

Public Document Pack

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee Agenda

Monday, 28 November 2016
7.00 pm, Committee Room 1 - Civic Suite
Civic Suite
Lewisham Town Hall
London SE6 4RU

For more information contact: Katie Wood (Tel: 02083149446)

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 Monday, 28 November 2016.

Barry Quirk, Chief Executive
Thursday, 17 November 2016

Councillor David Michael (Chair) Councillor James-J Walsh (Vice-Chair) Councillor Brenda Dacres Councillor Colin Elliott Councillor Joyce Jacca Councillor Stella Jeffrey Councillor Jim Mallory Councillor John Paschoud Councillor Luke Sorba Councillor Paul Upex Councillor Alan Hall (ex-Officio) Councillor Gareth Siddorn (ex-Officio)	
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MINUTES OF THE SAFER STRONGER COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 19 October 2016 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors David Michael (Chair), James-J Walsh (Vice-Chair), Brenda Dacres, Colin Elliott, Stella Jeffrey and Jim Mallory and

APOLOGIES: Councillors John Paschoud, Luke Sorba and Paul Upex

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Joe Dromey (Cabinet Member Policy & Performance), Councillor Joan Millbank (Cabinet Member Third Sector & Community), Timothy Andrew (Scrutiny Manager), James Banks (Chief Executive) (Greater London Volunteering), Robyn Fairman (Head of Strategy), Philippe Granger (Rushey Green Time Bank), Roz Hardie (Director Lewisham Disability Coalition) (Lewisham Disability Coalition), James Lee (Service Manager, Inclusion and Prevention and Head of Cultural and Community Development), Barrie Neal (Head of Corporate Policy and Governance), Andrew O'Brien (Head of Policy and Engagement) (Charities Finance Group), Andy Thomas (Cultural Development Manager), Phil Turner (Second Wave Youth Arts) and Simone van Elk (Cabinet Executive Officer)

1. Minutes of the meeting held on the 15 September 2016

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 September be agreed as an accurate record.

2. Declarations of interest

- Councillor Elliot declared a non-prejudicial interest in relation to item 4 as the Council's representative to the Lewisham Disability Coalition.
- Councillor Michael declared a non-prejudicial interest in relation to item four as a patron of the Marsha Phoenix Memorial Trust and as Chair of Lewisham EqualiTeam.
- Councillor Mallory declared a non-prejudicial interest in relation to item four as Chair of Lee Green Lives, which receives a grant from the Council; a board member of Lee Fair Share, which is funded by the local assembly and a member of Deptford Challenge Trust, which is a provider of funding.

3. Response to recommendations - Poverty Review

3.1 Councillor Dromey (Cabinet Member for Policy and Performance) introduced the response from Mayor and Cabinet, the following key points were noted:

- Mayor and Cabinet welcomed the Committee's report.
- Cllr Dromey had been appointed as cabinet lead, to take forward the recommendations in the report.
- There was a recognition of the difficulty in adequately and accurately defining poverty.
- Mayor and Cabinet had accepted the recommendation of establishing a poverty task force. Proposals would be brought back to the committee about

how this would be progressed. The intention was that the taskforce would include a broad range of stakeholders.

- The causes of poverty were complex and included issues with housing, low pay and insecure work.
- The Council would be looking to innovate and learn from best practice by other councils.
- The final report produced by the taskforce would be brought to the Committee before being agreed at Mayor and Cabinet.
- A briefing would be produced for circulation to the Committee, which would set out a proposed timescale of activities.

3.2 In the discussion that followed these key points were noted.

- Members thanked the cabinet member – and said that they would be happy to be involved in the taskforce.
- The Council should be cautious about making unrealistic promises in a time of constrained resources.
- Members asked that there be a structure of accountability in place for the taskforce. The taskforce would present recommendations to Mayor and Cabinet, and this report would be presented to the Committee before going to Mayor and Cabinet. The work of the group would be limited but it would have to have the authority to do things by itself.
- Better understanding residents' experiences of poverty – as understood through diverse identities and characteristics- would be an important part of the work of the taskforce.
- It was recognised that there were a number of interlinked issues facing residents in poverty, often including mental health and access to housing and services.
- Officers would also look at the potential to create a measure for poverty in the Council's management report.
- It was recognised that poverty might increase in the borough, despite the efforts of the Council.
- The Committee also asked that the taskforce work with officers from public health. It was recognised that people with long-term health conditions were at significant risk of falling in to poverty as a result of struggling in employment or becoming unemployed.

Resolved: to note the response from Mayor and Cabinet and to continue to add additional items on the work of the task force and its final report to the Committee's future work programme, as required.

4. Developing Capacity in the Voluntary Sector - Evidence Session

4.1 James Lee (Head of Culture and Community Development) addressed the Committee; the following key points were noted:

- It was a difficult time for the sector. The Council was making substantial cuts to the main grants programme budget.
- Public sector commissioning budgets were being tightened at the same time that accessing funding from alternative sources was becoming more competitive.

- London Councils was also withdrawing its funding for infrastructure support organisations.
- There was still a high level of demand for services provided by the community and voluntary sector and there were significant numbers of people living in relative poverty who needed support.
- The Council recognised the need for a strong sector and there was a recognised need for local communities to be supported through civil society.
- Infrastructure support was also needed to assist organisations to monitor how well they were performing and diversify their sources of funding.
- There was a recognised need for mergers and partnerships in the sector.
- Officers were also working with organisations to help them understand what funding reductions from the main grants programme would look like for them.
- Officers were working with organisations to build the capacity of peer support networks.
- The local partnership of community organisations was strong.
- Specific work was now taking place with Voluntary Action Lewisham (VAL), Rushey Green Time Bank and Volunteer Centre Lewisham to consider Lewisham's infrastructure support offer based on the 'way ahead' proposals.
- It was recognised that infrastructure support needed to be less bureaucratic, better community led and more flexible.
- A combined infrastructure support offer might include a disclosure and barring service hub; it might procure or provide training. It might also provide a focus for local activity. It should be responsive to local issues and help the Council to engage with the sector. It should also mobilise local people to tackle local issues.
- An important role for infrastructure support organisations in the future would be to provide a voice for the sector: to raise issues, challenge the Council and to collect information to demonstrate the cumulative impact on the sector.
- This would allow the Council to better meet its responsibilities without shunting costs from one area to another.
- There would be a proposal relating to infrastructure support as part of the main grants update to Mayor and Cabinet in the December. The report would be presented to Committee before the decision was taken.

4.2 Cllr Millbank informed the committee that London Councils leaders group decided to prioritise grant funding for frontline services over infrastructure support out of necessity, rather than based on the performance of specific organisations.

4.3 James Banks (Chief Executive, Greater London Volunteering) addressed the Committee, the following key points were noted:

- The 'way ahead' report brought together a wide range of stakeholders to consider the future of civil society in London.
- The report broadened the definition of voluntary activity to encompass a wider range of actions to achieve change.
- It helped to demonstrate the requirement for civil society support.
- In challenging economic situations, new approaches were required to achieve positive outcomes.
- In London, there were a hundred and twenty thousand civil society groups; 3.5 million Londoners who volunteered regularly; 7.3 million Londoners who came into contact with the charitable sector in an average year; two hundred and fifty

thousand people who worked in the sector, an estimated economic and wellbeing contribution of £27 billion a year to the London economy.

- The sector was large but it needed support to enable it to thrive.
- Focus groups and research had shown that there were high levels of pressure on contracts and on volunteers in the sector, with less funding and increased competition.
- There was an expectation that civil society organisations could change models quickly and produce their own resources, which wasn't always the case.
- Civil society support groups were also facing high levels of demand for their services.
- The proposal in the report was that there be a new system of working, which would identify the wide range of organisations involved in providing support to the sector and build on their strengths.
- The system being proposed in the report was markedly different from what currently existed.
- Work was taking place to progress the recommendations in the report, but change would take time.

4.4 In the discussion that followed, these key points were noted:

- There were differing levels of social capital in different areas, which had the potential to make the community-driven approach to infrastructure support unbalanced.
- 90% of volunteering hours came from a third of the population.
- There was an important role for infrastructure support organisations at a local level. Every member of the community should be involved in helping to decide what their community needed and how it should be delivered.
- Support organisations didn't need to provide everything themselves. They had a role in brokering offers of support and providing peer to peer connections.
- Accessing volunteer time from corporate supporters was usually straightforward but accessing skills was often more difficult.
- Funders were sometimes reluctant to support organisations' core operating costs.
- There wasn't always a consistent approach at the Council to funding core costs. This would be something that officers would need to do further work on in the future.

4.5 The Committee also made the following key points:

- Members highlighted their concerns about the differing levels of social capital, and the ability of different groups (with differing levels of capital) to mobilise the resources required in their communities.
- The Committee expressed its thoughts about widening the definition of civil society. Some Members felt it was too narrowly defined in the way in which it had been used in the 'way ahead' report; and others felt that the definition should be broadened to include the concept of 'civic pride' which would be a way to stretch the remit of organisations in the sector.
- There was a preference for the assets (rather than deficit) model for understanding the sector, which concentrated on the skills and opportunities available in communities that could be used rather than simply identifying areas of need.

- The Committee recognised the importance of using the skills of volunteers from the corporate sector to best effect, rather than matching volunteers with projects that did not make the most of their skills.
- Committee members also highlighted the imbalance in spending power, marketing and use of targeted data, between large and small charities.

4.5 Andrew O'Brien (Head of Policy and Engagement, Charities Finance Group) addresses the Committee; the following key points were noted:

- It was rare for Councils to still have a separate community grants budget.
- There had been a significant reductions in grant funding in recent years. In 2010 there was £6billion in grants available for the sector, in 2016 this had fallen to £2billion and it was estimated that there wouldn't be any grant funding available at all by 2024.
- Grant funding was important because it allowed organisations to be flexible, resilient and demand led.
- Monetising savings and monetising impact could be difficult for small and medium sized organisations.
- The Council should use a personal and common sense approach to evaluating the success of community and voluntary sector organisations.
- Successful mergers and asset sharing between organisations in the sector were reliant on sustainable funding streams.
- The front loading of local government cuts from central government and the speed at which these were passed on to the sector meant that some small organisations, that (given better notice) could have become self-sustaining had to close and once that capacity was lost it would be difficult to rebuild it.

4.6 In the discussion that followed, these key points were noted:

- Organisations with small incomes might find it difficult to demonstrate their impact and effectiveness. They might also have to spend a disproportionate amount of time writing bids and attempting to demonstrate their impact.
- Match fundraising (either through donations or volunteering) had potential, but it didn't always take inequalities into account. There had to be a mechanism to incentivise contributions from areas with lower social capital.
- Providing a set of options to small organisations to encourage asset sharing and mergers was a better approach than forcing organisations to work together. Small organisations found it particularly difficult when they were merged with another organisation and their shared resources were immediately cut.
- Organisations might want to change the way they work but a significant proportion of their time was spent managing their day to day business and trying to remain sustainable.
- The main grants programme had moved towards a commissioning model, there was further work to be done on determining what the grants programme should be trying to achieve in future.
- The Council should consider what it's trying to achieve and use appropriate methods to make this happen, this might be through the commissioning approach or via grant funding. Each approach had benefits and drawbacks from different reasons. The important thing would be to choose the right method for the desired outcome.

- The issue of capability was central to the future of community and voluntary sector organisations. Work on building capability used to be led by the government on building capability in the sector, but this funding had been substantially reduced.

4.7 Philippe Granger (Rushey Green Time Bank) addressed the Committee, the following key points were noted:

- The community and voluntary sector had moved from a situation in which it had lots of money available to a situation of restrained resources.
- When resources were plentiful, there were lots projects and lots of groups. This had led to a situation of providing services for people, rather than enabling them to do things for themselves.
- Organisations in the sector were asking themselves questions about what they should do with less money in order to support communities to thrive.
- There was a danger of creating a deficiency model in the sector – in which people believed they needed more and more funding to meet their needs.
- The investment was needed to equip people and empower them in their own communities to make a change.
- Civic society should promote a new vision and a new language for Lewisham, which focused on people’s assets and helped them to connect with others.

4.8 In the discussion that followed, these key points were noted:

- Small numbers of people were responsible for a disproportionately high level of volunteering activity. (Andrew O’Brien referenced the 2014 report from the Charity Aid Foundation on Britain’s civic core).
- The challenge in all areas was to engage wider numbers of people in the civic core. One approach might be to work more with younger generations in creating a sense of pride and place.
- The Committee noted that there were young people involved in volunteering. It was recognised that one of the difficult groups to reach was people in their mid 30s and 40s.
- Further work might need to take place to link work taking place in schools with other activity in the community and voluntary sector.
- Large charities had access to substantial sets of data, which enabled them to target activities. The Council might look to carry out further work to provide intelligence and data support for smaller organisations in the sector.

Standing orders were suspended at 9:15pm until the completion of business.

4.9 Roz Hardie (Lewisham Disability Coalition) addressed the committee; the following key points were noted:

- Busy charities were not always in a position to evidence their outcomes and found it difficult to target their work.
- It was not the role of charities to pick up public services.
- The LDC would like access to trusted specialist support or a trusted framework for purchasing or trading skills. The sector might look to share support, rather than having to develop specialist skills in each organisation.
- Organisations were sometimes buying expensive contracts because they were

not aware they could get the support free elsewhere.

- Organisations in the sector found that the Council was helpful in providing technical support. It was recognised however, that this might be problematic if an organisation had an issue with the Council.
- There was a worrying trend of large organisations taking up resources.
- Lots of people were volunteering and fundraising, but they weren't necessarily using the same language as the sector to talk about their work.
- Sometimes the Council made it difficult for groups to do things because of the levels of bureaucracy.

4.10 In the discussion that followed, the following key points were noted:

- Trustees of local charities should look towards the future with optimism and ambition.
- The provisions of the Social Value Act might help to redress the balance between small and large charities locally. The Council might want to carry out further work to understand how the act was being implemented.
- Organisations in the sector needed funding and consistent support to take risks and carry out change.
- More work should be carried out to define benefits of activity in the sector. This should be outcomes rather than output focused.
- The government had carried out some work to establish the unit costs and benefits of activity in the sector. This generic work didn't always take account of local context. It would be better carried in the local context through the creation of a local dialogue.

4.11 Councillor Michael thanked all participants for their interesting, informative and helpful evidence.

Resolved:

- To explore options for re-drawing the diagram in the 'way ahead' report so that it might be more useful locally.
- To receive an update on the work being led by the Head of Strategy with Goldsmiths University. This could be included as part of the draft report on capacity in the voluntary sector.
- To receive an update on the implementation the Social Value Act. This could be included as part of the draft report on capacity in the voluntary sector.
- A recommendation for the final review could include considering the potential for setting up a Chief executives network for the community and voluntary sector
- A recommendation for the final review could include receiving further information about work taking place in schools to encourage volunteering.

5. Select Committee work programme

5.1 Timothy Andrew (Scrutiny Manager) introduced the report. The Committee was reminded that the following items were scheduled for the meeting on 28 November:

- MOPAC police and crime plan
- Local assemblies
- Main grants programme
- Demographics review: scoping report

5.2 In the discussion that followed, the following key points were noted:

- The Committee requested an update on initiatives to tackle knife crime and hate crime as part of the item on the Mayor’s police and crime plan.
- It was expected that the report on the voluntary sector would inform the comments/referral the Committee made on the main grants programme report.
- The scope for the demographics review should set out options to explore the Council’s approach to forward planning, with particular emphasis on future requirements for infrastructure and new policy approaches. The Committee was concerned about the borough’s readiness for dealing with the impact of medium/long term changes in the composition of the population. Members highlighted the social changes occurring as a result of new patterns of mobility and transition in and out of the borough due to increasing gentrification.
- The Committee also asked that further work be carried out to follow up on the poverty review. It was noted that Cllr Dromey offered to provide a written briefing for members setting out next steps for the creation of the poverty taskforce. Members recognised that further updates may need to be factored into the work programme toward the end of the year.

6. Items to be referred to Mayor and Cabinet

There were none.

The meeting ended at 10.00 pm

Chair: _____

Date: _____

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee		
Title	Declaration of interests	
Contributor	Chief Executive	Item 2
Class	Part 1 (open)	28 November 2016

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;
- (b) and 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 members' 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 no 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)

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Agenda Item 3

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee		
Report Title	Mayoral response to the comments of the Select Committee on the Main Grants Programme: support given to voluntary organisations around premises	
Key Decision	No	Item No 3
Ward	All	
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: November 2016

1. Summary

This report informs members of the response given at Mayor and Cabinet Contracts to a referral in respect of discussions which the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee considered on January 19 2016.

2. Purpose of the Report

To report to members the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to recommendations made by the Select Committee regarding the Main Grants Programme.

3. Recommendation

The Select Committee is recommended to receive the Mayoral response to their comments on the Main Grants Programme and support given to voluntary organisations around premises.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Mayor considered the attached report entitled “Response to referral from Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on Main Grants Programme: support given to voluntary organisations around premises” at the Mayor & Cabinet Contracts meeting held on 18 May 2016

5. Mayoral Response

- 5.1 The Mayor received an officer report and a presentation from the Cabinet Member for the Third Sector, Councillor Joan Millbank.

- 5.2 The Mayor resolved that the attached response to the comments and views of the Select Committee, as set out, be approved and reported to the Select Committee.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Mayor & Cabinet minutes 18 May 2016

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Sarah Assibey, Committee Support Officer, 0208 314 8975

MAYOR AND CABINET			
Report Title	Response to referral from Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on Main Grants Programme: support given to voluntary organisations around premises		
Key Decision	Yes	Item No.	
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director for Community Services, Head of Law		
Class	Part 1	Date:	18 May 2016

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a response to the views and comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee discussions held on 19 January 2016.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to agree the response go back to Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee.

3. Policy Context

- 3.1 Lewisham has a long history of working with the third sector and empowering residents and communities. The Sustainable Community Strategy sets out the Local Strategic Partnership's commitment to creating a borough that is:

- **Empowered and Responsible:** where people are actively involved in their local area and contribute to supportive communities.

- 3.2 This is reflected in Lewisham's Corporate Priorities:

- **Community Leadership and empowerment:** developing opportunities for the active participation and engagement of people in the life of the community.

- 3.3 Lewisham is fortunate to have a diverse third sector which ranges from very small organisations with no paid staff through to local branches of national charities. As well as being directly involved in delivering services to citizens in the borough, third sector organisations also provide the essential infrastructure to allow the sector as a whole to develop and support individual citizens to be able to play an active role within their local communities.

4. Referral

- 4.1 On 19 January 2016, the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee considered a report entitled Main Grants Programme 2016-17. The Committee resolved to advise Mayor and Cabinet Contracts of the following:

- 4.2 The Committee noted that ‘the Council provides support to organisations in a number of different ways, including providing repairs & maintenance, rent grants, main grant funding, peppercorn lease arrangements and so on’
- 4.3 The Committee is concerned that there is a lack of transparency about which voluntary sector organisations receive the support listed in paragraph 4.2 above. This can create difficulties for voluntary organisations who may not be aware of the financial value of the support they are receiving and the risk to their organisations if this support would fall away.
- 4.4 The Committee feels detailed information about this support provided to voluntary sector organisations should be made available to Councillors, voluntary sector organisations and the wider public. The Committee feels that Mayor and Cabinet should encourage the creation of an asset register for this purpose.

5. Background

- 5.1 The assets work during 2015 was undertaken in order that the council have a transparent and fair framework for the council’s use of assets to support the voluntary sector. In April 2015 the Mayor and Cabinet considered the outcome of a three month consultation with the voluntary and community sector on a new framework for the council’s use of assets to support the sector. Following on from this the Council developed and consulted on a voluntary sector accommodation plan which was agreed by Mayor and Cabinet in July 2015 and November 2015.
- 5.2 This plan sets out the approach to ensuring a fair and transparent use of council assets in supporting the voluntary sector; alongside meeting the council’s need for housing, school places, and budget savings. Officers are in the process of implementing this plan.

6. Use of council assets to support the voluntary sector

- 6.1 The framework for the council’s use of assets to support the voluntary and community sectors that was agreed in April 2015 by Mayor and Cabinet sets out four categories for VCS assets as follows:
- **Sole occupancy of a building (not at full market rate)** – This is a building, wholly or predominantly utilised by one VCS organisation. In order for an organisation to have sole occupancy of a building it would need to demonstrate a need for specialist facilities that could not be provided elsewhere and/or within a shared facility. The organisation would need to demonstrate that it can’t afford full market rate. The organisation would also need to be delivering services that meet our priorities.
 - **Voluntary and Community Sector Hub** – This is a shared building with all inclusive affordable rents. This would be the preferred category for organisations that are providing services that meet our priorities (and cannot demonstrate the need for specialist facilities above). The Hubs will provide office and meeting space. Activity space where appropriate and possible may also be provided, otherwise this would need to be hired elsewhere.

- **Community Centre** – This is a neighbourhood based facility with activity space that is predominantly geared towards providing services at a neighbourhood level. Following consultation a plan to rationalise the number of community centres was agreed by M&C in November 2015. A set of core community centres that will receive some form of subsidy from the council in relation to reduced rent, repairs and maintenance support or through direct management was agreed. A further set of centres were approved where the council felt that other provision was available but a case for continued community use but with less financial support had been made by community organisations. Other centres were approved for closure or designated for childcare and removed from the community premises portfolio.
- **Sole occupancy of a building at full market rate** – This is for larger VCS organisations that can afford to pay full market rates, for those that are not delivering services that meet our priorities or for organisations that are delivering services that meet our priorities but that do not wish to be housed within one of the VCS hubs. These organisations would still be able to access buildings (where available) on the Council's standard letting terms and conditions.

6.2 Appendix 1 lists the current community assets portfolio by category above. Support to each asset varies dependent on circumstances, and includes the following:

- **Repairs and maintenance support:** this varies depending on whether the building is directly managed by the council (all repairs done), is on a management agreement (some repairs are done) or a lease (repairs are the responsibility of the tenant). The management agreement for premises is currently being reviewed and will include a clearer guide for how repairs and maintenance responsibilities are split between the council and the premises management organisation.
- **Rent support:** this varies depending on whether the building is directly managed by the council (therefore no rent payable); is on a management agreement (no rent payable) or a lease (varies dependent on terms of lease). The appendix notes if rent is payable currently. Where the council seeks to change an arrangement with an organisation consultation and negotiation would take place.
- **Rent grants:** Four organisations currently receive rent grants, as agreed by Mayor and Cabinet as part of the Main Grants programme 2016/17. Rent grants cover the cost of some or all rent payable under the lease terms and is an internal transfer of funds between departments. The four organisations are outlined below:

Organisation Name	Rent value for 2016-17
Ackroyd Community Association	£13,250
Downham Community Association, Wesley Halls	£29,700
The Midi Music Company	£10,500
Lewisham Young Women's Resource Centre (LYWRC)	£12,000

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- **Discretionary rate relief support:** organisations who have charitable status and receive the 80% mandatory relief from central government (with a couple of small exceptions) are eligible to apply for 20% discretionary relief, awarded by the council on an annual basis. More detail on eligibility can be found here:
<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/business/businessrates/business-rates-reductions-and-relief/Documents/Discretionary%20rate%20relief%20policy%20October%202013.pdf>

6.3 Officers accept the recommendation for a register of assets and this report, and appendix 1 specifically, is the first step towards that. As the implementation of the voluntary sector accommodation plan agreed by Mayor and Cabinet in July 2015 and November 2015 is progressed the register will be amended and updated.

7. Financial Implications

7.1 There are no financial implications related to this report.

8. Legal Implications

8.1 Under S1 of the Localism Act 2011 the Council has a general power of competence to do anything which an individual may do unless it is expressly prohibited.

8.2 The giving of support to voluntary organisations is a discretionary power which must be exercised reasonably taking into account all relevant considerations and ignoring irrelevant considerations.

8.3 Under Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council is required to obtain best consideration for the disposal of its assets. Any disposal at less than best consideration requires Secretary of State's consent. This includes the grant of any lease for longer than 7 years. The requirement does not apply to the grant of a lease for less than 7 years. However, the Council is still required to act reasonably in agreeing lease terms and to have regard to its fiduciary duty to the Council Tax payers. The proposed approach is designed to ensure that where a building is let other than at a market rate, this will be justified by the delivery of services that meet the Council's priorities.

8.4 The Council will only be able to require existing organisations in Council assets to be moved to the new model or relocated where the Council is legally entitled to terminate the existing occupancy arrangements or agreement is reached on a voluntary basis.

9. Equalities Legislation

9.1 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

- 9.2 In summary, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
 - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 9.3 The duty continues to be a “have regard duty”, and the weight to be attached to it is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or foster good relations.
- 9.4 The Equality and Human Rights Commission has recently issued Technical Guidance on the Public Sector Equality Duty and statutory guidance entitled “Equality Act 2010 Services, Public Functions & Associations Statutory Code of Practice”. The Council must have regard to the statutory code in so far as it relates to the duty and attention is drawn to Chapter 11 which deals particularly with the equality duty. The Technical Guidance also covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guidance does not have statutory force but nonetheless regard should be had to it, as failure to do so without compelling reason would be of evidential value. The statutory code and the technical guidance can be found at:
<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/legal-and-policy/equality-act/equality-act-codes-of-practice-and-technical-guidance/>

10. Crime and Disorder Implications

- 10.1 The provision of community activities can assist with reducing crime by providing diversionary activities, increasing a sense of belonging and pride within communities and fostering good relations.

11. Equality Implications

- 11.1 An equalities impact assessment was presented to Mayor and Cabinet in July 2015 which assessed the impact on individual protected characteristics of the implementation of the new policy approach to using Council assets to support the voluntary and community sectors. An updated equalities impact assessment was presented with the follow up report in November 2015.

12. Environmental Implications

- 12.1 There are no specific environmental implications arising from this report.

Background Documents

None

For further information please contact Petra Marshall, Community Resources Manager on 020 8314 7034 or petra.marshall@lewisham.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Community Assets Portfolio by category.

A: Sole Occupancy of a Building (not at full market rate)		
Building	Current occupants	Current / proposed occupation arrangements
A1: No Change		
Crofton Park Community Library Brockley Road, SE4 2AG	ECO Communities - community library	25 year peppercorn lease in place. Eco have full responsibility for all repairs and maintenance.
Sydenham Community Library Sydenham Road, SE26 5SE	ECO Communities - community library	25 year peppercorn lease in place. Eco have full responsibility for all repairs and maintenance.
Grove Park Community Library Somertrees Avenue, SE12 0BX	ECO Communities - community library	25 year peppercorn lease in place. Eco have full responsibility for all repairs and maintenance.
Abbotshall Playing Fields Abbotshall Road, SE6 1SQ	Teachsport - playing fields and healthy living centre	25 year peppercorn lease in place. Teach sport have full responsibility for all repairs and maintenance.
Firhill Playing Fields 140A Firhill Road, SE6 3SQ	Lewisham Sports Consortium - playing fields	Lease until with repairs and maintenance responsibility of Lewisham Sports Consortium.
Somerville Adventure Playground Queens Road, SE14 5JN	Somerville Youth and Play Provision	25 year peppercorn lease with full repairs and maintenance responsibility of Sommerville
Tenenbee Sports Development Centre 120A Old Bromley Road BR1 4JY	Tenembee Sports Development - playing fields	Lease on peppercorn with repairs and maintenance responsibility of Tenembee.
A2: New lease to be agreed		
Lewisham Art House 140 Lewisham Way SE14 6PD	Lewisham Art House - artist studios, art workshops and gallery	Retain as artist studios with current occupants having first option to agree lease.
MIDI Music Company 77 Watsons Street SE8 4AU	MIDI Music - music tuition rooms, recording and dance studio	Considered to be a specialist facility. Midi do not have a lease in place and this will need to be resolved. They have aspirations for an asset transfer and a long lease could be agreed. They currently receive a rent grant so do not bear the cost of rent on this premises. We will seek to negotiate a formal position with Midi at less than full market cost.

New Cross Learning 283-285 New Cross Road SE14 6AS	Bold Vision - community library	Current lease expires July 2016. Seek to negotiate a new lease to enable the continuation of the community library.
B: Voluntary and Community Sector Hubs		
Building	Current occupants	Current / proposed occupation arrangements
B1: Hub Premises		
Leemore Resource Centre 29 - 39 Clarendon Rise SE13 5ES	Day Services, Contact a Family Lewisham, Action for Refugees in Lewisham, Lewisham Community Transport	Directly managed. Being reconfigured with Day Centre space to provide a community hub. Current occupants will be offered space within the hub but may need to relocate within the building. Ground floor will become public advice drop in centre.
Mulberry Centre 15 Amersham Vale SE14 6LE	Day Services	Directly managed. Being reconfigured with Day Centre space to provide a community hub with office and rental space. VAL and other voluntary community sector organisations moving in once works complete.
B2: Moves agreed		
Bellingham Community Project 14a Randlesdown Road SE6 3BT	Bellingham Community Project	Bellingham Community Project have begun negotiations to leave the building and move to Fellowship Inn once completed. Phoenix are interested in a change of use to housing and are working with strategic housing to take this forward.
120 Rushey Green SE6 4HQ	Citizens Advice Bureau, VAL	Citizens Advice Bureau are moving to Leemore community hub and VAL to Mulberry Hub once works are completed.
2 Catford Broadway SE6 4SP	Lewisham Multi Lingual Advice Service	Already vacated, LMLAS currently sharing offices with Age UK but will be moving to Leemore hub once works are completed.
Sydenham Citizens Advice Bureau 299 Kirkdale, SE26 4QD	Sydenham Citizens Advice Bureau	Moving to Leemore community hub once works are completed.
2-4 Devonshire Road SE23 3TJ	Forest Hill Youth Project - Platform 1	Relinquished lease June 2015.
41 Rushey Green SE6 4AS	Lewisham Toy Library	Relocated to Lewisham Shopping Centre
Lewisham Young Women's Project 308 Brownhill Road SE6 1AU	Lewisham Young Women's Project	Lease in place until 2023. They currently receive a rent grant so do not bear the cost of rent on this premises. Seek to move lease on to full commercial market rent; or support organisation in finding alternative premises.

