



# AGENDA

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## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BUSINESS PANEL

**Date: TUESDAY, 18 AUGUST 2020 at 7.00 pm**

**Microsoft Office Teams virtual meeting**  
Lewisham Town Hall  
London SE6 4RU

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### **MEMBERS**

Councillor Bill Brown	Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee	L
Councillor Sophie Davis	Deputy Chair	L
Councillor Peter Bernards	Chair of Housing Select Committee	L
Councillor Juliet Campbell	Chair of Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	L
Councillor Patrick Codd	Labour Group Representative	L
Councillor Liam Curran	Chair of Sustainable Development Select Committee	Labour Co-op
Councillor Joan Millbank	Labour Group Representative	L
Councillor Kim Powell	Labour Group Representative	L
Councillor John Muldoon	Chair of Healthier Communities Select Committee	Labour Co-op
Councillor Luke Sorba	Chair Children and Young People Select Committee	L

**Members are summoned to attend this meeting**

**Kim Wright**  
**Chief Executive**  
Lewisham Town Hall  
Catford  
London SE6 4RU  
**Date: Monday, 10 August 2020**



The public are welcome to attend our committee meetings, however occasionally committees may have to consider some business in private. Copies of reports can be made available in additional formats on request.

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Lewisham



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## Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel

### Declaration of Interest

**Date:** 18 August 2020

**Key decision:** No

**Class:** Part 1

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Contributors:** Chief Executive / Head of Business and Committee

### Outline and recommendations

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

## 1 Personal interests

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

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

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

- (a) Employment, trade, profession or vocation of a relevant person\* for profit or gain
- (b) Sponsorship –payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than by the Council) within the 12 months prior to giving notice for inclusion in the register in respect of expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member or towards your election expenses (including payment or financial benefit from a Trade Union).
- (c) Undischarged contracts between a relevant person\* (or a firm in which they are a partner or a body corporate in which they are a director, or in the securities of which they have a beneficial interest) and the Council for goods, services or works.

- (d) Beneficial interests in land in the borough.
- (e) Licence to occupy land in the borough for one month or more.
- (f) Corporate tenancies – any tenancy, where to the member’s knowledge, the Council is landlord and the tenant is a firm in which the relevant person\* is a partner, a body corporate in which they are a director, or in the securities of which they have a beneficial interest.
- (g) Beneficial interest in securities of a body where:-
  - (a) that body to the member’s knowledge has a place of business or land in the borough; and
  - (b) either
    - (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that body; or
    - (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person\* has a beneficial interest exceeds 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that class.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **(5) Declaration and Impact of interest on 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 not part in consideration of the matter and withdraw from the room before it is considered. They must not seek improperly to influence the decision in any way. Failure to declare such an interest which has not already been entered in the Register of Members' Interests, or participation where such an interest exists, is liable to prosecution and on conviction carries a fine of up to £5000
- (b) Where a member has a registerable interest which falls short of a disclosable pecuniary interest they must still declare the nature of the interest to the meeting at the earliest opportunity and in any event before the matter is considered, but they may stay in the room, participate in consideration of the matter and vote on it unless paragraph (c) below applies.
- (c) Where a member has a registerable interest which falls short of a disclosable pecuniary interest, the member must consider whether a reasonable member of the public in possession of the facts would think that their interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair the member's judgement of the public interest. If so, the member must withdraw and take no part in consideration of the matter nor seek to influence the outcome improperly.
- (d) If a non-registerable interest arises which affects the wellbeing of a member, their, family, friend or close associate more than it would affect those in the local area generally, then the provisions relating to the declarations of interest and withdrawal apply as if it were a registerable interest.
- (e) Decisions relating to declarations of interests are for the member's personal judgement, though in cases of doubt they may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer.

## **(6) Sensitive information**

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

## **(7) Exempt categories**

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

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

# Agenda Item 2



## Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel

### Minutes

**Date:** 18 August 2020

**Key decision:** No

**Class:** Part 1

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Contributors:** Chief Executive / Head of Business and Committee

### Outline and recommendations

Members are asked to consider minutes of that part of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel of 21 July 2020 which was open to the press and public

#### 1. Recommendation

It is recommended that the minutes of those parts of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel which was open to the press and public held on 21 July 2020 be confirmed and signed.

**Kim Wright  
Chief Executive,  
Lewisham Town Hall,  
Catford SE6 4RU**

**10 August 2020**

# **MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BUSINESS PANEL**

**Tuesday, 21 July 2020 at 7.00 pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Bill Brown, Peter Bernards, Juliet Campbell, Patrick Codd, Liam Curran, Joan Millbank, John Muldoon, Luke Sorba, Sophie Davis and Kim Powell.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Jim Mallory, Councillor Chris Barnham, Councillor Paul Bell, Councillor Amanda De Ryk, Councillor Silvana Kelleher and Councillor Coral Howard.

## **9. Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on June 23 2020 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **10. Declarations of Interests**

Councillor Joan Millbank declared a personal interest in Item 3 as a member of Lewisham Local Collaborative which was referred to in the report.

Councillor Sophie Davis declared a personal interest in Item 3 as an appointed member of Voluntary Services Lewisham.

## **11. Scrutiny of the Council's Covid-19 Response - Update Report**

The report was introduced by the Chief Executive and the Director of Public Services.

Councillor Mallory referred to the financial section in paragraph 6.8.1 and noted that while there had been a £53.2m financial impact, only £18m had been received leaving a gap of £35m. He urged for robust financial monitoring and asked for updated information. The Acting Chief Finance Officer reported a further £3.2m had been received as a share of a national allocation and that the next income return would be prepared at the end of July.

Councillor Campbell asked if a public health communications strategy was being formulated as the borough headed out of lockdown. Councillor Millbank added that a summary of lessons learned was required as well as consistent data management. The Chief Executive explained that the borough was mirroring Londonwide messaging which reflected NHS provision and timing provided by Public Health England.

The Chair pointed out there were likely to be new rules on social distancing and public behaviour including the requirement to wear masks in shops and he asked if the communications strategy targeted likely affected groups. Councillor Codd underlined the need to collaborate with local communities,

the rapid introduction of traffic calming measures being a prime example of that need.

The Chief Executive indicated a new Director of Programme Management would tackle some of the issues raised and indicated there were lessons that could be learned on air quality and traffic calming.

Councillor Muldoon highlighted a review of BAME Health inequalities to be undertaken by Birmingham City Council and Lewisham and he issued a general invitation for nominations to be made to both an Academic Board and an Advisory Board.

Councillor Curran raised three questions, asking when normal Council meetings might return; what had been the financial impact on major town centre developments such as the A205 realignment and was it possible for emergency signage to have details of sources of further information.

The Chair indicated he thought the next step for the return of meetings would be a hybrid option and he asked for an update on the feasibility of this to be considered in August. The Acting Chief Finance Officer said information on the financial impact on town centre developments would be provided subsequent to the meeting. The Chief Executive said revisions to road closure signage could form part of a wider communications strategy.

Councillor Bernards raised concerns about the increase in the numbers of rough sleepers. He noted steps already taken by Councillor Bonavia with regard to those with No Recourse to Public Funds. He pointed out those who lacked access to digital technology might be prevented from making Council Tax reduction claims or from accessing Homeseach facilities.

The Director of Public Services responded by explaining safeguards had been put in place for the digitally excluded including all Universal Credit claimants. A comprehensive telephone service was in place for all Homeseach queries.

Councillor Bell, the Cabinet Member for Housing explained that in terms of assisting rough sleepers the policy was now mandated as 'Priority Need' rather than the previous 'Everyone In'. He reported on steps taken to assess and assist all rough sleepers apart from a small minority who refused to engage.

