which it is intended, will retain local knowledge.
- The savings required are ambitious and members concerns about the level of savings required are valid. The focus remains on neighbourhood policing as well as efforts to cut back on management, buildings and back office staff.
- By calling 101 people can request information and report non-emergencies. New standards will ensure that victims of crime are able to make an appointment to give a statement to an officer. This service is already in existence but the new model will make the process clearer. 999 remains the number to call in an emergency.

Resolved: That further information about local policing budgets be brought before the Committee in the next municipal year. Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney (Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People) agreed to keep the Committee updated on the MPS' progress on delivering changes to the local policing model.

### **5. Revenue budget savings proposals**

#### 5.1 Conrad Hall (Head of Business Management and Service Support) provided an overview of the budget process. The key points to note were:

- The scale of the challenge facing the Council.
- The timetable for receiving information from central government about the local government funding settlement (due to be finalised in late December).
- The intention in the budget papers to set out, in broad strategic terms, the measures proposed to balance the budget.
- The acknowledgement from officers that some issues are cross cutting and that in some instances there may be difficulties dealing with the generality of some of the information provided.
- The scrutiny of proposals is part of a wider consultation process.

#### 5.2 Councillor Best (Cabinet Member for Community Services) introduced the savings proposals. The key points to note were:

- The challenge facing the Council.
- The impact on staff and the potential for cuts to a range of services.
- The range of factors involved in the decision making process.
- The intention to protect the most vulnerable.

#### 5.3 Alan Hall (Chair of Overview and Scrutiny) set out the scrutiny process. The key points to note were:

- The process for the Committee to refer its views to the Public Accounts Select Committee (PAC). PAC will then consider the savings proposals alongside views from the Select Committees and report to Mayor and Cabinet.
- The Mayor will make the final decision about the savings proposals before referring the budget for the consideration of Council.
- The overall timetable for the budget process and the reiteration of members concerns about areas of uncertainty in the proposals.

5.4 The Committee then discussed the process. The key points to note were:

- The potential impact of the savings in the Children and Young People's Directorate on the Community and Voluntary Sector.
- The risk posed by scrutiny working in 'silos' rather than considering the impact of spending reductions across the range of services.
- The perception that the savings are being made by reducing the budgets for each service incrementally in a process of 'top slicing' rather than looking more broadly at the delivery of services.
- Whether some services will be able to function in a diminished state or whether they will cease to meet their primary objectives.

5.5 Aileen Buckton (Executive Director of Community Services) introduced the savings proposals for Community Services. She noted the following key points:

- Officers have looked to protect frontline services as much as possible.
- It would not have been possible to implement a percentage reduction across all services because a number of factors need to be taken into account when looking at the requirements of each area.
- The approach has not been to reduce services across the directorate through 'top slicing' but rather to look at all of the services provided by the organisation. This is clearly demonstrated in some of the proposals in the Crime Reduction and Supporting People division.

5.6 The Executive Director then introduced the specific savings proposals. The key points to note were:

COM01 (reorganisation of Cultural Services and Community & Neighbourhood Development divisions)

- The implementation of this proposal would bring about the reorganisation of the Cultural Services and Community & Neighbourhood Development divisions.
- The level of the saving is projected to be £0.5M but this would be subject to further planning and consultation with staff.
- It is likely that the saving would be split unevenly across two years.
- The combined teams would carry out generic functions with some specialist support remaining across the new division.

5.7 The Committee noted the proposal and resolved to share the following views with the Public Accounts Select Committee:

- Assembly coordinators have a key community engagement and development role in their wards, above and beyond the administrative tasks they also undertake.
- That any reorganisation of the Community & Neighbourhood division must take this important element of the local assembly coordinator's role into account.
- The proposal could result in less support to local assembly co-ordinating groups, putting more emphasis on citizens organising and administering meetings.

#### COM02 (reduction in the operational budget of the Arts Service)

5.8 Hilary Renwick (Head of Cultural Services) introduced the savings proposal. The key points to note were:

- The saving proposal does not include any information about the Broadway theatre, which will be considered in due course.
- Revenue support for arts organisations would not be reduced as part of this proposal because funding for the borough's large arts organisations has become the responsibility of the main grants programme.

#### COM06 (Reduction to the Local Assemblies Fund)

5.9 Liz Dart (Head of Community and Neighbourhood Development) introduced the savings proposal. The key points to note were:

- The proposal offers two options for the distribution of funds from a reduced assembly fund budget. In one option, the total amount of funding available is held in a central pot, from which each assembly would be required to bid. In the second option, each assembly would retain (a reduced) share of the fund.
- Consultation will be carried out if the proposal to reduce the fund is taken forward.

5.10 The Committee noted the proposal and resolved to share the following views with the Public Accounts Select Committee:

- The local assemblies fund is an important resource for Lewisham's neighbourhoods- providing seed funding to small, local organisations and community groups.
- The fund has created community activities in parts of the borough where there previously had been none.
- The Committee recommends that the reduction proposed be reconsidered. However, if the proposal to reduce the fund is agreed the Committee recommends that the reduction should be minimised. Furthermore, the Committee believes that an identical amount of funding for each assembly should be maintained and the option of assemblies bidding for funds from a "centralised pot" should be rejected.

## COM07 (Community sector grants)

- 5.11 Aileen Buckton (Executive Director of Community Services) introduced the proposal. The key points to note were:
- Nil savings are being put forward for 2013/14.
  - The proposal has no total against it because of the 3 year funding mechanism already in place.
  - The three year funding period gives organisations greater security than yearly funding and allows them to access match funding.
  - During the consideration of previous revenue budget savings funding for the Community and Voluntary Sector was protected. However, it is clear that current levels of funding can not be sustained.
  - Senior managers from Community Services will be beginning a series of conversations with organisations in the borough about how organisations can work together to reduce their costs, create efficiencies and trial new ways of working together in advance of the next allocation of funding.
  - The extra time available before the allocation of funding from the grants programme will enable officers to take reductions in funding from other sources into account.
- 5.12 The Committee noted the proposal and resolved to share the following views with the Public Accounts Select Committee:
- The Committee recognises and supports the rationale for maintaining a three year grant funding programme.
  - The Committee notes plans to engage with Community and Voluntary Sector organisations throughout 2013/14, to discuss the impact of potential funding changes, and explore ways for organisations and groups to work together to reduce overheads and streamline service provision.
  - The Committee recommends that for effective discussions to take place a figure, for the reduction in funding for the grants programme, should be made available before the end of the 2012/13 financial year.
  - The Committee feels that the disclosure of a potential figure for overall reduction will provide clarity and focus in discussions with the Community and Voluntary Sector.

## COM08 (Events)

- 5.13 Liz Dart (Head of Community and Neighbourhood Development) introduced the proposal. The key points to note were:
- If agreed, the proposal would only reduce the funding available for small events.
  - The two major events in Lewisham each year are the Blackheath fireworks and People's Day. Any reduction in funding for these major events would prevent them from achieving their community objectives.
- 5.14 In response to questions from the Committee Liz Dart advised:
- During scrutiny of savings proposals in previous years, options to cancel the two main events had not been welcomed.

- The main events are funded from a range of sources. The fireworks receives most of its funding from donations and sponsorship.
- It would be difficult to maintain sponsors over a two year period if People's Day was held less frequently than once a year.

#### COM09 (Drug and alcohol rehabilitation, training and communications)

5.15 Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney (Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People) introduced the proposal. The key points to note were:

- The proposal consist of three parts (A, B and C).
- Parts B and C would involve changes to working practices and strategies for engagement.
- Part A would reduce the number of beds available for residential rehabilitation.
- Community rehabilitation is becoming the preferred option for the treatment of substance misuse.
- The proposal, as it stands, would lead to the loss of 8-12 beds in residential rehabilitation.

5.16 The Committee noted the proposal and resolved to share the following views with the Public Accounts Select Committee:

- The Committee accepts that part B and part C of the proposals should proceed as planned.
- The Committee requests that more information be made available about the success rates of different approaches before any decision is made.
- The Committee specifically requests that further information from the relevant expert medical and service providers be provided, which includes data on total number of beds available in past years and figures regarding their usage.

#### COM10 (Neighbourhood Community Safety)

5.17 Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney (Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People) introduced the item. The key points to note were:

- This proposal would downsize the current service.
- As part of previous budget reductions, the Community Safety Service and Street Wardens were combined and the service was reduced.
- The reconfigured service deals with anti-social behaviour casework, anti-social behaviour legal preparation and use of interventions, targeted hotspot work through problem solving processes, directed intervention and prevention work with police and fire, prevention work through focused communication and surgeries.
- Further work would be required to determine how the service could be re-shaped to focus on these key areas.

5.18 In response to questions from the Committee Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney advised:

- There would be an impact on the range of activities currently undertaken by neighbourhood community safety teams. Areas of activity which might need to be reviewed and reduced include: general information and advice giving work, attendance at events and meetings, delivery of road shows and other outreach activities.
- The Council would maintain its obligation to support its staff through the disruption and uncertainty caused by a further reorganisation.
- The plans may have a combined impact with the plans for the reorganisation of borough policing.

5.19 The Committee resolved to share the following views with the Public Accounts Select Committee:

- Members were concerned about the impact of this proposal on the broad range of activities currently undertaken by neighbourhood community safety teams.
- More information about the review of the service be made available before any decision is taken.

#### COM11 (Youth Offending Service)

5.20 Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney (Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People) introduced the item. The key points to note were:

- The service is funded by the Department of Education, the Ministry of Justice and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime, as well as the Council. All of these budgets are likely to be cut in the near future.
- Additional burdens will be placed on the service by changes in remands, which will become the responsibility of local authorities in 2013.
- Officers are finding that there are less cases of youth offending, but the cases they are taking on are more complex and require broader interventions.
- The proposed reorganisation would provide the opportunity to focus services on these new demands in youth offending.

#### CUS24 (Blue Badge applications)

5.21 Ralph Wilkinson (Head of Public Services) introduced the proposal. The key points to note were:

- There are more than 7000 blue badges in use, which are required to be renewed every three years.
- Rules on the allocations of passes allow the Council to charge up to £10 for administration.
- To date, the Council has not recouped the cost of administering the passes.
- If this proposal is not agreed, other options for paying for administration would need to be found.

5.22 In response to questions from the Committee Ralph Wilkinson advised:

- There are processes in place to deal with Blue Badge abuse.

5.23 The Committee resolved to share the following views with the Public Accounts Select Committee:

- Considering the overall context of changes to services for disabled people, the Committee recommends that the proposal should be rejected due to its potential negative impact on disabled people.

5.24 Councillor Bell proposed a motion to suspend standing orders at 21:21. Members resolved to suspend standing orders to complete committee business.

#### CUS25 (Discretionary Freedom Passes)

5.25 Ralph Wilkinson (Head of Public Services) introduced the proposal. The key points to note were:

- The proposals relate to the issue of discretionary freedom passes.
- There are three options for the discontinuation of the discretionary pass.
- Not all Councils choose to issue the discretionary freedom pass, current information suggests that 18 London councils issue discretionary passes, but all Councils are in the process of reviewing their budgets so this might change.

5.26 In response to questions from the Committee Ralph Wilkinson advised:

- That the discretionary freedom pass is not means tested.
- Each case is considered on an individual basis.
- The proposals would come into effect in 2014.
- Under 'option 3', which would entail the issue of no new passes, existing passes would expire when they are no longer needed by the user.

5.27 The Committee resolved to share the following views with the Public Accounts Select Committee:

- That the proposal be rejected due to the potential negative impact on disabled people, and that savings be found from elsewhere.

#### RNR28 (Policy and Partnerships)

5.28 Paul Aladenika (Head of Policy and Partnerships) introduced the proposal. The key points to note were:

- The implementation of the proposal would lead to the deletion of a vacant post in Policy and Partnerships.
- The team works corporately on a number of cross cutting projects.
- Recent projects have included council tax reform, parking, housing and equalities.
- The savings proposal would impact on the team's capacity to support reactive projects.

Resolved: To refer the views of the Committee to the Public Accounts Select Committee on 12 November 2012.

## **6. Noise nuisance service: information item**

The Committee noted the report.

Resolved: To note the item.

## **7. Select Committee work programme**

Timothy Andrew (Scrutiny Manger) introduced the report. The Committee then discussed the following:

- The scope and timescale for the faith in Lewisham review.
- Councillor Millbank (Cabinet Member for the Third Sector) advised the Committee that she had requested a report on the Council's letting policy for community facilities from the Head of Law.

Resolved: That an officer report on the lettings policy for community facilities be added to the work programme for the next meeting, which should include information about how the Council's policy is implemented and monitored.

The Committee noted the work programme report and agreed to move back their work on the faith review until information about the Council's letting policies had been received.

Resolved: To agree the work programme for the following meeting as proposed.

## **8. Items to be referred to Mayor and Cabinet**

- 8.1 In accordance with the agreed process for the scrutiny of the budget proposals, the Committee resolved to advise the Public Accounts Select Committee of the following:

COM01 (reorganisation of Cultural Services and Community and Neighbourhood Development divisions)

- 8.2 The Committee notes that the primary role of assembly coordinators is community engagement and development work within the wards, above and beyond the administrative tasks they also undertake. The Committee feels that any reorganisation of the Community and Neighbourhood division must take this important element of the local assembly coordinator's role into account. The Committee is also concerned that the proposal could result in less support to local assembly co-ordinating groups, putting more emphasis on citizens organising and administering meetings.