Voluntary Services Lewisham 300 Stanstead Road Crofton Park, SE23 1DE	Voluntary Services Lewisham, Talking Newspaper	Moving to Leemore community hub once works are completed.
C: Sole occupancy of a building at full market rate		
Building	Current Occupants	Current / proposed occupation arrangements
111 Randlesdown Road Bellingham, SE6 3HB	Lewisham Disability Coalition	10 year lease in place until 2025 £9,800 rent payable per annum, and responsibility for repairs and maintenance. LDC have only recently moved to this property after alterations were made to it to make it fully accessible and have a signed full lease in place. It may need further consideration in the future as they may find it more sustainable to move to one of the hubs.
124 Kilmorrie Road SE23 2SR	Young Lewisham Project	8 year lease in place until 2021, £16,900 rent per annum payable, and responsibility for repairs and maintenance. There is no proposal to make any changes to the current lease arrangements for this property however if Young Lewisham Project wished to look at relocating to a shared facility in the future the council would help to facilitate this if possible.
Lewisham Way Y&CC 138 Lewisham Way SE14 6PD	Lewisham Way Youth and Community Centre	Negotiations commenced to move to full commercial lease with responsibility for repairs and maintenance. An alternative would be for the organisation to deliver its services from one of the other community premises in the area.
Etta Hall Centre Gosterwood Street SE8 5PA	Lewisham Somali Community Organisation	20 year lease in place until 2025, £4,000 rent per annum payable, and responsibility for repairs and maintenance.
LOPS Longbridge Way SE13 6PW	Lewisham Opportunity Pre-School	Full commercial lease in line with other nurseries to be negotiated.

D: Community Centres		
D1: Core Community Centres		
Building	Current Users	Current / proposed occupation arrangements
Sydenham Centre 44a Sydenham Road	Day Services Small number of hirers	Directly managed. Being reconfigured with Day Centre space to provide a

SE26 5QF		community centre with office and rental space. Sydenham Arts and other voluntary community sector organisations moving in once works complete.
The Moonshot Centre Angus Street, SE14 6LU	IRIE! Dance Theatre, Double Jab ABC	Directly managed
Evelyn Community Centre Kingfisher Square 1 Clyde Street, SE8 5LW	Bunny Hop Nursery, Somali and Somaliland London Community (SSLC), Federation of Refugees from Vietnam in Lewisham (FORVIL)	Directly managed
Sedgehill Community Centre 69-85 Sedgehill Road SE6 3QN	Happy Days Breakfast Club, Happy days after School Club, Sharon Abraham Dance School, Greater Faith Ministries	Directly managed
Scotney Hall 17 Sharratt Street SE15 1NR	REMEC	Directly managed
2000 Community Centre 199 Grove Street SE8 3PG	2000 Community Action Centre	Management Agreement, no rent and shared responsibility for repairs and maintenance.
Lochaber Hall Manor Lane Terrace SE13 5QL	Lochaber Hall Community Association	Management Agreement, no rent and shared responsibility for repairs and maintenance.
Barnes Wallis Community Centre 74 Wild Goose Drive, SE14 5LL	Barnes Wallis Community Centre Association	Management Agreement, no rent and shared responsibility for repairs and maintenance.
Honor Oak Community Centre 50 Turnham Road, SE4 2JD	Honor Oak Community Centre Association	Management Agreement, no rent and shared responsibility for repairs and maintenance.
Ackroyd Community Centre 14 - 20 Ackroyd Road SE23 1DL	Ackroyd Community Association	Lease with rent grant
Wesley Halls 2 Shroffold Road BR1 5PE	Downham Community Association	Lease with rent grant
Goldsmiths Community Centre Castilon Road, SE6 1QD	Goldsmiths Community Association	Lease with peppercorn rent
The Ringway Centre 268 Baring Road SE12 0DS	Grove Park Community Group	Grove Park Community group do not pay rent and receive no repairs and maintenance support from the council. There is no formal agreement in place currently but the council will seek to formalise arrangements on a subsidised basis.
Lewisham Irish Community Centre	Lewisham Irish Community	No rent currently paid and shared responsibility for repairs and

2A Davenport Road, SE6 2AZ	Centre	maintenance. Discussions in progress on how to formalise occupation with a lease or Management Agreement.
D2: Supplementary Community Provision		
Building	Current Users	Current / proposed occupation arrangements
Champion Hall 1 Holmshaw Close SE26 4TH	Champion Hall Community Association	Negotiations are ongoing to move from a Premises Management Agreement to a lease. The council would then cease to support repairs and maintenance and rent would be payable.
Venner Road Hall Venner Road SE26 5EQ	Venner Road Hall Community Association	Negotiations are ongoing to move from a Premises Management Agreement to a lease. The council would then cease to support repairs and maintenance and rent would be payable.
Brandram Road Community Centre 25-33 Brandram Road SE13 5RT	Brandram Road Community Association	Negotiations are ongoing to move from a Premises Management Agreement to a lease. The council would then cease to support repairs and maintenance and rent would be payable.
Ewart Road Clubroom 44 Wastdale Road SE23 1HN	Ewart Road Housing Cooperative Ltd	Negotiations are ongoing to move from a Premises Management Agreement to a lease. The council would then cease to support repairs and maintenance and rent would be payable.
Rockbourne Youth Club 41a Rockbourne Road, SE23 2DA	Everything My Life Matters; Special Educational Needs; plus voluntary youth provision including Walk in Space and Young Lewisham Project	Negotiations in place for 5 year licence with rent payable.

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Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee		
Report Title	Mayoral response to the comments of the Select Committee on the Review of Lewisham's Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service (CER) and the Environmental Health Service	
Key Decision	No	Item No 3
Ward	All	
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: November 2016

1. Summary

This report informs members of the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to a referral in respect of discussions which the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee considered on 14 April 2016.

2. Purpose of the Report

To report to members the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to recommendations made by the Select Committee regarding the Review of Lewisham's Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service (CER) and the Environmental Health Service

3. Recommendation

The Select Committee is recommended to receive the Mayoral response to their comments on the Review of Lewisham's Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service (CER) and the Environmental Health Service.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Mayor considered the attached report entitled "Response to the Comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on the Review of Lewisham's Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service (CER) and the Environmental Health Service" at the Mayor & Cabinet Contracts meeting held on 13 July 2016

5. Mayoral Response

- 5.1 The Mayor received an officer report and a presentation from the Deputy Mayor.

- 5.2 The Mayor resolved that the attached response to the comments and views of the Select Committee, as set out, be approved and reported to the Select Committee.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Mayor & Cabinet minutes 13 July 2016

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Sarah Assibey, Committee Support Officer, 0208 314 8975

MAYOR AND CABINET			
Report Title	Response to the Comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on the Review of Lewisham's Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service (CER) and the Environmental Health Service		
Key Decision	No	Item No.	
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director for Community Services		
Class	Part 1	Date:	13 July 2016

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report sets out the response to the views and comments arising from the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee about discussions held on the officer report entitled Review of Lewisham's Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service (CER) and the Environmental Health Service at its meeting on 14 April 2016.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Mayor:

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

3. Background

- 3.1 The Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service was developed as a new and streamlined service, intended to contribute to the Community Safety and wider Safety agenda by ensuring that a range of officers are delivering on a range of outcomes across a number of cross cutting agendas. The aim of this new team was fundamentally to enable a much more flexible approach to service delivery, and hopefully, ultimately assist the public in accessing better services. The Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service works to ensure better coordination and consistent execution of the Local Authority's duties across the areas of Crime Reduction, Licensing, Trading Standards and Public Health & Nuisance, whilst maintaining areas of specific expertise and a general focus on casework.
- 3.2 The Environmental Health Service (EH) consists of Environmental Protection (EP) and Food and Safety Team (FST). These services include Food Hygiene and Standards, Commercial Health and Safety, Infectious Disease Control, the Regulation and Enforcement of Sports Grounds and Stadia and also encompasses Special Treatment Licensing. The new EH service continues to provide professional advice and protection to the public of Lewisham (both residents and visitors). It undertakes delegated functions including enforcement from Government departments, agencies and legal statutes. It strives to provide a level playing field for local and national

businesses working locally and also provides technical support advice and enforcement to a wide range of internal departments within the Council.

- 3.3 It was agreed that the merging and development of these two distinct and new services was as a response to the significant financial challenges the Council faces whilst also considering how some of the services could be better aligned to deliver statutory services more efficiently but with a shift to delivering ONLY those which were deemed high risk / greatest volume / significant impact. This moved the delivery model to a risk-based approach and not a regular and routine service.

4. Responses to the Referral from the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee

- 4.1 The Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee received a report on the 14 April which updated them on the new Crime, Enforcement and Regulation Service and the Environmental Health Service after 6 months of the new service being in operation.

- 4.2 Following the Committee a referral was made to Mayor and Cabinet on the 14 April 2016. Set out below are the concerns raised by the Committee and our response to each.

Referral 1

- 4.3 The Committee was concerned about the depleted resources available to the environmental services including those areas dealing with contaminated land. The Committee sought assurances that adequate resources have been put in place to both minimise the risk of a major incident occurring and, should a major incident occur, that sufficient resources are in place to respond given the potentially serious consequences.

Response

- 4.3.1 The Council has a statutory responsibility under Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 concerning contaminated land. Part 2A requires that local authorities cause their areas to be inspected with a view to identifying contaminated land. It operates on a risk assessment basis where the Council prioritises areas where inspections may be necessary. Only land where unacceptable risks are clearly identified, after a risk assessment has been undertaken, should be considered as meeting the Part 2A definition of contaminated land.
- 4.3.2 Guidance from DEFRA however has also stated that 'Enforcing authorities should seek to use Part 2A only where no appropriate alternative solution exists. The Part 2A regime is one of several ways in which land contamination can be addressed. For example, land contamination can be addressed when land is developed (or redeveloped) under the planning system, during the building control process, or where action is taken independently by landowners.' Contaminated Land Statutory Guidance, DEFRA, April 2012.
- 4.3.3 To this end the Environmental Protection Team has continued to provide a service to the Development Control Team, in assessment of site contamination reports for new developments. This service has not been altered since the reorganisation, in fact Environmental Protection have received acknowledgement from Planning that there has been an improved service

since the reorganisation. It is however acknowledged that this has been largely due to the assistance and support of an external consultant working for the Council. This consultancy is provided on request and over the last year or so this has resulted in one day a week consultancy costs, with additional resources and time provided from the existing members of the Team.

- 4.3.4 In addition to the above the Environmental Protection Team are seeking to upgrade their existing GIS system. With this upgrade it will be possible to identify on a prioritised basis, areas of land that may need inspection. The local authority needs to take a strategic approach to carrying out its inspection duty under section 78B(1) and guidance states that this approach should be 'rational, ordered and efficient, and it should reflect local circumstances' also the local authority should set out its approach as a written strategy, which it should formally adopt.
- 4.3.5 With the improvement/upgrade to the existing GIS system, the Environmental Protection Team will over the coming year review the existing strategy and publish a revised strategy for the Council to adopt. At this stage a further review of the Team's staffing capacity will be undertaken to ensure it can meet the further demands on the service. It will also continue to provide the same level of service to Planning, so that ongoing remediation of land in the borough continues to happen.

Referral 2

- 4.4 The Committee was also concerned about the increased reliance by the service on external agencies to provide advice and support to residents (such as Consumer Advice). The Committee specifically highlighted the dependence on organisations in the voluntary sector in light of reducing budgets in both the voluntary sector and public sector more generally.

Response

- 4.4.1 In 2006, Consumer Direct was created by the Office of Fair Trading to provide a central point of contact for the residents of all participating Trading Standards regions across the country. The service was created as local Trading Standards teams were receiving high volumes of calls for civil advice, the information provided by consumers was only being recorded locally (which meant that organised regional crime was not being identified effectively) and also because local authority budgets were slowly reducing. In 2010 bids were opened up to private companies in order to ensure value for money and to aid the evolution of the resources available. The Citizens Advice Bureau bid for the opportunity to participate in this scheme which fits exactly with their purpose and it meant they would receive a central government grant strengthening their ability to help people solve their civil disputes. They won the bid and created the Citizens Advice Consumer Service. By participating in this service, which was created with the sole purpose of supporting the trading standards functions of all local authorities, we are contributing to the national intelligence lead approach to enforcement allowing us to tackle more serious crime locally and contribute to protecting the consumers across the country without any detriment to our local populous
- 4.4.2 Whilst the Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service will continue to utilise all and any positive opportunities, engagement and support from Lewisham's voluntary sector in this current climate of reducing budgets, the service has not seen any increased reliance by the service on external agencies to provide advice and support to residents over the past year.

Referral 3

- 4.5 The Committee noted the good work done by the new Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service (CER) and the Environmental Health Service during and following reorganisation. The Committee felt this work should be adequately supported by a dedicated communications strategy as well as general support from the Council's communications service, especially with regards to information on the service being available in one place on the Council's website.

Response

- 4.5.1 The Crime Enforcement & Regulation Service and the Environmental Health Service Managers have met with the Council's Head of Communications to progress the development of a dedicated communications strategy for these service areas. All of the key information which the public would / may need on these service areas has now been collated and we are currently working with a dedicated communications officer to develop how this will be presented on the website. A diary of key dates for these services across the calendar year is also being collated, which will assist in ascertaining the level of communications support needed throughout the year and feed into the Safer Lewisham Board's Communications and Campaign plan for 2016/17.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are financial implications in respect of implementation of the above which will be delivered within the current financial envelope.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 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 recommendations by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

7. Crime and Disorder Implications

- 7.1 There are none of specific reference to the referrals made.

8. Equalities Implications

- 8.1 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.

9. Environmental Implications

- 9.1 Environmental implications in respect of contaminated land is critical and due regard and consideration is given as outlined above.

Background papers

[Review of Lewisham's Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service \(CER\) and the Environmental Health Service](#) at the meeting of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on 14 April 2016.

Referral from Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee to Mayor and Cabinet – 18 May 2016.

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/s43546/SSCSC%20Referral%20to%20MC%20on%20Enforcement%20Service%2014042016.pdf>

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

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Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee		
Report Title	Mayoral response to the comments of the Select Committee on the Library Savings Programme Update	
Key Decision	No	Item No 3
Ward	All	
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: November 2016

1. Summary

This report informs members of the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to a referral in respect of discussions which the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee considered on July 4 2016.

2. Purpose of the Report

To report to members the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to recommendations made by the Select Committee regarding the Libraries Savings Programme Update.

3. Recommendation

The Select Committee is recommended to receive the Mayoral response to their comments on the Libraries Savings Programme Update.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Mayor considered the attached report entitled “Response to the Comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on the Libraries Savings Programme Update” at the Mayor & Cabinet meeting held on 19 October 2016.

5. Mayoral Response

- 5.1 The Mayor received an officer report and a presentation from the presentation by the Cabinet Member for Health, Well-Being & Older People, Councillor Chris Best.
- 5.2 The Mayor resolved that the attached response to the comments and views of the Select Committee, as set out, be approved and reported to the Select Committee.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Mayor & Cabinet minutes 19 October 2016

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Sarah Assibey, Committee Support Officer, 0208 314 8975

MAYOR AND CABINET			
Report Title	Response to the Comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on the Libraries Savings Programme Update		
Key Decision	No	Item No.	
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director for Community Services		
Class	Part 1	Date: 19 October 2016	

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report sets out the response to the views and comments arising from the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee, about the Libraries Savings Programme Update report at its meeting on the 4 July 2016.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Mayor:

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

3. Background

- 3.1 On 4 July 2016, the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee considered an item entitled Libraries Savings Programme Update. Following the Select Committee a referral was made to the Mayor and Cabinet on 13 July 2016. The Committee resolved to advise Mayor and Cabinet of the following:

3.2 Referral

- 3.2.1 The Committee felt that it was important that libraries could offer assistance to members of the public with the use of computers and IT, especially in light of the Council's aim to increasingly digitise its services.
- 3.2.2 The Committee therefore recommends that, as far as is practicable, agreements with the partners organisations for the community libraries include provisions to ensure that technical support by trained staff and/or trained volunteers is available to residents.

3.3 Response

- 3.3.1 Since the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee meeting on 4 July 2016 officers have been able to confirm that the public access computers at Forest Hill Library and Torridon Rd Library will be transferred to the new partner organisations. The partnerships

have both confirmed that they are keen to work with the library service to ensure that residents continue to be supported to get online.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from this response..

5. Legal Implications

5.1 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 recommendations by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

6. Crime and Disorder Implications

6.1 There are no specific crime and disorder implications arising from this response.

7. Equalities Implications

7.1 Continuing to ensure public access to ICT in Torridon Rd Library and Forest Hill Library supports the Council's agenda to combat digital exclusion.

8. Environmental Implications

8.1 There are no specific environmental implications arising from this response.

Background papers

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee Referral to Mayor and Cabinet – 13 July 2016

For further information on this report please contact Liz Dart Head of Culture and Community Development Tel: 0208 314 6115

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee		
Report Title	Mayoral response to the comments of the Select Committee on DBS checks for library staff	
Key Decision	No	Item No 3
Ward	All	
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: November 2016

1. Summary

This report informs members of the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to a referral in respect of discussions which the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee considered on July 4 2016.

2. Purpose of the Report

To report to members the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to recommendations made by the Select Committee regarding DBS checks for library staff.

3. Recommendation

The Select Committee is recommended to receive the Mayoral response to their comments on DBS checks for library staff.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Mayor considered the attached report entitled "Update on the response to the comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on DBS checks for library staff" at the Mayor & Cabinet meeting held on 19 October 2016.

5. Mayoral Response

- 5.1 The Mayor received an officer report and a presentation from the presentation by the Cabinet Member for Resources, Councillor Kevin Bonavia.
- 5.2 The Mayor resolved that the attached response to the comments and views of the Select Committee, as set out, be approved and reported to the Select Committee.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Mayor & Cabinet minutes 19 October 2016

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Sarah Assibey, Committee Support Officer, 0208 314 8975

MAYOR AND CABINET			
Report Title	Update on the response to the comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on DBS checks for library staff		
Key Decision	No	Item No.	
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration		
Class	Part 1	Date: 19 October 2016	

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report gives an update on the response to the comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee, about the Libraries Savings Programme Update report at its meeting on 4th July 2016.

2. Background

- 2.1 On 11th May 2016, the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee considered a report entitled Library Savings programme update. The Committee resolved to advise Mayor and Cabinet of the following:

2.2 Referral

- 2.2.1 The Committee was advised that the Council's library staff were not required to undergo Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, based on advice from the Council's Human Resources department. Partner organisations that would be approved to manage the community-led libraries would also not be required to perform DBS checks on their staff and volunteers.
- 2.2.2 The Committee was concerned about this viewpoint, as school governors and some staff responsible for managing community centres were required to undergo DBS checks. The Committee noted that library staff often worked with children and could at times find themselves alone with a child.
- 2.2.3 The Committee therefore requests that outside legal advice is sought on whether Council staff, staff paid by partner organisations and volunteers working in libraries would need to undergo DBS checks.

3. Response

- 3.1 In order to undertake an enhanced DBS check, the post must either be listed in the both the Rehabilitation of Offenders Exceptions Order and in Police Act Regulations, or the post holder needs to be engaged in a 'Regulated Activity'. Discussions have taken place with Library Service management to identify both the activities undertaken with children/young people and in what circumstances staff may be left alone with children/young people. From these discussions it is apparent that Library staff are not undertaking specified activities and are not left alone with children. Parent/carers or school teaching assistants attend activities/programmes provided for children. Such activities are always set up in sight of other Library staff.
- 3.2 The Disclosure and Barring Service will only undertake checks for those who are eligible under the provisions of the Safeguarding of Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, as amended by the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012. Employers are asked to use an on-line toolkit to determine if a post meets the criteria. The Library posts have been checked again against the tool kit which indicates that they do not meet the criteria. However, in light of the concerns raised by the Committee the Disclosure and Barring Service were contacted and asked to advise specifically on the activities/contact that Council Library staff would have. The DBS have responded to confirm that the Library roles do not meet the criteria for a 'Regulated Activity' and that they do not therefore consider that a legal entitlement for a check exists.
- 3.3 The Council takes its' safeguarding responsibilities very seriously and undertakes DBS checks on any posts which meet the requirements. However, if the Council seeks to undertake enhanced checks for posts which do not meet the statutory requirements, this could affect the Council's registration. Carrying out a DBS check when the Council is not entitled to do so, might risk a complaint of a breach of the Data Protection Act 1988 and/or the Human Rights Act 1998.
- 3.4 School Governors are specifically covered in the legislation, so DBS checks are undertaken on all Lewisham School Governors.
- 3.5 Whilst the roles in the Council's Libraries do not meet the criteria for an enhanced DBS check, there is a Basic disclosure that employers can request from any employee. This check does not include any spent convictions, but would show any current convictions. It is proposed that Basic checks are sought for staff working in front-line library roles.
- 3.5. HR would advise that community library providers should consider themselves in each case if staff or volunteers need a DBS check. This will depend on whether or not such staff or volunteers are carrying out an activity regulated by the Safeguarding of Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 as amended and on whether that activity is unsupervised by a person who is carrying out a regulated activity. They should be advised to refer to the DBS on line toolkit, or to consider undertaking Basic checks.

- 3.6 The Committee is asked to note that staff in the Mobile Library Service are DBS checked as they are alone and unsupervised in the homes of vulnerable residents.

4. Finance

- 4.1 A Basic disclosure costs £25. There are approximately 50 front-line staff (excluding the management team). The cost of introducing Basic disclosures would therefore be around £1,250 plus ongoing checks for new staff and renewals (it is the Council's policy to review checks every 3 years).

5. Legal

- 5.1 The legislation governing DBS checking of staff is contained in the Safeguarding of Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, as amended by the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012. Under the provisions of this legislation only people undertaking roles or activities meeting the requirements of the legislation can be DBS checked. The Disclosure and Barring Service need to be satisfied that any application for an enhanced DBS meets these requirements.

6. Crime and Disorder Implications

- 6.1 None

7. Equalities Implications

- 7.1 The Council's obligations to vulnerable groups consistent with its obligations to employees under law have been taken into account as set out above.

8. Environmental Implications

- 8.1 None

9. Conclusion

- 9.1 The Committee are asked to note the action taken to confirm that staff working in the Library Service do not meet the criteria for an enhanced DBS check.
- 9.2 The Committee are asked to note the proposal to undertake Basic disclosures on front-line Library staff.

Background Documents

If there are any queries on this report please contact Jackie Stirling, HR Business Partner and Council Lead Counter Signatory on 020 8314 8633.

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee		
Report Title	Mayoral response to the comments of the Select Committee on the Lewisham Metropolitan Police Service Update	
Key Decision	No	Item No 3
Ward	All	
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: November 2016

1. Summary

This report informs members of the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to a referral in respect of discussions which the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee considered on July 4 2016.

2. Purpose of the Report

To report to members the response given at Mayor and Cabinet to recommendations made by the Select Committee regarding the Lewisham Metropolitan Police Service Update.

3. Recommendation

The Select Committee is recommended to receive the Mayoral response to their comments on the Lewisham Metropolitan Police Service Update.

4. Background

4.1 The Mayor considered the attached report entitled “Response to the Comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on the Lewisham Metropolitan Police Service Update” at the Mayor & Cabinet meeting held on September 28 2016.

5. Mayoral Response

5.1 The Mayor received an officer report and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Councillor Janet Daby.

5.2 The Mayor resolved that the attached response to the comments and views of the Select Committee, as set out, be approved and reported to the Select Committee.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Mayor & Cabinet minutes 28 September 2016

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Sarah Assibey, Committee Support Officer, 0208 314 8975

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	Response to the Comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on the Lewisham Metropolitan Police Service Update	
Key Decision	No	Item No.
Ward	All	
Contributors	Executive Director for Community Services, Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People	
Class	Part 1	Date: 28 September 2016

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report sets out the response to the views and comments arising from the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee, about discussions held with the Lewisham Borough Commander under the Lewisham Metropolitan Police Service update items at its meeting on the 4 July 2016.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Mayor:

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

3. Background

- 3.1 On 4 July 2016, the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee considered an item entitled Lewisham Metropolitan Police Service Update. Following the Select Committee a referral was made to the Mayor and Cabinet on 13 July 2016. The Committee resolved to advise Mayor and Cabinet of the following:

3.2 Referral 1

- 3.2.1 The Committee was interested to hear about the plans expressed by London's new Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime to run an extensive consultation on proposals to remodel police services in London. The Committee was concerned about proposals, developed before the 2016 London mayoral election, for a potential merger of the 32 Borough Command Units across London. This would mean that there would not be one borough commander responsible for policing in the borough of Lewisham.
- 3.2.2 The Committee expressed its concern at these plans, as cooperation between local authorities and the metropolitan police is strengthened by having the boundaries of local police forces in London correspond with borough boundaries.

3.3 Response

- 3.3.1 The Borough Commander will keep the Mayor, Cabinet Member, and Committee updated on this. It is likely that there will be pilot boroughs for a number of options and changes to police operational delivery which will help to form part of any future plans and feed into any consultations. Once consultations on proposals open the Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People will ensure the Committee and relevant others are fully sighted.

3.4 Referral 2

- 3.4.1 The Committee welcomed the support for Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) expressed by the Lewisham Police Borough Commander. The Committee values the work done by PCSOs and would welcome an opportunity to increase their numbers.

3.5 Response

- 3.5.1 This is noted and the Borough Commander will feed this back into the Service.

3.6 Referral 3

- 3.6.1 The Committee requested that they were formally asked to comment on any consultation responses on behalf of the Council to plans by the Mayor of London or Greater London Assembly for changes to the discharge of crime and disorder function in the borough.

3.7 Response

- 3.7.1 The London Mayor's Police and Crime Plan, which is a statutory requirement, will be drafted in the autumn 2016, and will be formally consulted on late Autumn into the Winter of 2016. The Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People will ensure the Committee is fully sighted on the draft Plan and the Committee is welcomed to make comments. In addition there will be a formal response made by the Safer Lewisham Partnership.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 Any financial implications in respect of the above will be part of the considerations of the London Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 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 recommendations by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

6. Crime and Disorder Implications

- 6.1 Any crime and disorder implications will be fully considered once proposals are clearer.

7. Equalities Implications

- 7.1 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.

8. Environmental Implications

- 8.1 Environmental implications in respect of any policy changes are critical and due regard and consideration is given as appropriate.

Background papers

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee Referral to Mayor and Cabinet – 13 July 2016

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

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SAFER STRONGER COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE		
Title	Poverty taskforce scoping paper	
Key Decision	No	Item No. 4
Ward	all	
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration	
Class	Part 1	Date: 28 November 2016

1. Purpose

- 2.1 The Council’s Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee conducted a review into poverty in borough, as some areas in Lewisham are among the most deprived in the country according to the 2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation¹. One of the things noted by the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee was that poverty is a complex problem and there are difficulties in identifying the right course of action to take to tackle this problem effectively. In addition, policies that aim to tackle poverty or alleviate its outcomes need to reach the right people to be effective. Safer Stronger felt that poverty should receive greater focus in the Council.
- 2.2 As a result of the review into poverty, Mayor and Cabinet agreed at their 7 September meeting to appoint the Cabinet Member of Policy and Performance as the lead member responsible for the overseeing the Council’s actions to tackle poverty and that a Lewisham Poverty ‘Taskforce’ be convened to develop a comprehensive Poverty Strategy.
- 2.3 This paper sets out the purpose for the taskforce, its areas of focus, its programme of work and suggestions for its membership. Points raised during discussion about the taskforce at the last Committee meeting on 19 October have been incorporated into the scope for the taskforce.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to:
 - Note the content of the report
 - Nominate three of members of the Committee to take part in the taskforce.

4 Policy context

- 4.1 Lewisham’s Sustainable Communities Strategy (2008-2020) sets out a vision of a resilient, healthy and prosperous borough. The Strategy informs the direction of Council policy and it guides the process of decision making. One of the governing principles of the Strategy is the ambition to ‘reduce inequality and narrow the gap in outcomes for citizens’. It is recognised in the Strategy that ‘...deprivation and poverty

¹ The English Index of Deprivation 2015 published by the Office of National Statistics, which combine information from a range of official administrative sources and census data in to develop a coordinated picture of deprivation across the whole country.

can limit people's prospects (and) some of our communities are more likely to experience their effects than others'.