Councillor Campbell asked if greater communication could take place with residents with prevention messages for harder to reach groups. The Chief Executive said all communication channels including social media outlets were being used reflecting Londonwide messages on social distancing. She said she would ask the Director of Public Health to provide an update on translations which were available.

Councillor Sorba sought fuller details of the Summer Activities programme. He also asked if the road safety measures introduced during the pandemic would be reviewed in September.

The Executive Director for Children & Young People said a guide on Summer

Activities would be produced shortly containing fewer but more targeted activities.

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the update on the Council's response to COVID-19 be noted; and
- (2) a further update on the the Council's response to COVID-19 be received in August.

## **12. Key Decision Plan**

The Key Decision Plan was presented by the Head of Committee Services.

Councillor Curran asked if there were to be any emergency executive meetings scheduled in August. The Head of Committee Services said none were currently scheduled but the Mayor could arrange additional meetings if required.

Councillor Curran noted an update on Climate Emergency plans was not due until February 2021 and wondered if an earlier consideration might be more measured. The Head of Committee Services noted the concern raised and promised to discuss this with the officer responsible.

Councillor Howard noted the proposal to award a 5 year concession contract at Beckenham Place Park and asked if there could be a review after one year. The Head of Committee Services reported there was a changed lead officer for the project and he would consult with him and report back subsequent to the meeting.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

## **13. Decisions Made by Mayor and Cabinet on 10 June 2020 - open session**

### *Financial Forecasts*

The Financial Forecasts item considered by the Mayor & Cabinet on July 9 was reviewed by the Business Panel.

Councillor Sorba highlighted the expenditure on residential placements arising from the Council meeting its legal obligations. He suggested additional support for Early Help services could bring down the need for residential placements.

The Acting Chief Finance Officer confirmed the growing level of cost pressure on Children's Services. The Executive Director for Children & Young People stated there was a financial recovery plan in place and short and longer term savings would be achieved centred on Early Help and prevention.

Councilor Codd said the report illustrated a higher demand for Council services during the pandemic and he asked how pandemic and non-pandemic

costs were allotted. The Director of Financial Services observed this was the first monitoring report of the financial year and Covid-19 costs needed to be closely monitored. Accounting codes using widely understood definitions were being used to that end.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

**14. Exclusion of the press and public**

RESOLVED that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act, as amended by the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (Amendments) (England) Regulations 2006:-

Decision made by the Mayor and Cabinet on 9 July 2020

- i. Settlement on outstanding litigation case regarding non-payment of an affordable housing contribution at 99 Plough Way
- ii. affordable housing contribution at 99 Plough Way

**15. Decisions Made by the Mayor and Cabinet on 10 June 2020 - closed session**

*Settlement on outstanding litigation case regarding non-payment of an affordable housing contribution at 99 Plough Way.*

The Business Panel further considered this confidential item originally considered by the Mayor & Cabinet on July 9.

The Panel received a presentation on this case stretching back to 2003 from the Director of Planning. She explained specialist legal advice had been obtained and that the recommendation proposed was seen as the only viable option offering positive advantage to the Council. The Director of Planning laid out the safeguards put in place in the years following to ensure a repetition of this case did not occur again.

RESOLVED that the decision of the Mayor & Cabinet be upheld.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

# Agenda Item 3



## Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel

### Scrutiny of the Council's COVID-19 Response

**Date:** 18 August 2020

**Key decision:** No

**Class:** Part 1

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Contributors:** Chief Executive

### Outline and recommendations

The purpose of this report is to provide an update and assurance to the Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel about the Council's response to COVID-19. The report provides a summary of the overall local response to COVID-19, with a focus on critical services.

The Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel is recommended to:

- Note this update on the Council's response to COVID-19.
- When Select committees restarting from September, scrutiny arrangements will return to business-as-usual. This approach was established to channel scrutiny oversight in the absence of Select committees therefore OSBP are recommended to consider how they might wish to receive updates and assurances about the Council's response to COVID-19 from September onwards.

### Timeline of engagement and decision-making

- **30 April 2020:** Council Urgency Committee agreed a programme of Council meetings in light of the Council's focus on responding to the immediate challenges of COVID-19.
- **5 May 2020:** Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel (OSBP) agrees an approach to receive a monthly COVID-19 update item that provides a high-level strategic overview of the Council's response to COVID-19
- **26 May 2020:** [OSBP discusses the first update paper of the Council's response to COVID-19.](#)
- **23 June 2020:** [OSBP discusses the second update paper of the Council's response to COVID-19.](#)
- **21 July 2020:** [OSBP discusses the third update paper of the Council's response to COVID-19.](#)
- **September 2020:** Select Committees resume, agreeing work programmes for the rest of the municipal year.

## 1. Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update and assurance for the Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel (OSBP) about the Council's response to COVID-19. The report provides a summary of the overall local response to COVID-19, with a focus on critical services. The report also responds to member requests for additional specific information as provided by OSBP Members to the Overview and Scrutiny Manager.
- 1.2. Since the last update report to OSBP in July, critical services have remained stable. This report provides background information about the Council's critical services and summarises any key updates or changes to services since the last report.
- 1.3. The Council's critical services in the context of COVID-19 are:
  - Shielding
  - Public Health and health care
  - Adult Social Care
  - Children and Young People's Services
  - Bereavement Services
  - Environmental Services
  - Housing
  - Finance
  - Corporate and other essential support services.
- 1.4. All Business Panel members were given an opportunity to put forward points of particular strategic interest in relation to this item which have been considered and addressed in writing this report.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel is recommended to:
  - Note this update on the Council's response to COVID-19
  - When Select committees restarting from September, scrutiny arrangements will return to business-as-usual. This approach was established to channel scrutiny oversight in the absence of Select committees therefore OSBP are recommended to consider how they might wish to receive updates and assurances about the Council's response to COVID-19 from September onwards.

## 3. Policy Context

- 3.1. The content of this report is consistent with all the Council's corporate priorities (as outlined in the Corporate Strategy 2018-22) as the need to protect the health and wellbeing of all our residents (particularly the most vulnerable) at the current time underpins the delivery of every commitment within the strategy. However, the recommendations are particularly relevant under the priority of:
  - *Delivering and defending: health, social care and support* – ensuring everyone receives the health, mental health, social care and support services they need
- 3.2. The Coronavirus Act (2020) sets out the temporary emergency measures that enable public bodies, such as local authorities, the NHS and police to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak. These measures are wide-ranging and involve the establishment of new powers and duties as well as changes to existing powers and duties.

## 4. Background

- 4.1. On 5 May, OSBP agreed that all formal scrutiny activity be channelled through the Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel, which will receive a standing item at each meeting to provide members and the public with a high-level strategic overview and assurance about the Council's response to COVID-19. The committee's approach to this item was agreed as being focused on:
  - How can our intervention have a tangible, positive outcome
  - How can we provide immediate support to the Council's operational response
  - How can we illuminate and improve decision making.
- 4.2. On 26 May, an update paper was presented to OSBP providing an overview of the Council's response to COVID-19 to date.
- 4.3. On 23 June, a follow-up paper was presented to OSBP providing an update on critical services and the Council's overall response to COVID-19.
- 4.4. On 21 July, a third report was presented to OSBP, updating that critical services remained stable and including changes and updates by exception to the critical service areas.
- 4.5. This paper follows on from the paper presented to OSBP on 21 July, and provides the status of critical Council services, sets out the Council's ongoing response plan and addresses strategic areas of interest as put forward by members of OSBP in advance of the meeting.
- 4.6. In September, Overview and Scrutiny Select Committees are due to resume. Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel will continue to exercise its function to handle call-in of executive decisions and coordinate and approve the work programmes of select committees.