COM06 (Reduction to the Local Assemblies Fund)

- 8.3 The Committee feels that the local assemblies fund is an important resource for Lewisham's neighbourhoods and it concerned about the impact of any potential

reduction on seed funding to small, local organisations and community groups. The Committee also notes that the fund has created community activities in parts of the borough where there previously had been none.

The Committee recommends that the reduction proposed be reconsidered. However, if the proposal to reduce the fund is agreed the Committee recommends that the reduction be minimised. Furthermore, the Committee believes that an identical amount of funding for each assembly should be maintained and the option of assemblies bidding for funds from a “centralised pot” should be rejected.

#### COM07 (Community Sector Grants)

- 8.4 The Committee recognises and supports the rationale for maintaining a 3 year grant funding programme. The Committee notes plans to engage with community and voluntary sector organisations throughout 2013/14, to discuss the impact of potential funding changes, and explore ways for organisations and groups to work together to reduce overheads and streamline service provision. Nonetheless, the Committee recommends that for effective discussions to take place a figure, for the reduction in funding for the grants programme, should be made available before the end of the 2012/13 financial year. The Committee feels that the disclosure of a potential figure for overall reduction will provide clarity and focus in discussions with the community and voluntary sector.

#### COM09 (Drug and alcohol rehabilitation, training and communications)

- 8.5 The Committee accepts that part B and part C of the proposals should proceed as planned. However, the Committee requests that more information be made available about the success rates of different approaches before any decision is made about this proposal. The Committee specifically requests that further information from the relevant expert medical and service providers be provided, which includes data on total number of beds available in past years and figures regarding their usage.

#### COM10 (Neighbourhood Community Safety)

- 8.6 Members were concerned about the impact of this proposal on the broad range of activities currently undertaken by neighbourhood community safety teams. The Committee resolved that more information about the review of the service be made available before any decision is taken.

#### CUS24 (Blue Badge applications)

- 8.7 The Committee recommends that the proposal should be rejected due to the negative impact on disabled people.

#### CUS25 (Discretionary Freedom Passes)

- 8.8 The Committee recommends that the proposal should be rejected due to the negative impact on disabled people.

# Agenda Item 2

<b>Committee</b>	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	<b>Item No.</b>	2
<b>Title</b>	Declarations of Interest		
<b>Wards</b>			
<b>Contributors</b>	Chief Executive		
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	<b>Date</b>	27 November 2012

## Declaration of interests

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

### 1 Personal interests

There are three types of personal interest referred to in the Council's Member Code of Conduct :-

- (1) Disclosable pecuniary interests
- (2) Other registerable interests
- (3) Non-registerable interests

### 2 Disclosable pecuniary interests are defined by regulation as:-

- (a) Employment, trade, profession or vocation of a relevant person\* for profit or gain
- (b) Sponsorship –payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than by the Council) within the 12 months prior to giving notice for inclusion in the register in respect of expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member or towards your election expenses (including payment or financial benefit from a Trade Union).
- (c) Undischarged contracts between a relevant person\* (or a firm in which they are a partner or a body corporate in which they are a director, or in the securities of which they have a beneficial interest) and the Council for goods, services or works.
- (d) Beneficial interests in land in the borough.
- (e) Licence to occupy land in the borough for one month or more.
- (f) Corporate tenancies – any tenancy, where to the member's knowledge, the Council is landlord and the tenant is a firm in which the relevant person\* is a partner, a body corporate in which they are a director, or in the securities of which they have a beneficial interest.

- (g) Beneficial interest in securities of a body where:-
- (a) that body to the member's knowledge has a place of business or land in the borough; and
  - (b) either
    - (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that body; or
    - (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person\* has a beneficial interest exceeds 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that class.

\*A relevant person is the member, their spouse or civil partner, or a person with whom they live as spouse or civil partner.

### **(3) Other registerable interests**

The Lewisham Member Code of Conduct requires members also to register the following interests:-

- (a) Membership or position of control or management in a body to which you were appointed or nominated by the Council
- (b) Any body exercising functions of a public nature or directed to charitable purposes, or whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy, including any political party
- (c) Any person from whom you have received a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25

### **(4) Non registerable interests**

Occasions may arise when a matter under consideration would or would be likely to affect the wellbeing of a member, their family, friend or close associate more than it would affect the wellbeing of those in the local area generally, but which is not required to be registered in the Register of Members' Interests (for example a matter concerning the closure of a school at which a Member's child attends).

### **(5) Declaration and Impact of interest on member's participation**

- (a) Where a member has any registerable interest in a matter and they are present at a meeting at which that matter is to be discussed, they must declare the nature of the interest at the earliest opportunity and in any event before the matter is considered. The declaration will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. If the matter is a disclosable pecuniary interest the member must take not part in consideration of the matter

and withdraw from the room before it is considered. They must not seek improperly to influence the decision in any way. **Failure to declare such an interest which has not already been entered in the Register of Members' Interests, or participation where such an interest exists, is liable to prosecution and on conviction carries a fine of up to £5000**

- (b) Where a member has a registerable interest which falls short of a disclosable pecuniary interest they must still declare the nature of the interest to the meeting at the earliest opportunity and in any event before the matter is considered, but they may stay in the room, participate in consideration of the matter and vote on it unless paragraph (c) below applies.
- (c) Where a member has a registerable interest which falls short of a disclosable pecuniary interest, the member must consider whether a reasonable member of the public in possession of the facts would think that their interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair the member's judgement of the public interest. If so, the member must withdraw and take no part in consideration of the matter nor seek to influence the outcome improperly.
- (d) If a non-registerable interest arises which affects the wellbeing of a member, their, family, friend or close associate more than it would affect those in the local area generally, then the provisions relating to the declarations of interest and withdrawal apply as if it were a registerable interest.
- (e) Decisions relating to declarations of interests are for the member's personal judgement, though in cases of doubt they may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer.

## **(6) Sensitive information**

There are special provisions relating to sensitive interests. These are interests the disclosure of which would be likely to expose the member to risk of violence or intimidation where the Monitoring Officer has agreed that such interest need not be registered. Members with such an interest are referred to the Code and advised to seek advice from the Monitoring Officer in advance.

## **(7) Exempt categories**

There are exemptions to these provisions allowing members to participate in decisions notwithstanding interests that would otherwise prevent them doing so. These include:-

- (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)

# Agenda Item 3

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee		
<b>Report Title</b>	Mayoral response to the comments of the Select Committee on the Riots Communities and Victims Panel Final Report	
<b>Key Decision</b>	No	Item No 3
<b>Ward</b>	All	
<b>Contributors</b>	Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration (Head of Business & Committee)	
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	Date: November 27 2012

## 1. Summary

This report informs members of the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to a referral in respect of discussions which the Select Committee considered on May 9 2012.

## 2. Purpose of the Report

To report to members the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to recommendations made by the Select Committee regarding on the Riots Communities and Victims Panel Final Report.

## 3. Recommendation

The Select Committee is recommended to receive the Mayoral response to the Select Committee's comments on the Riots Communities and Victims Panel Final Report.

## 4. Background

- 4.1 The Mayor considered the attached report entitled "Mayoral response to the comments of the Safer Stronger Select Committee on the Riots Communities and Victims Panel Final Report" at the Mayor & Cabinet meeting held on October 24 2012.

## 5. Mayoral Response

- 5.1 The Mayor received an officer report and a presentation from the Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Councillor Janet Daby.
- 5.2 The Mayor resolved that the response shown in the attached report be submitted to the Select Committee.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Mayor & Cabinet minutes October 24 2012

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Kevin Flaherty, Head of Business & Committee, 0208 314 9327

<b>MAYOR AND CABINET</b>			
<b>Report Title</b>	Mayoral response to the comments of the Safer Stronger Select Committee on the Riots Communities and Victims Panel Final Report		
<b>Key Decision</b>	No	Item No.	3
<b>Ward</b>	All		
<b>Contributors</b>	Executive Director for Community Services		
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	Date: 24 October 2012	

## **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 This report sets out the response to the views and comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee arising from the Riots Communities and Victims Panel – Final Report item that was discussed at the 9th May 2012 meeting.

## **2. Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Mayor:

- 2.1 Approve the response from the Executive Director for Community Services to the comments from the Safer Stronger Select Committee.
- 2.2 Agree that this report should be forwarded to the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee.

## **3. Policy Context**

- 3.1 Following the riots that occurred in towns and cities across England between 6 August 2011 and 10 August 2011, the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition established the Riots Communities and Victims Panel and asked it to consider:

- what may have motivated a small minority of people to take part in the riots;
- why the riots happened in some areas and not others;
- how key public services engaged with communities before, during and after the riots;
- what motivated local people to come together to resist riots in their area or to clean up after riots had taken place;
- how communities can be made more socially and economically resilient in the future to prevent future problems; and
- what could have been done differently to prevent or manage the riots.

- 3.2 On 28 November 2011, a detailed interim report, *5 Days in August* was published. which explored the immediate causes and consequences of the riots and set out recommendations for immediate action. Six key themes were set out in the interim report which, if combined, were believed to build social and economic resilience in communities, and it is on these six key themes that the final report 'After the Riots' focuses. The final full report was published in April 12.
- 3.3 The overall vision for Lewisham is established in the Sustainable Community Strategy. The Safer Lewisham Partnership contribute to the achievement of the Safer strand – where people feel safe and live free from crime, antisocial behaviour and abuse and works together with partners 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.
- 3.4 The work of the Partnership also supports the Council priority - ‘safety, security and a visible presence’ which details the Council’s partnership working with the Police and others to combat anti social behaviour.

#### **4. Response to the Safer Stronger Select Committee (SSSC)**

The Select Committee raised the following issues for consideration and for referral to Mayor and Cabinet. Following each comment is the response.

- 4.1 There was a disconnect between the hard sentencing that took place in the immediate aftermath of the riots in August 2011 and the wider ranging nuanced overview that is laid out in the report. There has been a lack of public debate over the way that sentencing policy seemed to be set aside at this time and the Committee welcomes a discussion of this issue at the Safer Lewisham Partnership

#### **Response**

*The Safer Lewisham Partnership discussed this matter on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 12 and agreed that the way decisions were made in relation*

*to sentencing and extending court hours was something that was decided at a national level. Locally it was felt that following such a significant event these decisions should be made at this level, however better communication with local areas would have assisted. The impact locally was that we had to service the courts for the additional periods that they were open for such as evening and Sundays and offenders were remanded and sentenced to custody in some instances. The SLP acknowledged the swift way in which the police and partners dealt with perpetrators during the riots and that CCTV evidence had been significant in convictions being made.*

*The SLP were advised that there is currently a consultation open through the Ministry of Justice called 'Swift and Sure Justice: the Government's Plans for Reform of the Criminal Justice System'. The White Paper sets out the Government's programme of reforms to the criminal justice system in England and Wales. It forms part of the Government's much wider programme of reform across crime and justice. It includes proposals for extended court sessions. It was agreed that members would review this report and feedback to the MOJ as deemed appropriate.*

- 4.2 There is a lack of clarity as to whether the recommendations in the report will be implemented either at a local or national level.

#### **Response**

*The Report has been considered by a number of officers and where appropriate the recommendations will be taken up and progressed. This is a work in progress.*

- 4.3 Concern was raised over the concept of responsible capitalism, with the Committee questioning whether this a realistic aim, specifically with regard to recommendation 33 which aims 'to promote Shareholder Participation schemes which give employees a stake in the businesses within which they work the Panel calls for the Government's responsible capitalism work to focus on shareholder participation. It should be a priority to support businesses who take this approach'.

#### **Response**

*It is proposed that the issues raised in this response be considered in the Councils work in supporting businesses in the Borough.*

- 4.4 The Committee also raised concerns over the phrase 'character attributes' when used in the report as it assumes character attributes needed for success are widely understood and uniform. In addition some of the use of language in the report could be viewed as pejorative, specifically the phrase 'usual suspects'.

## **Response**

*These concerns are noted.*

### **6. Financial Implications**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this response.

### **7. Legal Implications**

There are no specific legal implications arising from this response, save for noting that the Council's Constitution provides that the Executive may respond to reports and or recommendations by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

### **8. Crime and Disorder Implications**

There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this response. However, the implementation of the White paper 'Swift and Sure Justice: the Government's Plans for Reform of the Criminal Justice System' may have an impact yet to be identified.

### **9. Equalities Implications**

9.1 The Safer Lewisham Partnership priorities impact on large sections of the community, including the most vulnerable (e.g. victims of DV, victimisation of women and young people). The focus on effective interventions in the Criminal Justice System ensures that Human Rights remain essential to the strategy's vision, strategic themes and monitoring processes.

9.2 One of the Partnership's key outcomes is to ensure equity in representation and that equality and diversity issues are followed in the work of the partnership.

### **10. Environmental Implications**

There are no environmental implications arising from this response.

## **Background Papers**

[After the Riots – the Final report of the Riots Communities and Victims Panel : 2011](#)

[Mayor and Cabinet report - Comments of Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on the Riots Communities and Victims Panel Final Report – 11 July 12](#)

For further information please contact Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney, Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People on 020 8314 9569.

# Agenda Item 4

<b>Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee</b>			
<b>Title</b>	Probation and New Arrangements for the delivery of Community Payback		
<b>Key Decision</b>	No	<b>Item No.</b>	4
<b>Contributors</b>	Louise Hubbard – Assistant Chief Officer – Lewisham Probation Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney, Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting people – LBL		
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	Date: 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov 12	

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 In July 2012 the Government opened up the delivery of the Community Payback Service to Competition and the contract was awarded to Serco with London Probation Trust as the sub-contractor.
- 1.2 Community Payback is a sentence of the court whereby offenders are ordered to carry out tough physical unpaid work. They wear high visibility jackets so communities can clearly see them paying back. Projects include renovating community centres, clearing rivers banks and removing graffiti from public spaces.