- 4.2 In addition, the Council has a number of corporate priorities, two of which are particularly relevant to the taskforce's work: 1) Community leadership and 5) Strengthening the local economy.
- 4.3 The taskforce's aim is to provide recommendations to the Council that aim to alleviate poverty, mitigate against its negative effects and strengthen people's resilience about. The taskforce will therefore contribute to the aims of the Lewisham's Sustainable Communities Strategy and to two of the Council's corporate priorities as outlined above.

5 The taskforce

5.1 Purpose of the taskforce

- 5.1.1 The Taskforce will build on the work done by the Committee with its review into poverty. The purpose of the taskforce is to combine expertise about poverty with expertise about the local area. At the end of its work, the taskforce will draft recommendations that aim to alleviate poverty, mitigate against its negative effects and strengthen people's resilience.

5.2 Proposed areas of focus

- 5.2.1 The taskforce cannot possibly cover all aspects of poverty so will need to agree to focus on a limited number of areas. The taskforce could look both at ways to decrease poverty but also to mitigate against its negative effects. Two key considerations are which steps will have the biggest impact on poverty in the borough but the taskforce should also be mindful of the areas Lewisham Council and its partners can genuinely impact.
- 5.2.2 With this in mind, the main route out of poverty is getting people in jobs, and particularly into well-paid jobs, and would therefore likely be a main area of focus for the taskforce. In Lewisham there are two groups that are disproportionately presented in the population of both working and non-working poor: single parents (usually women) and disabled people. The numbers of people on Employment Support Allowance are amongst the highest in London. The taskforce can look at how the Council and its partners support people getting into work as well as ensuring that work is well-paid. There are a number of things the Council and its partners are already doing (e.g. its support for the London Living Wage and joint work with Lambeth and Southwark on employment support) but there might be more that can be done. Understanding the impact of further welfare reform and the introduction of universal credit will be crucial
- 5.2.3 The cost of housing has a significant impact on the percentage of people living in relative poverty in London². The provision of genuinely affordable housing is therefore important in alleviating poverty, and so is a well-functioning housing market across all tenures. The taskforce may want to look at innovative approaches to the housing crisis, such as interventions in the private rental market and the London living rent.
- 5.2.4 The material circumstances of people living in poverty can be tackled but so can their lived experiences by focusing on strengthening the resilience of communities in

² Trust for London London's Poverty Profile 2015: <http://tinyurl.com/jkoqn2h>

mitigating the negative impacts of living in poverty. Community-led approaches achieve a range of valuable outcomes around poverty. Some focus on the 'non-material' aspects of the experience of poverty, such as improving individual well-being, opportunities for social interaction and perceptions of area³. The taskforce can decide to look at ways to achieve such outcomes in Lewisham.

5.3 Programme of work

The taskforce will hold four sessions, roughly 6 weeks apart. The first meeting is due to be held in the Spring, with the taskforce finishing its work before the end of the calendar year.

5.3.1 Session 1: What do we know about the problem of poverty in Lewisham?

To provide the taskforce with the necessary information to make judgements about the specific situation in Lewisham. This will mostly be provided by the Council. The information will likely focus on:

- a. What does poverty mean in Lewisham? How will it be defined by the taskforce?
 - This should take account of the differences between absolute and relative poverty.
- b. What is the nature of poverty in Lewisham?
 - Residents' income and jobs, inside and outside of the borough.
 - Which groups are specifically affected? E.g. people with disabilities, lone parents, those with in-work poverty, child poverty, the elderly.
 - Is there an overlap in members of the groups listed above and what impact does that have on their experiences?
- c. What are causes of poverty in Lewisham?
 - Business environment & the local economy
 - Housing
 - Skills and employability
 - Impact of health and wellbeing, naturally including mental health
- d. What are the impacts of poverty?
 - Impact on health and wellbeing, naturally including mental health
- e. What actions are currently taken by the Lewisham Council and its partners?

5.3.2 Session 2: What areas does the taskforce want to focus on?

To allow the taskforce to identify which areas they want to focus on, based on where most can be gained from their recommendations. The recommendations will likely focus on improving and coordinating existing work by the Council and its partners.

The taskforce should also take account of work done in other areas of London and the rest of the country that is particularly effective.

5.3.3 Session 3: Summit with partners

- a) To share the taskforce's thinking so far
- b) To test emerging ideas and proposals
- c) To discuss what steps could be taken by the Council and its partners to alleviate poverty and mitigate against its negative effects.

³ <https://www4.shu.ac.uk/research/cresr/sites/shu.ac.uk/files/community-led-approaches-to-reducing-poverty-in-neighbourhoods.pdf>

5.3.4 Session 4: Conclusions and formulating recommendations

The expectation is that the taskforce's work would be positively considered by the Council and its partners, and that the taskforce's recommendations would become part of the Council's ongoing work. A final report by the taskforce will be presented to Mayor and Cabinet, but presented to the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee first.

5.4 Members of the taskforce

The taskforce will consist of two Cabinet members and three members of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee. The Committee is requested to nominate three of its members to take part in the taskforce.

The taskforce will also have members that are experts in the field of poverty. A verbal update on the membership will be provided at the meeting.

6 Financial implications

There are no financial implications following this report.

As discussed at the last meeting of the Committee, the taskforce will likely focus on improving and coordinating existing work by the Council and its partners as opposed to focusing on recommendations that would require additional financial resources.

7 Legal implications

There are no legal implications following this report.

8 Equalities implications

There are no equalities implications following this report.

Background documents and originator

The English Index of Deprivation 2015 published by the Office of National Statistics.
Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee final report Poverty Review, June 2016
<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=139&MIId=4178>

Mayor and Cabinet response report to Safer Stronger Communities final report
Poverty review:
<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=139&MIId=4304>

Lewisham's Sustainable Communities Strategy (2008-2020)

Trust for London London's Poverty Profile 2015: <http://tinyurl.com/jkoqn2h>

Joseph Rowntree Foundation and Sheffield Hallam University, Community-led approaches to reducing poverty in neighbourhoods: A review of evidence and practice, June 2016:
<https://www4.shu.ac.uk/research/cresr/sites/shu.ac.uk/files/community-led-approaches-to-reducing-poverty-in-neighbourhoods.pdf>

For further information, please contact Simone van Elk, 080 831 46441

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee			
Title	The impact of demographic change on the future delivery of council services: Scoping Paper	Item No	7
Contributors	Scrutiny Manager		
Class	Part 1	Date	28 November 2016

1 Purpose of paper

- 1.2 As part of its work programme the Committee has agreed to undertake a short review of the impact of demographic change on the future delivery of council services.
- 1.3 This paper sets out the rationale for the review, provides some background information on the demographics of Lewisham and sets out proposed Key Lines of Enquiry for discussion and agreement by the Committee.
- 1.4 The review process is outlined at Appendix A.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Select Committee is asked to:
 - note the contents of the report
 - consider and agree the proposed key lines of enquiry for the review outlined in section 6, and the timetable outlined in section 7.

3 Policy context

- 3.1 The Council’s overarching vision is “Together we will make Lewisham the best place in London to live, work and learn”. In addition to this, ten corporate priorities and the overarching Sustainable Community Strategy drive decision making in the Council. Lewisham’s corporate priorities were agreed by full Council and they remain the principal mechanism through which the Council’s performance is reported.
- 3.2 Demographic change has an affect on all of the Council’s corporate policies of: community leadership: young people’s achievement and involvement; clean, green and liveable; safety, security and a visible presence; strengthening the local economy; decent homes for all; protection of children; caring for adults and older people; active healthy citizens; and inspiring efficiency, equity and effectiveness. Managing and planning for changing demographics in therefore vital to service delivery across the Council. The

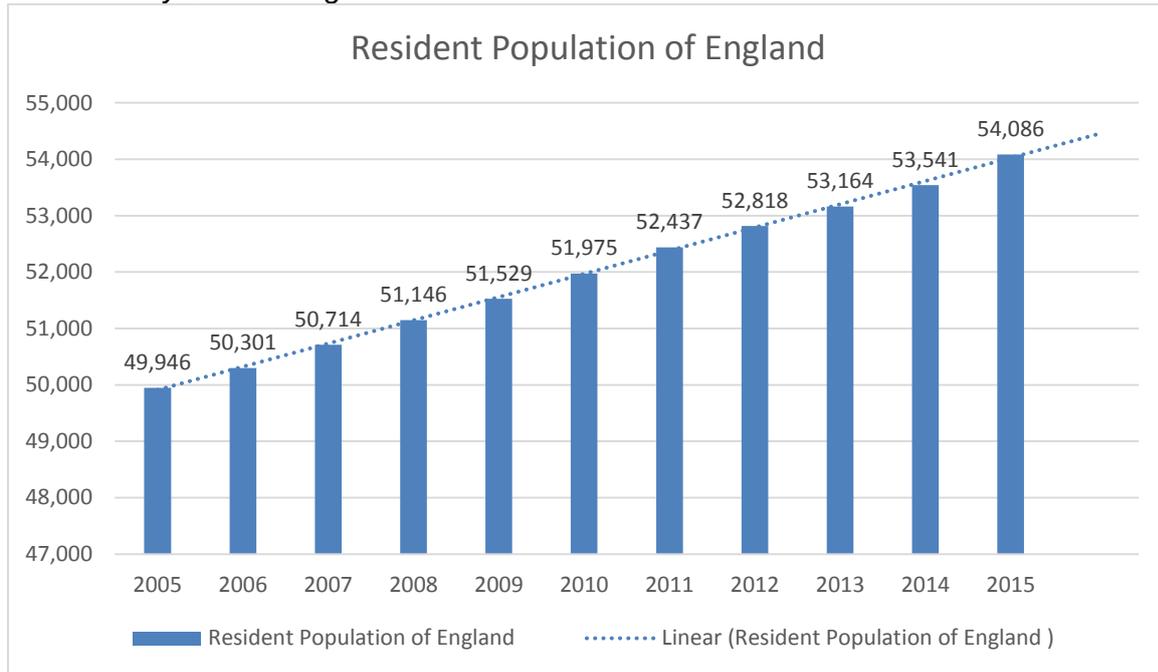
theme also crosses over all the priorities in the Sustainable Community Strategy. “Ambitious and Achieving” aims to create a borough where people are inspired and supported to achieve their potential. “Safer” where people feel safe and live free from crime, antisocial behaviour and abuse. “Empowered and Responsible” where people are actively involved in their local area and contribute to supportive communities. “Clean, green and liveable” where people live in high quality housing and can care for and enjoy their environment. “Healthy, active and enjoyable”, where people can actively participate in maintaining and improving their health and well-being. “Dynamic and prosperous”, where people are part of vibrant communities and town centres, well connected to London and beyond.

- 3.3 Demographic change has been a feature of London’s history for centuries. Understanding the changes is essential for the council to be able plan ahead and deliver services that are relevant, timely and sufficient. The population of London peaked in 1939 at 8.6 million, then post war it started to fall to a low of 6.7 million in 1988. Since then the population has grown each year. With the current level of cuts to local government budgets of approximately 44% to 2019/20, the challenge becomes ever greater to ensure services are delivered to those most in need. Changing populations pose a challenge in terms of service prioritisation and predictions for need and usage. This affects all areas of the Council from school places planning, housing, care for the elderly, to leisure facilities and refuse collection etc. Demographic change has an effect on everything the Council does.

The Current Population - National

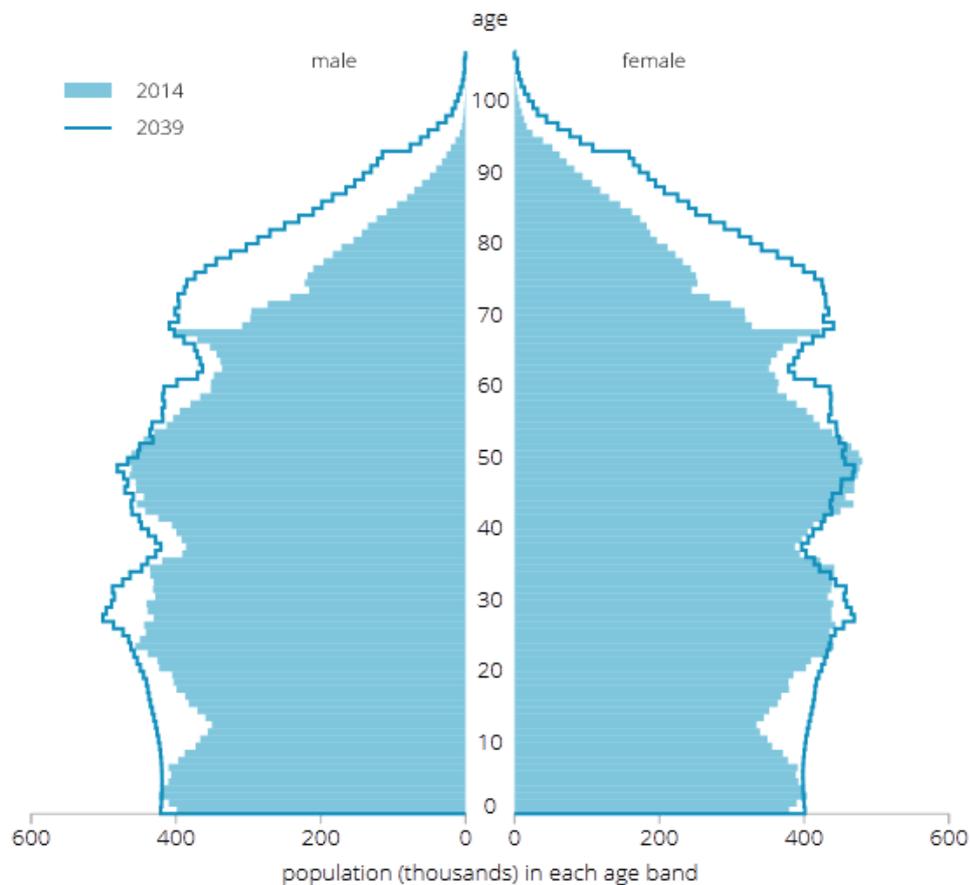
- 3.4 The UK population is growing. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) projections forecast an increase in UK population of 6% to 2024 and 14% to 2039 from the 2014 figures. According to the ONS the UK population in June 2015 stood at just over 65 million representing an increase of 9.2% or just over 5 million people over the previous ten years.¹
- 3.5 In the ten years from 2005 to 2015 the resident population of England has increased from 49.9 million to 54.1 million, a rise of 8.3%. During this period the non-UK born estimated population of England rose from 5.2 million to 7.9 million, a rise of 51.8%. In 2015, the non-UK born population of England amounted to 14.6% of the overall population.

¹ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates>



3.6 The population of the UK is getting older. The graph below shows the age structure of the UK in 2014 and projections for 2039. The median average age rises from 40 years in 2014 to 42.8 by 2039. This has an implication on a wide variety of services provided by the Council. As explored in subsequent paragraphs, Lewisham has a higher proportion of people under 15 than the national average.

Age structure of UK population, mid-2014 and mid-2039

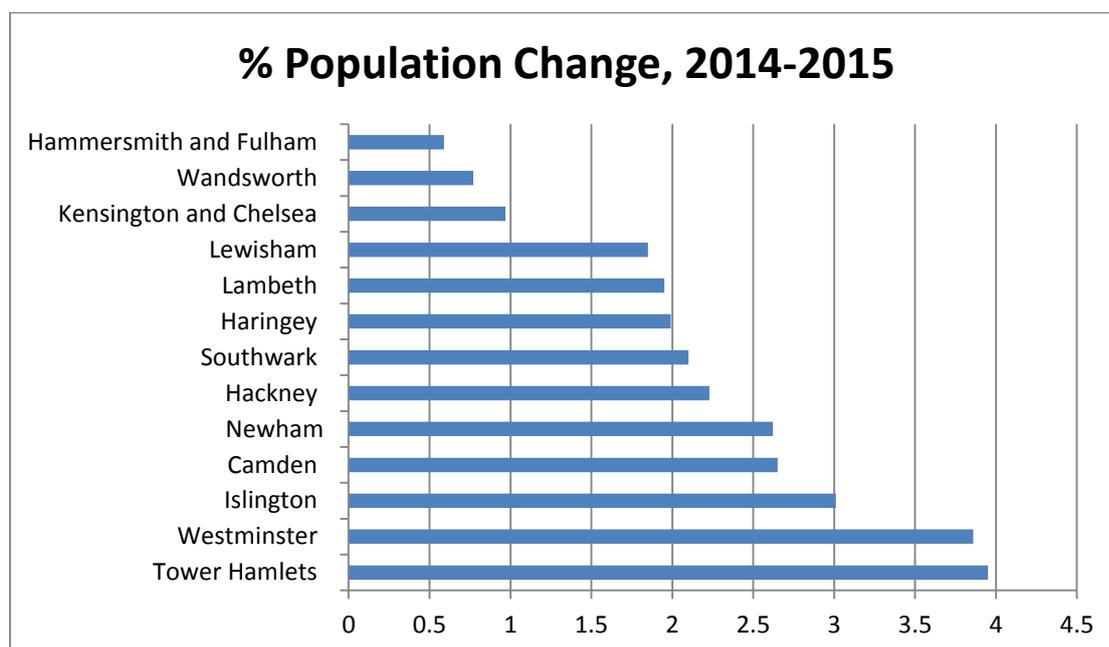


Source: Office for National Statistics

The Current Population – Lewisham

- 3.7 Lewisham is the fifth largest inner London borough and the thirteenth largest in London. According to the ONS Population estimates released on 23 June 2016, the 2015 mid-year estimates show the population of Lewisham has risen to 297,325 people, an increase of 1.8% (5392 people) from the same point in 2014. Within this figure the data shows that in the previous 12 months to June 2015, it is estimated that 22,879 people moved to Lewisham from other parts of the UK, whilst 24,415 left for other parts of the UK; a net effect of -1,536 people. Over the same period 5,649 were estimated to have moved to Lewisham from outside the UK whilst 1,966 left Lewisham for countries outside the UK; a net effect of +3,683 people. There were 4,763 births and 1,524; a natural change effect of +3,239 people.
- 3.8 The population of Lewisham rose steadily at an average of more than 5,000 per year between 2012 and 2015, amounting to an increase over this period of 15,769. The population has increased at around 1.7% to 1.8% per year and this growth rate is accelerating very slightly each year. As can be seen from the graph below, population growth in Lewisham is less than that of the majority of inner London boroughs.

Percentage Change by Inner London borough, 2014-15 mid-year population estimates

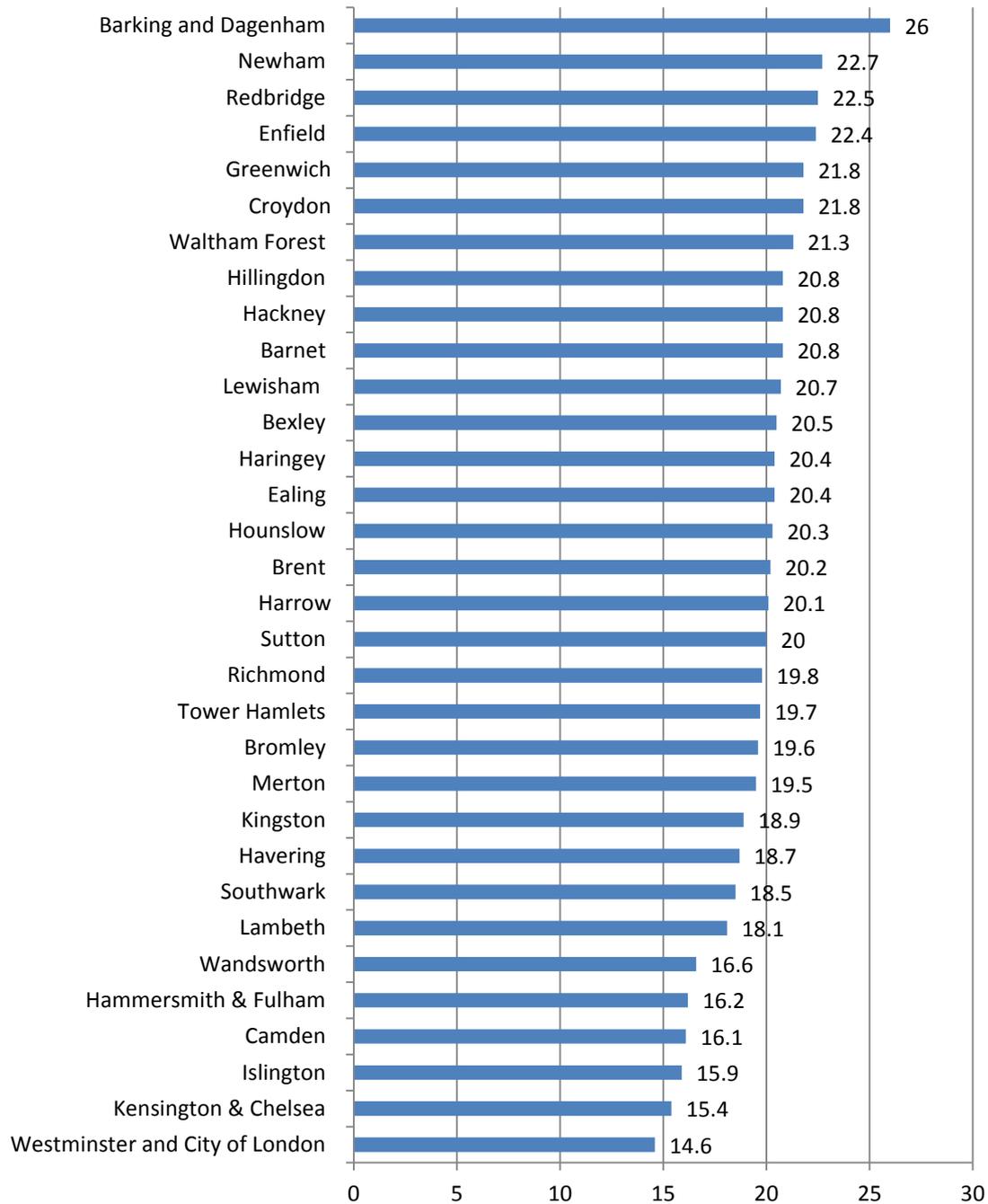


- 3.9 Within the resident population, occupational class is also changing. Across London the proportion of residents in “higher-skilled occupations is rising. In Lewisham, between 2004 and 2014, the percentage of the work force in higher-skilled occupations rose from 46% of those in employment who were in “higher- skilled occupations” to 57%, the third biggest percentage point rise across all London boroughs. At 57%, Lewisham has the 10th highest proportion of all London boroughs of residents in higher-skilled occupations, the highest is Islington at 73% and the lowest being Barking and Dagenham at 31%.² Other notable socio-economic shifts include an increase in the number of houses in the private rental sector and a decrease in number of home owners across London.
- 3.10 Lewisham has a slightly younger age profile than the rest of the UK; children and young people aged 0-19 years make up 24.5% of our residents, compared to 22.4% for inner London and 23.8% nationally. Lewisham has approximately 39,000 pupils within its 90 schools. Statistically Lewisham also has a lower percentage of the population over 65 than the national average and also comparatively with other London boroughs. These trends are illustrated in the two graphs below.

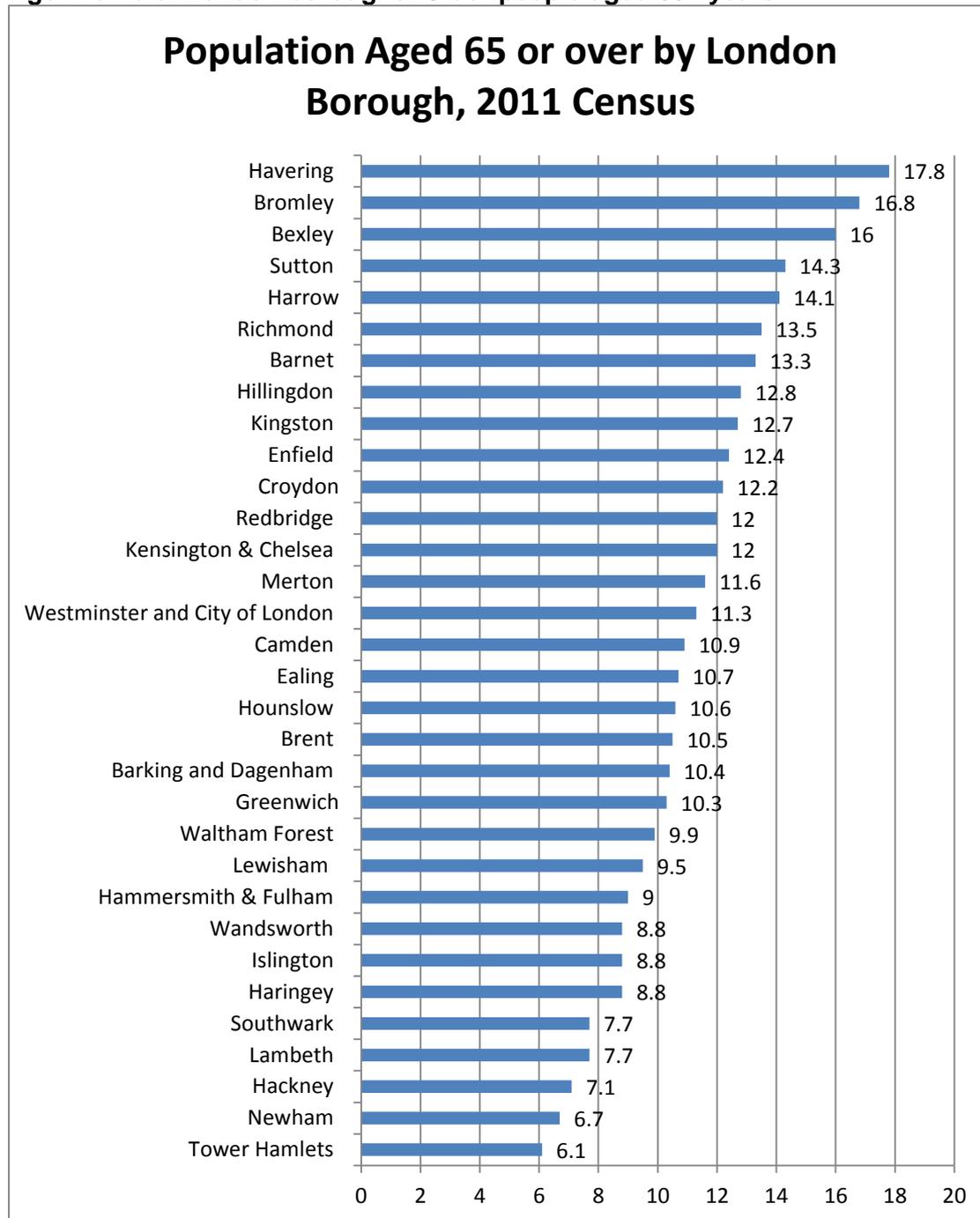
² ONS Annual Population Survey, 2004-2014

Age Profile of London boroughs: Children and young people aged 0-15 years

Children and Young People, 0-15 yrs, by London Borough, 2011 Census



Age Profile of London boroughs: Older people aged 65+ years



This chart illustrates the large variation in the older age population across London.

3.12 Lewisham is an ethnically diverse borough with approximately 40% of Lewisham residents are from black and minority ethnic backgrounds. This rises to 77% within our school population, where over 170 different languages are spoken by our pupils. According to the London Plan 2016, London will continue to diversify as a result of natural growth and continued migration from overseas.

House prices

- 3.13 Pressure from house prices can affect demographics within an area. As noted in para 3.9, the rise in the private rental sector (PRS) is occurring across London. In England average house prices have increased by 9.3% in the 12 months to June 2016 to £229,383. In Inner London prices have increased by 8.6% to £574,916 whilst in Outer London they have increased by 15.6% to £415,854. Average house prices have increased by 16.7% in Lewisham over this period, but this is still only the 12th largest increase of all 33 London boroughs, and therefore remains more affordable than many areas of London. Home ownership is still, however, unobtainable for many residents.
- 3.14 Though 3.5 times annual salary has in the past been regarded as a guide to buying a house through a mortgage, average house prices in the cheapest London borough of Barking and Dagenham were 7 times average earnings in 2015, in Kensington and Chelsea they were 40 times the average earnings by resident in that borough. In Lewisham they were 11 times average earnings, having been 6.5 times annual earnings in 2003. Reduction in home ownership and the rise in the private rental sector have implications for wealth accumulation of residents. It could result in the need to review policy assumptions and ensure those in the PRS are protected.