## 5. Lewisham Council's response to COVID-19

### Emergency Response

- 5.1. On 11 March, the Council activated emergency measures to respond to COVID-19. Council Gold and a borough-wide COVID Committee Groups were established, both working to a shared strategy and objectives as set out in previous reports to OSBP.
- 5.2. The Council established an incident response team, engaging the entire senior leadership and appointing a single point of contact – a 'Gold Director' – to lead on the Council's operational response to COVID-19. Three working groups were established to coordinate the response to Coronavirus in Lewisham:
  - **Council Gold:** focused on strategic direction of the Council's response
  - **Council Silver:** focused on the operational delivery of this response
  - **COVID Committee:** focused on ensuring a coordinated borough-wide response with our key partners.
- 5.3. In July 2020, the Council's Gold Group amended the COVID-19 response strategy to reflect and adapt to the changing circumstances and responsibilities of local government in its continued response to COVID-19. The refreshed strategy places a greater emphasis on the prevention and minimisation of infection. The current response strategy is as follows:
  - To provide support to the vulnerable
  - To take action to prevent or minimise further outbreaks
  - Managing resourcing to meet the needs of emergency and maintain essential

- public services
- To provide support to our responding partner agencies who are protecting and preserving life
  - To provide support to Lewisham businesses and communities
  - To inform and reassure through communication and engagement
  - To provide community leadership/reassurance
  - Minimise disruption to infrastructure and business
  - To facilitate recovery and the return to normality
- 5.4. In addition to the Council's own emergency response reporting and decision-making arrangements, the Chief Executive has been participating in London-wide arrangements to respond to emergencies which is coordinated by London Resilience.
- 5.5. Lewisham has taken a "One Council" approach in responding to challenges posed by COVID-19. The entire Senior Leadership Team, that is Executive Directors and Directors, has been involved with the coordination and delivery of our response which has been essential to the effectiveness and continued smooth running of our critical services.

## Local outbreak planning and second wave

- 5.6. As we emerge from the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ability to prevent and manage outbreaks of COVID-19 will be critical to enable residents, communities and businesses to resume activities safely. We have seen other parts of the country subject to local lockdowns in recent weeks and the focus for the Council has been on ensuring our local outbreak and lockdown management plans are fit for purpose in the event of outbreak or lockdown in the area.
- 5.7. The Lewisham Outbreak Prevention and Control Plan brings together the existing outbreak prevention and management work of national and regional PHE, local authority public health teams, the national NHS test and trace service, Joint Biosecurity Centre and collaboration of wider system partners to form a robust framework for COVID-19 outbreak management in Lewisham.
- 5.8. Our plan sets out the arrangements, processes and actions that will effectively prevent and manage outbreaks of COVID-19 to ensure that Lewisham residents and communities are protected from the impact of COVID-19.
- 5.9. The key objectives of the plan are:
- To prevent outbreaks of COVID-19 in our communities and complex settings (schools, care homes, communal settings and public spaces)
  - To respond rapidly and effectively to emerging outbreaks of COVID-19 as evidenced by data and health intelligence
  - To manage and control established outbreaks of COVID-19, particularly those in complex settings
  - To rapidly reflect on and adapt to lessons learnt during the management of outbreaks
  - To have a robust oversight and assurance process for the prevention and management of outbreaks of COVID-19
- 5.10. The plan covers the seven main themes outlined by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) for inclusion in local outbreak control plans:
- Care homes and schools – planning for local outbreaks in these settings

- High risk places, locations and communities – identifying and planning how to manage high risk places, locations and communities
  - Local testing capacity
  - Contact tracing in complex settings
  - Data integration
  - Vulnerable people – supporting local people to get help to self-isolate
  - Local boards - establishing governance structures
- 5.11. [The plan was published on the Lewisham Council website on 30 June 2020 and is available here.](#)
- 5.12. The plan is being overseen and implemented by the Lewisham COVID-19 Health Protection Board, which will report in to Lewisham Council Gold, the Lewisham Health and Wellbeing Board and Mayor and Cabinet.
- 5.13. As part of the Local Outbreak Prevention and Control Plan, a COVID-19 Data and Analysis Team has been established. Led by a Consultant in Public Health, this team co-ordinate the flow of data that is received daily from government sources on the status of COVID-19 cases across Lewisham. This information contains numerous indicators including; the number of new cases over the last 24 hours and 7 days, a RAG rating based on expected vs observed cases, the number of new cases from Lewisham referred into the National Test and Trace programme and the number of tests requested by Lewisham residents, amongst many other indicators.
- 5.14. In July, the government published the contain framework that sets out how national and local partners will work with the public at a local level to prevent, contain and manage outbreaks. This framework sets out the interface between local and national powers, which will be available to help prevent and control outbreaks. We will be working to build these new powers into our existing plan.
- 5.15. The Council's incident response team have are testing plans to support our readiness for increases in case numbers and outbreaks in the borough, which includes running scenario exercises with local partners and our communities to strengthen local understanding of roles and responsibilities in responding to outbreaks of COVID-19. We are also conducting a comprehensive risk review for the next six months, assessing the pandemic in terms of concurrent incidents, preparing for winter, flu and adverse weather for example.

## Emerging recovery plans

- 5.16. Lewisham's recovery from COVID-19 will be underpinned by the following principles:
- Tackling widening social, economic and health inequalities
  - Protecting and empowering our most vulnerable residents
  - Ensuring the Council's continued resilience, stability and sustainability
  - Enabling residents to make the most of Lewisham the place
  - Collaborating and working together with our communities and partners across the borough
- 5.17. Recovery is likely to be staggered over three phases.
1. Easing Lockdown : Spring/Summer
  2. Transition : Autumn/Winter
  3. Reinvention : Autumn/Winter onwards
- 5.18. These phases are likely to overlap and, given the uncertainty of the ongoing situation, it

is probable that timescales will need revision as we move forwards, especially if there is a further spike in infections or local lockdowns are needed.

### **Phase One - Easing Lockdown**

- 5.19. The immediate focus of recovery has been to manage a coordinated easing of lockdown to ensure Council services remain safe for residents and for staff.
- 5.20. Officers have taken the following actions during Phase One – Easing Lockdown:
  - **COVID-19 secure office space** – conducted thorough audit of Laurence House, Holbeach and Wearside, implemented social distancing and public health measures, displayed health and safety messaging and signage across all sites.
  - **COVID-19 Individual Risk Assessments** – introduced individual risk assessments for staff who cannot work from home all of the time due to the nature of their role, considering the impact on those with COVID vulnerabilities and identifying mitigations.
  - **Working from home support** – provided IT equipment to staff, updated the council's people management framework to give managers consistent guidance throughout the pandemic, continued the provision of wellbeing advice via the staff support hub.
  - **Internal volunteering scheme** – continued this scheme to support critical service areas as lockdown eases.
  - **Planning the reopening of services** – such as libraries, social care visiting appointments etc.

### **Phase Two - Transition**

- 5.21. Officers have conducted an internal, interim review of the response to COVID-19 so far and identified a number of lessons learned which will inform and shape ongoing recovery development as well as inform our response to future waves of COVID-19. Using these lessons learned, officers have identified key, immediate tasks that the Council will need to undertake, at pace, during Phase 2 - Transition, in order to be fully equipped and prepared to tackle the serious long-term impacts that COVID-19 has had in Lewisham:
  - Assess the impact of COVID-19 on corporate priorities, programmes and initiatives and reassess priorities going forwards.
  - Carry out transition planning internally, reviewing the in-year and longer term budget position and service delivery, to stabilise and put in place plans for the longer term.
  - Launch a staff-led improvement programme to support and engage staff to deliver internal improvement for external impact.
  - Conduct a borough-wide equalities impact assessment, working across agencies to produce one impact assessment for Lewisham.
  - Engage widely and meaningfully with our communities to complement the equalities impact assessment and provide a clear picture of how the pandemic has affected Lewisham and our residents.
  - Develop and articulate how Phase 3 – Reinvention will be led and coordinated.
- 5.22. We are now in Phase Two of our recovery from COVID-19, while still managing the ongoing demands of Phase One.