## 2. Recommendation

Members of the Safer Stronger Select Committee are asked to note the contents of the report.

## 3. Background and New Service Arrangements

- 3.1 Following the Government putting the delivery of the service out to competition, it was announced on 13 July 2012, by the then Prisons and Probation minister, that the winner of the Competition to provide Community Payback Services in London for the next four years was Serco with London Probation Trust as a sub-contractor. The four year contract was confirmed on 27 July 2012.
- 3.2 The Competition, launched in June 2011, is the first time a major area of probation work has been opened up to the private sector. There were three bidders:
  - Serco and London Probation Trust as a sub-contractor
  - Sodexo and Essex Probation Trust as a sub-contractor
  - com:pact (Mitie and A4E).
- 3.3 Following careful and thorough consideration of the options, London Probation Trust (LPT) decided the best approach to the Community Payback competition was to pursue the opportunity of acting as a sub-

contractor to Serco. Within the partnership LPT retains the management of offenders on Community Payback and has influence over the way in which the service will be delivered in the future. LPT staff will continue to deploy their core professional skills, including risk assessment and the offender management of those undertaking Community Payback (CP).

- 3.4 Serco and LPT have worked together for the past year, drawing on their respective capabilities in offender management and service delivery to design a 'whole Community Payback approach' ensuring that punishment, risk management, community engagement and localism sit at the heart of the solution in one integrated delivery structure. LPT's partnership with Serco will ensure continuity of service and the transition to the new arrangements takes place with minimal disruption.

#### 4. The New Delivery Model

- 4.1 In the new delivery model **Serco** will manage:

- Community Payback (CP) placement sourcing and organisation
- worksite supervision and logistics

and **LPT** will retain the offender management aspects of the work including:

- writing court reports
- risk assessment
- management of sentence requirement
- maintenance of case records
- enforcement and breach.

- 4.2 LPT will therefore use its extensive experience of delivering Community Payback case management successfully to deliver a quality service.

- 4.3 Serco and LPT have designed a model based on Local Delivery Units (LDU) to take advantage of local expertise and proximity to sentencers and court staff. This will be complimented by a pan London control centre and means that the joint model is leaner; making the best use of ICT and efficient flows of information. It will save £25 million across London.

- 4.4 The case management of offenders completing Community Payback will be undertaken by Probation practitioners and allocated according to complexity. Straight forward cases where there are no additional sentence requirements set by the court will be undertaken by Probation Service Officers, (all of whom are experienced and some qualified to NVQ level 3) working within Lewisham Probation LDU. Cases where there are multiple sentence requirements will be managed by Lewisham Probation Officers who are qualified to degree level (e.g. where a Domestic Violence Perpetrator is required to undertake a programme to address his offending as well as complete his unpaid work hours). Young Offenders will be managed by the Youth Offending Service.

- 4.5 This means Lewisham cases will now be managed by Lewisham staff rather than from one of 10 Community Payback Units across London as was the case under the previous arrangements. In addition the previous case management structure has been redesigned and delivery under the new model started on 31 October 2012.
- 4.6 Community Payback Case Managers and a reduced number of Case Administrators have been retained by London Probation Trust and the remainder of Community Payback staff have transferred to Serco under the Transfer of Undertaking (Protection of Employment) Regulations (2006) on service commencement date, 31 October 2012.
- 4.7 The new four year contract between the National Offender Management Service (NOMS) and the SERCO, London Probation Trust partnership will ensure:
- A first appointment within 3 days of sentence and Community Payback beginning within a 7 days
  - Offenders work seven hour days as a minimum requirement
  - Links with communities so offenders pay back to the area their crime was committed in
  - Unemployed offenders work over four full days a week with a fifth day spent job seeking
  - Swift, robust action is taken against offenders who misbehave or fail to attend

## **5. Implementing the New Model**

- 5.1 London Probation Trust has focussed on business continuity - ensuring that performance is maintained during a period of high uncertainty and significant operational change. Work has also gone on to ensure a smooth transition of the logistics and placement management to Serco. This included the setting up of a shadow control centre.
- 5.2 The London Probation Trust Shadow Control Centre went live on 15 October operating seven days per week from 8am to 6pm from London Probation Trust's Mitre House. This service was replaced by Serco's Control Centre also operating from Mitre House on 31 October 2012.
- 5.3 The Control Centre will:
- Act as a single point of contact for Courts, Youth Offending Services and all other external partners in relation to Community Payback.
  - Act as the point of contact for Probation Local Delivery Units in relation to placing offenders on Community Payback, and provide Offender Managers with suitable work instructions. Offender Managers will be responsible for passing these on to those people undertaking Community Payback.

- Collate daily information on offender attendance on placement sites and notifying Offender Managers of non-compliance, risk issues and incidents.
- 5.4 Within Lewisham Probation Local Delivery Unit there will be a focus on ensuring that the offender management of Community Payback requirements continues to be delivered effectively and that there are robust interface arrangements with Serco.
- 5.5 Serco will be responsible for setting up placements in Lewisham and they have appointed a Partnership Manager, Vandana Pattni who will work with both the Local Authority and the Local Delivery Unit Probation Assistant Chief Officer to create an annual Community Engagement Plan.

## **6. Legal Implications**

- 6.1 Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 places an obligation upon Local Authorities to have a committee which scrutinises crime and disorder within its area.
- 6.2 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.”
- 6.3 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”).
- 6.4 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.
- 6.5 These statutory duties amongst others are relevant to the production of the Council's Safer Lewisham Strategy.

## **7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report for the Council, however there will be implications on NOMS in relation to contract and commissioning of this service as outlined in the report.

## **8. Environmental Implications**

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

## **9. Equalities Implications**

- 9.1 Equalities implications are considered throughout the delivery of this change.

## **10. Crime and Disorder Implications**

- 10.1 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.
- 10.2 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 report please contact Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney, Head of Crime Reduction & Supporting People, Directorate for Community Services on Tel: 020 8314 9569.

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee			
Report Title	Voluntary Sector Funding	Item No	5
Contributors	Head of Community & Neighbourhood Development		
Class	Part 1	Date	27/11/12

## 1. Introduction

This report outlines the proposed process for developing and implementing the next round of three year funding for the voluntary sector and highlights the opportunities for further scrutiny at key points in the process.

## 2. Background

In the package of savings proposals presented to Safer Stronger Select Committee at their meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2012, there was a proforma outlining in very broad terms the approach to be taken in considering a reduction to the council's £6.4million grant aid budget. No savings figure was proposed but Select Committee Members expressed a strong view that a figure needed to be set before the end of the financial year.

## 3. The context for grant aid reduction

Officers are currently collating information from across the council about

- a) Current grant aid and contracts with the Voluntary and Community Sector
- b) Any potential impact of savings proposals on these
- c) Local and National policy changes and other factors impacting on the sector.

Views on item c) above, will also be gathered at the Stronger Communities Partnership Board on 5<sup>th</sup> December. A paper will then be prepared to provide additional context to support the Mayor to take a decision on the level of any reduction to the grant aid budget when the proposed savings are presented to Mayor & Cabinet in February 2013. A draft of this report will be available for the Safer Stronger Select Committee Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2013.

## 4. The grant aid process

Once the level of grant aid budget for 2013/14 has been agreed, officers will prepare a set of proposals for the grant aid programme. This will set out:

- The types of funding programme i.e. main grants, investment funding, small grants etc.
- Funding themes – the current grant aid themes i.e. Building Social Capital, Communities that Care, Children and Young People etc will be refreshed
- Funding Priorities – detailed information about the types of activity it is proposed to fund within each theme.

These draft proposals will be brought to Safer Stronger Select Committee in April 2013 for comment. A full consultation with the voluntary and community

sector will take place over April and May 2013 and the results of this consultation fed back to the scrutiny committee. A report will then be taken to Mayor & Cabinet seeking approval for the new funding programme proposals in June 2013 and the programme launched and applications invited.

Officers will be working with community and voluntary sector organisations throughout 2013/14 to discuss the impact of potential funding changes, and explore ways for organisations to work together to reduce overheads and streamline service provision. The deadline for applications to the 2014/15 to 2016/17 main grants programme will be in autumn 2013 with recommendations for funding being presented to Mayor & Cabinet for decision in December 2013. This will provide organisations with three months notice of any changes to their funding from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014.

#### 5. Draft Timetable

The dates in the draft timetable below will be subject to change following the publication of committee dates for 2013/14.

Collation of contextual information on Voluntary and Community Sector to inform Mayor & Cabinet decision on level of reduction to grant aid budget	Nov – Dec 2012
Discussion at Stronger Communities Partnership Board on factors affecting the VCS to feed into context paper	5 Dec 2012
Draft context paper available for Safer Stronger Select Committee	22 Jan 2013
Decision on level of saving to grant aid budget taken at Mayor & Cabinet	13 Feb 2013
Overview and Scrutiny Meeting	19 Feb 2013
Officers develop proposals for new funding programme	Feb/March 2013
Proposals for new funding programmes including grant themes and priorities reported to SSSC	April 2013
Consultation with VCS on proposed new funding programmes	April to May 2013
Outcome of consultation reported to SSSC	May/June 2013
Report to M&C to approve grant themes and priorities	June 2013
2014/15 to 2016/17 three year programme launched	June 2013
Deadline for applications	Oct 2013
Report to M&C with funding recommendations	Dec 2013
Funding recommendations implemented	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2014

# Agenda Item 6

<b>Committee</b>	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	<b>Item no</b>	6
<b>Title</b>	<b>Equalities issues and the use of Community Premises</b>		
<b>Wards</b>	All		
<b>Contributors</b>	Community Sector Unit Service Manager		
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	<b>Date</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> November 2012

## 1. Purpose of the paper

Members requested information on how the Council ensures that when community premises are let to outside bodies the activities provided by those bodies are accessible to all members of Lewisham's community .

## 2. Recommendations

The committee is recommended to consider the information presented in this paper

## 3. Policy Context

3.1 The Equality Act 2010 has replaced the previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act and includes a new public sector equality duty replacing the separate public sector equality duties relating to race, disability and gender, and covering age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment more fully. The equality duty consists of a general duty, which states that public bodies must have due regards to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and
- Foster good relations between different groups.

3.2 The Council supports a range of initiatives and organisations that support the delivery of the equality duty and Lewisham's priorities in the area of Equalities and Human Rights. This includes both directly delivered programmes such as the Young Mayor's scheme as well as grant aided organisations such as Lewisham Disability Coalition, Lewisham Ethnic Minority Partnership and faith-based organisations.

3.3 The Council also works with the sector to ensure that the diversity of organisations are tackling potential areas of discrimination. Within this

context the Council has a duty to ensure that those organisations using premises within its portfolio are accessible to everyone.

#### 4 **Background**

- 4.1 Within the Council's portfolio of premises, there are a number of community centres which provide a meeting place for local communities to engage in social, educational, economic and neighbourhood involvement activities. They provide a mixture of office space and meeting space for local organisations.
- 4.2 The centres are managed in two ways, some are directly managed by the Council and some are managed via a Premises Management Committee (PMC). For those centres directly managed through the premises team within Community Services Directorate, organisations that hire space for either regular usage or sessional use must sign up to the Rules of Use for Premises (see Appendix A) as part of their hiring agreement.
- 4.3 Those centres that are managed through local Premises Management Committees operate under a management agreement between the PMC and the Council (agreement attached as Appendix B)

#### 5. **Equalities Issues**

- 5.1 Each of the agreements signed by organisations include a section about equality and diversity. In the Rules (Appendix A), Section 6 states that :

**“6. Equality and Diversity**

- a) *No activity shall be carried out on the premises which, in the opinion of Lewisham council, contravenes (directly or indirectly) the Equality Act 2010 or any other issue identified by Lewisham Council's Equality Policy. This will include ensuring equal access to people falling under the protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act 2010.*
  - b) *There shall be co-operation with Lewisham Council in obtaining details of the equality profile of the users of the activity.”*
- 5.2 For the PMCs, the agreement (paragraph 4.7) states that they should adopt and use the Council's hire agreement (Appendix A) for all sessional hire of the premises. If they have their own agreement, this must be agreed with the Council and would need to include and equalities section.
  - 5.3 Compliance is monitored on an annual basis though requesting a breakdown of equalities information on users of the centres.



## RULES OF USE FOR PREMISES

Name of Premises:

Address of Premises :

### **1. Facilities hired:**

Communal areas such as toilet/s, kitchen entrances, garden shall be shared. Access to tables, chairs, cooker, fridge, water boilers and other such appliances as provided by Lewisham Council. Use of the premises and its facilities is subject to the hirers accepting responsibility for returning furniture and equipment to their positions.

### **2. Maximum Capacity**

Maximum shall be        persons. ON NO ACCOUNT SHALL THIS BE EXCEEDED.

### **3. Hours of Opening**

The premises are available for use between the hours of 9am (09:00hrs). and 11pm (23:00hrs) Monday - Saturday and 9am (09:00hrs) and 10.30pm (22:30hrs) on Sundays. (NO EXTENSIONS SHALL BE GRANTED), excluding all Bank/Public Holidays, when the buildings are not open to any user. Use of the premises on Bank/Public Holidays must be made by prior separate arrangement.