Deprivation

- 3.15 In relative terms, Lewisham remains among the most deprived local authority areas in England. Deprivation is measured using the following Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)
- Income
 - Employment
 - Health Deprivation and Disability
 - Education, Skills and Training
 - Barriers to Housing and Services
 - Crime
 - Living Environment
- 3.16 In the overall Index of Multiple Deprivation, Lewisham ranked 48th (of 326) most deprived nationally (one being the most deprived), compared to a ranking of 31st for 2010, and 39th for 2007. This means that as a local authority Lewisham is within the 20% most deprived Local Authorities in the country.
- 3.17 In terms of overall deprivation, Lewisham is ranked 10th out of the 33 London boroughs (including the Corporation of London), unchanged from 2010. The IMD ranking of most London boroughs has improved (ie they have become comparatively less deprived), though notable ranking increases have occurred in Barking and Dagenham, Westminster, and Croydon.

Table 1: London Boroughs by IMD National Ranking

	2015 National Rank	2010 National Rank	2010-2015 Ranking Change
Tower Hamlets	10	7	-3
Hackney	11	2	-9
Barking & Dagenham	12	22	10
Newham	23	3	-20
Islington	24	14	-10
Haringey	30	13	-17
Waltham Forest	35	15	-20
Southwark	40	41	1
Lambeth	44	29	-15
Lewisham	48	31	-17
Westminster	57	87	30
Enfield	64	64	0
Brent	68	35	-33
Greenwich	78	28	-50
Camden	84	74	-10
Hammersmith & Fulham	92	55	-37
Croydon	96	107	11
Ealing	99	80	-19
Kensington & Chelsea	104	103	-1
Hounslow	117	118	1
Redbridge	138	134	-4
Wandsworth	158	121	-37
Hillingdon	162	138	-24
Havering	167	177	10
Barnet	172	176	4
Bexley	191	174	-17
Bromley	208	203	-5
Merton	213	208	-5
Sutton	217	196	-21
Harrow	219	194	-25
City of London	231	262	31
Kingston upon Thames	278	255	-23
Richmond upon Thames	294	285	-9

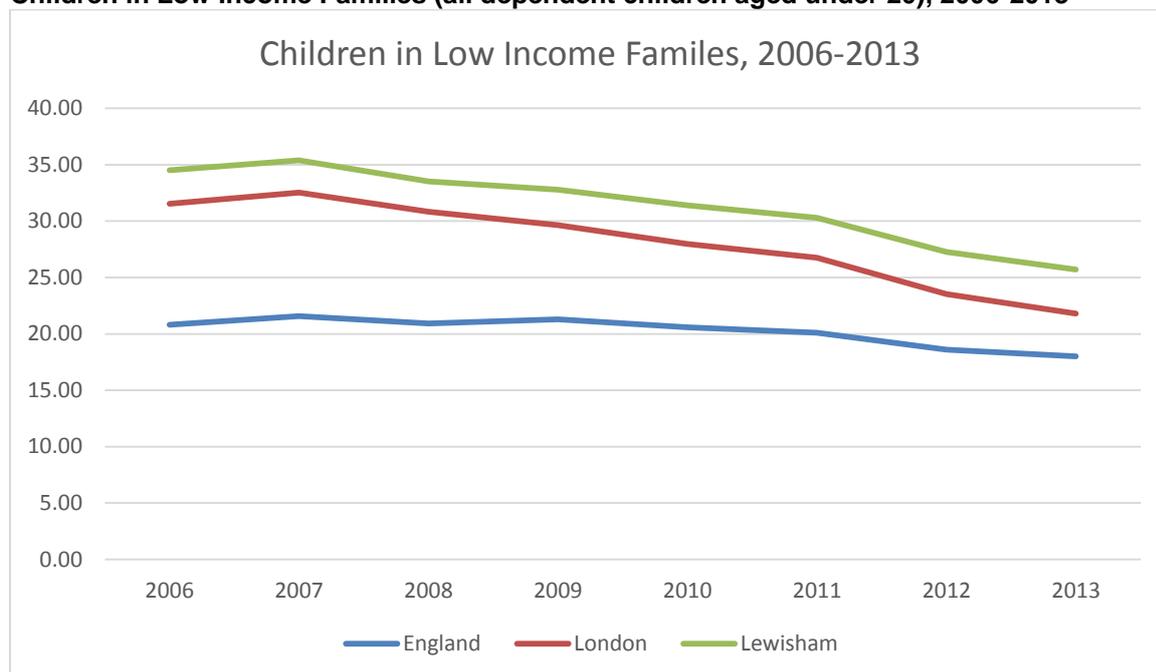
- 3.18 Statistically in terms of IMD rating, Lewisham has improved its ranking in percentage terms and now rates 48th most deprived as apace to 31st most deprived in the country. However, it is important to note the proportion of children and older people in income deprivation is very high and Lewisham ranks as the 19th most deprived in the country specifically for each of these categories.
- 3.19 In terms of overall deprivation and the percentage of wards falling in the bottom 20% nationally, deprivation is concentrated in New Cross, Downham and Bellingham. Significant parts of these wards fall within the 20% most deprived in England. In New Cross relative deprivation has increased significantly, though in neighbouring Evelyn the situation has improved compared to 2010. Deprivation levels remain unchanged in Whitefoot. However, the most severe deprivation is concentrated in the Evelyn ward where approximately a third of the ward is categorised as being in the 10% most deprived in England.
- 3.20 Levels of income deprivation affecting older people are relatively unchanged from 2010. Evelyn, New Cross, Brockley and Downham are the most affected wards.
- 3.21 Overall levels of income deprivation affecting children have improved slightly since 2010. However, deprivation exists across many parts of the borough, with the highest levels in Evelyn, Bellingham, Downham, and New Cross.

Impact of Welfare Reform

- 3.22 The financial impact of the recent welfare reforms amounted to an estimated average loss of £470 per year for every working age adult in Lewisham up to March 2016. This loss is above the London (£410) and the national (£360) average.
- 3.23 The reforms to Tax Credits have had the largest impact per head, followed by changes to the Local Housing Allowance for Housing Benefit claimants.
- 3.24 The Benefit Freeze planned for this current parliament is expected to have the largest impact, affecting 43,000 households with an average loss of £121 per year per working age adult.
- 3.25 Universal Credit tapers and thresholds are also expected to impact significantly, affecting 15,500 households in Lewisham, with an average loss of £81 per year. New tax credit reforms will also impact very significantly with £12 million losses in the borough.
- 3.26 The total estimated financial impacts over the 2010-2020/21 period amount to £820 per working age adult per year in Lewisham, which is the eighth highest level out of thirty-two London boroughs.

Child poverty

Children in Low Income Families (all dependent children aged under 20), 2006-2013



3.27 In England the proportion of Children in Low Income Families has fallen from 20.8% in 2006 to 18.0% in 2013. In 2006 this measure of child poverty was much higher in London at 31.5%, but the gap has narrowed significantly to 21.8%. Lewisham was at 35.4% in 2006 but has since dropped sharply to 25.7%.

4 Areas of interest for the review

4.1 Following the meeting of Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on Wednesday 19th October, the Committee resolved to focus the review on the Council's approach to forward planning. In particular the committee wanted to consider how policy formation adapts to changing demographics and the borough's readiness for medium/long term changes in the composition of the population. In addition the committee was keen to look at predictions for how the population would change and whether the socioeconomic make-up of the borough was likely to change further.

5 Meeting the criteria for a review

5.1 A review into demographic change meets the criteria for carrying out a scrutiny review, because:

- it is a strategic and significant issue
- scrutiny can add value in this area

6 Key lines of enquiry (KLOE)

6.1 It is proposed that the review considers both current medium-term and longer-term predictions and projections, and focuses on areas of most concern in terms of pressure on residents and the Council, looking at how the Council

forward plans for demographic change and how it manages risk. It is proposed that the review considers the equalities aspect of demographic change with a view to identifying any population groups that are especially likely to feel the impact of demographic change and the council's role in mitigating this.

- What sources of information are used to inform future delivery of council services?
- Where are the predicted population trends in Lewisham?
- How does the council use demographic information to predict future demand for services?
- How could the council make better use of the available information?
- Where are the most severe pressure points on services predicted to be?
- How do national policy issues such as Brexit, devolution or boundary changes impact the Council's ability to plan for and predict demographic change?
- How can the council ensure the best outcomes for local people in the context of the current financial climate?

7 Timetable

7.1 The Committee is asked to consider the outline timetable for the review set out below. It is suggested that one evidence sessions is held focussing on the key lines of enquiry.

Evidence-taking session (17 January 2016)

7.2 To address the KLOE outlined in section 6 the following is proposed:

7.2.1 Receiving a written report and presentation from key officers providing information on the following:

- Population and demographic projections
- Key challenges for the Council
- How policy is developed and services are future-proofed
- Protecting the most vulnerable residents and those with protected characteristics
- Planning for and mitigating the impact of national policy changes such as Brexit, Devolution and Boundary Changes

7.2.2 Questioning officers on the report.

Recommendations and final report (8 March 2017)

7.3 A final report presenting all the evidence taken and agreeing recommendations for submission to Mayor and Cabinet will be presented to the Committee at the meeting on 8 March 2017.

8 Further implications

- 8.1 At this stage there are no specific financial, legal, environmental or equalities implications to consider. However, each will be addressed as part of the review.

9 Background Papers

Inside Out, Centre for London, December 2015

<http://www.centreforlondon.org/publication/inside-out/>

<https://files.datapress.com/london/dataset/indices-of-deprivation-2015/2016-05-24T18:16:14/indices-deprivation-2015.pdf>

<https://www.lewisham.gov.uk/mayorandcouncil/aboutthecouncil/strategies/Documents/LewishamAnnualPublicHealthReport2015.pdf>

For further information please contact Katie Wood, Scrutiny Manager on 020 8314 9446

How to carry out an in-depth review



Agenda Item 6

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee			
Title	Capacity in the Voluntary Sector – Draft Report	Item No.	6
Contributors	Scrutiny Manager		
Class	Part 1	Date	28 November 2016

1. Purpose of paper

- 1.1 As part of the work programme for 2016/7 municipal year, the Select Committee agreed to carry out a review on capacity in the voluntary sector. The review was scoped in September 2016 and evidence gathered at the meeting in October 2016.
- 1.2 The attached report presents the evidence received for the review. Members of the Committee are asked to agree the report and suggest recommendations for submission to Mayor and Cabinet.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members of the Select Committee are asked to:
 - Agree the draft review report
 - Consider any recommendations the report should make
 - Note that the final report, including the recommendations agreed at this meeting, will be presented to Mayor and Cabinet

3. The report and recommendations

- 3.1 The draft report attached at **Appendix 1** presents the written and verbal evidence received by the Committee. The Chair's introduction, recommendations and conclusion will be inserted once the draft report has been agreed and the finalised report will be presented to a Mayor and Cabinet at the earliest opportunity.

4. Legal implications

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

5. Financial implications

- 5.1 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. The Council works to eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment, promote equality of opportunity and good relations between different groups in the community and to recognise and to take account of people's differences.

For more information on this report please contact Katie Wood, Scrutiny Manager, on 020 8314 9446

Overview and Scrutiny

Capacity in the Voluntary Sector Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee

November 2016

**Membership of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee
in 2016/17:**

Councillor David Michael (Chair)

Councillor James-J Walsh (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Brenda Dacres

Councillor Colin Elliott

Councillor Joyce Jacca

Councillor Stella Jeffrey

Councillor Jim Mallory

Councillor John Paschoud

Councillor Luke Sorba

Councillor Paul Upex

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5. Lewisham context	
<i>The Findings</i>	
6. “The Way Ahead”	xx
7. James Lee, Head of Culture & Community Development	xx
8. Greater London Volunteering	xx
9. Charities Finance Group	xx
10. Rushey Green Timebank	xx
11. Lewisham Disability Coalition	xx
12. Conclusion	xx
13. Monitoring and ongoing scrutiny	xx
Sources	xx

Chair's Introduction

To be inserted.

Photograph of Chair

Councillor XXX
Chair of the XXX Select Committee

Executive summary

[Insert text here]

[Exec Summary should include the key findings of the review]

DRAFT

Recommendations

The Committee would like to make the following recommendations:

[Insert recommendations]

DRAFT

3. Purpose and structure of review

3.1 At their meeting of 14 April 2016, the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee, resolved to carry out a review into developing the capacity of the community and voluntary sector.

3.2 At its meeting on 15 September 2016, the Committee agreed the scoping paper for a short review of the support offered for organisations in the community and voluntary sector. The scoping paper set out the background and key lines of enquiry for the review. The key areas proposed to be considered were:

To establish:

- The Council's principle means for providing support to the sector
- The budget available to carry out this work
- The process for assessing the support needs of community and voluntary sector organisations

To consider:

- What forms of support should be a priority for the sector?
- What form should support arrangements for the community and voluntary sector take?

3.3 The timeline for the review was as follows:

19 October 2016 – To agree the scope of the review.

19 October 2016 - Evidence-taking session to cover the analysis of the Council's role in and budget for supporting the voluntary sector and to consider evidence from voluntary organisations.

28 November 2016 – Draft Report to Committee. This will coincide with the report on the main grants programme for 2017/18

4 Policy Context

4.1 The Council's overarching vision is "Together we will make Lewisham the best place in London to live, work and learn". In addition to this, ten corporate priorities and the overarching Sustainable Community Strategy drive decision making in the Council. Lewisham's corporate priorities were agreed by full Council and they remain the principal mechanism through which the Council's performance is reported.

4.2 Improving capacity in voluntary sector plays a crucial part and has an effect on all of the Council's corporate policies of: community leadership: young people's achievement and involvement; clean, green and liveable; safety, security and a visible presence; strengthening the local economy; decent homes for all; protection of children; caring for adults and older people; active

healthy citizens; and inspiring efficiency, equity and effectiveness. This demonstrates the breadth of the voluntary sector. In particular the priority 'Community leadership and empowerment' promotes developing opportunities for the active participation and engagement of people in the life of the community. The Council's Sustainable Community Strategy's priority of "Empowered and responsible" aims to create a borough where people are actively involved in their local area and contribute to supportive communities.

- 4.3 The issues facing voluntary sector organisations are increasingly challenging. There has been a dramatic decrease in public funding. London boroughs are anticipating around 44% cuts in funding by 2019/20. The National Council for Voluntary Organisations financial stability report (June 2015) predicts a £4.6 billion annual shortfall in voluntary sector income over the next five years to 2019/20¹ to maintain current spending power. This is at a time of increasing need and demographic change in communities.
- 4.4 Voluntary sector organisations in recent years have also been under increasing pressure in terms of public scrutiny following high profile cases in the media. Organisations are having to rapidly adapt in this changing climate, looking at new models, new levels of citizenship engagement and participation and adapting financial models and diversifying funding sources. In particular, small and medium-sized organisations are hardest hit by the changes in public funding and are having to adapt rapidly to survive. This theme is further explored in section 8.
- 4.5 The report "The Civic Core" ² estimates that 9% of the adult population account for 66% of charitable activity (this includes donating money and volunteering). These people are defined as "the civic core". The remaining 34% of charitable activity is undertaken by 67% of the population and are sometimes known as "the middle ground". The remaining 24% of the population undertake little or no charitable activity and they can be defined as "zero givers". The three distinct groups can then be looked at to help provide an overview of the population's engagement with charities and can be used to shape strategies for engaging more people in volunteering and charitable giving.
- 4.6 In the current climate, organisations are having to diversify funding sources and quickly adapt to changes. It is important that infrastructure support organisations³ can be accessed. The Council's Main Grants Programme's funding strand "strong and cohesive communities" provides funding for infrastructure support, this is discussed further in section 5 of the report.

¹ https://www.ncvo.org.uk/images/documents/policy_and_research/funding/financial-sustainability-review-of-the-voluntary-sector-july-2015.pdf

² The Civic Core, Charities Aid Foundation, September 2013, https://www.cafonline.org/docs/default-source/about-us-publications/caf_britains_civic_core_sept13.pdf?sfvrsn=5.pdf

³ Infrastructure support organisations provide advice and support to other charities on operating effectively, and they represent the interests of those charities to decision-makers. Note this term is used interchangeable with the term "civil society support groups" in this report and are also sometimes referred to as "2nd tier organisations".

Ensuring that support is relevant and the best use of available resources for the maximum number of people is essential.

5 Lewisham Context

- 5.1 Lewisham has a long history of engagement and collaboration with the community and voluntary sector. In 2001, Lewisham was one of the first local authorities to develop a local compact⁴ with the sector, which established shared understandings about roles and responsibilities and set out commitments for working together.
- 5.2 The Lewisham Compact is an agreement between the London Borough of Lewisham and local voluntary and community organisations about how they will work together. NHS Lewisham and SLAM (South London & Maudsley Mental Health Trust) are also signatories to the Compact. The Compact recognises the significant role played by the voluntary and community sector, not only in providing services but also in generating income, adding to the local economy, developing and utilising the skills of local people and strengthening local communities, it aims to:
- increase understanding, improve working relationships and extend co-operation between the Council and voluntary and community sector organisation.
 - develop the voluntary and community sector's capacity to provide services to the community and achieve high quality outputs
 - support initiatives to achieve Best Value in the provision of services by the council
 - enhance the effectiveness of both the council and voluntary and community sector organisations in meeting the needs of the community.
- 5.3 Voluntary Action Lewisham (VAL) has a longstanding partnership with the Council. Its remit is to provide leadership for the sector and to help build organisational capacity and capability. Led by the Council and VAL, stakeholders carried out further work to develop the Lewisham compact in 2010, with the addition of guidelines for commissioning with the sector. This was in recognition of the important contribution that it should play in identifying needs as well as delivering services.

Community and voluntary sector review

- 5.4 In 2011/12, the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee carried out a year long review into the capacity of the community and voluntary sector. The Committee gathered evidence across three key themes:

⁴ The Compact is a voluntary agreement that aims to foster strong, effective partnerships between public bodies and voluntary organisations. Its principals apply to all relationships between voluntary organisations and public bodies that are distributing funds on behalf of the Government. See http://www.compactvoice.org.uk/sites/default/files/the_compact.pdf

- Establishing the capacity of the voluntary sector
- How to build capacity of the sector
- The future role of the voluntary sector

5.5 Members of the Committee found that support for the sector in Lewisham was good and that much of the Council's work with the sector reflected good practice elsewhere. The Committee recognised that grant funding by the Council played a key part in sustaining the sector and that funding enabled organisations to access support and funding from a wider range of sources than they otherwise would.

5.6 Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee submitted a final report and recommendations from the review to Mayor and Cabinet in May 2012. A specific recommendation relating to support for the sector was included:

Organisations that support the Community and Voluntary Sector in Lewisham, such as Voluntary Action Lewisham, should review the support that they offer to the sector especially in relation to capability and capacity building. The Committee feels that provision of more intensive and individual support including advice, training and guidance would create better results for organisations.

5.7 In response to the recommendation, the Council supported Voluntary Action Lewisham (VAL) to carry out its strategic review of its services⁵ which sets out the organisations strategic objectives and targets. VAL's strategic plan recognised that in the climate of reducing resources and increased demands for the delivery of more complex services, organisations might need to merge, collaborate or share facilities. The key objectives from the strategic plan were:

- To be a leader of change;
- To increase the effectiveness of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in Lewisham;
- To strengthen the voice of the VCS in Lewisham;
- To enable the representation of the VCS in Lewisham;
- To build and develop local and sub-regional partnerships and collaboration;
- To increase the value and reputation of 2nd-tier infrastructure

Lewisham Council's main grants programme

5.8 Funding through the main grants programme is provided over four themes:

- strong and cohesive communities
- communities that care

⁵ Voluntary Action Lewisham Strategic Plan 2013-2015

<http://www.valewisham.org.uk/sites/default/files/files/FINAL%20Strategic%20Plan%202012-2015.pdf>

- access to advice services
 - widening access to arts and sports
- 5.9 Support for building capacity of the sector is funded through the 'strong and cohesive communities strand of the programme'. The programme also places an emphasis on collaboration and the sharing of resources. In addition to the themes outlined above the Council committed to funding:
- Organisations that are committed to working with each other and the Council to ensure the best possible outcomes for Lewisham's residents with shared resources.
 - Active partners who are as passionate about Lewisham as the Council is and have the drive and capacity to make a difference to people's lives.
 - Organisations that understand the level and profile of local need and have the ability to transform the way they work to meet that need.
 - Organisations with a track record of adding value to Council funding through attracting resources both financial and volunteer time.
 - Organisations that share values with the Council as well as commitment to the London Living Wage, equalities and environmental sustainability.
- 5.10 The Council is in the midst of a decade long reduction in resources, which will reduce the funding available for services by £200m in 2020, compared to 2010/11. Therefore, Mayor and Cabinet has agreed to reduce the funding to the grants programme by £1m from 1 April 2017, which equates to just over 25% of the overall main grants budget of £3,985,600.
- 5.11 In July 2016, Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee scrutinised the outcome of a consultation with the community and voluntary sector about the reduction in funding which proposed that the reduction be made by:
- Remove funding from under performing groups/those performing least well
 - Negotiate reductions and seek alternative funding streams
 - Work with groups to consider mergers or asset sharing
 - Pro rata reductions across all groups
- 5.12 The Council is taking part in further discussions with affected organisations over the summer and autumn to encourage collaborative working, sharing resources and identifying alternative funding streams. As outlined above, infrastructure support for the sector is primarily funded under the 'strong and cohesive communities' theme of the grants programme. Discussions have begun with organisations providing this support under the themes identified in the report "the Way Ahead" which is further explored in the next section of this report.
- 5.13 Mayor and Cabinet will make a decision on funding for the next two years of the main grant programme at their meeting in December 2017. This will go the

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee for pre-decision scrutiny. This review into capacity in the voluntary sector and its recommendations will, therefore, have been informed by the pre-decision scrutiny of the report on the Main Grants Programme in addition to the evidence in this report.

6 The Way Ahead

- 6.1 London Funders is an organisation that represents a network of fund giving organisations in the community and voluntary sector. London Funders has worked in collaboration with London Voluntary Service Council (LVSC) and Greater London Volunteering on the recent report: 'The Way Ahead: civil society at the heart of London'. The report sets out a vision for civil society in London and it establishes principles to help develop this vision. The main purpose of the scope of the report was the question "given constrained resources and a rapidly changing environment, how can civil society be supported to deliver the best outcomes for Londoners".
- 6.2 The Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee looked at the report and used it to help shape their questions and challenge to witnesses. This was used to help assess the situation in Lewisham and the role the Council could have in supporting the voluntary sector and maintaining and improving capacity.
- 6.3 "The Way Ahead sets out a proposed vision and system for civil society and how it should be supported in future. It proposes 12 processes and lists the key players involved in achieving this and how they interact with each other. Figure 1 below shows the Key Proposals as listed in "The Way Ahead" report. The larger circles on the outside represent the processes and the smaller inner circles represent the key players. The coloured lines link them together and show how they interact.

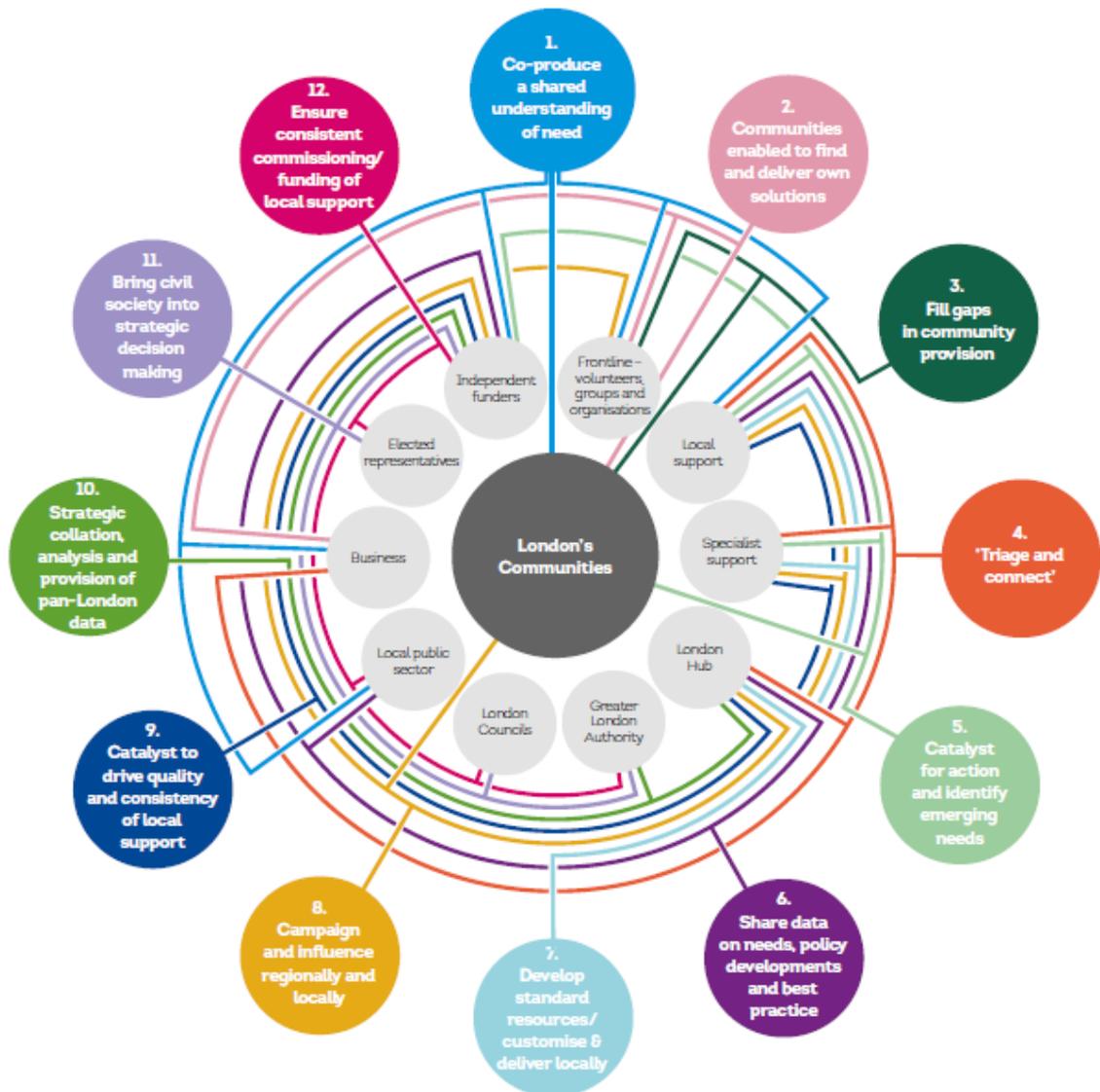


Figure 1 from “The Way Ahead: Civic Society at the Heart of London, April 2016

6.4 The diagram above shows that in their model, the role of the local public sector links to the following processes:

- Co-produce a shared understanding of need.
- Sharing data on needs, policy developments and best practice.
- Ensure consistent commissioning/funding of local support.

6.5 The report emphasizes the importance of carrying out needs assessments in collaboration with communities using relevant data and it highlights the need for stakeholders in the sector to provide each other with support and challenge. The report sets the context for the future funding of the community and voluntary activity in London and it begins to describe the future role of local authorities as equal partners with the sector. The report also sets out steps for the implementation of its findings in its “immediate steps grid”. It

outlines a timetable for completion and lists the partners for each step. Their timetable sets out November 2016 for beginning to prototype the model and looking at cross-borough approaches. It is therefore important that LB Lewisham are actively looking at the proposals and developing a strategic approach.

7 James Lee (Head of Culture and Community Development)

- 7.1 The Committee heard evidence from James Lee, Head of Culture and Community Development, on challenges faced by the sector. It is a difficult time for the sector, the Council is making substantial cuts to the main grants programme, budget and public sector commissioning budgets are being tightened at the same time that accessing funding from alternative sources is becoming more competitive. London Councils is also withdrawing its funding for infrastructure support organisations. This is at a time when there is still a high level of demand for services provided by the community and voluntary sector and there are significant numbers of people living in relative poverty who need support.
- 7.2 The Council recognises the need for a strong voluntary sector and the need for local communities to be supported through civil society. Infrastructure support is also needed to assist organisations to monitor how well they are performing and diversify their sources of funding. There is also potential for organisations to reduce the impact of funding reductions on front line service delivery through mergers and partnerships in the sector.
- 7.3 Lewisham Council is working with organisations to help them understand what funding reductions from the main grants programme would look like for them and to help them adapt. The Council recognises that this can be a particular challenge for smaller organisations and is therefore working with organisations to build the capacity of peer support networks. The local partnership of community organisations is strong and this would help make Lewisham organisations resilient to the challenges.
- 7.4 Specific work is taking place with Voluntary Action Lewisham (VAL), Rushey Green Time Bank and Volunteer Centre Lewisham to consider Lewisham's infrastructure support offer based on the 'way ahead' proposals. The Council recognises that infrastructure support needs to be less bureaucratic, more community led and more flexible. A combined infrastructure support offer might include a disclosure and barring service hub; it might procure or provide training. It might also provide a focus for local activity. It should be responsive to local issues and help the Council to engage with the sector. It should also mobilise local people to tackle local issues.
- 7.5 An important role for infrastructure support organisations in the future would be to provide a voice for the sector: to raise issues, challenge the Council and to collect information to demonstrate the cumulative impact on the sector. This would allow the Council to better meet its responsibilities without simply shunting costs from one area to another.
- 7.6 A proposal relating to infrastructure support is included as part of the main grants update to Mayor and Cabinet in December. Safer Stronger

Communities will undertake pre-decision scrutiny of the Mayor and Cabinet report at their November meeting. The recommendations for this review will have been informed by both documents with Committee members having had the opportunity to review them both to help shape the recommendations of this review.