### **Phase Three – Reinvention**

- 5.23. The findings from the assessment and consultation stages of Phase Two will inform a

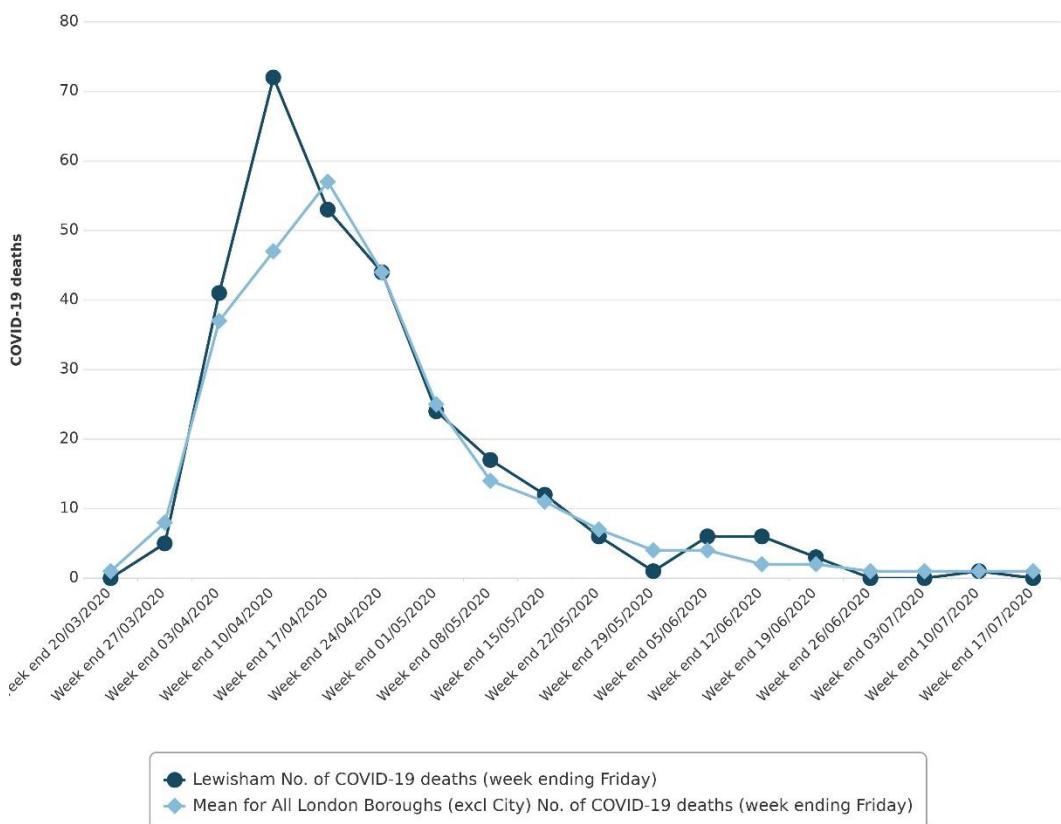
longer term phase of service redesign according to the anchoring principles as set out above. Phase Three - Reinvention will focus on the Council and the Borough, mirroring the Council's effective response to COVID-19.

- 5.24. The Council's internal recovery – focused on the Council's policy and budget framework - will be led by Mayor and Cabinet through the usual decision-making and scrutiny arrangements. Scrutiny members will play a vital role in recovery as a 'critical friend', focusing on forward thinking, suggesting positive changes and improving the Council's recovery.
- 5.25. External borough-wide recovery will be member and community-led. It will be action-oriented, flexible, collaborative and engaging, focused on people and relationships, to work towards a more equal, more resilient, healthier Lewisham. The emphasis will be on people, partnerships and collaboration to deliver the borough's recovery. An unerring focus on tackling racial inequalities will be woven through every element of our recovery.

## Mortality in Lewisham

- 5.26. There have been a total of 262 deaths from COVID-19 registered in Lewisham since the start of the pandemic.
- 5.27. There have only been 2 deaths from COVID-19 registered since 8th July. These were late registrations of deaths occurring in May and June.

**Number of COVID-19 deaths (week ending Friday) (from Week end 20/03/2020 to Week end 17/07/2020) for Lewisham**



**Source:**  
Office for National Statistics

Powered by LG Inform

- 5.28. The analysis of the demographic profile of deaths associated with COVID-19 in Lewisham is being updated. It is likely that the findings will confirm and strengthen the trends seen in the initial analysis. This confirmed that mortality from COVID-19 impacts population groups in Lewisham disproportionately, matching the patterns that have

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been identified nationally and internationally:

- Men and women aged 50 and above have an increased risk of mortality & the gender difference in mortality risk increases with age
- Lewisham residents born in the Americas and the Caribbean, Africa or the Middle East & Asia have a significantly higher death rate than people born in either the UK or Europe.
- Those living in the most deprived areas of Lewisham have considerably higher rates of death from COVID-19 than those living in the least deprived areas
- 20% of registered COVID-19 deaths in Lewisham were residents who normally live in care homes. Only 9% of registered deaths actually occurred in a care home.

## 6. Critical services

- 6.1. Early on, the Council, and as part of a pan-London agreed position, identified a set of critical services that were to be the focus of maintaining delivery above all other services throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 6.2. The Council has also defined a number of new initiatives and work streams that have arisen from the COVID-19 pandemic response as critical services in themselves. New measures such as Shielding and key Public Health initiatives have been classed as critical and an update on their status is provided below.
- 6.3. This paper outlines the delivery status of the Council's critical services in order to provide strategic oversight and assurance for members. Since the last paper to OSBP, the status of critical services has remained stable. This section therefore provides an update on changes or points of significance. Where there has been no change to the status of the service, this is noted below.

### Shielding

- 6.4. The Government's Shielding programme was paused by central government on 1 August and all Government support to individuals was ceased. In response to this, the Council's Shielding Team refocused its efforts to make contact with all residents who were in receipt of a centrally delivered food parcel or medicine service. These calls were to ensure awareness of the new guidance and that Shielding would cease after 31 July.
- 6.5. A large number of people proactively deregistered themselves from the system as they felt able to meet their own needs meaning just 1991 individuals in Lewisham were in receipt of weekly parcels in July. Overall there have been 3323 residents who have received the Government parcels at some point during the crisis. As of 16 July the Council had contacted 1887 of the 1991 directly and only 222 requested a follow up call.
- 6.6. These individuals have been followed up to ensure that they have taken the necessary steps to address their personal circumstances now the Shielding service has ended. The team is also calling other residents who have previously been identified as having high support needs to ensure that they are aware of the change in guidance and do not require further support.
- 6.7. Where on-going or further support needs are identified these will be referred to the appropriate services including the on-going Community Hub. The Community Hub will continue to be directly funded by the Council until 31 August 2020 but its role in the coordination of referrals and support to vulnerable residents affected by COVID-19 will continue beyond this point supported by existing resources.
- 6.8. The Shielding team will be maintained at a level of least 20 full time employees until 31

August to receive enquiries and make follow up calls to ensure that all vulnerable residents are meeting their own needs or receiving the support they require. From 1 September the Shielding team will be disbanded in its current form. The data management infrastructure built to support the service will be maintained to allow the service to restart in the event of a second wave.