### **4. Nuisance**

- a) No litter shall be left on or about the premises that is likely to cause an environmental concern and nuisance to local residents.
- b) No animals shall be permitted on the premises other than trained guide dogs accompanying blind persons.
- c) No activity shall be carried out on the premises which, in the opinion of Lewisham Council, could be regarded as obscene or which contravenes the Race Relations or Sex Discrimination Acts or which contravenes Lewisham Council's Equal Opportunities Policy.
- d) The activity of users shall not generate a level of noise (on arrival or at departure) likely to cause persistent discomfort to nearby residents.

All noise (including music) should be kept within the level set by the local authority's environmental health department.

Music or amplified sound should not be played on the premises after 11.00 (23:00hrs) – Monday to Saturday and 10.30pm (22:30hrs) – Sundays.

e) Users shall not park their vehicles in a way likely to cause a nuisance to local residents.

## **5. Conduct**

No activity shall be carried out on the premises which, in the opinion of Lewisham Council, could be regarded as obscene, causes offence, compromises the safeguarding of children/young people and vulnerable adults, or cause disruption to other persons using the premises. A code of conduct will also form a part of this hiring contract/agreement.

## **6. Equality and Diversity**

c) No activity shall be carried out on the premises which, in the opinion of Lewisham Council, contravenes (directly or indirectly) the Equality Act 2010 or any other issue identified by Lewisham Council's Equality Policy. This will include ensuring equal access to people falling under the protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act 2010.

d) There shall be co-operation with Lewisham Council in obtaining details of the equality profile of the users of the activity.

## **7. Health and Safety**

The hirer must act in accordance with current health and safety regulations when carrying out its activity. If you are an employer you have a duty of care to protect the health, safety and welfare of your employees as well as anyone who may be affected by your business's activity when using the premises. All safety information, instructions, guidance and notices issued by Lewisham Council must be followed at all times.

## **8. Fire Safety**

The 'responsible person' shall be the stated hirer which is the person who has control of the premises and persons in connection with carrying out its activity. All hirers must act in accordance with current fire safety regulation at all times.

Take measures to reduce and mitigate the risk and spread of fire on the premises.

Fire exits, fire exit routes and all means of escape must be used safely and kept free from any obstructions at all times.

Fire evacuation (drills) should be carried out every six months.

Internal fire doors are to be kept closed at all times.

Fire fighting appliances must be kept in their proper places, only used by their proper

purposes and must not be damaged in any way.

The means for detecting or warning of fire such as fire alarms or smoke detectors must not be damaged in any way.

Items of equipment and combustible materials must be stored safely, kept to a minimum with unwanted items disposed of periodically.

Be aware and follow all emergency procedures concerning 'action to be taken in the event of fire' on the premises.

Instruct employees and organisers of the activity in fire safety.

## **9. Safety Regulations**

All conditions and regulations imposed by Fire, Police or other relevant authorities in relation to the premises shall be strictly observed. Nothing shall be done which will endanger the users of the premises or compromise the policies of insurance relating to it or its contents. In particular:

Obstructions must not be placed in passages leading to exits.

Fire-fighting appliances shall be kept in their proper places and only used for their proper purposes.

Particular attention **should also be paid to paragraphs 15 to 20 inclusive** of the Standard Conditions of Hire.

## **10. Cleaning**

Use of the premises and its facilities is subject to hirers accepting responsibility for returning furniture and equipment to their positions prior to use & for securing doors & windows as directed by the Community Involvement Officer or other authorised Lewisham Council employee. **ALL USERS SHALL LEAVE THE PREMISES IN A CLEAN AND TIDY CONDITION, ALTHOUGH THIS APPLIES ONLY TO REMOVING RUBBISH, SWEEPING FLOORS & WIPING KITCHEN SURFACES. ALL OTHER CLEANING WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY STAFF OF LEWISHAM COUNCIL AT NO EXTRA CHARGE.** Users failing to meet these conditions may forfeit their deposit.

## **11. Security**

- a) All hirers are to ensure that all doors, windows, external gates (including those to a designated car parks), security shutters, access and egress points to the premises are secured as directed by the Community Sector Unit.
- b) Keyholders: No keys, security devices or security passwords are to be passed on to individuals other than the named hirer without expressed consent of Lewisham Council.
- c) Non keyholders: All hirers should not leave the premises until the caretaker/premises officer attends site to secure the premises.

d) It is a requirement for all hirers to assess risk and take appropriate measures to control admittance to the premises.

## **12. Good Housekeeping**

Use of the premises and its facilities is subject to the hirers accepting responsibility for keeping the premises in good order at all times whilst carrying out its activity; this includes any designated storage areas (whereby an inventory may be requested).

## **13. Alcoholic drinks, etc.**

No excisable liquors (e.g. beers, wines and spirits ) or cigarettes or tobacco may be sold or offered for sale on these premises.

## **14. Betting, Gaming and Lotteries**

Nothing shall be done on, or in relation to, the premises in contravention of the law as it relates to betting, gaming and lotteries. Persons responsible for activities held on these premises shall ensure that such laws are strictly observed.

## **15. Entertainment**

No musical entertainment (involving charging entrance fees) shall be carried out on the premises.

## **16. Public announcements**

No publicity or advertisement shall be made of the proposed function until the application is accepted.

## **17. Loss of Property**

Lewisham Council cannot accept responsibility for damage, loss or theft of users' property.

## **18. Storage**

The permission of Lewisham Council must be obtained before hirers' goods or equipment are left or stored on the premises. These must not be stored in ways which prevent other users from fulfilling the purposes of their hirings as specified in their agreements with Lewisham Council or in such a way as to constitute a Health & Safety hazard.

## **19. Applying to use the premises**

Applications shall be made to the Community Sector Unit (Tel: 0208 314 9061).

Lewisham Council reserves the right to refuse an application if the intended use contravenes Lewisham Council policies in operation at the time or exceeds the scope of the planning permission for these premises (e.g. trading activities and pay parties).

Lewisham Council reserves the right to cancel bookings when the premises are required for use as a Polling Station or Public Meeting or are unfit for the intended use.

Lewisham Council reserves the right to cancel a booking if it reasonably believes that these Rules or the Conditions of Hire will be broken by the Hirer or by persons associated with the Hirer.

If the booking is cancelled under paragraphs 19 then any fee(s) already paid by the applicant will be returned.

Lewisham council reserves the right to allow the use of other parts of the premises during the period of hire and to allow for use of all communal areas - by prior arrangement with the hirer.

## **20. Payments**

A deposit of £150.00 shall secure a provisional booking. This to be paid within 10 days of receipt of invoice

First payment of fees must be received fourteen (14) days before the date of the first session of use. The return of the deposit should be within four (4) weeks of the last session of use.

Lewisham Council reserves the right to withhold all, or part, of the deposit if any of the stated rules or conditions of hire are contravened.

**The costs of your booking will be covered, entirely, by the hiring fee and returnable deposit, unless the cost of repair should exceed the returnable deposit (see paragraph 11 of Standard Conditions). No other payments should be made to any Lewisham Council employee in connection with the booking.**

On confirming a booking, arrangements will be made for an invoice to be issued by Lewisham Council's Finance Directorate. No payments shall be made until such invoices have been received. Invoices shall be paid in one of the four ways described on the invoice and IN NO OTHER WAY.

Its important that invoices are paid on time and in accordance with the invoice terms. If you do not pay your invoices or fail to contact the Council to either discuss payment or to dispute the invoice, then the Council will take action to recover the debt from you. If despite reminder notices you do not make payment or have not contacted the Council, your account may be referred to Debt Collection Agents, or external bailiffs for collection. If this happens you will incur additional costs. The Council may also take legal action to recover the outstanding amount, and if a claim is issued in the County Court the Council will seek interest at 8%.

## **21. Termination of Hiring Agreement**

In the event that the hirer breaches any of the Rules of Use or Conditions of Hire and particularly if they breach any Safety Regulations, then the Council shall be entitled to terminate the whole of the Agreement, with immediate effect, by serving a Notice of Termination on the hirer. In the event that the Council serves such a notice then the hirer shall be entitled to either the return of the hiring fees paid in advance of any cancelled sessions, or such part of these fees as the Council considers reasonable bearing in mind the particular reasons for the serving of the Notice. This may, in what the Council considers to be

serious cases, lead to the withholding of fees by the Council, following the termination of the Agreement.

The Council reserves the right to cancel this Agreement should its financial position make it unable to operate the facilities to which these Rules relate

Any hirer who is dissatisfied with the termination of the Agreement may appeal, within 5 working days of service of the Notice, to the Head of Community Sector or her/his nominee.

## **22. Cancellations of the hire agreement**

In the event that the hirer intends to cancel the hire agreement, one months notice should be applied. This should be in writing stating the reasons why the agreement should come to an end. All outstanding hirer fees must be paid in full and the hirer shall receive confirmation in writing from Lewisham Council that the hire contract has come to an end.

## **23. Variations and additional terms of use**

No variations or amendments to the rules shall be valid unless they are in writing and signed by one or both of the hirers stated in the application.

From time to time, the council may introduce additional terms as a part of the hire agreement.

**THIS MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT is made the XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 20xx**

**BETWEEN**

THE MAYOR AND BURGESSES OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM of  
Lewisham Town Hall, Catford, SE6 4RU (“the Council”)

AND XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

*(“the Association”) acting by its duly authorised Officers*

**IT IS AGREED as follows:**

**1. Definitions**

**In this Agreement the following words and phrases shall have these meanings:**

- 1.1. “the Commencement Date” shall mean the 21 June 2006
- 1.2. “the Constitution” shall mean the Constitution of the Association together with such amendments as may from time to time apply
- 1.3. “the Financial Year” shall mean the period of 12 months commencing 1st April in any calendar year
- 1.4. “the Officers” shall mean the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer for the time being of the Association
- 1.5. “the PMC” shall mean the Premises Management Committee appointed by the Association from time to time in accordance with the Constitution
- 1.6. “the Premises” shall mean XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**2. *Management of the Premises***

- 2.1. In consideration of the Council hereby granting to the Association a Licence to use and manage the Premises the Association hereby agrees to manage the Premises from the Commencement Date in accordance with this Agreement. This licence is non-exclusive and is granted for the purposes of and to the extent only necessary for the Association to carry out its management functions under this Agreement
- 2.2. The Association shall use and manage the premises in accordance with its Constitution and this Agreement and in particular shall appoint a PMC to exercise the day to day management and control functions on behalf of the Association and shall ensure that any rights, duties, liabilities or obligations of

the Association under this Agreement delegated to the PMC are properly and effectively carried out

2.3. It is hereby agreed and acknowledged that the Licence hereby granted by the Council to the Association does not create any tenancy or any relationship of Landlord and Tenant (under the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 or otherwise)

### 3. *Powers of the PMC*

The Association shall delegate to the PMC (without prejudice to its general power to delegate) the following functions in connection with the management of the premises: -

- 3.1. the sessional hire of the Premises from time to time for private, social or community purposes and to Members of the Association
- 3.2. the management of the Premises for the promotion and organisation of social and community events and their use by the Association for guests or members of other clubs and for such other functions and purposes to enable the Association to fulfill its objects set out in the Constitution
- 3.3. the responsibility for the care, minor repair and maintenance of the interior of the premises including internal decoration at least every seven years
- 3.4. the responsibility for ensuring proper financial controls over the income and expenditure in respect of the management of premises
- 3.5. the appointment, employment and control of any staff as it considers appropriate to perform its obligations under this Agreement

### 4. *The Association's Covenants*

The Association covenants with the Council as follows:-

#### ***Finance and Income***

- 4.1. To keep proper financial records and books of accounts and comply with such financial or auditing requirements as the Council may from time to time require
- 4.2. To prepare an annual report and properly audited accounts for each financial year ending 31st March and submit the report and accounts to the Head of the Community Sector Unit of the Council by not later than the 31st August next following
- 4.3. To submit estimates of the proposed income and expenditure for the next financial year to the Head of the Community Sector Unit of the Council by not later than 31st August in the preceding year
- 4.4. To apply any surplus of income over expenditure and also the proceeds of any fund raising activities only for the objects of the Association, its activities or in the improvement of the Premises or its contents and to meet any excess expenditure over income in any financial year first from any accumulated revenue balance and then as a first charge on any income (excluding Council grant) in the next financial year
- 4.5. The Association shall be responsible for paying the rates of the building and all financial outgoings relating to its use.