8 James Banks (Chief Executive, Greater London Volunteering)

- 8.1 James Banks, gave evidence to the Committee regarding the report “The Way Ahead” which he co-authored and which is also discussed in section 6 of this review.
- 8.2 James stated that ‘The Way Ahead’ report brought together a wide range of stakeholders to consider the future of civil society in London and broadened the definition of voluntary activity to encompass a wider range of actions to achieve change and helped to demonstrate the requirement for civil society support. In challenging economic situations, new approaches were required to achieve positive outcomes.
- 8.3 In London, there are 120,000 civil society groups and 3.5 million Londoners who volunteer regularly. In addition to this there are 250,000 people who work in the voluntary sector and 7.3 million Londoners who come into contact with the charitable sector in an average year. According to their statistics, “the Way Ahead” report estimated an economic and wellbeing contribution of £27 billion a year to the London economy from the voluntary sector.
- 8.4 Although the voluntary sector is large, it needs support to enable it to thrive. Focus groups and research show that there are high levels of pressure on contracts and on volunteers in the sector in part because of less funding and increased competition when bidding for contracts. There can also sometimes be an expectation that civil society organisations can change models quickly and produce their own resources. This isn’t always the case and sometimes time is needed to successfully adapt.
- 8.5 Civil society support groups are also facing high levels of demand for their services and additional financial constraints. This could often have a knock on effect on the voluntary groups who use them. For example, they may no longer be able to obtain the same levels of support that they had previously accessed.
- 8.6 The proposal in “The Way Ahead” report is that there be a new system of working, which would identify the wide range of organisations involved in providing support to the sector and build on their strengths. The system being proposed in the report is markedly different from what currently exists. Greater London Volunteering was working in partnership to lead and progress the recommendations in the report, but change would take time.

- 8.7 Members of the Committee raised some concerns about differing types of social capital⁶ in different areas and whether this had the potential to make the community-driven approach to infrastructure support unbalanced as some communities would be more able to connect than others. There is an important role for infrastructure support organisations at a local level. Every member of the community should be involved in helping to decide what their community needed and how it should be delivered. Support organisations should not need to provide everything themselves and part of their role should be in brokering offers of support and providing peer to peer connections.
- 8.8 In terms of corporate fundraising, more work could be done to ensure voluntary organisations got the best possible offers of support. This is particularly relevant in terms of successfully accessing volunteer time. It could often be straightforward but accessing volunteers with the right skills for the right length of time and on the right projects was often more of a challenge. It is important that the full potential of corporate support be accessed so the benefits were fully realised for voluntary organisations themselves and not just working for the corporations. There is a range of reasons why corporations may want to donate to charities either through money or staff time, these could range from: boosting their profile in the local community; fulfilling their corporate social responsibilities; staff retention and development. Particularly in the case of volunteering, charities need to ensure that the offer works for them and not just the corporation.
- 8.9 Members of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee felt that a broad definition of civil society was most appropriate to capture the range and breadth of actions by communities. The definition of Civil Society used in the report “The Way Ahead” is as follows:

“Civil Society is where people take action to improve their own lives or the lives of others and act where government or the private sector don’t. Civil Society is driven by the values of fairness and equality, and enables people to feel valued and belong. It includes formal organisations such as voluntary and community organisations, informal groups groups of people who join together for a common purpose and individuals who take action to make their community better.”

- 8.10 The “Way Ahead Report” suggests that a “co-production of a shared understanding of need” should be undertaken. Committee members considered this and concluded that they felt that alongside any consideration of need in a community there should be an assessment of skills and opportunities available. To this end, it could be viewed as an assets model for understanding the sector rather than uniquely a deficits model.

⁶ **Social capital** is defined by the OECD as “networks together with shared norms, values and understandings that facilitate co-operation within or among groups”
<https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=3560>

- 8.11 Committee Members highlighted their concerns about types of social capital in different communities. It could be harder for voluntary groups in some areas to mobilise the resources required in their communities. They also highlighted the imbalance in spending power, marketing and use of targeted data, between large and small charities.
- 8.12 The Lloyds Bank Foundation published a report highlighting that since the financial crisis of 2008, small and medium-sized charities lost a higher proportion of their income than larger organisations. Across the voluntary sector over 23,000 charities stopped operating between 2008 and 2014, the majority with an income under £500k. Reductions in income from local and central government through contracts and grants decreased for all income bands of charities except the largest (over £100million). For small and medium-sized charities the increases in income from individuals of 21% did not offset the losses from government grants and contracts of 38%.⁷
- 8.13 The same report states that since 2010 public sector commissioning has shifted towards competitive commissioning models where all types of provider compete for contracts to deliver public services. The report states that larger organisations including larger charities are dominating the public sector procurement market. The report also highlights the National Council for Voluntary Organisation's research showing the smaller the income of the charity, the more they lost in income from both local and central government, despite an increase in demand for services. Typically charities with an income between £25k to £1m experienced reductions of 30-44% of their income from these sources.
- 8.14 The Social Value Act came into force in January 2013, it requires people who commission public services to think about how they can also secure wider, social, economic and environmental benefits. The Act states that "before they start the procurement process, commissioners should think about whether the services they are going to buy, to the way they are going to buy them, could secure these benefits for their area or for their stakeholders."⁸
- 8.15 The act aims to strengthen the social enterprise business sector and make the concept of 'social value' more relevant and important in the placement and provision of public services. The Act aims to encourage participation with the third sector including social enterprises. Under the act, commissioners are required to take a best value for money approach and not a lowest cost approach to ensure consideration of the wider benefits. The act requires every local authority (in England) to include in their sustainable community strategy proposals for

⁷ Small and Medium-sized charities after the crash: what happened and why it matters, Lloyds Bank Foundation, 2014

https://www.lloydsbankfoundation.org.uk/assets/uploads/LBF_Smallest%20Charities%20Hardest%20Hit_Executive_Summary_final.pdf

⁸ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/social-value-act-information-and-resources/social-value-act-information-and-resources>

promoting engagement with social enterprise in their area. They must also include a statement of measures for social enterprise to participate in the implementation of these proposals.

9 Andrew O'Brien (Head of Policy and Engagement, Charities Finance Group)

- 9.1 The Committee heard evidence from Andrew O'Brien, Head of Policy and Engagement at the Charities Finance Group. Charities Finance Group has over 1350 charities in its membership and provides support for those with financial responsibility in the charity sector to develop and enhance their skills through its programme of training, conferences, policy work and best practice guidance.
- 9.2 Andrew stated that there had been a significant reductions in grant funding in recent years. In 2010 there was £6billion in grants available for the sector, in 2016 this had fallen to £2billion and it was estimated that there wouldn't be any grant funding available at all by 2024. His experience indicated that it was rare for Councils to still have a separate community grants budget.
- 9.3 Grant funding was important to voluntary organisations as it allowed them to be flexible, resilient and demand led. If the Council were evaluating voluntary organisations for grant funding, it was important to understand that monetising or putting an exact financial value on savings and impacts of projects could be difficult for small and medium sized organisations and the Council should use a personal and common sense approach to evaluating the success of community and voluntary sector organisations. Organisations with small incomes might find it difficult to demonstrate their impact and effectiveness. They might also have to spend disproportionate amount of time writing bids and attempting to demonstrate their impact.
- 9.4 Successful mergers and asset sharing between organisations in the sector were reliant on sustainable funding streams. The front loading of local government cuts from central government and the speed at which these were passed on to the sector meant that some small organisations, that (given better notice) could have become self-sustaining had to close and once that capacity was lost it would be difficult to rebuild it. Providing a set of options to small organisations to encourage asset sharing and mergers was a better approach than forcing organisations to work together. Small organisations found it particularly difficult when they were merged with another organisation and their shared resources were immediately cut.
- 9.5 Members of the committee felt the main grants programme had moved towards a commissioning model and that there was further work to be done on determining what the grants programme should be trying to achieve in future. There was an opportunity through this report and the report on the Main Grants Programme for the Council to consider its objectives and use appropriate methods to make this happen. This might be through the commissioning approach or via grant funding. Each approach had benefits

and drawbacks for different reasons. The important thing would be to choose the right method for the desired outcome.

10 Philippe Granger (Rushey Green Time Bank)

- 10.1 Philippe Granger from the Rushey Green Time Bank addressed the Committee on their experiences of voluntary sector capacity. Time Banking is a community development tool and works by facilitating the exchange of skills and experience within a community. Time Banking values everyone's time as equal, 1 hour equals 1 hour. For every hour you spend helping someone in your community you are entitled to an hour of help in return.
- 10.2 The community and voluntary sector have moved from a situation in which it had lots of money available to a situation of restrained resources. When resources were plentiful, there were lots of projects and lots of groups. This had led to a situation of providing services for people, rather than enabling them to do things for themselves.
- 10.3 Organisations in the sector were asking themselves questions about what they should do with less money in order to support communities to thrive.
- 10.4 There was a danger of creating a deficiency model in the sector – in which people believed they needed more and more funding to meet their needs. Investment was needed to equip people and empower them in their own communities to make a change.
- 10.5 Similarly to the Committee's views highlighted in paragraph 8.11 promoting an assets not just deficits understanding of need, Philippe stated that Civic society should promote a new vision and a new language for Lewisham, which focused on people's assets and helped them to connect with others.
- 10.6 The UK Giving report 2015 showed that within the last 12 months of the survey, 13% of adults aged 16 and above had volunteered for a charity. The challenge in all areas was to engage wider numbers of people in the civic core. Committee members considered that an approach might be to work more with younger generations in creating a sense of pride and place. It is worth noting however that the same survey cited above showed that young people aged 18-24 in full-time higher education were over twice as likely to have volunteered in the last 4 weeks than the rest of the population. (14% vs 6% overall)⁹.
- 10.7 The Committee felt that for the longer term, it remained important to engage younger generations to engrain habits for life. The Council could ensure it works with schools around volunteering and placements to help that volunteering opportunities are promoted and supported within schools and possibly given equal weighting to work experience placements.

⁹ https://www.cafonline.org/docs/default-source/personal-giving/caf_ukgiving2015_1891a_web_230516.pdf?sfvrsn=2

10.8 The Council is working with Goldsmiths University and in May 2016, the London Borough of Lewisham and Goldsmiths University of London signed a Memorandum of Understanding which confirms that the two organisations have a formal agreement to work cooperatively towards a strategic alliance in which the Borough recognises Goldsmiths as its preferred higher educational partner and commits to work together on activities that integrate Goldsmiths:

- As part of the Lewisham community eg volunteering opportunities and working with the assemblies
- As part of the Lewisham skills economy eg supporting young people and adult learners progress to higher education
- Into the work the Council is doing to support the Lewisham economy – business start-ups and supporting innovation

10.9 An example of work that has been taking place over the last six months through this memorandum of understanding includes working with the Creekside project on volunteering opportunities. In addition to this Lewisham Local have been collaborating with Goldsmiths to promote “Giving Tuesday- 29th November” amongst the students and local community particularly in the New Cross area.

10.10 Large charities had access to substantial sets of data, which enabled them to target activities to local demographics. The Council might look to carry out further work to provide intelligence and data support for smaller organisations in the sector. Purchasing access to data systems such as MOSAIC had the potential to provide large amounts of data that could be disseminated to voluntary organisations through partnerships.

11 Roz Hardie, Lewisham Disability Coalition

11.1 Roz Hardie from the Lewisham Disability Coalition (LDC) addressed the committee on her experiences of capacity in the voluntary sector and in terms of infrastructure support. The Lewisham Disability Coalition is a charity based in Lewisham and works to promote equality for disabled people and to provide services that support Independent Living.

11.2 Understanding who was falling through the gaps was important and challenging. It was not the role of charities to pick up everything and charities should run alongside well-funded public services.

11.2 The LDC wanted to access a trusted specialist support or a trusted framework for purchasing or trading skills. The sector might look to share support, rather than having to develop specialist skills in each organisation. Organisations were sometimes buying expensive contracts because they were not aware they could get the support free elsewhere.

11.3 Organisations in the sector found that the Council was helpful in providing technical support. It was recognised however, that this might be problematic if an organisation had an issue with the Council. There was a view that sometimes the Council made it difficult for groups to do things because of the

levels of bureaucracy. In addition to this, they felt there appeared to be a worrying trend of large organisations taking up resources. In order to adapt the sector needed consistent support and sometimes additional funding to take the risks to adapt.

- 11.4 The provisions of the Social Value Act (previously discussed in section 8.15 of this report) might help to redress the balance between small and large charities locally. Understanding how this was being implemented locally by Lewisham Council was important and ensuring the aims and objectives tallied with those outlined in the Main Grants Programme to achieve the targeted outcomes and ensure clarity for organisations.
- 11.5 It was important that work carried out at national level to quantify and qualify the work done by and benefits to society of the voluntary sector took into account the local context. It would also be important for benefits to be defined in terms of outcomes and not limited to outputs.
- 11.6 Change did not need to be feared and the current climate offered an opportunity for innovation. Trustees of local charities had a strong leadership role to play in the current climate. To thrive they should look towards the future with optimism and ambition.

12 Conclusion

- 12.1 The report summarises the evidence the Committee have received around developing capacity in the voluntary sector. It draws on evidence from the Council, representatives from voluntary and community sector organisations National studies. The report recognises that the current financial system is particularly challenging for small and medium-sized charities and work can be done to continue to support them but in innovative and cost-effective ways. The Council is adapting and this report and its recommendations can help to ensure that resources are used in the best possible way to support the local community.

13 Monitoring and ongoing scrutiny

- 13.1 The recommendations from the review will be referred for consideration by the Mayor and Cabinet at their meeting on 7th December 2016 and their response reported back to the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee within two months of the meeting. The Committee will receive a progress update in six months' time in order to monitor the implementation of the review's recommendations.

Sources and Background Papers

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Agenda Item 7

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee		
Report title	Main grants programme 2017-19	
Ward	All	Item 7
Contributor	Head of Cultural and Community Development	
Class	Part 1	28 November 2016

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline recommendations for the allocation of the Main Grant Programme 2017 – 19. The draft report that is attached details the process that officers have undertaken to secure £1,000,000 in savings from the budget and sets out the recommendations that Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) will be asked to agree at their meeting on 07 December 2016 as well as the appeals process for organisations unhappy with officer recommendations.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that Members of the Safer Stronger Select Committee note and comment on:

- 2.1 the process followed for reaching recommendations for the grant allocations.

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Mayor & Cabinet (Contracts)			
Report Title	Main Grants Programme 2017-18 and 2018/19 – funding recommendations		
Key Decision	Yes	Item No.	
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director for Community Services, Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration, Head of Law		
Class	Part 1	Date:	7 December 2016

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek agreement for the allocation of the Main Grant Programme 2017 –19. The report details the recommendations that Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) are asked to agree with a further paper to be tabled detailing the outcome of the appeals process for organisations who wish to challenge officer recommendations.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) agree:

- 2.1 the proposals to fund voluntary and community sector groups, as set out in Appendix 1, for the financial years 2017/18 and 2018/19
- 2.2 that £210,000 be ringfenced for the development of the new ‘infrastructure’ offer (this represents a 25% reduction on the current funding to Voluntary Action Lewisham and the Volunteer Centre Lewisham)
- 2.3 that officers undertake a review of grants awarded to organisations that provide similar activities around youth theatre and performing arts to report back to Mayor and Cabinet in June 2017
- 2.4 the ring-fencing of £15,000 to support boxing in the borough in light of the recommendation to defund London Amateur Boxing Association
- 2.5 that officer review the allocations to Eco Communities during 2017/18 and report back to Mayor and Cabinet during 2017 with a recommended allocation for 2018/19
- 2.6 that rent grants cease from 1 April 2017 in order to regularise the support given to organisations in council buildings. The impact and agreed next steps for each of the four organisations affected are set out in section 11 of this report
- 2.7 that officers undertake a root and branch review of the grant making process to inform the process for any future allocation rounds.

3. Policy Context

- 3.1 Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2020, 'Shaping our Future', sets out the borough's ambitions to encourage development, enable citizens to live healthy lives and to empower Lewisham's communities to prosper. It has six strategic priorities, including a commitment to creating a borough that is "Empowered and Responsible: where people are actively involved in their local area and contribute to supportive communities".
- 3.2 The empowered and responsible strand of the strategy highlights the importance of the community and voluntary sector in all areas of public life. It recognises that the sector plays a significant part in Lewisham's ongoing success.
- 3.3 This is reflected in Lewisham's corporate priorities: "Community leadership and empowerment: developing opportunities for the active participation and engagement of people in the life of the community".
- 3.4 Lewisham has a strong history of working with the voluntary and community sector and empowering residents and communities. Lewisham is fortunate to have a strong and thriving sector which ranges from very small organisations with no paid staff through to local branches of national charities. The sector includes charities, not for profit companies limited by guarantee, faith organisations, civic amenity societies as well as social enterprises. There are estimated to be around 800 community and voluntary sector organisations in the borough.
- 3.5 What all these organisations have in common is their ability to bring significant additional value to the work that they do through voluntary support and raising funds from sources not available to other sectors such as charitable trusts. In addition they often provide services that the Council cannot easily provide; create links between communities and people; and give people a voice.
- 3.6 As well as being directly involved in delivering services to citizens in the borough, third sector organisations also provide the essential infrastructure to allow the sector as a whole to develop and support individual citizens to be able to play an active role within their local communities.
- 3.7 Lewisham was the first London Borough to develop a Compact with the third sector in 2001. The compact seeks to support a positive relationship between the sector and key statutory partners. It includes expectations around the management of grant aid as well as broader partnership working principles. The compact was further developed in 2010 with the addition of guidelines for commissioning with the third sector in recognition of the important contribution that the third sector should play in identifying needs as well as potentially delivering service solutions.
- 3.8 Although the third sector's role within the commissioning of local public services continues to grow the council recognises that there continues to be a need for grant aid investment for the following reasons:
 - a recognition of the importance of maintaining an independent sector that can act as a critical friend to challenge public sector policy and delivery.
 - a recognition of the key role that the sector plays in building civic participation, providing a voice for seldom heard residents and providing community intelligence.

- a recognition of the great diversity of the sector and the need to engage with small and emerging groups as well as large established organisations.
- a recognition of the sector's potential to take risks and innovate which does not always sit easily within commissioning frameworks.
- a recognition that third sector organisations have been key delivery partners for a wide range of targeted short term initiatives. Grant aid provides a level of security for organisations ensuring that there is a strong sector ready to work in partnership with us.

4. Main Grants background

4.1 The current main grants programme was agreed by Mayor and Cabinet Contracts on 13 May 2015. Funding was provided over four themes:

- strong and cohesive communities
- communities that care
- access to advice services
- widening access to arts and sports

4.2 In addition to the themes outlined above there is a commitment to fund:

- Organisations that are committed to working with each other and us to ensure the best possible outcomes for Lewisham's residents with our shared resources.
- Active partners who are as passionate about Lewisham as we are and have the drive and capacity to make a difference to people's lives.
- Organisations that understand the level and profile of local need and have the ability to transform the way they work to meet that need.
- Organisations with a track record of adding value to council funding through attracting resources both financial and volunteer time.
- Organisations that share values with the council as well as commitment to the London Living Wage, equalities and environmental sustainability.

4.3 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) agreed 2016-17 funding to 60 organisations on 17 February 2016. Funding was awarded for 2 years and 9 months, from July 2015 to March 2018.

5. Savings requirement

5.1 Due to the overall financial position of the Council Mayor and Cabinet have agreed to reduce the funding to the grants programme by £1m from 1 April 2017. This equates to around 25% of the overall main grants budget.

5.2 As such the Council was required to develop an approach to realising this saving and undertook a 6 week consultation on the proposed approach between 19 May 2016 and 30 June 2016.

5.3 In July 2016 the Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) agreed that a full re-letting of the current programme was not appropriate and that officers should seek to realise the saving from the existing funding allocations through the activity outlined below in order of precedence:

1. *Remove funding from under-performing groups/those performing least well*
2. *Negotiate reductions and seek alternative funding streams*
3. *Work with groups to consider mergers or asset sharing*
4. *Pro-rata reductions across all groups*

5.4 It was agreed that this would be undertaken in a uniform way with all groups following a detailed set of follow up questions also agreed by Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) on 13 July 2016. These question are attached as Appendix 2 and full details of the consultation and the agreed approach can be found at <http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=2921>.

5.9 In recognition of the fact that groups with funding agreements for three years faced reductions during that period it was agreed that the revised settlement would be extended for a further year through to 31 March 2019.

6. Implementation

6.1 Following the approval of the approach at Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) officers undertook the following activity in developing funding recommendations for each group while ensuring they were kept fully informed of the process and given ample opportunity to engage with the process and plan for any potential funding reduction:

- Head of Cultural and Community Development wrote to all funded groups (29/07/16) to outline the agreed approach and the list of questions (Appendix 2) that would be followed at meetings and suggested modelling for a 25% reduction including discussions with Trustees and frontline staff and volunteers
- Officers responded to initial requests for information or ad hoc meetings to discuss particular issues during the late summer
- Formal meetings were held with every group during July, August and September (see Appendix 3 for full meeting dates and attendees) to go through the agreed questions and formulate potential savings options
- Officers held internal 'Dragon's Den' style sessions during October where managers challenged colleagues on their analysis, assumptions and recommendations
- Draft recommendations presented to Executive Director for Community Services (20/10/16)
- Draft recommendation reports sent to all groups (02/11/16) with a two week deadline for formal appeals
- Draft recommendations considered by Safer Stronger Select Committee (28/11/16)
- Appeals against officers recommendations made to Mayor and Cabinet (30/11/16)

6.2 The recommendation report for each group set out the performance data considered, a record of the meeting and the rationale behind the proposed level of funding. These reports are attached as appendices 6 – 65. A summary of the key findings and recommendations are presented in sections 7 – 10 below, under the headings of the steps taken with the groups.

6.3 Overall these meetings were extremely positive with officers meeting with 77 Members of staff from funded organisations as well as 36 trustees with board level representation at 65% of the meetings.

6.4 5 organisations appealed their recommended allocation and a report detailing the outcome of the special meeting of Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) on Thursday 30 November 2016 has been tabled at the meeting.

6.5 The final recommended allocations are attached as appendix x.

7. Remove funding from under-performing groups/those performing least well

- 7.1 The vast majority of funded groups are meeting their agreed outputs and outcomes well with some groups significantly overachieving against targets.
- 7.2 There were a small number of organisations who have underperformed against one or two of their outputs but had strong rationale for changing the focus of their work e.g. Age Exchange reallocated a small amount of their resource from advice to activity at the request of their service users.
- 7.3 Other groups had strong mitigating factors to be taken into account and were able to demonstrate that they had done everything they could to refocus their efforts or address the specific issue during the period e.g. Disabled Persons Contact underperformed against the number of trips that had been undertaken due to a bus crash but they refocused their resource on more local activity while they fundraised for a replacement bus.
- 7.4 However there were a small number of groups whose underperformance was not considered to be sufficiently mitigated and officers are recommending a full or partial defunding.
- 7.5 While **Grove Park Community Group** (GPCG) provide a successful community resource at the Ringway Centre it became apparent through the monitoring process that the organisation had failed to grasp the community development side of the grant with little work taking place until quarter one of 2016-17. This has been despite meetings with the monitoring officer and an agreed set of actions put in place. There was very little progress demonstrated against some of the key deliverables set out in the grant application and it is recommended that no main grant funding is awarded beyond March 2017.
- 7.6 It is worth noting GPCG did perform well on some of the agreed outputs but that these were being delivered prior to the grant and it is officers' assessment that they will continue to be delivered if the grant were to be removed.
- 7.7 **IRIE!** receives funding under both the Widening access to Arts and Sports (WATAS) and Strong and Cohesive Communities (Neighbourhood) funding streams. Whilst the organisation has failed to meet the stated output targets in either area, officers believe there are sufficient mitigating factors within the WATAS work (not least the distraction of the Strong and Cohesive Communities work) to recommend a pro-rata cut for this element of provision.
- 7.8 However the lack of delivery against the outputs in relation to a wider community development approach is more difficult to justify. This is particularly in relation to the development and implementation of outreach strategies which would underpin a genuinely outward facing community development presence in the area. One of the strategies has now been completed and approved in the 2016/17 period but overall the organisation has not been able to demonstrate real progress in this area of work. As such it is recommended that **IRIE!** do not receive funding under the Strong and Cohesive Communities (Neighbourhood) theme beyond March 2017.
- 7.9 **Volunteer Centre Lewisham** have underperformed on a number of their outputs and it is therefore recommended that funding does not continue beyond March 2017.

- 7.10 However, the strategic importance of volunteering continues to be recognised and so it is recommended that funding is ring-fenced to be part of the budget allocated to the new organisation that will deliver a redesigned voluntary sector infrastructure support offer – see section 9.
- 7.11 The situation with **Mencap** is a slightly unusual one. The recommendation report for funding for this round of Main Grant (2015-18), agreed by Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) in May 2015, stated that Mencap’s grant award would be for the provision of social clubs and related activity and that this should be the priority for the organisation. It further recommended that advocacy, and information and advice be delivered by other organisations where needed.
- 7.12 However, Mencap have continued to use the Main Grant for the provision of advocacy and information and advice, and provide monitoring data for this. The council has also continued to accept this monitoring data and has not dealt with this error until now.
- 7.13 As such it appears that a substantial proportion of the grant is used to provide this advocacy, information and advice and Mencap are therefore using the grant erroneously. The social groups which the council does fund are predominantly run by volunteers with a small amount of administrative support and sessional worker cost.
- 7.14 Therefore, it is recommended that Mencap receive a 50% cut. This is to safeguard the social activities which they are funded for and in recognition that the advocacy, information and advice work is not funded by the council.
- 7.15 **Eco Communities** underperformed against two of their targets but officers are prepared to accept mitigating factors regarding the closure of a building and library manager sickness and that these figures are improving in quarter one of 16-17. However, it also became clear that the delivery of the outputs agreed under the grant are closely linked with the management of the community library buildings and it is unclear which takes priority in resource allocation. As such it is recommended that this funding be initially only for 2017/18 while officers work with Eco Communities to review the use of the grant and the future of the current library buildings that Eco manage.
- 7.16 In addition to the above groups recommended for full or partial defunding it should be noted that **Greenwich Carers Centre** had their funding removed in July 2016 due to changes in market conditions leading to underperformance. This reduction in funding is formally recognised as on-going as part of this process.
- 7.17 Overall the process of reviewing the performance of all groups during a focused and intensive period has been a very positive one and led to a significant amount of dialogue regarding the purpose of the individual grants and a refocusing of outputs to best achieve the outcomes desired by both the council and the funded organisations.
- 7.18 However, it is important to note that during the course of the process it has become apparent that the nature of grant making meant that comparing groups and making an objective assessment of relative performance was very difficult.
- 7.19 It is also the case that services have traditionally been assessed primarily in relation to their initial application rather than other similar projects and that there is a lack of parity in levels of funding provided to different organisations who are delivering similar services.
- 7.20 Furthermore it is clear that there is not a single, agreed approach on the way in which organisations provide output data as part of the performance monitoring process.

Some groups only list services directly funded by the grant, some list all outputs supported by the grant, while some see the funding as a contribution towards their overall delivery and include activities funded from other sources

- 7.21 In order to provide greater clarity to future monitoring and funding rounds it is recommended that officers undertake two specific pieces of work:
- a review of grants awarded to organisations that provide similar activities around youth theatre and performing arts, including Lewisham Youth Theatre, Trinity Laban and Greenwich and Lewisham Young Person's Theatre to report back to Mayor and Cabinet in June 2017
 - that officers undertake a root and branch review of the grant making process to inform the process for any future allocation rounds.

8. Negotiate reductions and seek alternative funding streams

- 8.1 During the course of discussions with groups in excess of 50 different funding streams were considered ranging from large trusts and foundations, through alternative statutory funding to small scales giving and fees and charges.
- 8.2 However, with the exception of small charitable giving most funding streams are focused on particular activity and outcomes and fund specific posts or activity rather than being able to directly replace funding provided through the grants programme.
- 8.3 However officers have been successful in securing £250,000 from the Better Care Fund (BCF) to support the work of the **Community Connections Consortium** for the remainder of the programme.
- 8.4 The BCF is a unique funding stream that straddles health and local government and is designed to place individuals at the centre of their care and support providing them with 'wraparound' fully integrated health and social care, resulting in an improved experience and better quality of life.
- 8.5 BCF resources have been made available to Community Connections in recognition of the vital work it plays, and will play, in the integration of the voluntary sector into the Neighbourhood Care Network. This funding means that the Main Grant to Community Connections can be reduced to £86,000 while protecting the overall investment at the current level of £336,000 per annum.
- 8.6 In addition to this officers continue to work with a number of groups to secure increased level of funding through their engagement with the local authority and/or the CCG including **Sydenham Garden**, in relation to their dementia work, and Voluntary Services Lewisham's **Access Lewisham** scheme.
- 8.7 Officers were also able to negotiate funding reductions with a number of groups due to a variety of reasons:
- 8.8 Despite positive performance data it has become apparent that **London Amateur Boxing Alliance (ABA)** who are currently funded through the Main Grants programme has broken away from the only recognised National Governing Body (NGB) 'England Boxing.' The London region of England Boxing is now called London Boxing.
- 8.9 London Boxing has highlighted that clubs working with the Alliance would not be able to access Sport England funding or any other major funding that is linked to involvement with the NGB.