## Public Health and health care

### The potential long-term public health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic

- 6.9. The COVID-19 pandemic and the associated lockdown will have many impacts on the health and wellbeing of the population of Lewisham, long, medium and short term. Unfortunately these are highly likely to disproportionately affect groups who already have poorer health, fewer resources and will increase inequalities and inequity.
- 6.10. Overall, the impact of COVID-19 on Lewisham will take months to understand and will need efforts to explore relationships between disrupted and changed services and the impact on health and wellbeing. A key element of the Council's recovery planning is to investigate and understand the full impact of COVID-19 on Lewisham and its communities, inclusive of the public health impact. Analysis of the impact of COVID-19 on the borough will be updated regularly as new information is available and the longer-term implications of the pandemic become apparent. This will provide the evidence base for the borough's recovery planning going forwards.
- 6.11. Research from [Public Health England](#), [The Health Foundation](#), [The Office of the Children's Commissioner for England](#), The [British Medical Journal](#) and the [London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine](#) shows that during the pandemic there have been national increases in:
  - poor mental health as a result of social isolation
  - weight gain due to lack of physical activity and consuming convenience foods high in calories, salt and sugar
  - food insecurities, not able to access healthy food in a reliable way
  - unemployment and the number of those living in relative and absolute poverty due to furlough or being made redundant as a direct result of COVID-19
  - domestic abuse related incidents and crime, children experiencing adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and the number of children in need
  - teenage conception rates and sexually transmitted infections
  - the use of smoking, alcohol and drugs and spending money on gambling across all age groups
  - youth violence and those in contact with the criminal justice system
  - staff turnover in the health and social care sector
  - the number of people with no fixed abode, or who have become homeless as a result of COVID-19
  - the use of online gaming and chat rooms and the associated risks around grooming
- 6.12. There have also been decreases in:
  - immunisations across age groups which will lead to higher incidences of infectious diseases and local outbreaks e.g. measles, and may impact the outcomes across the winter season e.g. excess winter deaths
  - the number of women breastfeeding
  - the school readiness of children in the borough
  - the educational attainment of young people on the borough
  - access to healthcare for non-COVID-19 related reasons
  - the health related quality of life for those living with long term conditions, and the elderly

## **Primary care access arrangement post COVID-19**

- 6.13. During the COVID-19 pandemic practices in Lewisham maintained core opening hours however the pandemic has changed primary care and accelerated the move to a digital and triage-first model of primary service delivery. The rationale for this approach was to ensure patients and practice staff were protected at all times.
- 6.14. Post-COVID-19 practices continue to deliver remote total triage and online consultations in the first instance. They are also open and deliver face-to-face care, where clinically appropriate.
- 6.15. Clinical issues are reviewed and appropriately actioned by clinical staff through a number of channels including:
  - Telephone
  - Online
  - Video consultation
  - Face-to-face if safe and appropriate.
- 6.16. Non-clinical issues are managed through practices' administrative routes.
- 6.17. Practices follow the guidance and standard operating procedures outlined by NHS England and NHS Improvement.
- 6.18. The GP Extended Access service is also available to support primary care access.

## **Cancer treatment in Lewisham post-COVID**

- 6.19. Access to diagnostics and treatment for patients have continued during the pandemic. A COVID-secure cancer hub has been created at the London Bridge Hospital which is run by HCA Healthcare, a private hospital group, and is being utilised by all Trusts in South East London. Lewisham and Greenwich Trust (LGT) has also utilised capacity at the BMI Blackheath hospital to undertake some other cancer work which has also remained COVID-secure.
- 6.20. The London Bridge Hospital and BMI Blackheath were commissioned as part of the national contract negotiated by NHS England for private hospital capacity across the whole of England. The South East London Accountable Cancer Network have co-ordinated access to the cancer hub and other cancer hubs where required for more specialist treatment through a Clinical Prioritisation Group with clinical representation from all three Trusts. Access to other private sector capacity, such as BMI Blackheath, has been coordinated by the South East London Integrated Care System.
- 6.21. Patients have also continued to access oncology services at both of the Lewisham and Greenwich Trust acute sites. Guy's and St Thomas's Trust, which hosts the South East London centre for radiotherapy, has also continued to provide this service for patients throughout this period. Where patients were receiving low dose oral chemotherapy and hormones this was posted to patients so they did not need to leave their home. Outpatient services have also continued both face-to-face where needed and where possible they have been held virtually.
- 6.22. There were significant restrictions on capacity to perform endoscopy procedures due to strict Infection Prevention and Control guidelines due to these procedures being aerosol generating. In addition endoscopy patients had been required to self-isolate for 14 days prior to their procedure and some patients had opted to delay due to this. These restrictions in capacity and patients delaying their procedure has caused a backlog of patients waiting for endoscopy. These restrictions have now been reduced which has allowed capacity to be increased and the requirement for patients to self-isolate has been significantly reduced. A plan has been developed to clear this backlog over the next few months.
- 6.23. Since May, Lewisham and Greenwich Trust has worked to bring all services back up to

normal levels of capacity. As of the beginning of August, all Trusts have been asked to work towards returning to normal levels of cancer services by October and reduce backlogs back to previous levels by the end of March.

### **Secondary care recovery plan**

- 6.24. Lewisham and Greenwich Trust started to re-open routine services from May, this has been in line with national guidance around infection prevention and control and has meant that some services have taken longer to re-start and some still have limited capacity for routine work but all services will be back up and running by the end of August.
- 6.25. NHS England issued guidance at the beginning of August that all Trusts are expected to work towards providing close to the previous financial year (19/20) activity levels. The Trust is working with other organisations in South East London to develop a single plan for the sub-region. The plan will include ensuring that there is full access for patients to be referred by GPs to the hospital and ensuring a system level plan to reduce backlogs of patients waiting for routine treatment, and utilise all available capacity including both NHS and private capacity negotiated by NHS England.
- 6.26. These plans are being developed and are due for final submission in September but Trusts have been asked to begin further increasing their capacity in August with a return to maximum capacity by October.

### **Adult Social Care**

- 6.27. Critical Adult Social Care services are: safeguarding, emergency duty team, emergency homecare response, placements and discharges from hospitals, care home placements. The Adult Social Care and Joint Commissioning services in Lewisham have been working closely with health and care partners across the system to support residents to stay safe and reducing pressure on the NHS.

- 6.28. Adult Social Care services have remained stable since the last update report to OSBP.

### **Support for people with disabilities**

- 6.29. 123 adults with learning disabilities have not been able to access their usual building-based services since March 2020, due to COVID-19. To ensure continued support we have introduced welfare calls, video sessions, outreach visits on the doorstep or in the garden, one-to-one social distance walks to green spaces and sent out activity packs.
- 6.30. As lockdown eases there is an opportunity to now reopen our buildings but, due to social distancing requirements, we will not have the capacity to support the same numbers as we have previously. For some of our service users, building-based services offer independence in a safe setting. Therefore, we are risk assessing our buildings and prioritising use for those most in need. This involves moving to single service, full day provision within each setting, introducing smaller groups with dedicated staff and rooms, introducing higher levels of infection control, PPE, cleaning, risk assessing all of our activities, introducing new easy read signage and reducing/changing furniture and equipment to allow social distancing and cleaning protocols to be followed effectively. For those who do not need a building based service or who would benefit from a 'hybrid' service, we are in the process of starting up a number of community group 'bubbles' using the facilities at some of our buildings as a base.
- 6.31. The Council is developing more innovative ways of supporting people through self-directed, asset-based approaches and reviewing alternative outreach provisions, community bridge building and increased digital support. For example we are looking to improve digital accessibility and test software, designed by people with Learning Difficulties, which improves social networking, communication and planning, exploring working with local colleges to deliver courses more focused on developing IT, employment and independence skills and looking at how to better utilise opportunities

to build social enterprises for example, gardening work utilising our garden spaces.