### ***Conduct and Use of the Premises***

- 4.6. To ensure that the members of the Association their guests and members of visiting clubs shall not use the premises except between the hours of 8am and \_\_\_\_ pm on Sundays to Fridays inclusive and between the hours of 8am and \_\_\_\_ pm on Saturdays without the prior written consent of the Council and to ensure that all meetings and functions at the Premises are conducted in such a manner so as to cause no nuisance, annoyance or inconvenience to residents in the locality and in particular to ensure that there should be no excessive noise
- 4.7. To adopt and use the Council's Standard Hire Agreement for the sessional hire of the Premises to external parties (in accordance with Clause 3.1 above) or to use only a hire agreement previously approved by the Council in writing

### ***Repairs, Maintenance and Health & Safety***

- 4.8. To ensure the proper cleaning, caretaking, repair and maintenance of the interior of the Premises and the grounds within the boundaries, including opening and closing at the prescribed times
- 4.9. To repair or pay to the Council the cost of repairing all damage caused to the Premises by the act or default of the Association, its members or guests
- 4.10. To ensure that fire appliances and other safety and security equipment are in position and in proper working order and to notify the Council immediately of any apparent defect. The Association shall ensure that emergency exits remain unobstructed at all times
- 4.11. Not to carry out any adaptations or alterations (save only decoration) without the prior written consent of the Council
- 4.12. To prepare and maintain an inventory of furniture and equipment provided by the Council at the Premises, keep the furniture and equipment in good repair and condition properly maintained and at the Association's own expense, to replace such furniture or equipment lost or damaged and to return to the Council at the \_\_\_\_\_ termination of this Agreement all such furniture and equipment in the same condition as at the Commencement Date, fair wear and tear excepted
- 4.13. To complete every six months (or as determined by the Council) the Health and Safety Buildings Checklist provided by the Council, as amended from time to time, and to attend to the works specified and effect any repairs as required to the reasonable satisfaction of the Council
- 4.14. To take full steps to make sure that all of the Association's staff and any contractors servants and agents are suitable to be employed in or otherwise engaged by the Association or at the Premises, including making checks and inquiries; and in particular to make sure that any possibility of financial irregularities, violence, improper conduct with children or adults or other criminal activity or convictions is avoided
- 4.15. To provide appropriate supervision to all contractors at the Premises at all times
- 4.16. To sign the Council's Health and Safety Policy (in the form annexed hereto) and to adhere to, follow and comply with the terms provisions and requirements of the said policy

- 4.17. That it has received a copy of and that it will comply with and implement policies consistent with the Health and Safety Guide published and distributed by the Council's Community Sector Unit
- 4.18. Notwithstanding Clause 6.1 and 6.2 below, to ensure that all necessary licences, permits and authorities are obtained by the Association and/or the users of the Premises

### ***Insurance and Indemnities***

- 4.19. To properly insure itself against liability claims from the public and other third parties and insure the contents of the premises in such sums and for such risks as the Council may require, to arrange Employer's liability insurance where staff are employed and to obtain personal accident insurance for their members and staff
- 4.20. To save and keep indemnified the Council and its agents and officers against all actions, claims, demands, costs and expenses which may be brought or made against them or incurred by them in consequence or arising out of the use of the premises by the Association, its members, guests or licencees howsoever caused but in particular caused by or arising from breaches of the terms of this Agreement by the Association
- 4.21. To ensure that external parties to whom the premises are hired (in accordance with Clause 3.1 above) have public liability insurance

### ***5. The Council's Covenants***

The Council covenants with the Association as follows:-

- 5.1. To pay the Association such funding grant, if any, as may be determined by the Council ("the Grant")
- 5.2. To determine the level of the Grant payable to the Association after considering the accounts and estimates of the Association and any other relevant considerations relating to the management and use of the building and to do so prior to 1st January in the preceding financial year.
- 5.3. To assess the Grant for the following financial year on an assumed level of income of the Association (excluding the grant income due from the Council) which will include income based on a model level of charges laid down by the Council
- 5.4. To repair and maintain the structure and exterior of the Premises, to decorate the exterior of the Premises in accordance with the normal cyclical programme and to carry out grant-aided major works to the interior
- 5.5. To insure the premises on a reinstatement basis against the risk of fire, lighting, explosion, aircraft, impact and politically motivated malicious damage

### ***6. Mutual Covenants***

The Parties further agrees as follows:-

- 6.1. No intoxicating liquor shall be sold or supplied on the Premises except in accordance with the requirements and provisions of the Licensing Act 1964 and only if the sale or supply of such liquor does not conflict with the objects of the Association set out in the Constitution and the net proceeds of such sale or

supply shall be applied by the Association for the benefit of all users of the Premises

- 6.2. The Council may following the receipt of a written request from the Association permit the sale of intoxicating liquor on the Premises pursuant to an occasional licence obtained under the Licensing Act 1964 either for a specific function or event or for a general class or classes of events or function on such terms as the Council may specify. Books of accounts for bars should be kept and made available to the Head of the Community Sector Unit of the Council on request
- 6.3. The Council and its authorised officers or servants shall have access to the Premises at all times for any purpose whatsoever

## *7. Notices and Determination*

- 7.1. The Association may end this Agreement and the Licence by giving the Council not less than one month's notice in writing
- 7.2. If there is a breach by the Association of this Agreement or of the provisions of the Constitution the Council may end this Agreement. The Council will usually give one month's notice, however, if in the view of the Council there is a need to terminate the Agreement immediately it may so do.
- 7.3. The Council may end this Agreement forthwith in the event of the Association winding up or ceasing to function or exist and should this Agreement determine under this Clause or Clause 7.2 before the end of the financial year the Association shall repay to the Council the appropriate proportion of the Grant paid to it for the financial year. The Council will retain the amount of the Grant repaid in the name of the Association until the end of the financial year in case a new Association is formed to manage the Community Centre
- 7.4. Notwithstanding anything else contained in this Clause 7, this Agreement and the Licence granted to the Association for the use of the Premises (in Clause 2.1 above) shall immediately determine and be at an end if the Association and/or the PMC shall cease to provide the management functions
- 7.5. Any Notice or written requests under this Agreement shall be in writing and may be signed on behalf of the Council and on behalf of the Association by its Secretary and shall be sent to the Council addressed to Head of Community Sector Unit, Lewisham Town Hall Catford SE6 4RU and to the Association addressed to the Secretary at the Premises

## *8. Variation and Amendment*

- 8.1. The Council reserves the right to amend or vary this agreement for whatever reason, usually subject to 4 weeks written notice and the receipt of representations by the Association on such proposed amendments or variations, however, if in the view of the Council there is a need to amend or vary the Agreement immediately it may so do
- 8.2. Nothing in this Agreement will prevent agreed amendments or variations to this Agreement being negotiated at any time

Signed on behalf  
of the Council:

..... Authorised Representative

Date .....

Signed on behalf  
of the Association: ..... Chair

..... Secretary

Date .....

# Agenda Item 7

Safer & Stronger Communities Select Committee			
Title	Promoting a sense of belonging: cover report	Item No.	7
Contributors	Scrutiny Manager		
Class	Part 1	Date	27 November 2012

## 1. Purpose of paper

- 1.1 As part of the work programme for 2012/13, the Select Committee agreed to carry out a short review into 'promoting a sense of belonging in Lewisham'. The review was scoped in May 2012 and evidence sessions were held in July and September 2012.
- 1.2 The attached report presents the evidence received for the review. Members of the Committee are asked to agree the report and draft recommendations for submission to Mayor and Cabinet.

## 2. Recommendations

Members of the Select Committee are asked to:

- Agree the draft review report
- Agree the draft recommendations
- Note that the final report, including the recommendations agreed at this meeting, will be presented to Mayor and Cabinet.

## 3. The report and recommendations

The draft report attached at **Appendix A** presents the written and verbal evidence received by the Committee. The report contains 12 draft recommendations based on this evidence. The Chair's introduction will be inserted once the draft report has been agreed, the report will be circulated to members, and the finalised report will be presented to Mayor and Cabinet.

## 4. Legal implications

The report will be submitted to Mayor and Cabinet, which holds the decision making powers in respect of this matter.

## 5. Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications arising out of this report. However, the financial implications of any specific recommendations will need to be considered in due course.

## **6. Equalities implications**

- 6.1 There are no direct equalities implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations set out in this report. However, the equalities implications of any specific recommendations will need to be considered in due course. The Council works to eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment, promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different groups in the community.

For more information on this report please contact Timothy Andrew, Scrutiny Manger, on 02083147916.

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# Overview and Scrutiny

Promoting a sense of belonging – social cohesion  
in Lewisham

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee

November 2012

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Membership of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee in  
2012-13:

Councillor Pauline Morrison (Chair)  
Councillor Joseph Folorunso (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Jackie Addison  
Councillor Anne Affiku  
Councillor Paul Bell  
Councillor Duwayne Brooks  
Councillor Jim Mallory  
Councillor Stephen Padmore  
Councillor Dan Whittle

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2. Community events	
3. Citizenship	
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DRAFT

## Chair's Introduction



To be inserted.

Pauline Morrison  
Chair of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee

DRAFT

## Executive summary

Cohesion and belonging are complex and multifaceted ideas. Both words are used regularly in Council policy, in committee discussions and in everyday life. However, they may mean very different things to different people. It is also easy to use the term 'groups' in discussions about cohesion and assume that there are cohesive collectives of people who share identities. It is easy to imagine that these 'groups' have common understandings about issues affecting their communities but evidence submitted to the Committee indicates that this is not necessarily the case. Citizens, individually and in collectives, often view community issues in distinct and diverse ways. Depending on the issues at hand as well as the context, location and history of a question-people living together, working together or studying together might view similar events with entirely different perspectives.

There are many services, activities, events and occasions that play a part in enhancing community cohesion. With this in mind, the Safer & Stronger Communities Select Committee resolved to carry out their review by building on previous community cohesion work in the borough. Their starting place was the work of the 'community cohesion in Lewisham steering group', which was commissioned in 2009 to examine the issue of cohesion locally. Drawing from this work, the Committee was able to narrow the focus of their review onto these key areas:

- Community and civic events
- Citizenship ceremonies
- Local assemblies
- Intergenerational activities

People from many different countries call Lewisham their home but they are connected to communities across the world in a myriad of different ways. An excellent demonstration of this diversity was the celebration of the London 2012 Olympic Games. Lewisham hosted a popular and successful festival on Blackheath this summer for the Games. Central to the event was a big screen showing live Olympic coverage. The organisers report that the event was a major success and in their evidence to the Committee, they spoke about the good-natured competition and sense of community spirit that was brought to life by the celebrations. 'Jamaica, Land We Love' was sung alongside God Save the Queen in the spirit of harmony and people from across the borough, with connections to the world, came together to share in the community spirit and good feeling generated by the summer of sport. It is in the context of inclusion, equal access and celebration that the Committee embarked on this review.

Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Select Committee have put forward 12 recommendations in order to help promote cohesion and foster a sense of belonging in Lewisham.

## Purpose and structure of review

At the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2012 meeting of the Safer & Stronger Communities Select Committee, members agreed to carry out a short review into social cohesion in Lewisham. The aim of the review was to gather evidence about Lewisham's approach to promoting cohesion and belonging. The Committee were particularly interested in finding out:

- How the services, activities and campaigns carried out under the headings identified by the community cohesion in Lewisham steering group had promoted social cohesion.
- Whether these had been as effective as they could have been.
- If there had been ways that these could be improved or new approaches that could have been taken.
- What other councils had successfully done to promote cohesion.

An outline of the information required for the review was agreed by the Committee in May 2012 and evidence-taking sessions were held in July and September 2012. Evidence was received from the following:

- Liz Dart (Head of Neighbourhood and Community Development, LBL) and Ade Joseph (Local Assemblies Coordinator, LBL) about the local assemblies programme.
- Lesley Jones (Events Manager, LBL) about the community live site on Blackheath for the Olympics.
- Councillor Peggy Fitzsimmons, Jane Hopkins, Beatrice Scott, Christine Castro and Tessa Pearce about the Positive Ageing Council.
- Lesley Jones (Head of Communications and Community Involvement), Susan Asquith (Community Involvement Manager) and Joy Burnett (Community Involvement Officer) from Lewisham Homes about their community involvement work.
- Martyn Manlow (Registration Manager, LBL), Matthew Spencer (Group Manager, Services Point, LBL), Ralph Wilkinson (Head of Public Services, LBL) about citizenship ceremonies.

The findings from the review are presented in four sections. Each section details the evidence provided to the Committee:

1. Local assemblies
2. Community events
3. Citizenship
4. Intergenerational unity

### Defining cohesion

The Committee considered previous research into cohesion during their initial consideration of evidence for the review. Members looked at the work of the community cohesion in Lewisham steering group, which was set up by the Lewisham Strategic Partnership in 2009. This group was commissioned to

carry out research, assess levels of integration and determine which factors had a positive effect on cohesion. The group considered the national and regional context of their work as well as hosting workshops and discussions to develop a local understanding of cohesion and belonging. It was agreed that a cohesive Lewisham could be described as a place where:

1. People feel they belong and are proud to belong.
2. People's differences and similarities are recognised valued and respected.
3. People from all backgrounds have equal life opportunities.
4. People from all backgrounds are able to interact with each other, sharing experiences while developing mutually supportive and positive relationships.
5. People work together, with common values towards a shared vision – in their neighbourhood, workplace, school and in the borough at large.

The group identified a number of factors, which it felt, had positive and negative impacts on cohesion in Lewisham:

Factors having a negative impact on cohesion:

- Intergenerational tensions
- Population churn
- Overall deprivation
- Crime and fear of crime
- Anti-social behaviour

Factors having a positive influence on cohesion:

- Voluntary sector and the level of volunteering
- Community events
- Diversity
- Education and early years providers

In response to the findings of the steering group, the LSP's Stronger Communities Partnership drew up a cohesion delivery plan, which set out three specified outcomes:

- Community cohesion is an underpinning principle in service provision across all sectors,
- There are positive relationships between people from different backgrounds
- The contribution that all communities make to the boroughs quality of life is encouraged and valued.

The Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee resolved to build on this work for their review. Members looked at the range of services currently being delivered by the Council and its partners and decided to focus on local democracy and decision-making; events and celebrations; citizenship and intergenerational collaboration.

The Committee concluded its review and agreed its recommendations in November 2012.

## Recommendations

### Draft recommendation 1:

The local assemblies programme should continue in its efforts to engage with a wide cross section of citizens. Using existing channels and links with partner organisations in health, housing and the community and voluntary sector, coordinating groups should work to develop good practice, share ideas and build on their successes.

### Draft recommendation 2:

Following the commissioning of the local assemblies survey in Autumn/Winter 2012, assembly steering groups and assembly chairs should be encouraged to use the information gathered to build on what they do well. Specifically, assemblies should use the feedback explore ideas for developing a sense of belonging in their communities.