- 8.10 Officers have spoken to representatives of the ABA who recognise that this makes their council funding untenable and have agreed that this will mean they can no longer be funded although they will continue to promote boxing in the borough. It is recommended that the London ABA are defunded but funding (£15,000) is ring fenced for boxing support in the borough. This would include developing provision in the south of the borough, following the closure of Palmers and support to Double Jab in the north of the borough. Officers will work with London Boxing and England Boxing (the NGB) to develop this support for implementation from 1 April 2017 although this is recommended to be a one year allocation initially to allow for a full evaluation of the new approach.
- 8.11 Officers have negotiated a 35% reduction in funding for **Lee Green Lives** based on under and unclear performance against targets in 2015/16.
- 8.12 This is not a reflection on the quality of work delivered by Lee Green Lives but rather the nature of the provision and the lack of common understanding regarding the agreed outputs. The reduced level of funding also represents the current level of unspent funding and the expectation that this resource be used to bolster activity over the remaining funding period.
- 8.13 A 50% cut has been negotiated in the funding for **Saxon Crown** swimming club. Again, this is not a reflection of the quality of delivery but a recognition of where the organisation's strengths lie and a need to focus on core swimming offers e.g. for those with disabilities rather than a wider sports development role. This reduction takes account of the re-profiling of underspend on current funding across the remaining years which would reduce the impact of the reduction.
- 8.14 Finally, officers have undertaken detailed negotiations with **Somerville Youth and Play Provision (Somerville)** who are currently funded outside of the main grants themes in recognition of the uncertainty relating to the overall youth provision in the borough at the time of the letting of the programme.
- 8.15 There is now greater clarity regarding this provision with the creation of Youth First mutual and it is important that Somerville moves towards a sustainable future alongside the wider provision in the borough.
- 8.16 However, Youth First is still its infancy and it is important that Somerville are not destabilised in the short term. As such officers have negotiated a 25% reduction in the allocation for 2017/18 and a further reduction in 2018/19. It was originally proposed that the target for 2018/19 was £0 but Somerville made the case that this would severely undermine the organisation as they use the Lewisham Grant for match funding for other funding. Officers accepted this consideration and agreed to make a provisional recommendation of £40,000 for 2018/19 (to cover the level of match funding already stated) but to work with Somerville during 2017/18 to see if this could be reduced.
- 8.17 Officers will work with Somerville, Youth First and other services for young people in the borough on future provision as previously agreed by Mayor and Cabinet.

9. Work with groups to consider mergers or asset sharing

- 9.1 The potential to mitigate the impact of any revenues reductions and to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of provision through asset sharing and/or mergers was discussed with every group.
- 9.2 A number of groups expressed interest in exploring this further and officers will be facilitating discussions and workshops for a number of individual groups as well as sectors (e.g. groups providing services for Older People) but at the time of writing only one set of formal negotiations has begun.
- 9.3 This is regarding the provision of a new 'infrastructure' offer to the voluntary and community sector in the borough. These negotiations are in part due to the recommended defunding of the Volunteer Centre Lewisham (see paragraphs 7.9 – 7.10) but also in response to a wider set of circumstances including the removal of infrastructure funding through the London Councils grants programme, the production of 'The Way Ahead' report by the London Funders and the investigation into the needs of the sector by Lewisham's Safer, Stronger Communities Select Committee.
- 9.4 These factors have all contributed to officers holding discussions with Voluntary Action Lewisham (VAL), the Volunteer Centre Lewisham (VCL) and the Rushey Green Timebank (RGT) about what the future offer may look like. RGT have been included in these discussions due to their role coordinating timebanking across the borough and the delivery of specific sector leading projects such as the Lewisham Community Contributor Card.
- 9.5 A number of meetings have taken place to discuss a merged organisation or joint venture and there is broad agreement around the vision and purpose of the offer based on nine principles put forward by VAL:
- involve – getting communities involved in co-producing an understanding of need and what must happen to make Lewisham better, stronger and more sustainable;
 - introduce – understanding and connecting people, groups and formal organisations – bringing people together to achieve change;
 - initiate – identifying needs and encouraging others to act – sparking collaborations and starting discussions to get solutions;
 - incubate – providing seedbed space (physical and intellectual) for emerging groups to tackle new and changing needs;
 - inspire – showcasing excellence, developing new ideas, sharing learning from within and outside Lewisham;
 - invest – equipping civil society with the skills, knowledge and resources to make a difference;
 - inform – sharing data on needs and policy developments with Lewisham groups, and out to local decision makers and the London Hub;
 - influence – championing the role of the sector, the needs and strengths of local communities, and helping strategic people make better decisions; and
 - innovate – be a centre of excellence for civil society support, piloting new ways of working to achieve positive change.
- 9.6 These principles echo the use of the term 'civil society' in the Way Ahead report to reflect a wider role than just supporting the voluntary sector and also make reference to the London Hub which is likely to be created to replace pan-London support funded by London Councils.

9.7 These broad principles will be developed, incorporating recommendations from the Safer, Stronger Communities Select Committee, into a formal service offer from 1 April 2017. However at the time of writing it is unclear whether RGT would formally be part of any new offer and as such the recommendation within this report is that £210,000 be ringfenced for the development of the new offer (this represents a 25% reduction on the current funding to VAL and VCL) with RGT receiving a pro-rata cut. Officers hope that the outcome of the negotiations will be positive with the new offer delivered using the combined resource.

10. Pro-rata reductions across all groups

10.1 The activity outlined in sections 7-9 above mean that the pro-rata cut applied to all remaining groups who are performing well is 14.9%.

10.2 This is well below the 25% reduction that officers have modelled with organisations and the expectation is the impact will be significantly reduced as groups have been planning for a larger cut for several months.

11. Rent Grants

11.1 There is a varied pattern of occupation and management agreements for a number of council owned premises occupied and run by community groups. The council provides support to organisations in a number of different ways, including providing repairs & maintenance, rent grants, main grant funding and peppercorn lease arrangements.

11.2 During 2015 the Council developed and consulted on a voluntary sector accommodation plan which was agreed by Mayor and Cabinet in July 2015 and November 2015. Part of this plan was to regularise the support offered to voluntary organisations in council owned buildings, and to ensure a transparent and fair approach across the board.

11.3 Historically the council has provided rent grants to some organisations to cover the cost of rent charged by the council. The rent grants are not linked to specific outcomes. Four organisations who currently receive rent grants are as follows:

- Ackroyd Community Association
- Lewisham Young Women's Resource Centre (LYWRC)
- The Midi Music Company
- Downham Community Association (Wesley Halls)

11.4 Two of these organisations (Ackroyd and Midi Music) were successful in receiving main Grant funding in 2015-18 whilst the other two were not recommended for Main Grant funding.

11.5 Whilst the voluntary sector accommodation plan was being implemented it was agreed that the four organisations receiving rent grants continued to receive their funding in 2015/16 and 2016/17 to allow for the conclusion of this work.

11.6 It is proposed that since this work is coming to a conclusion, that rent grants cease from 1 April 2017 in order to regularise the support given to organisations in council buildings. The impact and agreed next steps for each of the four organisations affected are as follows:

11.7 Lewisham Young Women's Resource Project (LYWRP) – This organisation was identified in the voluntary sector implementation plan as either moving to shared

premises (e.g. one of the new community hubs) or a full lease to be implemented by March 2017. LYWRP are currently on a lease and feel they are in a position to remain in the building and on removal of the rent grant from 1 April 2017 will pay the rent going forward.

- 11.8 Wesley Halls – This community centre was identified as core provision within the borough and in order to bring them in line with other core community centres on leases it has been agreed with them to change their lease to peppercorn from 1 April 2017 by either deed of variation or side letter. They will be responsible for repairs and maintenance as required by the lease.
- 11.9 Ackroyd Community Centre – This community centre was identified as core provision within the borough and is Main Grant funded. In order to bring them in line with other core community centres on leases it has been agreed with them to change their lease to peppercorn from 1 April 2017 by either deed of variation or side letter. They will continue be responsible for repairs and maintenance.
- 11.10 Midi Music – This building is identified as a specialist facility in the plan. It is proposed that a lease is negotiated with them which will be at less than market rate, whilst these negotiations are underway it has been agreed that their current Tenancy at Will is stopped and a new one issued at peppercorn rate from 1 April 2017.
- 11.11 For the last three buildings (Wesley, Ackroyd and Midi) there is a net zero income position for the council in removing the rent grant and introducing peppercorn arrangements from 1 April 2017. In the case of LYWRP the rent paid from 1 April 2017 will go to Regeneration and Asset Management service.

12. Financial Implications

- 12.1 To be completed followed the outcome of the appeals meeting.

13. Legal Implications

- 13.1 Under S1 of the Localism Act 2011 the Council has a general power of competence to do anything which an individual may do unless it is expressly prohibited.
- 13.2 The giving of grants to voluntary organisations is a discretionary power which must be exercised reasonably taking into account all relevant considerations and ignoring irrelevant considerations.
- 13.3 In accordance with the Council's Constitution the decisions required in this report are reserved to Members.
- 13.4 The Equality Act 2012 (the Act) introduced a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 13.5 In summary, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
 - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 13.6 The duty continues to be a “have regard duty”, and the weight to be attached to it is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or foster good relations.
- 13.7 The Equality and Human Rights Commission has recently issued Technical Guidance on the Public Sector Equality Duty and statutory guidance entitled Practice”. The Council must have regard to the statutory code in so far as it relates to the duty and attention is drawn to Chapter 11 which deals particularly with the equality duty. The Technical Guidance also covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guidance does not have statutory force but nonetheless regard should be had to it, as failure to do so without compelling reason would be of evidential value. The statutory code and the technical guidance can be found at:
<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/legal-and-policy/equality-act/equality-actcodes-of-practice-and-technical-guidance/>
- 13.8 The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has previously issued five guides for public authorities in England giving advice on the equality duty:
- The essential guide to the public sector equality duty
 - Meeting the equality duty in policy and decision-making
 - Engagement and the equality duty
 - Equality objectives and the equality duty
 - Equality information and the equality duty
- 13.9 The essential guide provides an overview of the equality duty requirements including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. It covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty including steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The other four documents provide more detailed guidance on key areas and advice on good practice. Further information and resources are available at <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/public-sectorequality-duty/guidance-on-the-equality-duty/>

14. Crime and Disorder Implications

- 14.1 A number of the groups funded through the Main Grants programme work with people who may be involved with the criminal justice system. These groups are all recommended for a pro-rate cut and officers will work with them to mitigate any impact on their service delivery.
- 14.2 Officers will also liaise with colleagues from the Crime Reduction and Supporting People service to monitor any issues arising as a result of grant reductions in order to agree actions to address the impact.

15. Equalities Implications

- 15.1 A full equalities impact assessment was undertaken on the Main Grants Allocations for 2015 - 18 – attached as appendix 5. As Mayor and Cabinet agreed that this overall

allocation process was respected as part of the savings process the main findings of that assessment have been reassessed and are considered to be sound. As such an assessment has been undertaken on the potential impact of the funding reductions contained within this report. By focusing on reducing funding to groups performing least well and by securing BCF resources for the Community Connections service officers have sought to minimise the direct impact on current service delivery.

- 15.2 However, individual assessment of the protected characteristics most affected by each funding recommendations show that the highest impact will be against age (primarily older people) with 37 of the 63 recommendations assessed as having an impact, disability (23) and ethnicity (13) – see appendix 6.
- 15.3 Officers have worked with every individual groups to mitigate the specific impact of the funding reductions on their particular service and have sought to mitigate the impact on older people through the protection of funding to Community Connections who work primarily with older people. This work will be enhanced by bringing together the other groups that serve this community to consider asset sharing and mergers to protect frontline delivery.
- 15.4 The impact on disabilities is, in the majority of cases, also linked to age specific services and officers will work with the relevant Council colleagues and other services to highlight the potential reduction in frontline service and identify alternative activities where required.
- 15.5 Further work will be undertaken to secure alternative funding sources for groups and to promote ways of working that reduce the impact on front line services but it has to be acknowledged that some impact will be felt through a funding reduction of this size. Officers will monitor the individual impacts on a project by project basis and take all necessary steps to ensure that no groups are disproportionately affected.

16. Environmental Implications

- 16.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

17. Conclusion

- 17.1 The Council is seeking to realise £1m savings from 1 April 2017 from the Main Grants budget. Currently 60 organisations (63 individual projects) are funded from the programme. Consultation took place between 19 May and 30 June 2016 around the proposed approach to realising the savings with a general acceptance of the approach proposed.
- 17.2 Officers have taken a robust approach to the delivery of this approach and have managed to reduce pro-rata element of the reductions from the planned 25% to 14.9%.
- 17.3 The process of meeting with all funded groups has been beneficial for all concerned and the recommendations contained within the report ensure that the remaining programme will deliver significant outputs and outcomes during 2017/18 and 2018/19.

If there are any queries on this report please contact James Lee, Head of Service for Culture and Community Development on 020 8314 6548.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Recommended Allocation 2017-18 and 2018-19
- Appendix 2 – Questions explored with all groups during savings process
- Appendix 3 – Meeting dates and attendees
- Appendix 4 – Equalities Impact Assessment of the Main Grants Programme 2015-18
- Appendix 5 – Equalities impacts - grants amendments 17-18 and 18-19

Recommendation Reports

- Appendix 6 – 170 Community Project
- Appendix 7 – 999 Club
- Appendix 8 – Access Lewisham (VSL)
- Appendix 9 - Ackroyd Community Association
- Appendix 10 - Advice Lewisham bid - Lewisham CAB
- Appendix 11 - Age Exchange
- Appendix 12 – Age UK
- Appendix 13 - Ageing Well in Lewisham-LCC
- Appendix 14 - Bellingham Community Project Ltd
- Appendix 15 - Bromley & Lewisham Mind
- Appendix 16 – CAB (Lewisham Citizens Advice Bureau)
- Appendix 17 - Community Connections Partnership (Age UK Lewisham and Southwark)
- Appendix 18 - Contact a Family
- Appendix 19 - Corbett Estate Neighbourhood Forum
- Appendix 20 - Deptford Mission – Disabled People’s Contact
- Appendix 21 - Deptford Reach
- Appendix 22 - Deptford X
- Appendix 23 - Eco Communities
- Appendix 24 - Entelechy Arts
- Appendix 25 - Evelyn 190 Centre
- Appendix 26 - Goldsmiths Community Association
- Appendix 27 - Greenwich & Lewisham Young People’s Theatre
- Appendix 28 - Grove Centre, The
- Appendix 29 - Grove Park Community Group
- Appendix 30 - Heart ‘n’ Soul
- Appendix 31 - IRIE!
- Appendix 32 – LEAN (Lewisham Education Arts Network)
- Appendix 33 – Lee Green Lives
- Appendix 34 - Lewisham Community Transport Scheme
- Appendix 35 - Lewisham Disability Coalition
- Appendix 36 - Lewisham Pensioners Forum
- Appendix 37 - Lewisham Speaking Up
- Appendix 38 - Lewisham Youth Theatre
- Appendix 39 – LMLAS (Lewisham Multilingual Advice Service)
- Appendix 40 - London ABA (Amateur Boxing Association)
- Appendix 41 - London FA (on behalf of Lewisham Football Network)
- Appendix 42 – LRMN (Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network)
- Appendix 43 - Mencap
- Appendix 44 - METRO (The Metro Centre Ltd)
- Appendix 45 – Midi Music Company, The
- Appendix 46 – Montage Theatre Arts

Appendix 47 - Noah's Ark Children's Venture
Appendix 48 - Parent Support Group (PSG)
Appendix 49 - Rushey Green Time Bank
Appendix 50 – Saxon Crown
Appendix 51 - Second Wave Centre for Youth Arts
Appendix 52 – Seniors EPRC (Lewisham Elders Resource Centre)
Appendix 53 - Somerville Youth & Play Provision
Appendix 54 - Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust
Appendix 55 - Sydenham Arts Ltd
Appendix 56 - Sydenham Garden
Appendix 57 – Teatro Vivo
Appendix 58 – Tennis Lewisham (South East London Tennis)
Appendix 59 – The Albany
Appendix 60 – Thunder Basketball (London Thunder)
Appendix 61 - Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance
Appendix 62 – VAL (Voluntary Action Lewisham)
Appendix 63 – VCL (Volunteer Centre Lewisham)
Appendix 64 – VSL (Voluntary Services Lewisham)
Appendix 65 - Wheels for Wellbeing

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Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) – 07/12/16
Main Grants Programme 2017-18 and 2018/19

Appendix 1 - Main Grants Recommendations

Organisation Name	2016-17 funding	Recommended award (2017-18 and 2018 - 19 unless stated)	Actual Percentage cut
170 Community Project	£130,666.67	£111,158	14.9%
999 Club	£10,000.00	£8,507	14.9%
Ackroyd Community Association	£49,000.00	£41,684	14.9%
Advice Lewisham bid - Lewisham CAB	£52,200.00	£44,407	14.9%
Age Exchange	£32,500.00	£27,648	14.9%
Age UK Lewisham & Southwark (Advice)	£96,000.00	£81,667	14.9%
Ageing Well in Lewisham	£30,253.33	£25,737	14.9%
Albany	£315,424.00	£268,331	14.9%
Bellingham Community Project Ltd	£31,900.00	£27,137	14.9%
Bromley & Lewisham Mind	£34,905.33	£29,694	14.9%
Contact a Family	£71,520.00	£60,842	14.9%
Corbett Estate Neighbourhood Forum	£24,000.00	£20,417	14.9%
Deptford Mission – Disabled People's Contact	£7,250.67	£6,168	14.9%
Deptford Reach	£20,000.00	£17,014	14.9%
Deptford X	£10,000.00	£8,507	14.9%
Eco Communities	£40,000.00	£34,028	14.9%
Entelechy Arts	£40,000.00	£34,028	14.9%
Evelyn 190 Centre	£206,666.67	£175,811	14.9%
Goldsmiths Community Association	£24,000.00	£20,417	14.9%
Greenwich & Lewisham Young People's Theatre	£80,870.67	£68,797	14.9%
Grove Centre, The	£19,500.00	£16,589	14.9%
Heart n Soul	£69,001.33	£58,699	14.9%
IRIE! (WATAS)	£24,905.33	£21,187	14.9%
Lewisham Citizens Advice Bureau	£500,927.00	£426,139	14.9%
Lewisham Community Transport Scheme	£48,000.00	£40,834	14.9%
Lewisham Disability Coalition	£103,333.33	£87,906	14.9%
Lewisham Education Arts Network	£38,000.00	£32,327	14.9%
Lewisham Elders Resource Centre (Seniors)	£45,632.00	£38,819	14.9%
Lewisham Multilingual Advice Service	£41,000.00	£34,879	14.9%
Lewisham Pensioners Forum	£40,000.00	£34,028	14.9%
Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network	£87,920.00	£74,794	14.9%
Lewisham Speaking Up	£86,666.67	£73,727	14.9%
Lewisham Youth Theatre	£43,142.67	£36,701	14.9%
London FA on behalf of Lewisham Football Network	£25,000.00	£21,268	14.9%
London Thunder - Lewisham	£25,000.00	£21,268	14.9%
METRO (The Metro Centre Ltd)	£33,333.33	£28,357	14.9%
Midi Music Company, The	£52,032.00	£44,264	14.9%
Montage Theatre Arts	£10,000.00	£8,507	14.9%
Noah's Ark Children's Venture	£42,666.67	£36,297	14.9%
Parent Support Group (PSG)	£5,040.00	£4,288	14.9%
Rushey Green Time Bank	£90,000.00	£76,563	14.9%
Second Wave Centre for Youth Arts	£53,124.00	£45,193	14.9%
Somerville Youth & Play Provision (neighbourhood)	£24,000.00	£20,417	14.9%
South East London Tennis (Tennis Lewisham)	£29,666.67	£25,237	14.9%
Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust	£40,814.67	£34,721	14.9%
Sydenham Arts Ltd	£10,000.00	£8,507	14.9%
Sydenham Garden	£39,116.00	£33,276	14.9%
Teatro Vivo	£34,666.67	£29,491	14.9%
Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance	£90,666.67	£77,130	14.9%
Voluntary Service Association (Access Lewisham)	£98,200.00	£83,539	14.9%
Voluntary Services Lewisham	£92,352.00	£78,564	14.9%
Wheels for Wellbeing	£34,133.33	£29,037	14.9%
Community Connections Consortium (Age UK)	£336,000.00	£86,000	74.4%
Lee Green Lives	£24,000.00	£15,600	35.0%
Lewisham Mencap	£40,000.00	£20,000	50.0%
Voluntary Action Lewisham	£185,621.33	£210,000	25.0%
Volunteer Centre Lewisham	£93,333.33		
Saxon Crown Swimming Club	£13,333.33	£6,667	50.0%
Somerville Youth & Play Provision (continuation)	£95,740.00	£71,805	25.0%
Greenwich Carers Centre	£46,666.67	£0	100.0%
Grove Park Community Group	£24,000.00	£0	100.0%
IRIE! (Neighbourhood)	£24,000.00	£0	100.0%
London Amateur Boxing Association	£20,000.00	£0	100.0%
Boxing Allocation		£15,000	
London Councils Contribution		-£31,927	
TOTAL	£4,187,692.34	£3,187,692	

Saving	£1,000,000
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Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) – 07/12/16
Main Grants Programme 2017-18 and 2018/19 – funding recommendations

Appendix 2 - Questions against agreed criteria to be explored with all groups to deliver savings

1) *Remove funding from under-performing groups/those performing least well*

Have you achieved at least 90% of the agreed reporting outputs and outcomes in all quarters since the start of the programme?

Have you achieved all of the wider outcomes outlined in the initial grant application?

If no to either of the above:

- what are the mitigating factors?
- what plans are in place for improving performance?
- what progress has been made against actions agreed with your Development Officer?

What local support/evidence of need can you identify for the work you are undertaking?

2) *Negotiate reductions and seek alternative funding streams*

Are there any proposals that you can put forward that will deliver significant saving against current expenditure? This can include capital investment to change your delivery/business model.

What alternative funding streams are you already pursuing?

Are there any other funding streams that you can identify that the council can support you to access?

3) *Work with groups to consider mergers or asset sharing*

Are there any organisations doing similar work to you in the borough who you may consider sharing resources or merging with? Who have you considered/approached?

Are there other groups in the local area that you could share resources with even if they are delivering a different type of service? Again, who have you considered/approached?

What support might you need to move these suggestions forward?

4) *Pro-rata reductions across all groups*

What would a 25% cut in your grants look like in service delivery terms? What are the wider impacts?

Have you modelled this cut and developed an action plan for its implementation?

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Mayor and Cabinet (Continued) – 07/2018
Main Grants Programme 2017-18 and 2018/19
Appendix 3 – Meeting dates and attendees

Lead officer	Date & Time	Groups	LEL Attendee 1	LEL Attendee 2	Organisation attendee	Board attendee
Maya Chyett	Wed 21st Aug 11.30-1	Healthy Open 17th Sept	Maya Chyett	James Lee	Richard Cooper – CEO	Simon Pyle – Trustee
	Wed 21st Sept 11.12-30	Volunteer Centre Lewisham	Andy Thomas	James Lee	Fay Miles – Director	Simon Pyle – Trustee
	Wed 28th Sept 10.30-12	Lewisham Amateur Boxing Association	Maya Chyett	Andy Thomas	Paul King, Leveaham Co-ordinator	Simon Pyle – Trustee
Maya Chyett	Wed 7th Sept 2.3-30	Lewisham Football Network	Maya Chyett	James Lee	David James – County Development Manager	David Sheehy – Recreational Football Development Officer
	Thurs 1st Sept 3.4-30	Lewisham Thunder – Lewisham	Maya Chyett	Andy Thomas	Ann Fittman – Treasurer and Co-administrator	Nick Seely – Co-Secretary and Co-administrator
	Thurs 1st Sept 1.2-30pm	Health for Wellbeing	Maya Chyett	Petra Marshall	Robbie Clement – Welfare for Wellbeing Director	Stead Strong – Welfare for Wellbeing, Trustee
Petra Marshall	Wed 29th Aug 2.3-30	Lewisham Sporting Hub	Petra Marshall	N/A	Will Evans, Advocacy Service Manager	
	Fri 9th Sept 2.3-30	Bromley & Lewisham Mtd	Petra Marshall	N/A	Ben Taylor, Chief Executive	
	Tues 30th Aug 3.4-30	Lewisham Mercop	Petra Marshall	N/A	Mary Cherry, Coordinator/Family Advisor	Alko Fakoy, Chair
David Walton	Mon 5th Sept 2.3-30	Contact a Family	Petra Marshall	N/A	Sarah Grant, Manager	
	Tues 6th Sept 10.11-30	Seacon Down (Lewisham) Swimming Club	David Walton	Petra Marshall	Roger Noble, London Projects Manager	
	Thurs 29th Sept 3.30-5pm	Voluntary Action Lewisham	Andy Thomas	James Lee	James Banks, Temporary strategic director	Chris Fried, Chair
Andy Thomas	Tues 6th Sept 10.30-12	Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust	Andy Thomas	N/A	Lewisham Relay Community Development Officer	
	Wed 21st Aug 11.30am	METRO (The Metro Centre Ltd)	Andy Thomas	N/A	Paul Wilson, Head of Community Engagement/CEO	
	Tues 20th Aug 1.30-3	Lewisham Disability Coalition	Winston Caswell	N/A	Paul Wilson, Head of Community Engagement/CEO	
	Fri 2nd Sept 9-10.30	Age UK Lewisham & Southwark	Winston Caswell	N/A	Jacky Bourne-White, Chief Executive	John Veness, Treasurer
Ade Joseph	Wed 7th Sept 12.30-3	South East London Tennis Consortium (Tennis Lewisham)	Andy Thomas	N/A	Tom Bingham, Regional Tennis Participation Manager – London, Lawn Tennis Association	
	Wed 7th Sept 9-10.30	Lee Green Lives	Ade Joseph	Petra Marshall	Chris Hewitt/Director SE London Tennis	Dr. Jim Mackay (Chair) / Ade Joseph (Secretary) / Caroline Maylor (Vice Chair) / Petra Marshall (Trustee)
Nancy Stridgen	Tues 27th Sept 4.30-6	BBE	Nancy Stridgen	Andy Thomas	Beverley Green – Artistic Director of BBE	Patrick Warrington – Chair of BBE's Board
	Thurs 15th Sept 10.30-12	Lewisham Youth Theatre	Nancy Stridgen	Andy Thomas	Lois Errington – General Manager (maternity cover)	Heidi Starkey – Creative Director
	Thurs 14th July 4-5	M3 Music Company, The	Nancy Stridgen	Andy Thomas	Wozzy Breecher – Founder/Lead Director	Geordan Williams – Chair
	Thurs 1st Sept 10.30-12	Marriage Theatre Arts	Nancy Stridgen	Andy Thomas	Alex Carter – General Manager	
	Tues 10th Sept 2.3-30	MDP's	Nancy Stridgen	Andy Thomas	Janey Jervis, Artistic Director	Paul Canty – Chair
	Thurs 21st July 1.30-3	Greenwich & Lewisham Young Peoples' Theatre	Nancy Stridgen	Andy Thomas	Janey Jervis, Artistic Director	
	Thurs 22nd Aug 3.4-30	Albany	Nancy Stridgen	Andy Thomas & James Lee	Joel Roberts – CEO / Artistic Director	
	Wed 21st Sept 2.3-30	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance	Nancy Stridgen	Andy Thomas	Neville Jackson, Head of Learning and Participation (Dance)	
	Tues 13th Sept 10.30-12	Sydenham Arts Ltd	Nancy Stridgen	Andy Thomas	Priscilla Battersby, Head of Learning and Participation (Dance)	
	Tues 13th Sept 3.4-30	Lewisham Education Arts Network	Nancy Stridgen	Andy Thomas	Leanne Brown, Head of Learning and Participation (Dance)	
Paul Gale	Tues 20th Sept, time tbc	Second Wave Centre for Youth Arts	Nancy Stridgen	Andy Thomas	Phil Turner – External Relations and Development	Cheryl Brown – Chair
	Thurs 8th Sept 3.4-30	Erniechey Arts	Nancy Stridgen	Andy Thomas	Heather Wilson – Artistic Director	David Stalar – Artistic Director
	Tues 20th Sept 3.4-30	Heart n Soul	Nancy Stridgen	Andy Thomas	Sarah Evans – General Manager	Mark Williams – CEO / Artistic Director
	Thurs 8th Sept 11.12-30	Grove Park Community Group (GPOC)	Paul Gale	Petra Marshall	Christine Hill – Community Development Officer	Chris Blake – Chair / Paul Gale – Treasurer
	Thurs 8th Sept 1.30-3	Ackroyd Community Association	Paul Gale	Petra Marshall	Tony Rich – Community Engagement Officer	Pauline Morrison – Chair / Alan Bailey – Finance / Treasurer / Petra Marshall (with accounts)
Winston Caswell	Mon 12th Sept 1.30-3pm	Bellingham Community Project	Paul Gale	Petra Marshall	Lizzy Brown – Project Manager	
	Mon 5th Sept 1.2-30	170 Community Project	Winston Caswell	N/A	Frances Foster – Senior Advice Worker	
	Fri 2nd Sept 11.12-30	199-206	Winston Caswell	N/A	Andrew Mitchell, Head of Fundraising	John Mearns – Chair
	Wed 7th Sept 11.12-30	Deborah Kneesh (DB)	Winston Caswell	N/A	Deborah Kneesh, Director	Richard Cox, Secretary
	Tues 30th Aug 3.30-5	Evelyn 190 Centre	Winston Caswell	N/A	Bonnie Bell, Director	Kingsley Perera, Treasurer
	Wed 14th Sept 1.30-3	Lewisham Multilingual Advice Service	Winston Caswell	N/A	Liz Wang, Advice Service Manager	Steven Bellon, Treasurer
	Fri 2nd Sept 3.30-5	Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network	Winston Caswell	N/A	Rosemary Simons, Chair / Jonathan	Steven Jayatilaka – Chair
Lucy Formoli	Wed 28th Sept 12.1-30	Lewisham Citizens Advice Bureau (inc Advice Lewisham)	Winston Caswell	James Lee	Rachel Brownman, CEO CAB	Neville Hill, Trustee (Chair designate)
	Wed 21st Sept 9-10.30am	Lewisham Community Transport Scheme	Winston Caswell	James Lee	Dave Hoops, Director	Carl Handley, Chair
	Tues 20th Sept 3.30-5pm	Voluntary Services Lewisham / Voluntary Service Association (Access Lewisham)	Winston Caswell	James Lee	Geoff Brady, Chief Executive	Val Furbur, VSL Chair / Lorna Taylor, Trustee
Al Williams	Wed 14th Sept 9.30-11	Costes Essau Neighbourhood Forum	Lucy Formoli	James Lee	Barbara Viny – Central South Community Neighbourhood Developer	
	Mon 5th Sept 3.30-5	Age Exchange	Lucy Formoli	James Lee	Rebecca Pickwood – CEO	Arthur Jacobs – Chair
	Thurs 16th Sept 1.30-3	Ageing Well in Lewisham/LCC	Lucy Formoli	James Lee	Kerry Hagger – Programme Coordinator	Andrew Grant – Chair / Grace Byrne – Secretary
	Wed 14th Sept 12.1-30/1st follow up on 6th Oct	Lewisham Elders Resource Centre (Seniors)	Lucy Formoli	James Lee		James Dobson, Chair and Temporary Trustee
	Thurs 14th Sept 3.30-5	Lewisham Pensioners Forum – meeting at Old Hall Hall	Lucy Formoli	James Lee	Stephen McGinn – Forum Coordinator	Bridge Sam Bailey, Chair / Peter Smith, Treasurer
	Mon 5th Sept 9.30-11	Spokenham Garden	Lucy Formoli	James Lee	Tom GEBNER – Director	Dr. Jim Skrzani – Chair
	Wed 7th Sept 12.1-30	Deborah Methodist Mission – Disabled People's coffee	Lucy Formoli	James Lee	Erica Ross – Executive Coordinator	Jan Bowart – Chair
Sarah Lang	Mon 5th Sept 12.1-30	Eco Communities	Lucy Formoli	James Lee	Barnie Taylor – Chair/Executive Manager	David Williams – Coordinator/Centre Manager
	Wed 7th Sept 8.30-11	The Grove Centre	Lucy Formoli	James Lee		Jan Warren – Chair / Peter Louise Harris – Trustee
Al Williams	Tues 13th Sept 3.30-5	Goddsmiths Community Association	Al Williams	Petra Marshall		Liz Wood (Chair) & Sue East (Trustee)
Sarah Lang	Fri 9th Sept 11.12-30	Somerhill Youth & Play Provision	Sarah Lang	Petra Marshall	Bradley Cummings, Director	Janet Brindley, Trustee
Pepe Taylor	Thurs 1st Sept 10.30-12	Teach Hub	Pepe Taylor	Petra Marshall	Sophie Ayles, Artistic Director	Andy Burnett, Trustee
Pepe Taylor	Thurs 1st Sept 2.30-4	Teach Hub	Pepe Taylor	Petra Marshall	Richard Wilkinson, Centre Manager	Deena Hunter, Treasurer