- 6.32. Our priority continues to be to support service users to live the life they want and to do the things that are important to them as independently as possible. We are planning this in a way that keeps them, their carers and our staff safe whilst maximising the use of our buildings and delivering cost effective hybrid services that will minimise the impact of any further future lockdowns and builds a sustainable service for the long term.

### Care market

- 6.33. In Lewisham we have three Neighbourhood Lead Providers for Home Care, all of which reported a decline in client numbers at the beginning of the pandemic. This was mainly due to family members cancelling care as there were worries about infection control and many families who were not working (or working from home) were able to provide care themselves. Home care providers were appreciative of the Council's decision to pay for planned care hours (as opposed to actual hours). This cushioned the loss of hours, allowed flexibility with staff rostering and the ability to meet other expenses associated with the pandemic (including workforce self-isolating or shielding for example).
- 6.34. As lockdown eases, care hours are beginning to increase. Workforce capacity is currently good and discussions have begun with home care providers regarding their involvement in winter pressures planning, supporting the Council's "Home First" policy and Discharge to Assess.
- 6.35. However, providers are reporting an unprecedented level of spend on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) which is likely to continue for the foreseeable future. The Council will continue to work with these providers to ensure they have the support they need to remain financial viable and ensure that we have a sustainable domiciliary care market.
- 6.36. The care home market remains fragile. In Lewisham we have had one older adults care home close and we are aware that homes still have a large number of voids. Lewisham has a large number of smaller care homes who are likely to be disproportionately affected as they are unlikely to have access to the same level of reserves as the large national providers. As with home care providers, care homes have also incurred significant additional costs. The Infection Prevention Control support fund has helped cover some of these costs and Lewisham has increased funding for placements in the first half of the financial year.
- 6.37. Whilst it is likely that we will see an increase in demand for care home placements over winter we are aware that some care homes will still struggle financially and we may yet see more providers exit the market.
- 6.38. The Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) capacity tracker provides up to date information on the total care market and the Integrated Lewisham's commissioning team will continue to work closely with providers to offer support as appropriate.

### Children and Young People's Services

- 6.39. Critical services in Children and Young People's Services are: safeguarding, children with complex needs, children in care and placements, education services such as childcare support network, support for schools to deliver education to specific groups of children, and advice to parents/carers. Children's services have remained stable since the update report to OSBP in July.

### Schools and education

- 6.40. Schools are set to fully reopen to all children in September. The government have issued Public Health guidance and their expectations for how schools should operate

from September to “balance minimising any risks from coronavirus by maximising control measures with providing a full educational experience for children and young people.” (Department for Education guidance, July 2020) Lewisham schools have been planning carefully to welcome back children and young people after the summer holidays. Schools are contacting parents and pupils with more information.

- 6.41. Schools in Lewisham have revised their risk assessment and planning documentation to plan for this wider opening in the autumn term. This has included carrying out individual risk assessments for staff to reflect updated guidance on shielding and those at higher risk from COVID (including by age, ethnicity and medical conditions).
- 6.42. Many schools are adopting a ‘soft’ opening approach over the first few weeks to test out systems and give proper attention to settling children and young people back into school. Given the possibility of a second wave of COVID19, either nationally or locally, schools will need to have a high quality home learning offer on standby.
- 6.43. This year we have piloted a new Transition Passport for children moving in to Year 7 who have additional needs or are vulnerable. The passport helps children, their parents/carers and teachers to share information about their aspirations and learning needs. This has been welcomed by secondary heads and teachers.
- 6.44. Individual secondary schools have carried out a mix of virtual and actual transition events for their new learners which have been well attended. Many are taking in year 7 slightly before other year groups to allow for maximum staffing capacity to support them.
- 6.45. Over the last year we have sought to increase the BAME governor representation in our schools, through the Local Authority governor roles that we appoint directly and encouraging schools to reach out to their BAME populations through the other governor roles. We have seen a four percentage point increase in the number of governors who state they are from a BAME background (27% of all governors). This is significantly better than the national average which the National Governance Association states is 4% overall. However there are 467 governors who haven’t yet declared their ethnicity so we are still contacting existing governors in order to update our records.

#### **“Catch up” approach**

- 6.46. The government announced that state primary and secondary schools will receive £650 million in additional funding for the 2020-21 academic year to help pupils catch up on education missed as a result of COVID-19 schools closures. The expectation is that it should be used on small group tuition during the 2020-21 academic year. Schools will need to plan for the most effective use of this funding as part of a wider recovery and catch up programme for all children and young people. The Education Endowment Foundation has also published a guide to help school leaders and staff decide how to use this funding to best support their pupils and their outcomes. It provides advice on support strategies schools can use in deciding how to support pupils, including intervention programmes and extra teaching capacity.
- 6.47. A further £350 million will pay for the establishment of a National Tutoring Programme (NTP) for the 2020-21 academic year and give schools access to subsidised tutoring sessions and free coaches for disadvantaged pupils. This will take the form of the NTP Tuition Partners- subsidised tutoring from a Department for Education approved list of tuition partners. Tuition Partners are expected to begin delivery in the second half of the autumn term 2020. NTP Academic Mentors are trained graduates employed by schools in the most disadvantaged areas to provide intensive catch-up support to their pupils, allowing teachers in these schools to focus on their classrooms. Teach First will be responsible for the initial delivery of NTP Academic Mentors, including recruitment and training. The first Academic Mentors are expected to be in schools by October half-term at the earliest.

- 6.48. Schools' approach to 'catch-up' and recovery must be focused on the long term; planning over the next academic year and beyond, with specific targeting for those children and young people who are closer to exams. Rather than a short summer programme, catch up needs to be part of an evidenced based plan with a strategic approach to identifying gaps in learning for individual children and young people. This will be supported by the Council through its recovery from COVID-19, Lewisham Learning and other existing forums.
- 6.49. The Council is encouraging schools in the borough to adopt a [Recovery Curriculum](#) to re-engage Children and Young People socially and emotionally, help them reflect on their COVID experience and re-establish routines and behaviours for learning.
- 6.50. During the last week of term, schools were encouraged to invite those children who had struggled with engagement during lockdown for face-to-face (either virtual or actual) contact with their teachers. In September schools will be designing appropriate catch-up provision for these children, including assessment of lost learning and targeted support. There is a risk of high levels of absence for some of these children after schools formally reopen and the Attendance team will continue to support schools with targeted support to combat this.
- 6.51. Sixth form providers have indicated that they will work with secondary schools to support individual pupils to access appropriate courses. Sixth form providers have been clear that there needs to be a careful balance between addressing issues arising from lower-than-expected grades and ensuring that learners access the right aspirational courses which will enable them to be successful.
- 6.52. In terms of psychological and emotional support for students, the Department for Education has produced guidance and advice for parents about [supporting children and young people's mental health and wellbeing](#). There are two main providers of mental health support for children and young people in Lewisham: [Compass @ The Hub](#), which is a free and confidential service for young people aged 10-19, offering one-to-one advice, guidance, and support, and [Kooth](#), which provides free, anonymous online counselling and emotional well-being support to young people aged 10- 25.