### Draft recommendation 3:

Local assembly chairs and coordinating groups should work with organisations representing minority groups in the borough to encourage more local people to get involved in their local assembly and local assembly steering group.

### Draft recommendation 4:

The Council and its partners, including health, housing and community safety should continue to work together to share expertise about events, consultation and community involvement. Publishing and web resources should be shared to maximise the audience for community events.

### Draft recommendation 5:

The 'welcome pack' being developed by Lewisham Homes for new residents should include relevant information about Local Assemblies and other opportunities for residents to become involved in their communities. Furthermore, all local housing partners should be encouraged to include this information in their communications with residents.

### Draft recommendation 6:

Building on the success of the Big Lunch, groups wishing to hold similar community events should be encouraged to make use of public buildings, community spaces, schools and other indoor space (particularly when the weather prevents the event from being held outdoors).

### Draft recommendation 7:

The Mayor should be invited to refresh his letter of welcome to new citizens on behalf of the Council.

### Draft recommendation 8:

All Councillors should be encouraged to attend a citizenship ceremony. Dates of meetings should be made available to Councillors so they can meet with new citizens. Councillors and other local people who have made a difference

in the community should be invited to welcome new citizens by presiding as dignitaries.

Draft recommendation 9:

Further information should be included in the packs given to new citizens at citizenship ceremonies. The pack should include information about how citizens can get involved in a range of activities in their local area, particularly the local assemblies programme.

Draft recommendation 10:

An article on citizenship ceremonies should be commissioned for Lewisham life. Where possible, ceremonies should also be promoted in other local media.

Draft recommendation 11:

The Council and its strategic partners in health and housing should formally recognise the important work of the Positive Ageing Council and of other older people's groups in the borough. In doing so, the Council could mark international older peoples' day on the 1st of October annually. [Link](#)

Draft recommendation 12:

The Council and its partners should encourage younger and older peoples groups to explore further options for intergenerational activities and initiatives. The Committee has discussed the potential for further scrutiny in this area and will consider further scrutiny of citizenship for young people as part of its work programme for 2013/14.

## Findings

### 1. Local assemblies

- 1.1 The 18 ward assemblies provide every neighbourhood in Lewisham with an opportunity to develop a shared vision for their area. Each has agreed on a set of priorities and these have been developed into an action plan to help local people successfully achieve their ambitions for their neighbourhoods. Assembly meetings, events and activities also enable people from different backgrounds to meet, share ideas, deal with local problems and celebrate together.
- 1.2 The Head of Neighbourhood and Community Development was invited to give evidence to the Committee about the role of assemblies in building cohesion. She set out a number of ways in which the programme enables local people to develop a sense of belonging and encourages local communities to become more cohesive by:
- Organising celebrations, festivals and carnivals that bring communities together and provide an opportunity for people from different backgrounds to interact.
  - Utilising community facilities, key buildings and public spaces such as parks; connecting local people with their neighbourhoods. Hosting meetings in different places to ensure that these spaces are in frequent use by all sections of the community. Through local assemblies, communities may also look to preserve local landmarks or key buildings.
  - Creating a focal point for activities and shared interests, which might gather citizens around a particular campaign or encourage neighbours to work together to resolve a local issue. Assemblies provide a neutral place for people to debate issues of importance and build on their shared experiences.
  - Recalling history, key events in the past and local memories, assemblies might preserve local stories and commemorate events of importance.
  - Developing a sense of pride in and care for Lewisham's neighbourhoods, which bolsters a sense of belonging. Assemblies encourage citizens to work together to improve their local area. Officers gave the example of a War Memorial in Grove Park, which the assembly helped to clean and restore. Volunteers worked on the project and the assembly provided funding.

## Representation and membership

- 1.3 The evidence provided by officers demonstrated that the assemblies programme had a positive influence on cohesion in Lewisham. However, members of the Committee were also concerned that formal involvement in assembly activities might not be representative of local populations. Monitoring information collected at meetings indicates that the involvement of Black and minority ethnic citizens is not representative of the local population. However, involvement in the assembly outside of meetings is not routinely monitored. Participation in events, celebrations, other community groups and local projects may be more representative of the Lewisham population.
- 1.4 Evidence indicates that at each assembly meeting around a third of the participants are newcomers. Some citizens attend to hear about specific issues or topics they are interested in. There is also a core group of people who are fully involved with setting the assembly's work programme and dealing with local priorities. A steering group of citizens helps to drive each assembly's agenda, consult with members and draw attention to ward priorities.
- 1.5 Members of the Committee were interested to explore new avenues for assemblies, which would encourage participation in local democracy to prosper and grow. Recent work by the Lee Green assembly highlights the role that assemblies can play in focusing local concerns. The assembly worked with officers from the Council to develop proposals for parking in the ward. The issues raised by the assembly required careful consideration by all groups in the local area. Ultimately, through the co-ordinated approach to tackling this difficult local issue members of the assembly were able to change arrangements for parking in Lee Green and feed into the review of borough wide parking policy.
- 1.6 At each assembly meeting attendees are asked to fill in a short survey. At present the survey does not include any questions relating to cohesion and belonging. However, as part of their ongoing improvement work, the assemblies' team decided to commission a more detailed survey, which had the space to include questions about cohesion and belonging. The survey took place in Autumn 2012. Members of the Committee were asked to input into the survey in order that it might provide information for this review or its recommendations. Members were keen to ensure that the questions would give participants the opportunity to express their views about the impact of the assemblies process. Once the analysis of the survey takes place, it will be made available to the Committee.

## 1.7 Summary

The local assemblies programme fosters a sense of belonging and promotes cohesion by:

- Creating a place for people from different backgrounds to come together, share experiences and develop a shared vision for their locality.
- Involving citizens in local democracy and decision making as well as enhancing the role they play in their neighbourhoods.
- Serving as a focal point for a community, developing a shared identity for neighbourhoods and preserving the use of community facilities.

## 1.8 Draft recommendations

Draft recommendation 1:

The local assemblies programme should continue in its efforts to engage with a wide cross section of citizens. Using existing channels and links with partner organisations in health, housing and the community and voluntary sector, coordinating groups should work to develop good practice, share ideas and build on their successes.

Draft recommendation 2:

Following the commissioning of the local assemblies survey in Autumn/Winter 2012, assembly steering groups and assembly chairs should be encouraged to use the information gathered to build on what they do well. Specifically, assemblies should use the feedback explore ideas for developing a sense of belonging in their communities.

Draft recommendation 3:

Local assembly chairs and coordinating groups should work with organisations representing minority groups in the borough to encourage more local people to get involved in their local assembly and local assembly steering group.

## 2. Community events

- 2.1 Communities thrive when they have places to come together and celebrate. Events and activities supported by the Council contribute to cohesion in the borough by creating opportunities for people to meet collectively, share experiences and act in unison. On occasions, people might come together to celebrate and at other times they might gather to grieve, or to recall tragic moments from the past. At a fundamental level, events and activities provide opportunities for citizens to communicate with their neighbours and broaden their understanding of the lives of others. The Council's support for groups wanting to host their own events and celebrations also encourages communities to work together to solve problems, fundraise and reach

agreement about issues of importance. The Council and its partners organise, support or contribute towards the following events:

- Blackheath Fireworks
- Lewisham People's Day
- Big Lunch (including Jubilee for 2012)
- Lewisham Olympic Big Screen for 2012
- New Cross Bursary Award
- Holocaust Memorial Day
- Annual Memorial Service
- Armed Forces Day
- Remembrance Sunday
- Andy Hawkins Memorial Lecture

2.2 Other events include local celebrations to mark national observances, such as Black history month, which celebrates the involvement of Black and minority ethnic communities in British history and culture; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans history month, which celebrates the lives and achievements of the LGB&T community and Carers week, which recognises and upholds the important contribution of carers. There are also many other festivals, small events and exhibitions that the Council supports, advises on or encourages. The list above is not definitive.

2.3 Drawing on the breadth of experience, knowledge and expertise in the Council's Community and Neighbourhood division, officers provided evidence to the Committee about the role of events in creating cohesion and promoting a sense of belonging. The Committee heard that events impact positively on cohesion in the following ways:

Creating opportunities for mass participation: bringing people together to celebrate

2.4 The Blackheath fireworks provide citizens with opportunities for mass participation, bringing people from diverse backgrounds together to enjoy an event alongside each other. The fireworks are the most popular event held in the borough. The event is part of a national celebration but the depth of experience is limited to the enjoyment of a good night out, surrounded by other members of the community and a fantastic fireworks display.

2.5 It is difficult to assess the impact of mass participation. There were approximately 100,000 people at the Blackheath fireworks last year but it would be difficult to quantify the benefits in measureable terms. Anecdotal and documentary evidence suggests that the fireworks are well received and that there is a good level of attendance from a broad cross section of Lewisham's population. Developing a detailed understanding of the events impact on cohesion and belonging would be difficult.

### Providing opportunities for people to try new things

- 2.6 People's Day is an annual event, which enables people to get involved with their community and learn more about what happens in their area. There are hundreds of local organisations and thousands of individual performers involved in staging People's Day each year. The programme is put together in partnership with other public sector and many third sector organisations to highlight every aspect of Lewisham life.
- 2.7 People's Day is the most costly event to stage because of the large number of participants and the need to create a safe environment that can cater for the whole community. The depth of experience on offer at this event is clearly much greater than other mass participation events, although it caters for less than a third of the visitors that Blackheath fireworks attracts.

### Empowering individuals and communities to deliver their own events

- 2.8 The Big Lunch is a nationwide initiative, launched by the Eden Project aimed at encouraging people across the country to sit down in their own street with their neighbours and have lunch together. Big Lunches can provide participants with the opportunity to meet new people, who they may not otherwise have met, help those who may feel isolated in their homes and they help to generate a feeling of pride in a local area. A Big Lunch can be anything from simply getting together with your immediate neighbours – in a garden, on the street – through to organising a bigger street party, with food, bunting and music.
- 2.9 Lewisham residents have enthusiastically embraced the concept of the Big Lunch. In 2012 it coincided with the Jubilee celebrations and therefore included an element of celebrating British culture. Unfortunately the last two year's have seen very poor weather conditions which have had an impact on the success of the day. Nonetheless, this remains a very affordable way of encouraging grass roots neighbourhood events with the emphasis on low-key local celebration.

### Joining in a nationwide celebration

- 2.10 The events, activities and celebrations around Lewisham Big Screen on Blackheath for the Olympics were planned to enable local residents to join in the national celebration of London hosting the Olympics. The screen itself was the focal point of the event and attracted the most visitors but there was also a funfair, sports and arts activities, stalls and a performance venue in the Spiegel Tent. The Big Screen took place over the entire 17 days of the Olympics. The largest attendance was at the Opening and Closing ceremonies with over 12,000 people attending each.
- 2.11 A number of the performance partners that normally play a role at People's Day hosted events in the Spiegel Tent including an intergenerational tea dance, BSL event, Sing Out! Choirs showcase, youth music and dance showcases etc. The Committee heard that feedback from the Big Screen had

been overwhelmingly positive with residents expressing their gratitude at being able to feel part of London hosting this world event.

#### Revitalising neighbourhoods: fostering a sense of belonging and place

2.12 Officers from Lewisham Homes' community involvement team presented evidence to the Committee about the Community events sponsored by the organisation. They highlighted the following key points:

- In the past year 2900 Lewisham Homes residents were involved in 86 community events and activities.
- The organisation had also been developing its work in the area of corporate social responsibility – specifically it had been working to create work experience opportunities with its contractors and its anti-social behaviour diversion activities had been broadened into youth opportunities work.
- The community involvement team had been asked to advise other authorities about good practice.
- The organisation was also working to bring community facilities back into use.
- Residents had initiated many of their own projects, drawing funding from a variety of sources, including Lewisham Homes' community improvement competitive fund.

2.13 Tenants and Residents Associations (TRAs) are supported by the community involvement team. There are currently 31 committees across the borough, though there is a lack of take up in some areas. Where people live in homes that are not represented by a TRA residents can be co-opted onto their area panel. There are also other mechanisms for residents to make themselves heard:

- Through partnership working  
The Committee heard that there was a great deal of co-operation between partner organisations in Lewisham. Lewisham Homes works with the assemblies programme, other landlords in the borough and it has close ties with teams from across the Council.
- Surveys  
Lewisham Homes intends to carry out a borough wide survey called 'Get Involved'. It is due to take place in April 2013. The survey will provide listing of all the involvement opportunities available and residents. Respondents will also be able to indicate their interests by returning the survey or by registering on line. The survey will also provide existing residents, who are already involved in some aspects of their community with a chance to refresh their interests and to become further involved in their neighbourhood.
- Community events  
Inspired by London 2012, residents in Honor Oak organised mini-Olympics with funding from the community improvement competitive fund. The event

was designed to break down barriers, deflect stigma from the estate and enable people to get to know their neighbours. A variety of events and activities for people of all ages were designed to bring the community together and dispel the myths surrounding the estate.

- 2.14 The community involvement team also plans to produce a 'Welcome Pack' for new residents to provide information on local TRAs, where applicable, as well as links to the organisation's training programme and involvement opportunities available to residents.