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Appendix - Equalities Analysis Assessment - Main Grants Programme 2015 – 18

Name of proposal	Main Grants Programme 2015 - 2018
Lead officer	James Lee (Head of Cultural and Community Development Service)
Other stakeholders	
Start date of Equality Analysis	4 th March 2015
End date of Equality Analysis	24th April 2015

1. Background

This document is the Equalities Analysis Assessment for the proposed recommendations of the Grants Programme 2015-2018. It considers how the recommendations made might affect different groups in the community and assesses whether these effects are positive or negative. It also outlines the activity that the Council will take to ensure that equal opportunities are promoted and that no group is disproportionately discriminated against.

2. The Main Grants Programme 2015 – 2018

The Council has had a long-standing grant aid programme that is designed to strengthen the effectiveness of the voluntary sector. This sector provides services that the statutory service cannot easily provide and is often best placed to reach out in to communities and engage those who typically do not access mainstream services.

The current main grants programme was agreed by Mayor and Cabinet in 2011 and funded organisations under the four themes: Children and Young People; Communities that Care; Gateway Services; and Building Social Capital.

The criteria were reviewed for the 2015-2018 programme to ensure they reflected the current political and policy landscapes. The amount of funding available for the grants programme has also been reduced in this programme as part of the wider council funding reductions by circa £1,500,000, as a result there will be a reduction in the organisations and services that can be delivered. This means that there is an available budget of £2,936,411 for July 2015 – March 2016. Funding for 2016/17 and 2018/19 will be increased to a pro rata annual figure for most projects, unless indicated in the main report.

In response to the need to review the key themes for the Main Grants Programme the Council undertook a public consultation predominantly with community organisations. It was agreed that youth activity and work that could be funded through schools would be removed from the criteria as would employability and skills provision. This is because these areas are funded through alternative sources, namely the Council's Youth Service and local JCP budgets. Youth Activity was included in the Neighbourhood Community Development strand to represent the importance of grassroots outreach, and would also make up the core of the Widening Access to Arts and Sport criteria. The Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee raised concerns about the lack of grassroots LGBT activity in Lewisham and suggested an amendment to include a strategic equalities organisation to encourage better engagement. The final four

themes are: Strong and Cohesive Communities; Communities that Care; Access to Advice Services; and Widening Access to Arts and Sports.

In light of the changes to the criteria, in particular the removal of the Children and Young People theme, and the subsequent recommendations against them an in-depth Equality Analysis was needed. This will allow the impact on protected characteristics to be assessed in the light of the above changes, with particular consideration of the impact on young people.

3. Equalities Context

Public bodies such as local authorities are legally required to consider the three aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty (set out in the Equality Act 2010) and document their thinking as part of any decision-making processes. The Act sets out that public bodies must have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share that characteristic; and
- foster good relationships between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share that characteristic.

The following equalities characteristics are ‘protected’ from unlawful discrimination in service provision under the Equality Act 2010: age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; marriage and civil partnership; race; religion and belief; gender; and sexual orientation.

The duty continues to be a “have regard duty”, and the weight to be attached to it is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or foster good relations.

The Human Rights Act came into effect in the UK in October 2000. It means that people in the UK can take cases about their human rights as defined in the European convention on Human Rights to a UK court. At least 11 Articles of the European Convention on Human Rights have implications for the provision of public services and functions. This EIA assesses whether the proposed recommendations are in line with duties established by this Act.

Against the backdrop of the of the Equality Act 2010, Lewisham’s Comprehensive Equalities Scheme (CES) was developed and agreed by the Mayor in 2012. The CES is the council’s overarching equalities vision statement. It specifically describes how the Public Sector Equality Duty will be addressed through five overarching objectives:

- tackling victimisation discrimination and harassment
- closing the gap in outcomes for citizens
- improving access to services
- improving mutual understanding and respect
- improving participation and engagement

4. Equalities Assessment of the Main Grants Programme 2015 - 2018

4.1 Age

Age refers to a person belonging to a particular age or age range. As an employer and a provider of services the Council is required to ensure that it does not unlawfully discriminate against a person on account of their age. A summary of data on age is set out in the box below.

Data summary for age:

- according to the 2011 Census some 70,100 Lewisham residents are aged between 0-19 (25% of the population), whilst some 179,800 residents are aged between 20-64 (65% of the population). By contrast there are some 26,200 older people aged 65 and over (9.5%).
- according to the 2013 Sub National Population Projections by 2021 the number of Lewisham residents aged 0-19 is expected to rise to 79,570 (25% of the population), whilst the number of people aged 20-64 is expected to reach 208,190 (65% of the population). By contrast the number of people aged 65 and older is expected to increase to 30,570 (10% of the population).
- Ward profiles suggest that a greater number of older residents (65+) live in the south of borough in areas like Downham or Grove Park; whilst younger residents (0-19) are spread throughout the borough more evenly.

Analysis of the recommendations' impact on the protected characteristic of age was split in to two parts: the effect on the older population, who are aged 65 and over, and on the younger population, aged between 0 to 19 years old.

4.2 Older People (65 and Over)

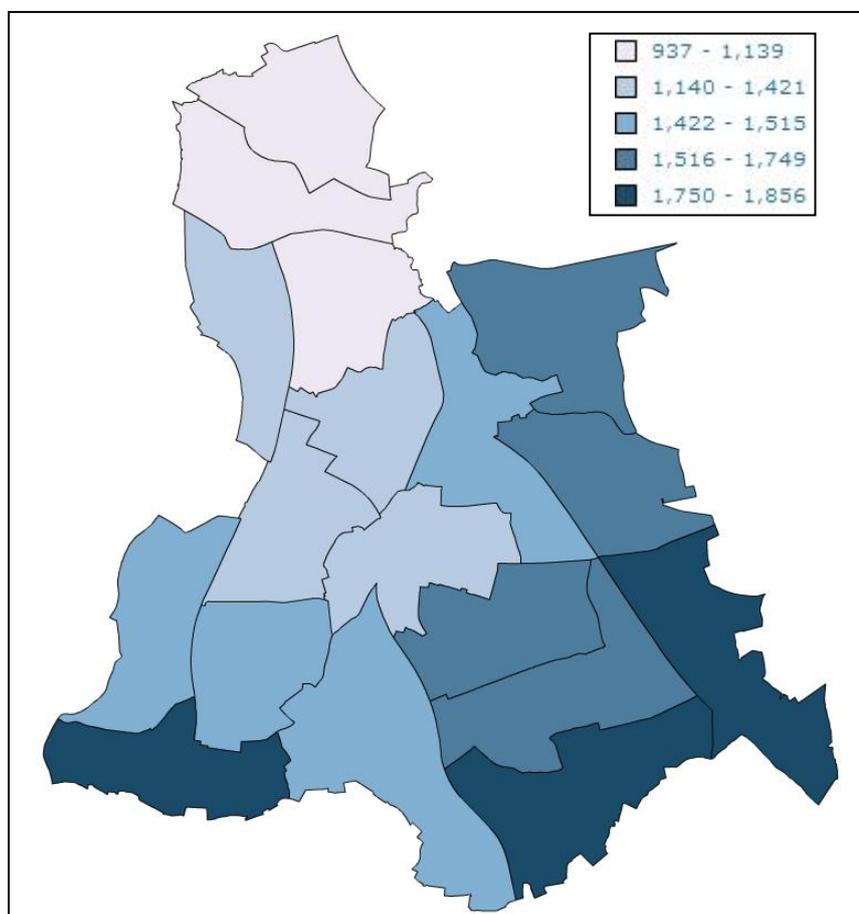
In this round of the main grants programme 23 applications recommended for funding provide specific opportunities for older persons, which is in line with previous grant rounds. This includes a variety of opportunities including a Silver Shooters basketball team with London Thunder Basketball and library-based activities for the elderly run by Eco Communities.

38 projects creating positive opportunities for older people applied. The high amount of applications could be due to the inclusion of a specific older persons strand under the 'Communities that Care' theme. Those that were not successful often provided similar services to the recommended applications, but were less developed bids.

An advice service by Age UK is recommended to be funded again alongside Lewisham Pensioners' Forum to provide representation of older people's needs and views. Community Connections is also recommended for funding after previously being funded under the investment fund. This organisation is a preventative community development programme

aiming to support vulnerable adults in Lewisham to improve their social integration and wellbeing.

As the data summary and map below suggests there are wards within the borough that have larger numbers of older people than others. Several of the programmes recommended for funding operate within wards with a large elderly population, for example Eco Communities dementia-friendly libraries are operating from Grove Park in the south of the borough, whilst Age UK will be based in Catford South, the borough with the 4th largest number of people over 65 in Lewisham. Age UK will also provide home visits across the borough allowing housebound older people to access the service. Ageing Well in Lewisham Community Interest Company operates its centre in Whitefoot and services residents across the south of the borough



Number of residents over the age of 65 Source: ONS Census 2011

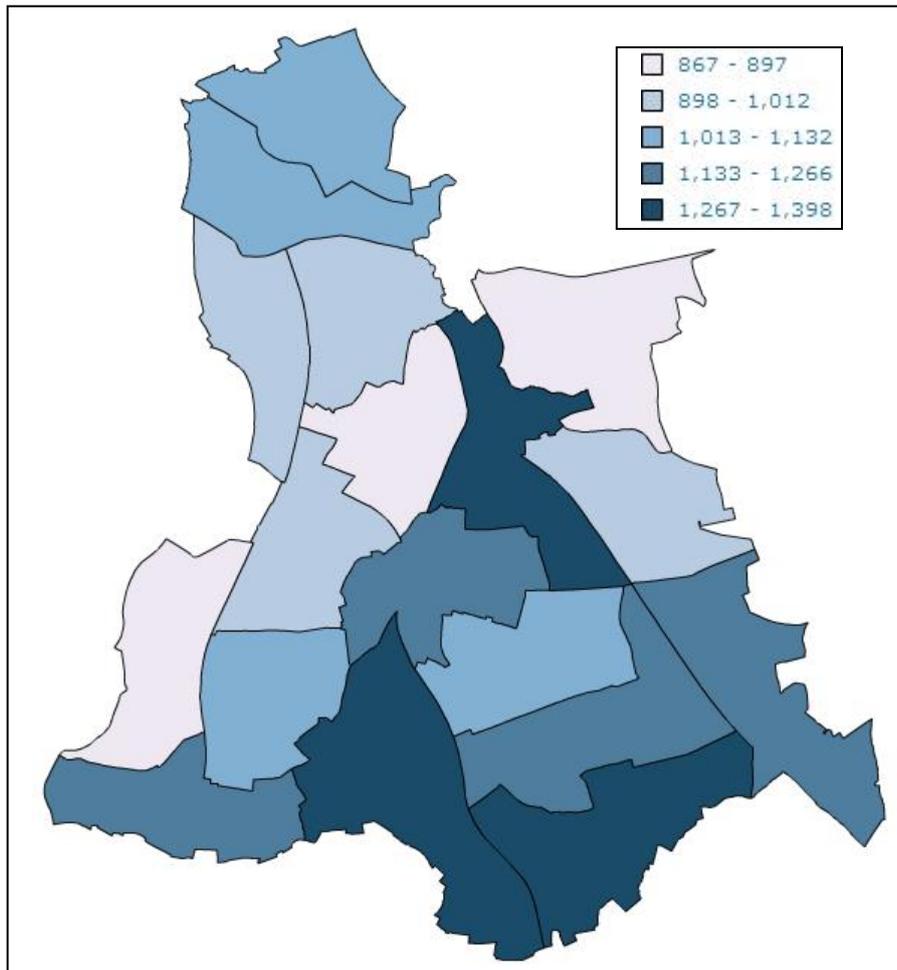
Other recommended programmes have a flexible location, for example Wheels for Wellbeing suggest delivering cycling workshops for those with dementia at care homes or day centres, which will reduce the risk that older people will not be able to access the services recommended.

The consistent number and variety of bids recommended for funding under the main grants programme suggests that older people will not be disproportionately affected. A number of programmes are recommended that will have positive impact on the lives of

older people throughout the borough. Flexible services will ensure that all older people can benefit from those programmes.

However, while the recommendations against the received applications do not disproportionately affect older people it is worth noting that relatively few bids were received from organisations based in, or specifically serving, the south of the borough.

This causes further concern when it is considered that the over representation of older people in the south correlates closely with a similar pattern of disabled residents or residents whose 'day to day activities are limited a lot'.



Number of residents whose day to day activities are limited a lot

While the grants programme is limited to the extent that it can generate services as it seeks bids from the voluntary sector rather than directly commissioning services to meet specific needs this under provision in the south is important to recognise.

It is therefore important that the community development services in this area are aware of these issues and focus on capacity building to ensure there are sufficient projects in these areas to meet need. The Community Connections service will therefore be tasked with focusing on this area and the four organisations specifically funded in Bellingham, Whitefoot, Grove Park and Catford South will be supported to work together, along with Teatro Vivo who

provide borough-wide engagement support, to address needs in this area. See appendix 1 for a full map outlining the funded community development organisations.

4.3 Young People (0 – 19)

Despite the removal of the specific Children and Young People theme from the 2015-18 criteria there were 67 applications, out of a total of 117, which proposed to create positive opportunities for young people. 29 of the bids have been recommended for funding, which is a consistent number in comparison to the Main Grants programme in 2011, however these are predominantly funded through the Widening Access to Arts and Sports theme, which means that some previously funded organisations that do not meet revised criteria have missed out.

The projects supporting young people will provide an array of opportunity including Music, Theatre, Sport and Play Provision. As mentioned, most of the delivery of services for young people have come from the 'Widening Access to Sports and Arts' theme; however there are a number of more general community development applications that will also provide opportunities and support for young people.

15 bids for young people that were previously funded have not been recommended for this main grants programme and whilst there are a wide variety of arts and sports-based recommendations that will help mitigate this we have needed to look outside of the programme at other provision that is available within the council (via the Youth Service) and beyond to mitigate the recommendations.

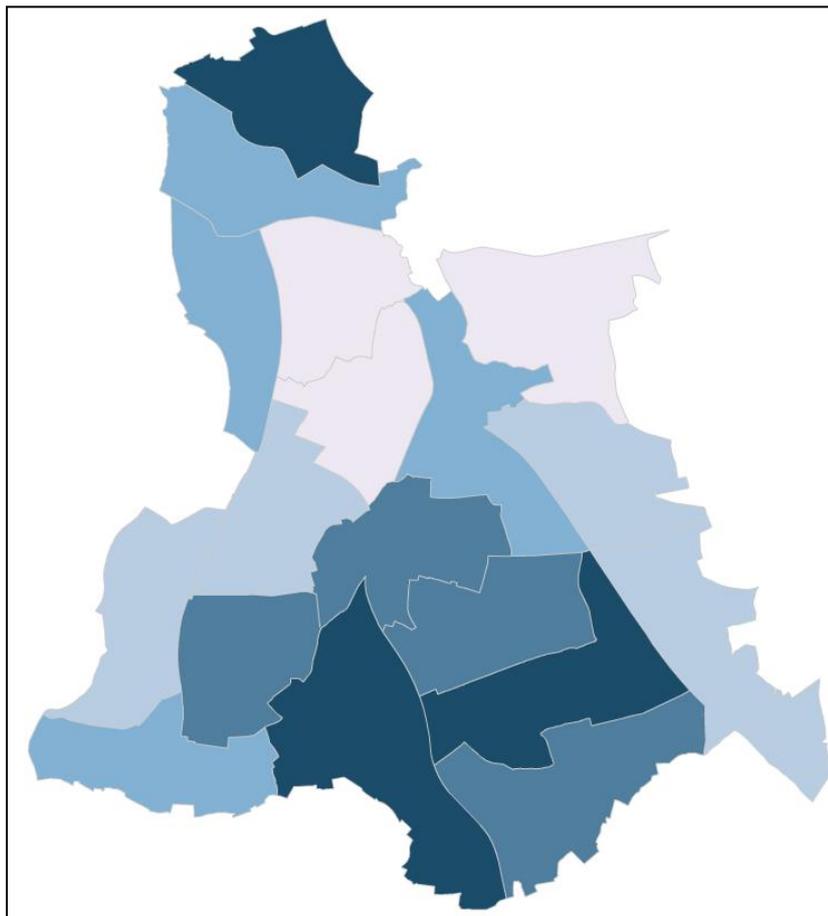
Projects that have lost their funding in this round of the main grants programme include YouthAid Lewisham, Lewisham Young Women's Resource Project, Platform 1 and Young Lewisham. According to the numbers contained within grant applications a complete loss of these services could affect a number of young people in Lewisham who currently access these services. However, the recommended funding of alternative organisations that provide opportunities for young people will go some way to mitigating the numbers of young people affected. Similarly these organisations may not stop working with young people entirely and could find alternative routes of funding their services.

Therefore, it is suggested that the alternative provision could prevent a disproportionate effect on young people. Specifically the recommendations have quite an impact with regards to provision in the South West of the borough, and we anticipate that new young people's equipment in Mayow Park, the sports provision offered through Forest Hill Pools and Forest Hill Community Sports Centre, as well as the recently improved provision at the Bridge Leisure Centre and the TNG Youth Centre in Sydenham will all contribute to mitigate the impact in that area. Officers will also continue to work with colleagues in CYP to promote the development of new services at the Rockbourne site.

It should also be noted that the South West of the borough is not one of the areas with the highest concentration of young people with Evelyn, Bellingham and Whitefoot being the areas of highest concentration – see map below.

Evelyn is well served by the draft recommendations with Second Wave Centre for Youth Arts, Montage Theatre Arts and Lewisham Education Arts Network all based in the ward with a range of other projects that include significant youth activity including Deptford X, IRIE!, London Amateur Boxing Association, London Thunder – Lewisham, Midi Music Company and The Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance all based in New Cross.

Again, the number of quality bids from the South of the borough was a concern and will be addressed through on-going Community Development work but it is important to recognise that the majority of the projects that work primarily with young people provide borough wide activities so are able to target their services at area of high need as required.



Number of residents ages 0 -15

It is also a fact that not all of the opportunities for older and younger people are exclusive and can be cross-generational or benefit multiple protected characteristics and much of the provision funded relating to volunteering/time banking will have a focus on young people and intergenerational issues.

Overall, taking this mitigation into account alongside the services funded and developed through other sources, we believe that young people should not be disproportionately affected by the changes to the Main Grants programme.

4.4 Disability

A person has a disability if s/he has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. 'Substantial' is more than minor or trivial e.g. it takes longer than it usually would to complete an everyday action such as getting dressed, whilst a 'long-term' condition means 12 months or more. Progressive conditions can also be classed as disabilities; these are conditions that get worse over time like HIV or cancer. It should also be noted that a number of older residents are likely to be eligible for disability-specific provision, for examples for services supporting dementia or individuals who are physically incapacitated. A summary of data on disability is set out in the box below.

Data summary for disability

According to the 2011 Census:

- 7.1% (19,523) Lewisham residents indicated that their day-to-day activities were limited a lot, and 7.3% (20,212) indicated that their day-to-day activities were limited a little;
- 5.3% (14,318) Lewisham residents indicated that they are in bad health or very bad health;
- 8.1% (22,521) Lewisham residents provide some form of unpaid care. Over 5,000 Lewisham residents provide 50+ hours of unpaid care per week.
- 160 Lewisham residents indicated that sign language was their main language.

A total of 30 applications that actively promote equal opportunities for those with disabilities have been recommended for funding. These include a range of activities including advocacy groups, such as Lewisham Speaking Up, sports teams inclusive of those with disabilities (London Thunder Basketball and London FA), as well as arts programmes like Heart 'n' Soul targeting individuals with learning disabilities.

These programmes are aimed at a mix of young and older people, and include programmes inclusive of residents without disabilities. Work will also be undertaken with Lewisham Disability Coalition who will not only provide advice for service users but promote users' voices with partners and other providers. As alluded to in section 2, these recommendations are made against the backdrop of an available grants pot that has reduced by 25%, so not all services that organisations want to be delivered will be delivered, however we believe that the spread of opportunities helps mitigate this.

In addition, all programmes funded under the main grants programme will have to ensure their services are accessible to people with disabilities, so those with disabilities should be able to access range of services recommended under the main grants programme. In this respect this group should not be disproportionately affected in comparison to other groups. At present we are taking the submission from the organisations regarding their assessibility and have worked to ensure that distances to be travelled for specific groups are kept to a minimum but

we will also need to review the physical accessibility of buildings to ensure that the self assessments undertaken are robust in this regard.

As highlighted above there is an over representation of disabled people in the South of the borough but a limited number of quality applications from organisations in that area and officers will work hard with Community Development services recommended for funding to address this for future funding rounds.

4.5 Gender

Gender has the meaning usually given to it and refers to whether a person is a man or a woman. A summary of data on gender is set out in the box below.

Data summary for gender

- according to the 2011 Census there are 135,000 males living in Lewisham and 140,900 females;
- however, by 2030 it is forecast that the number of males would have surpassed that of females (158, 500 men to 157,100 women);
- based on the 2013 Mid-year Population Estimates Lewisham's males are more numerous than females between the 0-19 age groups. By contrast females are more numerous than males in the 20 – 44, 35 - 59 60 -79 and 80+ age groups;
- by 2030 the percentage of males is still expected to be greater than females in the 0-19 age group. Males are also expected to be more numerous in the 20 – 44, and 35 – 59 age group. However, females will still be more numerous in the 60-79 and 80+ age groups.

The recommended applications across the board are inclusive of both genders. There are some fluctuations in specific organisations, for example there are more female service users in organisations that benefit elderly people, however this is generally due to the nature of the age group (see box above) as opposed to by design of the service.

No gender-specific organisations have been recommended under the 2015 - 2018 Main Grants programme. Previously funded projects including Lewisham Young Women's Resource Project and Marsha Phoenix Memorial Trust are not recommended for funding under this programme. In the case of Marsha Phoenix the service will continue and this simply normalises the service available as food provision is not available in any similar service. If the organisation considers food to be an essential part of the service model officers will work with them to develop an alternative funding model through service charges and housing benefit.

However this loss is mitigated by the inclusion of 9 organisations with specific opportunities in place to promote the engagement of a gender in an activity not typically engaged in by that group. For example, London Amateur Boxing Association encourages and promotes female-

only boxing sessions, whilst Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance provides targeted outreach to engage males in dance.

The inclusive nature of the recommended organisations, as well as the targeted outreach by a few applicants, suggests that no specific gender should be disproportionately affected by the grant funding recommendations.

4.6 Gender Re-assignment

Gender re-assignment describes the process of transitioning from one gender to another. For individuals within this group, the Act provides protection for trans-sexual people from discrimination and harassment in various areas, such as work or the provision of goods and services. A summary of data on gender reassignment is set out in the box below.

Data summary for gender reassignment

- in 2006-07 Lewisham Council commissioned a research study of the LGBT populations who lived, worked, studied or socialised in the borough;
- of the 316 respondents, seven identified as trans people, which was insufficient to draw quantitative conclusions;
- according to the NHS Secondary User Service Admitted Patients database, there were four admissions to NHS hospitals in 2011-12 of four different individuals resident in Lewisham and having a primary diagnostic code beginning F64 (trans-sexualism or gender identify disorder). Only one of these was for a full (male to female) gender reassignment. None of the admissions were to Lewisham Hospital.
- In October 2014 the Trans and Gender Non-Conforming Swimming Group (TAGS) set up a weekly private swimming session – 20 regular swimmers have attended a week, although some may have travelled from other boroughs to Lewisham.

No specific organisations providing positive opportunities for those in the gender reassignment group applied. However, two organisations are recommended to receive funding to research, monitor and promote opportunities for all protected characteristics, and will work to help remove barriers for this group. For example, Voluntary Action Lewisham proposes to help research ways to remove barriers to inclusion in volunteering.

The work by these two organisations, alongside the equal opportunities requirement for all recommended organisations under the main grants programme, should ensure that this group is not disproportionately represented under these proposals. Future work should be done alongside the strategic equality organisations to encourage grassroots organisations supporting this group to apply for funding.

4.7 Marriage and Civil Partnership

The Equality Act protects against unlawful discrimination if you are legally married or in a civil partnership. A summary of data on marriage and civil partnership is set out in the box below.