#### **Summer activity for children and young people**

- 6.53. Lewisham schools are closing for the summer holidays. The Department for Education COVID19 guidance for out-of-school providers was released on 10 July 2020, leaving little time for providers to confirm their offer. In addition, the restrictions related to social distancing means that there is less provision available this year compared to previous years. However, a number of organisations across the borough are providing a range of childcare and activities for children and young people during the summer. [These are publicised on the Council's website and the list will be updated as we get new information](#). In addition to those listed, there are a number of schools offering summer childcare only for children in their school, which have been advertised through the school. Families who need help finding childcare or activities during the summer holidays can contact the Council's family information service.
- 6.54. [London Thunder have been commissioned to run a summer programme](#) - a mix of sports, mentoring and reflection on getting ready for learning. This is a targeted programme based on referrals for children who are vulnerable. [Youth First are also running a range of activities throughout the summer](#) with a mix of virtual and face to face provision, including writing classes, cooking club and anti-racism workshops. Lewisham Virtual School is running an extended summer scheme for children who are looked after, including activities at Young Lewisham Project, unaccompanied asylum seekers' (UASC) English as a second language (ESOL) programme and ESOL outreach targeting UASC who arrived during COVID and could not enrol in college and mentoring. The Virtual School Youth Club will also run throughout summer
- 6.55. [There is a comprehensive summer offer for children with SEND](#) and over the summer, [Lewisham's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information Advice and](#)

Support Service will continue to offer a confidential service for parents and carers, children and young people (up to 25 years).

### The effect of the pandemic on the health and wellbeing of children

- 6.56. Evidence from China suggests that the impact of the global pandemic on children's physical health is larger than expected with one study quoting that physical inactivity in children rose significantly and that screen time increased on average by 30 hours per week. A positive impact of reduced levels of vehicle use during the pandemic was the short term improvement in air quality which meant that Lewisham children were breathing less polluted air when outside. Sadly, as more people return to work and business as usual, air quality is returning to pre-COVID levels.
- 6.57. A recent Impact Assessment in Scotland pointed to the lack of data on indicators to measure physical health in children during lockdown e.g. how many children face digital exclusion. It is likely that certain groups of children will face a disproportionate impact from the pandemic and this will include children living in deprived socio-economic circumstances, children living where there is domestic abuse, children with learning or physical disabilities and young carers.
- 6.58. Public Health England estimate that only 20% of children were doing the recommended 60 minutes per day of physical activity with 10% of children reporting that they were doing no activity. This is likely to have been impacted by the closure of schools and lack of opportunity for outdoor play and active travel.
- 6.59. In Lewisham we know that levels of food insecurity have risen and more families with children are accessing food banks during the pandemic. The effects of hunger on young bodies and minds are long lasting. Children with poor diets do less well academically and children who experience food insecurity may also suffer more from mental illness.

### Bereavement Services

- 6.60. The Council's critical bereavement services are registrations of births and deaths, public mortuary body storage, Council Crematoria and Burial Grounds. Bereavement Services have seen increased pressure as a result of COVID-19. The service continues to follow guidance issued by central government, Public Health England and the London Resilience Forum and is working hard to support residents during a very difficult time while observing social distancing guidance.
- 6.61. Local authorities in London are working together to ensure a consistent approach to bereavement services and to coordinate mortality management and planning across the capital.
- 6.62. Bereavement services have remained stable since the update report to OSBP in July. The initial restrictions on the service are gradually being eased with cemeteries now open for longer hours and up to 30 mourners allowed to attend a funeral.

### Environmental Services

- 6.63. The Council's critical environmental services are highways management, refuse collection, refuse disposal, CCTV, emergency licensing and enforcement and pest control, all of which are operating at a near normal service at this time. Where possible, staff are working remotely but this is not possible for a number of environmental services, such as refuse collection. Staffing levels across environmental services remain stable, with frontline teams operating on rotation to ensure resilience in the service. Environmental services have remained stable since the update report to OSBP in July.
- 6.64. As part of the Council's response to the pandemic, measures were introduced to facilitate those walking and cycling to do so safely whilst also maintaining social

distancing. These measures also contribute to the Council's longer term policy priorities. We have introduced modal filters in order to create quieter and safer streets for walking and cycling, created extra pedestrian space to support social distancing in busy public places, created increased space for cyclists along key corridors and introducing school streets, which are closed to vehicular traffic for part of the day at school pick up and drop off. These temporary measures were introduced to support residents stay safe in the borough and will be kept under review during the emergency period.

## Housing

- 6.65. Critical housing services are emergency repairs, critical housing safety and emergency housing provision. Housing services have adapted effectively to COVID-19, swiftly adopting new and innovative ways of working with people working remotely to continue effective service delivery while ensuring the safety of service users and staff.
- 6.66. The number of those in Temporary Accommodation stands at 2,494 as at 7 August, up from 2,383 at 27 March. The Council has supported over 229 rough sleepers since March, however the numbers continue to increase each week. 50 of those rough sleepers have No Recourse to Public Funds or are ineligible to claim mainstream benefits or housing assistance.
- 6.67. As the lockdown is eased, homelessness services across the country have been returning to business as usual. London Councils agreed that the "everyone in" approach would end from 4 July 2020. This was coordinated at a London level to avoid any adverse impact on any individual authority that took a different approach.
- 6.68. Going forward rough sleepers will access Lewisham's services via Streetlink referrals to the pan-London street rescue service, as well as via referrals from partners across the community. Rough sleepers are assessed by outreach services, followed by provision of support as needed. Once a referral is received, the commissioned outreach service verifies individual rough sleepers and assesses their needs to enable them to be referred on to appropriate services for support the following day. Those who are assessed as having a priority need will be referred to Lewisham out of hours service, so that they can be considered for an immediate housing provision.
- 6.69. On 1 July 2020 the Government updated the statutory Homelessness Code of Guidance to reflect the impact on COVID-19 on rough sleepers, and who should be considered to be in priority need. The new paragraph states that applicants who have been identified by their GP or a specialist as clinically extremely vulnerable are likely to be assessed as having priority need. The vulnerability of applicants who are clinically vulnerable should also be considered in the context of COVID-19. Some applicants may report having medical conditions which are named in the guidance but have not yet been identified by a health professional as being clinically extremely vulnerable or clinically vulnerable, in which case it may be necessary to seek a clinical opinion in order to confirm their health needs.
- 6.70. Between the 6 April and the 15 July, the team have prevented 91 illegal evictions from taking place – enabling the tenant to remain in their property. A further 18 illegal evictions have resulted in the tenant being evicted and the council will take further action in these instances. The moratorium on most evictions ends on the 23 August and the service will be closely monitoring the impact of this change.
- 6.71. Between the end of March and the 3 July, the suspension of Homeseach allowed the housing service to ensure that the most vulnerable residents were found permanent accommodation that met their needs. Since 4 July, Homeseach is once again operating and residents are able to bid for properties as before.

## Finance

- 6.72. Critical finance services are Revenues and Benefits and Business support. The Council has taken measures to support both businesses and residents who are facing financial hardship as a result of COVID-19.
- 6.73. Finance services have remained stable since the update report to OSBP in July.

### Impact on Council finances

- 6.74. The Council's finances have been severely affected by the ongoing pandemic. The cost of the Council's response to COVID-19, after government funding confirmed to date, is £25m: £15m on the tax base and £10m on lost income and additional expenditure. The ongoing impact of economic recession (including Brexit) is still to be determined but it is anticipated that demand for benefit will increase going forwards. The Council's current Medium Term Financial Strategy estimates a shortfall of £40m over the next three years.
- 6.75. Officers are assessing the scale and nature of the challenge, identifying opportunities to capture positives from the crisis, and considering how these options may contribute to future cuts. This work is ongoing and includes reviewing progress with agreed cuts of £16.6m, the impact of COVID-19 on service delivery and budgets, and the continuing need for £19.0m of service pressures funded in 20/21.