#### Reflecting on history and joining together in remembrance

- 2.15 The Council supports, funds or coordinates a number of historic and commemorative events each year. The Committee received information about these events and their importance in the borough calendar. Each event has an impact on cohesion and belonging in different ways. Some enable people to remember or to grieve and others celebrate struggle over adversity. However, all provide opportunities for Lewisham's community to come together and make a collective statement about the importance of reflecting on history:

- **New Cross Bursary Award**

The award was instigated in 2005 in memory of the fourteen young people who died as a result of the fire that took place on 18 January 1981 at 439 New Cross Road. The bursary enables two young people to study, who would otherwise not have had the opportunity.

- **Annual Memorial Service**

The service was started in the 1950's by the Council as a way in which bereaved families across the borough could come together in grief at an annual event.

- **Armed Forces Day**

The day is a celebration of the contribution by all those people past and present who have served in the Armed Forces. It takes place at the end of June each year as near as possible to 27 June. This date was chosen as it came a day after the first Victoria Cross was awarded in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

- **Holocaust Memorial Day**

The memorial is held annually on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January because this is the date Auschwitz concentration camp was liberated in 1945. In dialogue with the Jewish community a small committee, chaired by a Councillor, was set up to plan Lewisham's events from 2001. The committee comprises people of different faiths, representatives from the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education as well as from the local synagogue.

It was decided by the memorial committee to stage a multi-faith service at the synagogue and a theatre production at the Broadway Theatre, comprising drama, poetry, dancing and singing from pupils from numerous Lewisham's schools to make young people aware of the Holocaust. A launch takes place in one of the schools in November each year.

- Remembrance Sunday

The Council has staged services to mark Remembrance Sunday since the 1920's. Two services and parades take place each Remembrance Sunday, one at the New Cross War Memorial and the other much larger service and parade in Lewisham High Street. It is the Council's opportunity to remember the people from this borough, both from the armed forces and civilians, who have made the ultimate sacrifice in all conflicts over the last century and in current conflicts.

The Council's event coincides with the national service of remembrance in Whitehall. Attendees respectfully stay silent for two minutes from 11 a.m. The passing traffic is stopped by the police. It is a chance for everyone to reflect and remember the debt owed to those service people who did not return or who have been badly injured as a result of conflicts.

- Andy Hawkins memorial lecture

Andy Hawkins was leader of the Council from 1971-1984. He served as an Alderman and then a Councillor from the mid 1950's until 1986. He was given the Freedom of the Borough in 1990. The lecture is held annually in recognition of the enormous impact his service had in shaping the borough.

## 2.16 Summary

The Council hosts a number of community events. The impact of these events on community cohesion is difficult to quantify in measureable terms. However, the programme enables people from different backgrounds to come together, to celebrate, or to commemorate, and to interact with people from different backgrounds.

Lewisham Homes also has a number of initiatives that are designed to involve residents in decision-making and to enable citizens to drive improvements in their neighbourhoods.

The Council and its partners also support local groups to host their own events. These events bring people together to organise and coordinate. These events do not require a great deal of input from the Council or other large organisations but they can have a significant positive impact on their neighbourhoods.

## 2.17 Recommendations

### Draft recommendation 4:

The Council and its partners, including health, housing and community safety should continue to work together to share expertise about events, consultation and community involvement. Publishing and web resources should be shared to maximise the audience for community events.

### Draft recommendation 5:

The 'welcome pack' being developed by Lewisham Homes for new residents should include relevant information about Local Assemblies and other

opportunities for residents to become involved in their communities. Furthermore, all local housing partners should be encouraged to include this information in their communications with residents.

Draft recommendation 6:

Building on the success of the Big Lunch, groups wishing to hold similar community events should be encouraged to make use of public buildings, community spaces, schools and other indoor space (particularly when the weather prevents the event from being held outdoors).

### 3. Citizenship ceremonies

- 3.1 Citizenship ceremonies are a statutory duty for local authorities, which Lewisham has embraced. Prospective citizens are required to swear an oath of allegiance to the United Kingdom before they can be formally accepted as British. Regular ceremonies are held in the Council's civic suite to enable applicants to take this oath and the occasion also provides to opportunity to formally welcome or re-connect new citizens to the community. At each ceremony, there are approximately 40 new citizens, along with their children and guests. Officers from the registration service ensure that participants are made to feel welcome and that individual circumstances and cultural differences are respected. New citizens are also encouraged to become involved in the ceremony and to mix with other new citizens. Positive feedback from attendees and the continued popularity of Lewisham's ceremonies indicate that the service is performing well.

#### Welcoming new citizens

- 3.2 New citizens are given a welcome pack, which contains formal information from the home office, details about how to apply for a British passport, a welcome letter from the Mayor, information about the union flag and a Lewisham pin badge. A dignitary attends the ceremony to welcome the new citizens on behalf of the local authority and to present certificates. Local Councillors, the Mayor and other well-known people in the borough, including Sybil Phoenix OBE, often take on this role. Other notable dignitaries in the past have included Terry Waite and the Registrar General.
- 3.3 As part of the proceedings, the dignitary is invited to give a speech. Dignitaries come from all over the world, and some tell of their experience of arriving in the UK with limited resources and knowledge of the country. They talk about the contribution they have made to the community, including serving as Mayor of the Borough, becoming local councillors and in some instances even receiving recognition from the Queen. New citizens are able to see at first hand that people from all backgrounds have opportunities to succeed.
- 3.4 Dignitaries usually give some background information about Lewisham and encourage the new citizens to join in the day-to-day life of their community. They also ask new citizens to and take pride in the borough and to use their skills for the benefit of their communities. On occasion choirs from local

schools are invited to lead the national anthem and sing other appropriate songs. Schoolchildren also learn about citizenship at school so it gives them an opportunity to gain an understanding about nationality and the citizenship ceremony process. This creates further links with the local area and builds on the positive experience of community for new citizens.

### Symbols of belonging and national identity

- 3.5 The ceremony is usually held in the Council Chamber, which is dressed in red, white and blue decorations for the occasion. The union flag and a portrait of the Queen are also on display. New citizens are invited to join in singing of the national anthem and as part of the ceremony, they are asked to affirm their allegiance to the United Kingdom. At every ceremony, three volunteers are asked to come forward to read a verse each of a short poem about the Union flag, celebrating Britain and reaffirming the new citizens' allegiance to their new community.

### Becoming British

- 3.6 The letter from the home secretary to new citizens reads:

As a full and equal citizens I know that you will help to make the United Kingdom a more prosperous, generous and open society. A society in which we recognise and respect each other's cultures and faiths against a background of democracy, law and tolerance... There is much that is good in British society. And together, working as a community, we can make it even better.'

(Message from the home secretary 2012)

- 3.7 People of all nationalities, from many different backgrounds, interact with each other before, during and after the ceremony to share experiences. At the ceremony, when the new citizens are called to come forward to receive their certificates, their country of birth is mentioned and people often seek out other citizens from their home country to talk to after the ceremony. After everyone has received their certificates, they are asked to congratulate the people around them for becoming British. Officers informed the Committee that this is an important, often moving, moment for new citizens.
- 3.8 Due to the openness, efficiency and quality of Lewisham's offer, people from across London come to the borough to have their citizenship ceremony. Therefore, borough specific information may not be directly applicable to participants at ceremonies. Nonetheless, citizenship ceremonies provide the Council and its partners with an opportunity to tap into an enthusiastic new resource. New citizens may bring skills and experience from different cultures, which might be of benefit to their neighbourhood or local community.
- 3.9 Summary

Lewisham has embraced the idea of citizenship ceremonies and the service is proving popular with new citizens from across the city.

At each ceremony, there is a local dignitary, who formally welcomes new citizens on behalf of the borough.

The ceremony incorporates the Union flag, music by British composers, references to the monarchy and singing of the national anthem.

Ceremonies provide an opportunity for new citizens to hear about the good work happening in Lewisham.

### 3.10 Recommendations

Draft recommendation 7:

The Mayor should be invited to refresh his letter of welcome to new citizens on behalf of the Council.

Draft recommendation 8:

All Councillors should be encouraged to attend a citizenship ceremony. Dates of meetings should be made available to Councillors so they can meet with new citizens. Councillors and other local people who have made a difference in the community should be invited to welcome new citizens by presiding as dignitaries.

Draft recommendation 9:

Further information should be included in the packs given to new citizens at citizenship ceremonies. The pack should include information about how citizens can get involved in a range of activities in their local area, particularly the local assemblies programme.

Draft recommendation 10:

An article on citizenship ceremonies should be commissioned for Lewisham life. Where possible, ceremonies should also be promoted in other local media.

## 4. Intergenerational work

4.1 Communities can only be successful and cohesive if the concerns and cares of all citizens are understood and respected. The Committee heard that intergenerational tension has a corrosive effect on cohesion and the desire to belong may be seriously undermined by fear and misunderstanding between groups. The Committee received evidence from the Positive Ageing Council (PAC), which works to support older people and develop mutual respect and understanding between generations.

4.2 The Committee considered the PAC's annual report as part of the review. Members of the PAC steering group were also invited to share their expertise about intergenerational dialogue with the Committee. The group informed the Committee that their aim when working across generations is to harness the wisdom and experience of older people and the enthusiasm and ambition of

young people in order to improve services for all citizens. The group aims to promote understanding between groups and combat negative stereotypes.

4.3 As part of their intergenerational work members of the group have been active in addressing anti-social behaviour on public transport. Working with Transport for London, the PAC helped to design a marketing campaign, which encourages people using public transport to show consideration to others. This work not only benefits older people it also serves to make public transport safer and more efficient for people of all generations. The group has continued to work with transport providers to deal with issues and concerns as they arise.

4.4 The PAC also works with young people's groups, including the Young Mayor's team, to disseminate information about intergenerational best practice to schools. They use a variety of different approaches to encourage good citizenship on transport and to build links between generations in neighbourhoods and communities. Through its work, the group has found that older and younger people often enjoy meeting each other and sharing their experiences. In order to facilitate communication between people of different ages the PAC arranges regular opportunities for people from different generations to interact. In the past, these events have included:

- A day trip to Brighton with the PAC and a group of young people.
- Christmas Lunch, prepared by the Young Mayor's Team.
- Christmas celebration for the volunteers at Seniors Club with entertainment provided by the Young Mayor's Team.
- Table top discussions

4.5 The events and activities organised by the PAC help to improve understanding between older and younger people by facilitating discussion, providing safe spaces for ideas to be shared and by demonstrating that both groups share common ground. Evidence presented to the Committee shows that both young and old have experiences, ideas, ambitions and hopes for the future to share. The Committee heard that the combined wisdom, creative energy, experience and positivity of both generations could be used to break down barriers, encourage innovation and find solutions to shared problems.

4.6 Recommendations

Draft recommendation 11:

The Council and its strategic partners in health and housing should formally recognise the important work of the Positive Ageing Council and of other older people's groups in the borough. In doing so, the Council could mark international older peoples' day on the 1st of October annually. [Link](#)

Draft recommendation 12:

The Council and its partners should encourage younger and older peoples groups to explore further options for intergenerational activities and initiatives. The Committee has discussed the potential for further scrutiny in this area

and will consider further scrutiny of citizenship for young people as part of its work programme for 2013/14.

## Monitoring and further scrutiny

- The results of the local assemblies' survey should be presented to the Committee for scrutiny.
- The Committee will consider further scrutiny on the role of citizenship education as part of its work programme for 2013/14.
- The Committee will consider further scrutiny of Lewisham's interaction with hard to reach groups as part of its work programme for 2013/14. This work might include scrutiny of approaches to the engagement of newly arrived residents in the borough in the democratic process
- A further update on this review should be scheduled for the 2013/14 municipal year.

## Sources

Citizenship Ceremonies: [link](#)

Events in Lewisham: [link](#)

International day of older persons: [link](#)

Positive Ageing Council annual report (2011/12): [link](#)

# Agenda Item 8

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee			
<b>Report Title</b>	Select Committee Work Programme	<b>Item No</b>	8
<b>Contributors</b>	Scrutiny Manager		
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	<b>Date</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> November 2012

## 1 Purpose

- 1.1 To advise Members of the Select Committee of the work programme for the municipal year 2012/13.

## 2 Summary

- 2.1 At the beginning of the municipal year, each select committee drew up a draft work programme for submission to the Business Panel for consideration.
- 2.2 The Business Panel considered the proposed work programmes of each of the select committees on 24th May 2012 and agreed a co-ordinated overview and scrutiny work programme. However, the work programme is a “living document” and as such can be reviewed at each select committee meeting so that members are able to include urgent, high priority items and remove items that are no longer a priority.

## 3 Recommendations

- 3.1 The select committee is asked to:
- note the work programme and project plan attached at **Appendix B** and discuss any issues arising from the programme;
  - specify the information and analysis required in the report for each item on the agenda for the next meeting, based on desired outcomes, so that officers are clear on what they need to provide;
  - note the Council's Forward Plan and Key Decisions programmed for the next four months, attached at **Appendix C**, and consider any key decisions for further scrutiny.

## 4. The work programme

- 4.1 The work programme for 2012/14 was agreed at the meeting of the Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2012 and at Business Panel on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2012.
- 4.2 The Committee is asked to consider if any urgent issues have arisen that require scrutiny and if any existing items are no longer a priority and can be removed from the work programme. Before adding additional items, each item should be considered against agreed criteria. The flow chart attached at **Appendix A** may help Members decide if proposed additional items should be added to the work programme. The Committee's work programme needs to be achievable in terms of the amount of meeting time available. If the committee agrees to add additional item(s) because they are urgent and high priority, Members will need to consider which medium/low priority item(s) should be removed in order to create sufficient capacity for the new item(s).