Data summary for marriage and civil partnership

- In 2011 about half of Lewisham residents over 16 have never been married or in a civil partnership. This is higher than England as a whole.
- A third of over 16s in Lewisham are currently married or in a civil partnership (0.5% in civil partnership)
- 17% of residents (aged 16 and over) have been married or in a civil partnership but are now separated, divorced or widowed.

Consideration of the characteristic of marriage and civil partnerships need only be in respect of eliminating unlawful discrimination. In this regard, no applications stated that they would exclude individuals who are legally married or in a civil partnership. Three organisations are recommended for funding who will protect and monitor this characteristic as one of the 9 protected under the Equality Act 2010. Therefore, this characteristic should not be disproportionately affected under these recommendations.

4.8 Pregnancy and Maternity

Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant or expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth, and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding. A summary of data on pregnancy and maternity is set out in the box below.

Data summary for pregnancy and maternity

- for 2013 there were about 4,827 new babies recorded in official statistics as Lewisham residents; the General Fertility Rate is notably higher in Lewisham, at 68.1 live births per 1,000 women aged 15 – 54, than in England at 62.4 in 2013.
- Lewisham has an underlying population growth arising from its excess of births over deaths. In a typical year, there are more births (approximately 4,500-5200) than deaths (approximately 1,500-1,800) in Lewisham residents.

Many of the organisations that applied for funding within the 2015 – 2018 Main Grants programme stated that they accepted members from all of the protected characteristics. In some cases organisations noted that the activity may not be suitable during pregnancy or that a risk assessment may be necessary to decide whether it is suitable. The proposed funding of equality organisations can help monitor and overcome the barriers to inclusion for this protected characteristic. Therefore we should expect residents with this protected characteristic not to be disproportionately affected by the cuts.

One recommended application provided specific services for those during the maternity period: London Thunder Basketball promoted a lighter version of the sport for those who have recently given birth.

4.9 Race

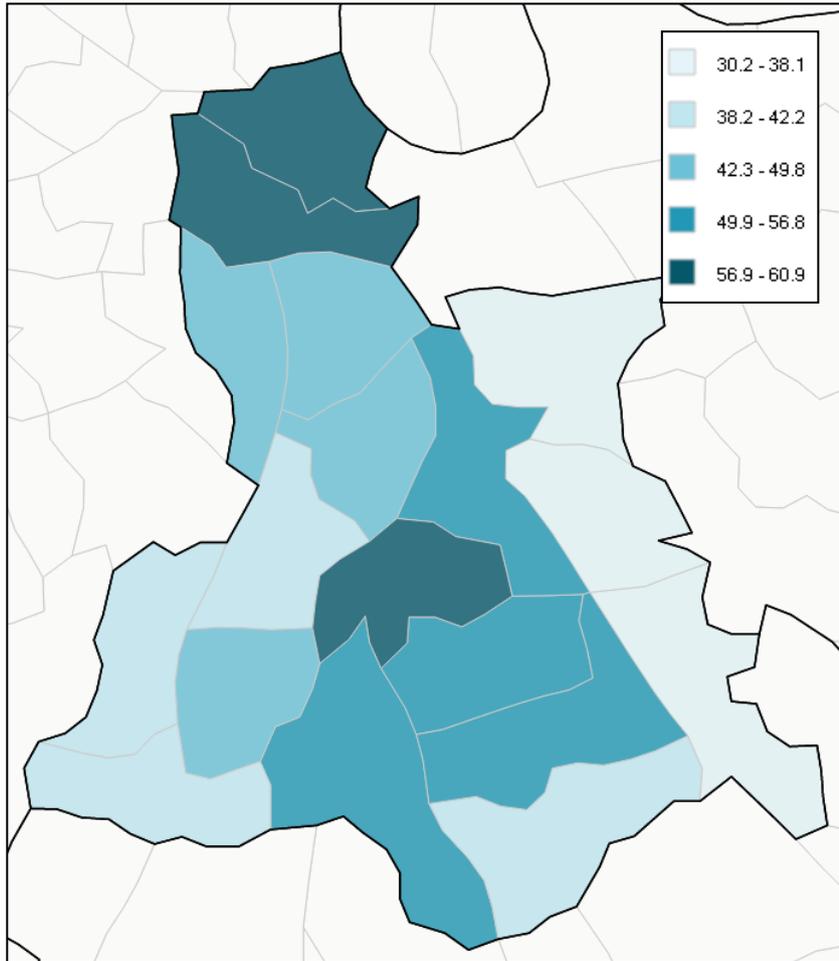
Race refers to the equality group of race. It refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins. A summary of data on race is set out in the box below.

Data summary for race

- according to Census data from 2011, 53.6% (147, 686) of all Lewisham residents are white (White British, White Irish and White European);
- currently people from a Black Caribbean, Black African and Black other ethnic background represent 27.2% (74,942) of the population.
- Profiles indicate that the majority of black and minority ethnic residents live in the North and Centre of the borough in wards such as Evelyn, New Cross and Rushey Green.

As in previous years of the Main Grants programme most applications highlighted a wide range of service users from a variety of ethnic backgrounds. All organisations funded through this programme are required to make their services available to all sections of the community that require them.

The data in the table below shows that there is considerable demographic variation across the borough when it comes to BME communities with a number of wards having a BME majority.



Percentage of the population from a BME community

Overall these demographics are reflected in the areas that organisations have been recommended for funding. Two advice organisations that support minority ethnic groups with identified needs are recommended for funding: the Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network (based in Evelyn) and the Lewisham Multilingual Advice Service (based in Rushey Green). These two organisations were also funded in 2011 to meet minority ethnic group's needs. Funding is also recommended to organisations hoping to include race-focused events as part of their programme like the Albany which is on the Evelyn/New Cross border

The Lewisham Multilingual Advice Service (LMAS) is one of the few organisations recommended for a funding level which exceeds their current allocation and this is in recognition of the fact that a number of application for single community support (most notably the Vietnamese Community) are not recommended for funding. It is also important to note that LMAS are working with the Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network to develop their offer for the Vietnamese Community and this work will be supported as part the funding recommendations.

The Stephen Lawrence Centre (Brockley) is a new recommendation for funding and will work to enable local organisations to develop relationships with BME communities and ensure that their services are fully accessible.

Voluntary Action Lewisham (Rushey Green) will be undertaking a coordinating role to work with voluntary and community sector organisations and ensure that all organisations delivering services can contribute to the development of good practice. The recommendation also includes the Stronger Communities Partnership Board providing a forum for a borough-wide review of equalities-related matters. This overarching role replaces that previously held by Equaliteam Lewisham and is necessary given EqualiTeam's lack of service delivery over the recent period and their change of focus to representing particular communities. In view of the above, this change is considered to have a positive rather than a negative impact.

Consideration was also given to the fact that many of the Youth organisation's that aren't receiving funding may work with a significant number of BME individuals due to the demographics of the borough but the assessment undertaken relating to young people is considered relevant here and therefore BME communities are not disproportionately affected.

Overall the services recommended for funding to work on specific Race issues along with the fact that all services are required to be fully accessible means that the recommendations are not considered to have a disproportionate impact relating to Race. Officers will also work with all organisations, and specifically those working primarily with particular communities to build positive race relations and promote community cohesion/ mutual understanding and respect. This is one of our comprehensive equalities scheme objectives.

4.10 Religion or Belief

Religion has the meaning usually given to it, but belief includes religious and philosophical beliefs including lack of belief. Generally, a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live for it to be included in the definition. A summary of data on religion and belief is set out in the box below.

Data summary for religion or belief'

- the most up to date information on religion or belief in Lewisham is from the Census of 2011. This revealed that nearly 64% of Lewisham residents described themselves as having a faith or religion, whilst around 27% of residents described themselves as having no faith or religion;
- amongst those residents that described themselves as having a faith or religion some 52.8% identified their faith as Christian, whilst 6.4% described themselves as Muslim;
- of other religions, Hindus represent 2.4% of the population, whilst Buddhists represent just over 1.3% of the population;

Due to the lack of data regarding the religious nature of organisations involved in applications for the main grants programme we are unable to make an assessment of how religious

organisations have been affected by the recommendations. However, all recommended organisations are required to allow residents from all religions and beliefs to use their services and so this protected characteristic should not be disproportionately affected.

Many of the organisations recommended for funding under this 2015 – 2018 programme made reference to the use of their services by religious groups. This was particularly common in community centre applications who often hosted a range of faith groups within their centres.

Religion or beliefs should not be disproportionately affected under these recommendations, as services recommended for funding must be inclusive of all religions and beliefs.

4.11 Sexual Orientation

Sexual orientation is defined as whether a person's sexual attraction is towards the opposite sex, their own sex or to both sexes. A summary of data on sexual orientation is set out in the box below.

Data summary for sexual orientation

- There are no accurate statistics available regarding the profile of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) population either in Lewisham, London or Britain as a whole.
- The Greater London Authority based its Sexual Orientation Equality Scheme on an estimate that the lesbian and gay population comprises roughly 10% of the total population.
- At the 2011 census 2% of over 16 year olds were cohabiting with someone of the same sex or were in a civil partnership, this is higher than both the England and London averages (0.9 % and 1.4% respectively).
- in the 2015 Annual Resident Survey, a question on sexual orientation found that 3% of respondents identified as lesbian or gay.

Apart from organisations applying to work on strategic equality, just one organisation applied with specific provision for the LGBT community. The Second Wave Centre Youth Arts, which holds an LGBT writers group as part of their programme, is recommended for funding. As previously described the two equality focused organisations under the Main Grants programme will help serve the needs of this community by promoting, protecting and monitoring the needs of all 9 protected characteristics. The Metro Centre has been recommended for funding again and has a particular interest in strategic equality for this community. All organisations funded under the Main Grants programme must allow individuals with any sexual orientation to access their service. The equal access to services for LGBT individuals and the mitigation of the equality focused organisations should ensure that the LGBT community is not disproportionately affected.

Overall Mitigation

According to the 2012 Sub-national Population Projections (ONS) the total population of Lewisham was 290,000, an increase of 52,000 since the 2001 Census. This is the 12th highest population of all London boroughs. ONS forecasts that the population is set to rise to 315, 000 by 2020, an increase of 9%. Putting further pressure on already stretched resources.

In light of the applications received this year the Community Development team acknowledges that work needs to continue to support organisations that have not been successful for the Main Grant programmes to support their application preparation for future grants rounds or for alternative sources of funding. This will allow greater quality and variety of applications to the programme in future, ensuring the impact on protected characteristics can be minimised. It is also noted that an element of capacity building needs to be done within certain localities across the Borough to help bring through new vibrant organisations that can help meet the needs of their local communities – indeed the Neighbourhood strand alongside Community Connections should be a strong basis to take this element of work forwards.

In order to address this need to maximise resources the neighbourhood strand provides for organisations to

- map existing provision in order to identify best practice, raise awareness of local resources to avoid duplication and foster effective partnerships, and
- identify gaps in provision and engage with the local community to develop volunteering, community involvement and fundraising deliver capacity building activities.
- take active steps to improve the gathering and analysis of data. Access to good quality data will therefore help to ensure that resources can be targeted fairly and proportionately and that the need for services in particular areas can be identified

In providing this resource, together with support from the Community Development Team we will work closely to deliver innovative solutions to any identified need as part of the localisation agenda and will provide strategic steer on development at ward level. Although only 8 specific wards are recommended to receive this resource the Community Development Team will work with the Community Connections service and other relevant organisations to ensure that learning is applied borough wide.

Another aspect of this role is to work with the Local Assembly in the ward. Although limited, the assembly has a small annual fund that local organisations can bid for in order to run projects for specific groups or to tackle specific issues in line with the ward priorities. Young people have been identified as a priority in 15 of the 18 wards and 2 of the wards that do not have this group as a priority have populations of young people in the lowest quintile.

Additionally, the Council operates a small grants programme and a faith in Lewisham fund. Unsuccessful applications may be better suited to apply for this funding and will be recommended to do so. This may mitigate some of the impact of organisations losing funding on their service users.

The inclusion of bids for a strategic equality organisation will also help mitigate any negative impact on protected characteristics. These organisations will research, monitor, protect and

advocate equality for all nine protected characteristics. For example, Voluntary Action Lewisham will work as a co-ordinator with local organisations to understand and remove barriers to inclusion. This should improve the provision for protected characteristics within funded organisations and improve the range of individuals accessing services within the borough by highlighting and combating barriers to inclusion.

When considering the spread of recommendations across the nine protected characteristics, a considerable area of concern was the impact on young people due to the change in main grant criteria. However, having considered the profile of the communities that the organisations funded under the Widening Access to Arts and Sports Theme work with and the other services available to young people either through other funding sources or by nature of them being open access the impact on young people is not considered disproportionate.

Overall, the spread of services recommended for funding under the Main Grants Programme is considered to be fair and equitable and, considering the overall 25% cut in the available budget , not to disproportionately affect any one particular group.

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Equalities Category	Ethnicity	Pregnancy / Maternity	Gender	Marriage & Civil Partnerships	Age
Organisation Name					
170 Community Project			1		
999 Club					
Ackroyd Community Association					1
Advice Lewisham bid - Lewisham CAB					
Age Exchange					1
Age UK Lewisham & Southwark (Advice)					1
Ageing Well in Lewisham-LCC					1
Albany	1				1
Bellingham Community Project Ltd					1
Bromley & Lewisham Mind					
Contact a Family					1
Corbett Estate Neighbourhood Forum					
Deptford Mission – Disabled People’s Contact					1
Deptford Reach					
Deptford X					
Eco Communities					
Entelechy Arts					1
Evelyn 190 Centre	1				
Goldsmiths Community Association					
Greenwich & Lewisham Young People’s Theatre	1				1
Grove Centre, The					1
Heart n Soul					1
IRIE! (WATAS)	1				1
Lewisham Citizens Advice Bureau					
Lewisham Community Transport Scheme					1
Lewisham Disability Coalition			1		
Lewisham Education Arts Network					1
Lewisham Elders Resource Centre (Seniors)			1		1
Lewisham Multilingual Advice Service	1				1
Lewisham Pensioners Forum					
Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network	1		1		
Lewisham Speaking Up					
Lewisham Youth Theatre	1				1
London Amateur Boxing Association					1
London FA on behalf of Lewisham Football Network					1
London Thunder - Lewisham					1
METRO (The Metro Centre Ltd)					
Midi Music Company, The	1				1
Montage Theatre Arts					1
Noah’s Ark Children’s Venture					1

Parent Support Group (PSG)					
Rushey Green Time Bank					1
Second Wave Centre for Youth Arts	1		1		1
Somerville Youth & Play Provision (neighbourhood)					1
South East London Tennis (Tennis Lewisham)					1
Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust					1
Sydenham Arts Ltd					
Sydenham Garden	1				1
Teatro Vivo					
Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance	1				1
Voluntary Service Association (Access Lewisham)					1
Voluntary Services Lewisham					1
Wheels for Wellbeing					
Community Connections Consortium (Age UK)					1
Lee Green Lives	1		1		1
Lewisham Mencap					
Voluntary Action Lewisham					
Volunteer Centre Lewisham					
Saxon Crown Swimming Club					
Somerville Youth & Play Provision (continuation)					1
Greenwich Carers Centre					
Grove Park Community Group					
IRIE! (Neighbourhood)	1				1
TOTAL	13	0	6	0	37

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Agenda Item 8

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee		
Title	Select Committee work programme	
Contributor	Scrutiny Manager	Item 8
Class	Part 1 (open)	28 November 2016

1. Purpose

To advise Members of the proposed work programme for the municipal year 2016/17 and to decide on the agenda items for the next meeting.

2. Summary

- 2.1 At the beginning of the new administration, 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 24 May 2016 and agreed a co-ordinated overview and scrutiny work programme. However, the work programme 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 Committee is asked to:

- note the work 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 about what they need to provide;
- review all forthcoming key decisions, attached at **Appendix C**, and consider any items for further scrutiny;

4. The work programme

4.1 The work programme for 2015/16 was agreed at the Committee's meeting on 20 April 2015.

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 meeting on Tuesday 17 January 2017:

Agenda item	Review type	Link to Corporate Priority	Priority
Local Police Service Update	Verbal Update	Safety, security and a visible presence	High
MOPAC Police and Crime Plan	Policy development	Safety, security and a visible presence	High
Local Assemblies	Performance Monitoring	Community leadership	Medium
Short Review – Demographic Changes to the borough’s population – evidence session	In-depth review	Inspiring efficiency, effectiveness and equity.	High
Criminal Justice System Update	Performance monitoring	Safety, security and a visible presence	Medium
Provision for the LGBT community	Information Item	Community leadership	Medium

5.2 The Committee is asked to specify the information and analysis it would like to see in the reports for these items, based on the outcomes the Committee would like to achieve, so that officers are clear about what they need to provide for the next meeting.

6. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

7. Legal Implications

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 The Equality Act 2010 brought together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act included a new public sector equality duty, replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011. It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age,

disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

8.2 The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

8.3 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

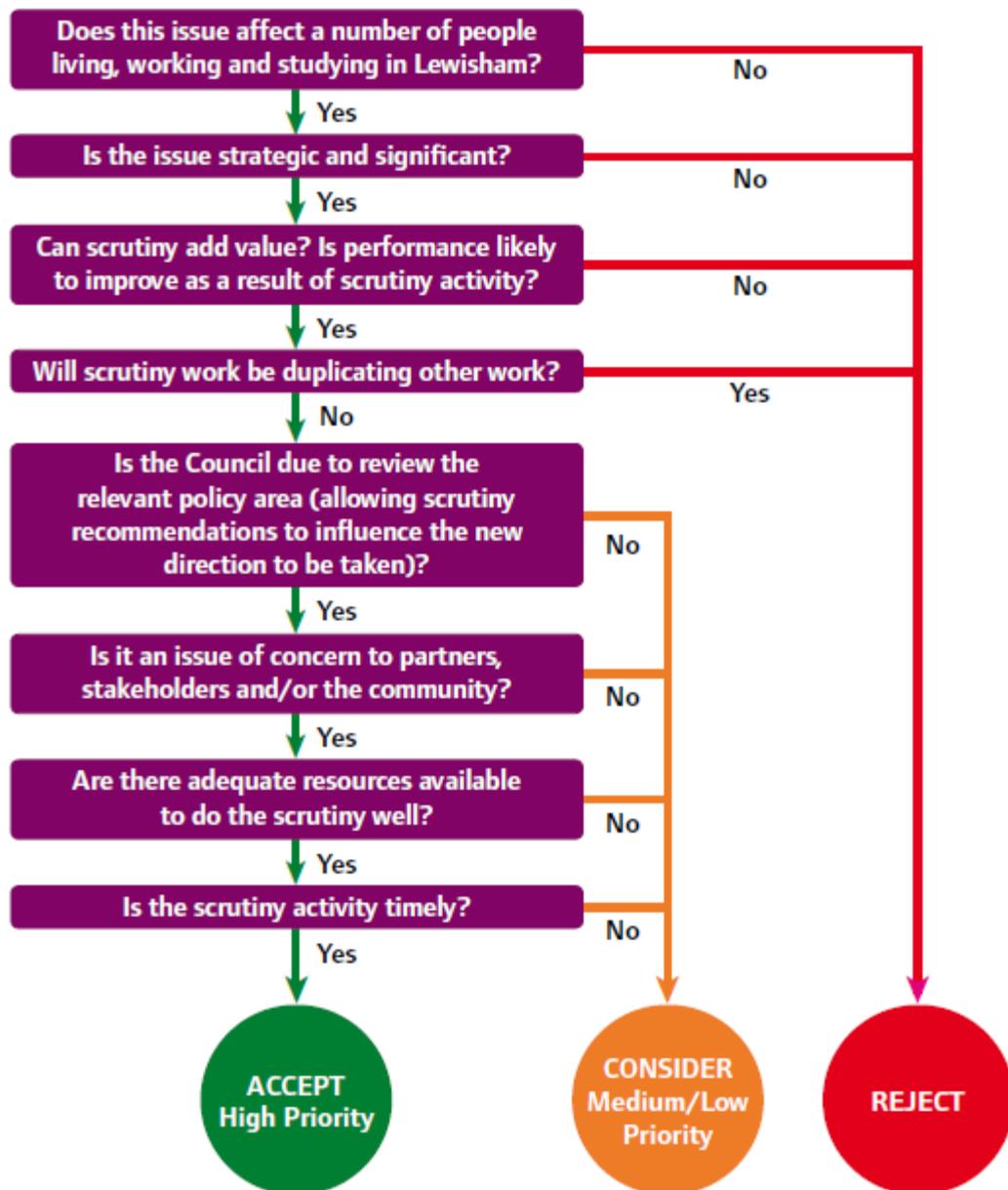
The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 17 January 2017.

Background Documents

Lewisham Council's Constitution

Centre for Public Scrutiny: the Good Scrutiny Guide

Scrutiny work programme – prioritisation process



Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee work programme 2016-17

Programme of work

Work item	Type of item	Priority	Strategic priority	Delivery deadline	14-Apr	11-May	04-Jul	15-Sep	19-Oct	28-Nov	17-Jan	08-Mar
Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair	Constitutional requirement	N/A	-	April								
Select Committee work programme 2016/17	Constitutional requirement	High	CP1	April								
Review of the Enforcement service	Policy development	High	CP4	April								
Poverty review - report and recommendations	In-depth review	Medium	CP10	May					Reponse	Poverty Commission scope		
Council's employee survey 2015	Performance monitoring	Medium	CP10	May								
Local police service update	Performance monitoring	Medium	CP4	May								
Main Grants Programme 2017-18 Outcome of consultation	Policy development	High	CP10	July								
London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority - Decision to save £6.4m in 2016-17 & Sixth London Safety Plan	Information item	Medium	CP4	July								
Library service - provision of community library facilities	Policy development	High	CP 10	July								
Provision for the LGBT community	Standard review	Medium	CP1	Jan								
Council's employment profile	Information item	Low	CP10	July								
Short review Developing capacity in the voluntary sector	In-depth review	High	CP10	Ongoing				scoping paper	evidence session	Report		
Lewisham Future Programme	Standard item	High	CP10	Ongoing								
Safer Lewisham Plan - monitoring and update	Performance monitoring	Medium	CP4	Sept								
Criminal justice system	Policy development	Low	CP4	Oct								
National probation service and community rehabilitation company	Standard item	Low	CP4	Oct								
MOPAC police and crime plan	Policy development	High	CP4	Oct								
Local Assemblies	Performance monitoring	Medium	CP1	Nov								
Short review Demographic changes to borough's population	in-depth review	High	CP 10	Ongoing						scoping paper	evidence session	Report
Main grant programme funding 2017-18	Standard item	High	CP10	Nov								
Evaluation of changes to voluntary sector accommodation	Performance monitoring	Medium	CP1	Mar								
Implementation of Comprehensive Equalities Scheme	Performance monitoring	Medium	CP1	March								
Library and information service	Performance monitoring	Low	CP10	March								
Safer Lewisham Plan				2017/18								
Implementation of the employee survey action plan				2017/18								

	Item completed
	Item ongoing
	Item outstanding
	Proposed timeframe
	Item added

Meetings	
1) Wed 14 Apr	5) Wed 19 October
2) Thu 11 May	6) Mon 28 November
3) Wed 4 July	7) Tue 17 January
4) Wed 15 September	8) Wed 8 March

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FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Forward Plan November 2016 - February 2017

This Forward Plan sets out the key decisions the Council expects to take during the next four months.

Anyone wishing to make representations on a decision should submit them in writing as soon as possible to the relevant contact officer (shown as number (7) in the key overleaf). Any representations made less than 3 days before the meeting should be sent to Kevin Flaherty, the Local Democracy Officer, at the Council Offices or kevin.flaherty@lewisham.gov.uk. However the deadline will be 4pm on the working day prior to the meeting.

A "key decision"* means an executive decision which is likely to:

- (a) result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates;
- (b) be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards.

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
May 2016	Annual Complaints Report	09/11/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Joe Dromey, Cabinet Member Policy & Performance		
September 2016	Catford Regeneration Programme Update	09/11/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
August 2016	Deptford Reach Development	09/11/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
February 2016	Disposal of Copperas Street Depot Creekside	09/11/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
October 2016	Lewisham Homes Business Plan and Articles	09/11/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
October 2016	Private Rented Sector: Additional Licensing Scheme for Houses in Multiple	09/11/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS					
Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
	Occupation above/below commercial premises		Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
August 2016	Review of National Non Domestic Rates - Discretionary Discount Scheme for Businesses Accredited to Living Wage Foundation	09/11/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
May 2016	Schools with License deficits	09/11/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
August 2016	Carriageway Resurfacing Contract Award	09/11/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
August 2016	Deptford High Street (North) Contract Award	22/11/16 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
August 2016	Consultant Appointment 2016 Schools Minor Works Contract	22/11/16 Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
			People		
November 2016	Parliamentary Boundary Commission Submission	23/11/16 Council	Kath Nicholson, Head of Law and Councillor John Paschoud		
August 2016	Recommendations of the Broadway Theatre Working Group	23/11/16 Council	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
August 2016	Deptford Parish Council Petition and Community Governance Terms of Reference	23/11/16 Council	Kath Nicholson, Head of Law and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
May 2016	Main Grants Programme 2017-18 Appeals Against Proposals	30/11/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Joan Millbank, Cabinet Member Third Sector & Community		
August 2016	Regionalising Adoption	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
October 2016	Air Quality Action Plan	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
			Community Services and Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		
November 2016	Allocations Policy Review	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
April 2016	Autistic Spectrum Housing	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		
May 2016	2017-18 Council Tax Reduction Scheme	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
August 2016	Discretionary Rate Relief Review	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
January 2016	New Bermondsey Housing Zone Bid Update	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
	Planning Service Annual Monitoring Report	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
	Realignment of Meliot Road Family Assessment Provision	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
August 2016	Treasury Management Mid-Year Update	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
August 2016	The Wharves Deptford - Compulsory Purchase Order Resolution	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
October 2016	Waste & Recycling Services Update	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		
November 2016	Energy Contracts Pricing	07/12/16	Janet Senior, Executive		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
	Update	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
August 2016	Intensive Housing Advice and Mediation Service Contract Award Report	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
October 2016	Options for a new Enterprise Resource Planning solution for Lewisham	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
October 2016	Managed Service Contract for the procurement of agency workers	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
August 2016	Fusion Leisure Contract Variation	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS					
Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
May 2016	Main Grants Programme 2017-18 Allocation of Funding	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Joan Millbank, Cabinet Member Third Sector & Community		
May 2016	Award of Contract - re-procurement of existing core contract for adult substance misuse services	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Janet Daby, Cabinet Member Community Safety		
August 2016	Contract Award Report for services which support people with mental health , substance misuse issues and travellers	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
August 2016	School Minor Works Programme 2017	07/12/16 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
October 2016	356 Stanstead Road - Property Acquisition	13/12/16 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Damien Egan, Cabinet Member Housing		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
November 2016	Award of contract for the Lewisham Stop Smoking Service	13/12/16 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Older People		
November 2016	Support Service for Syrian refugees	13/12/16 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
October 2016	2016 School Minor Works Contact Consultancy Appointment	13/12/16 Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
November 2016	Budget Update	11/01/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
September 2016	Ashmead Primary School Expansion: Results of Consultation	11/01/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS					
Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
September 2016	Lewisham Music Business Plan and Transfer Terms	11/01/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
August 2016	Community Premises Management Contract Permission to Tender	11/01/17 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Joan Millbank, Cabinet Member Third Sector & Community		
November 2016	Community Equipment Contract Award under London Consortium Framework Agreement	11/01/17 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Joan Millbank, Cabinet Member Third Sector & Community		
November 2016	School Health Service - Award Report	11/01/17 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
November 2016	Young Person's Health and Wellbeing Service Award Report	11/01/17 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
			Children and Young People		
May 2016	Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2017-18	18/01/17 Council	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
November 2016	Opting in to the Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited (PSAA) framework	18/01/17 Council	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Jonathan Slater		
November 2016	Transforming Construction Skills - Lewisham Construction Hub, Training, Apprenticeship and Employment Service	31/01/17 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
November 2016	Transforming Construction Skills - Lewisham Construction Hub, Local Supply Chain Development Services	31/01/17 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor		
October 2016	Animal Welfare Charter	08/02/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Cabinet Member Public Realm		
November 2016	Pay Statement	08/02/17	Phil Badley and		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
		Mayor and Cabinet	Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
November 2016	Award of contract for Specialist Short Breaks	08/02/17 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
November 2016	Health Visiting and Children's Centres - Award Report	08/02/17 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Sara Williams, Executive Director, Children and Young People and Councillor Paul Maslin, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People		
October 2016	Budget Update	15/02/17 Mayor and Cabinet	Janet Senior, Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
May 2016	Council Budget 2017-18	22/02/17 Council	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Customer Services and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member Resources		
November 2016	Pay Statement	22/02/17 Council	Phil Badley and Councillor Kevin Bonavia,		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS					
Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials
			Cabinet Member Resources		
August 2016	Community Premises Management Contract Award	19/04/17 Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Aileen Buckton, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Joan Millbank, Cabinet Member Third Sector & Community		

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS

Date included in forward plan	Description of matter under consideration	Date of Decision Decision maker	Responsible Officers / Portfolios	Consultation Details	Background papers / materials