## 5. The next meeting

5.1 The following reports are scheduled for the next meeting:

Agenda Item	Review Type	Link to Corporate Priority	Priority
<b>Update on main grants programme funding</b>	Standard Review	Community leadership	High
<b>Social Enterprise in Lewisham</b>	Standard Review	Community leadership/ Strengthening the local economy	High
<b>Detention and custody practices – police and probation</b>	Standard review	Safety, security and a visible presence	High

## 6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## 7. Legal Implications

7.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, all scrutiny select committees must devise and submit a work programme to the Business Panel at the start of each municipal year.

## 8. Equalities Implications

8.1 There may be equalities implications arising from items on the work programme and all activities undertaken by the Select Committee will need to give due consideration to this.

## 9. Date of next meeting

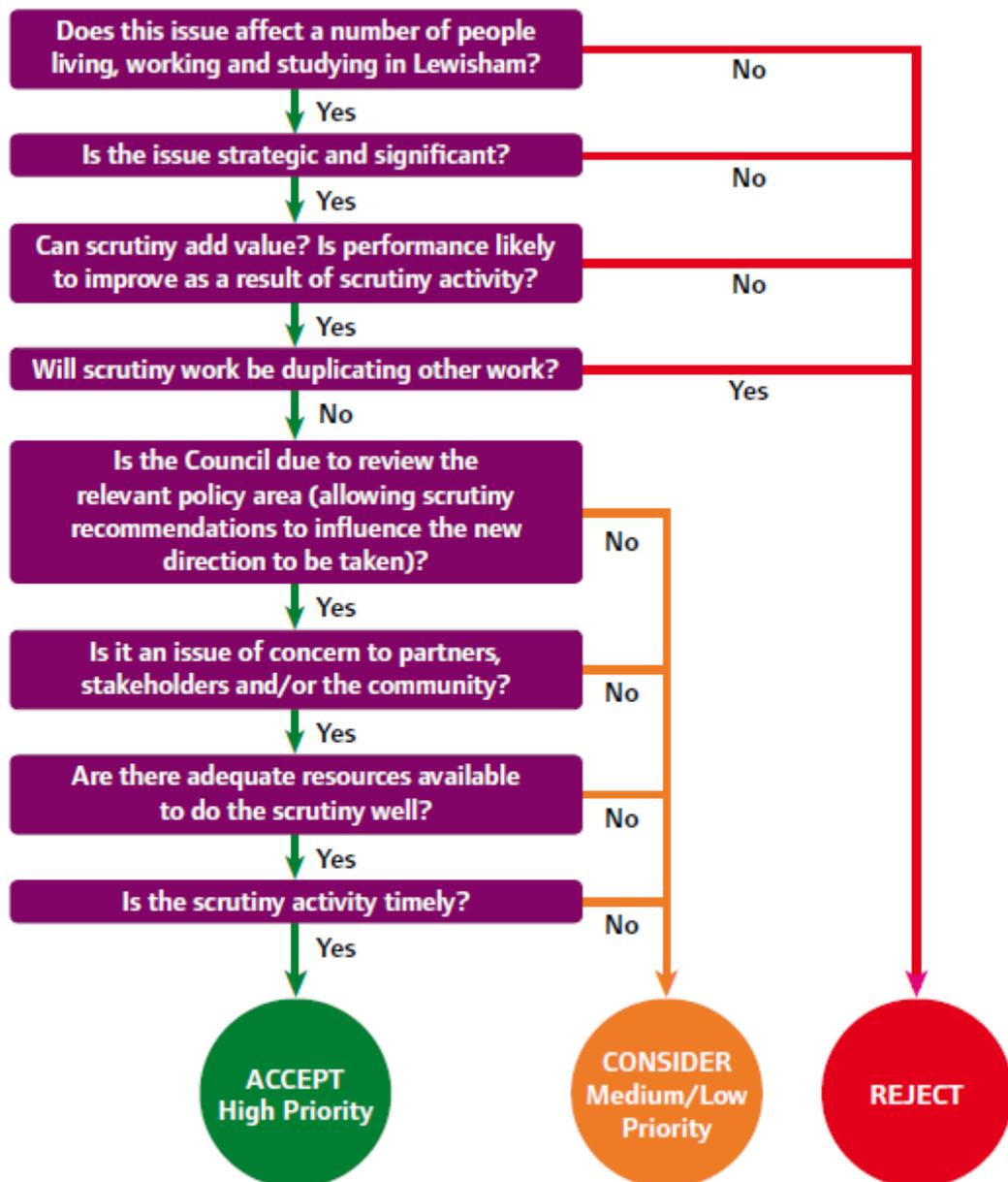
9.1 The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 22 January 2013.

## Background Documents

Lewisham Council's Constitution

Centre for Public Scrutiny the Good Scrutiny Guide – a pocket guide for public scrutineers

## Scrutiny work programme – prioritisation process



Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee Work Programme 2012/13 and 2013/14

Programme of Work

Work Item	Type of review	Priority	Strategic Priority	Delivery deadline	April	May	July	September	October	November	January	February
Promoting a Sense of Belonging	In-Depth Review	High	SCS-ER CP-CL	November						Report		
Riots Communities and Victims Panel - Final Report	Standard Review	High	SCS-S SSVP	May						Response		
Safer Lewisham Partnership Plan	Performance Monitoring	Medium	SCS-S SSVP	May								
Young Mayor	Standard Review	Medium	SCS-S CP-SSVP	May								
Lewisham Race Equality Organisation Update	Standard Review	Medium	SCS-ER CP-CL CP-EEE	July								
Response from M&C to Community and Voluntary Sector Review	Response from Mayor and Cabinet	High	SCS-ER CP-CL	July								
Arts Festival Funding	Standard Review	Medium	SCS-ER CP-CL	September								
Revenue Budget Savings Proposals	Standard Review	High	CP-EEE	October								
Police Budget	Standard Review	High	SCS-S CP-SSVP	October								
Community Premises Policy	Standard Review	High	SCS-ER CP-CL	November						New Item		
Probation Service Update and Community Payback Contracts	Standard Review	Medium	SCS-S CP-SSVP	November								
Patterns of Funding for Community and Voluntary Sector	Standard Review	High	SCS-ER CP-CL	November								
Update on Main Grants Programme Funding	Standard Review	High	SCS-ER CP-CL	January								
Social Enterprise in Lewisham	Standard Review	Medium	SCS-ER CP-CL CP-SLE	January								
Detention and Custody Practices - Police and Probation	Standard Review	Medium	SCS-S CP-SSVP	January								
Local Assemblies Review	Standard Review	High	SCS-ER CP-CL	February								
Comprehensive Equalities Scheme - Monitoring and Update	Performance Monitoring	Medium	SCS-ER CP-CL CP-EEE	February								
Safer Lewisham Strategy - Monitoring and Update	Performance Monitoring	Medium	SCS-S CP-SSVP	February								
Faith Groups in Lewisham	In-Depth review	Medium	SCS-ER CP-CL	May 2013								
Connected Communities Second Phase	Standard Review	Low	SCS-ER CP-CL	2013-14								
Working Practices within the Community and Voluntary Sector	In-Depth review	Medium	SCS-ER CP-CL	2013-14								

	Item completed
	Item ongoing
	Item outstanding
	Proposed timeframe
	Carried over from last year
	Item added

Meeting Schedule						
1)	Thurs	11-Apr		5)	Tues	23-Oct
2)	Weds	09-May		6)	Tues	27-Nov (D.15/11)
3)	Weds	04-Jul		7)	Tues	22-Jan (D. 10/01)
4)	Tues	04-Sep		8)	Tues	26-Feb (D. 14/02)

Shaping Our Future: Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2020		
	Priority	
1	Ambitious and achieving	SCS 1
2	Safer	SCS 2
3	Empowered and responsible	SCS 3
4	Clean, green and liveable	SCS 4
5	Healthy, active and enjoyable	SCS 5
6	Dynamic and prosperous	SCS 6

Corporate Strategy 2008-11		
	Priority	
1	Community Leadership	CP 1
2	Young people's achievement and involvement	CP 2
3	Clean, green and liveable	CP 3
4	Safety, security and a visible presence	CP 4
5	Strengthening the local economy	CP 5
6	Decent homes for all	CP 6
7	Protection of children	CP 7
8	Caring for adults and older people	CP 8
9	Active, healthy citizens	CP 9
10	Inspiring efficiency, effectiveness and equity	CP 10



Summary of forthcoming business

<b>Council November 28 2012</b>	
Title and details of Item	Directorate responsible
Young Mayor	Resources & Regeneration
Community Infrastructure Levy	Resources & Regeneration
Development Management – Further Options	Resources & Regeneration
Reallocation of Committee Places	Resources & Regeneration
Armed Forces Community Covenant	Resources & Regeneration

<b>MAYOR &amp; CABINET December 5 2012</b>	
Title and details of Item	Directorate responsible
Energy Prices	Resources & Regeneration
Additions to the Lewisham's Local List	Resources & Regeneration
Management Report	Resources & Regeneration
Planning Service Annual Monitoring Report:- 2011-12	Resources & Regeneration
Response to the Public Accounts Committee: Fairness	Resources & Regeneration
Response to Sustainable Development Select Committee Local Pubs	Resources & Regeneration
Green Chain Management Plan 2012-2017	Resources & Regeneration
Council Tax Benefit replacement	Customer Services

Statement of Principles (Gambling Act 2005)	Customer Services
Excalibur: appropriation of Phase 1 and 2 site for Planning purposes.	Customer Services
Excalibur: Development Agreement, Financial Model and disposal of the Phase 1 and 2 site for development to L&Q.	Customer Services
Local Support Scheme: Service Standards for Refuse & Recycling	Customer Services
Response to TSA draft report	Community Services
Stakeholder consultations on the proposal to enlarge Rushey Green Primary school from 2 to 3 forms of entry to enlarge John Stainer Primary school from 1 to 2 forms of entry.	Children & Young People
Appointment of Local Authority Governors.	Children & Young People

**MAYOR & CABINET (CONTRACTS) December 5 2012**

Title and details of Item	Directorate responsible
QCF Training Providers 2013/17 - Appointment to Framework	Resources & Regeneration
Reinstatement works at Hatcham Temple Grove School	Resources & Regeneration
Area Based Community Development	Community Services
Communities that Care	Community Services
Contract award for Hostel refurbishment programme	Customer Services

**MAYOR & CABINET January 16 2013**

Title and details of Item	Directorate responsible
Savings Report 13/14	Resources & Regeneration

Budget Strategy Update	Resources & Regeneration
Financial Forecasts for 2012/13	Resources & Regeneration
Building School for the Future Brent Knoll Stage 1	Resources & Regeneration
New Cross Gate Healthy Living Centre Scheme	Resources & Regeneration
Appropriation of Kender Phase4 (Kender Triangle) New Cross SE14 for planning purposes	Resources & Regeneration
Disposal of the Premises officer house – Brindishe School	Resources & Regeneration
Assets of Community Value	Resources & Regeneration
Local Development Scheme 2012	Resources & Regeneration
Acquisition of freehold interests in Nos. 4 & 15 Parkcroft Road SE12	Resources & Regeneration
Parking Policy Review	Customer Services
Council Tax Base Setting	Customer Services
Housing Matters	Customer Services
Measures to increase the provision of places in primary schools	Children & Young People
London Borough Grants Scheme – 2013/2014 Expenditure	Community Services
Lewisham Time Credits	Community Services
Review of Adult Social Care Day Service Provision	Community Services

**MAYOR & CABINET (CONTRACTS) January 16 2013**

Title and details of Item	Directorate responsible
Parking Contract Award	Customer Services
Fleet Vehicle replacement 2012/13	Customer Services

Contract seeking tender for Boroughwide Management Organisation for community premises	Community Services
Contract Award Approval to appoint contractors for Deptford High Street	Resources & Regeneration
Contract Award Approval to appoint contractors for Catford Broadway	Resources & Regeneration
London Highway Alliance Contract – Framework Call Off Decision for Lewisham	Resources & Regeneration
Award of contract for the construction of Primary phase accommodation at Prendergast Ladywell Fields	Children & Young People

**Council January 23 2013**

Title and details of Item	Directorate responsible
Gambling Act	Customer Services
Council Tax Base	Customer Services
Local Development Scheme	Resources & Regeneration

**MAYOR & CABINET February 13 2013**

Title and details of Item	Directorate responsible
Budget Report 13/14	Resources & Regeneration
Financial Forecasts for 2012/13	Resources & Regeneration
Building School for the Future Sydenham School - Stage 2	Resources & Regeneration
Welfare Reform:Local Support Scheme	Customer Services

**MAYOR & CABINET (CONTRACTS) February 13 2013**

Title and details of Item	Directorate responsible
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Main grants programme – confirmation of funding 2013/2014	Community Services
Agree the selection/approval of (Fire, Asbestos & Water Hygiene) Contract	Resources & Regeneration
Provision of Mobile Phones and airtime -Contract Award	Resources & Regeneration

**MAYOR & CABINET February 20 2013**

Title and details of Item	Directorate responsible
Budget Update Report	Resources & Regeneration

**Council February 27 2013**

Title and details of Item	Directorate responsible
Annual Budget 2013/14	Resources & Regeneration

**MAYOR & CABINET March 6 2013**

Title and details of Item	Directorate responsible
Community Right to Challenge	Resources & Regeneration
Financial Forecasts for 2012/13	Resources & Regeneration

**MAYOR & CABINET (CONTRACTS) March 6 2013**

Title and details of Item	Directorate responsible
Awarding the Healthwatch Lewisham contract	Community Services

**Council March 20 2013**

Title and details of Item	Directorate responsible
AGM	Resources & Regeneration