### Corporate, HR and other support services critical to the COVID-19 response

- 6.76. Other services that are critical to the Council's COVID-19 response are emergency planning and response teams, customer service centre, communications, health & safety, payroll and emergency recruitment, ICT and critical public health services all of which are focused on supporting and enabling the Council's COVID-19 response and its critical services.
- 6.77. Corporate, HR and other support services have remained stable since the update report to OSBP in July.

## 7. Financial implications

- 7.1. Financial impact of COVID-19 are set out in paragraphs 6.74 - 6.75 of this paper. Taking the estimated costs and lost income considerations of the Covid 19 response and additional support from government into account, the Council has sufficient reserves to meet these financial commitments at present. While the impact of the Covid 19 response may reduce the Council's financial resilience to face future shocks, it is the section 151 officer's assessment that the circumstances do not require consideration of a section 114 notice (in consultation with the Head of Paid Service and the Monitoring Officer) at this time.

## 8. Legal implications

- 8.1. The Coronavirus Act 2020 received Royal Assent on 25 March this year. It gives the Government emergency powers to combat the COVID 19 pandemic. The provisions of the Act are time-limited for two years, though this period may be shortened by ministerial direction. In addition the Act is subject to Parliamentary review every 6 months.
- 8.2. The Act enables the Government to restrict or prohibit public gatherings, control or suspend public transport, order businesses such as shops and restaurants to close, temporarily detain people suspected of COVID-19 infection, suspend the operation of ports and airports, enrol medical students and retired healthcare workers in the health services, relax regulations to ease the burden on healthcare services, and assume

control of death management in particular local areas.

- 8.3. Many of its provisions are specific to local government. For example the Act temporarily suspends local authorities' legal duty to meet the care needs of all people who are eligible under the Care Act 2014. Instead, councils will have a duty to provide care only if necessary to avoid breaching a person's rights under the Convention of Human Rights (ECHR). However as set out in the report, the Council has not sought to rely on any of the easements to the Care Act allowed in the Coronavirus Act.
- 8.4. The Act also makes provisions for elections and annual general meetings to be deferred and for council meetings to be held remotely.
- 8.5. A number of directions have been made to legislative provisions using the Coronavirus provisions. For example, the Secretary of State issued a direction on 31 March 2020 to Ofqual about the calculation of students' GCSE, AS and A level results and on 9 April in respect of technical qualifications though many of the government's intentions for local government have been expressed through non statutory guidance. Whilst having no statutory force, the Council would be well advised to have regard to this guidance, and only departing from it with good reason, particularly bearing in mind that the Secretary of State retains the power to issue directions if necessary.
- 8.6. Under Section 17 Crime and disorder Act 1998 the Council has a duty in the exercise of its functions to consider the impact of all their functions and decisions on crime and disorder in their local area.
- 8.7. Section 12 of the Health and Social Care Act inserted a new section 2B into the NHS Act 2006 to give a local authority a new duty to take such steps as it considers appropriate to improve the health of the people in its area. The steps in this report are consistent with that duty.
- 8.8. Under S3 Local Government Act, 1999 the Council must make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness. This duty remains even in these exceptional circumstances.

## **9. Equalities implications**

- 9.1. There is emerging evidence that suggests a disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on groups with protected characteristics. National research shows there are significant health inequalities affecting Black African and Caribbean communities, which are perpetuated by inequalities in the wider determinants of health such as housing, employment and education. These have been exacerbated by COVID-19 and may underpin some of the excess deaths in these populations.
- 9.2. Lewisham Council and Birmingham City Council are partnering to conduct a review gather insights on health inequalities within Black African and Caribbean communities in Birmingham and Lewisham asking 'how do we break the cycle of inequality?'. The Council has also submitted evidence to the Women and Equalities Committee about the different and disproportionate impact that the Coronavirus – and measures to tackle it – is having on people with the protected characteristics under the Equality Act.
- 9.3. The Council plans to supplement this work with an extensive impact assessment of COVID-19 on the borough, with a focus on those with protected characteristics.
- 9.4. The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 9.5. 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
- 9.6. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct, or to promote equality of opportunity or foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. It is a duty to have due regard to the need to achieve the goals listed in the paragraph above.
- 9.7. The weight to be attached to the duty will be dependent on the nature of the decision and the circumstances in which it is made. This is a matter for members, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. They must understand the impact or likely impact of the decision on those with protected characteristics who are potentially affected by the decision. The extent of the duty will necessarily vary from case to case and due regard is such regard as is appropriate in all the circumstances.
- 9.8. The Equality and Human Rights Commission has 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:
- <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/equality-act-codes-practice>
  - <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/equality-act-technical-guidance>
- 9.9. 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: A guide for public authorities
  - Objectives and the equality duty. A guide for public authorities
  - Equality Information and the Equality Duty: A Guide for Public Authorities
- 9.10. The essential guide provides an overview of the equality duty requirements
- 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
- 9.11. The essential guide provides an overview of the equality duty requirement 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:

- <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty-guidance>

## **10. Climate change and environmental implications**

- 10.1. There are no direct climate change and environmental implications arising from this report.

## **11. Crime and disorder implications**

- 11.1. There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

## **12. Health and wellbeing implications**

- 12.1. There are no direct health and wellbeing implications arising from this report, however it should be acknowledged that COVID-19 presents a serious threat to the health and wellbeing of Lewisham's residents, as it does across the world. The Council's response and recovery objectives are rooted in promoting good public health and safety for Lewisham's residents.

## **13. Background papers**

- 13.1. [Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel 5 May 2020 - Scrutiny of the Council's COVID-19 Response](#)
- 13.2. [Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel 26 May 2020 - Scrutiny of the Council's COVID-19 Response](#)
- 13.3. [Mayor and Cabinet report 10 June 2020 - Council's response to Covid 19 - Financial update](#)
- 13.4. [Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel 23 June 2020 – Scrutiny of the Council's COVID-19.](#)
- 13.5. [Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel 21 July 2020 – Scrutiny of the Council's COVID-19.](#)

## **14. Glossary**

Term	Definition
Council Gold	A gold/silver/bronze command structure is a hierarchy used by the emergency services and other public sector organisations (including local authorities) to manage the response to major incidents. Gold command is responsible for formulating a strategy for dealing with the incident and has overall control of resources.
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. The two main symptoms of COVID-19 are a high temperature and a new, persistent cough, but peopl

Term	Definition
Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	<p>Lewisham has two Business Panels (sub-committees of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee).</p> <p>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Business Panel is made up of the chair and vice-chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the chair of each of the Select Committees, and two other non-Executive councillors.</p> <p>The main functions of Business Panel are reviewing key decisions once they have been taken (potentially “calling in” key decisions that have been made but not yet implemented); coordinating and approving the overall scrutiny work programme; and allocating scrutiny work in the event that it crosses the remit of more than one scrutiny body.</p> <p>Three parent governors and two diocesan representatives sit on the Education Business Panel, alongside the councillors that make up the regular Business Panel. The Education Business Panel reviews.</p>
Shielding	<p>Those who are at the greatest risk of severe illness and have been advised to shield by the NHS.</p>

## 15. Report author and contact

- 15.1. If there are any queries about this report, please contact Charlotte Parish, Principal Officer – Policy, Service Design and Analysis, by phone (020 8314 6101) or by email [charlotte.parish@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.parish@lewisham.gov.uk).



## Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel

### Key Decision Plan

**Date:** 18 August 2020

**Key decision:** No

**Class:** Part 1

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Contributors:** Chief Executive / Head of Business and Committee

### Outline and recommendations

Members are asked to receive a draft copy of the statutory Key Decision Plan and an explanatory appendix

#### 1. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Business Panel receives and comments on the draft Key Decision Plan

## **FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS**

### **Forward Plan August 2020 - November 2020**

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 0208 3149327, the Local Democracy Officer, at the Council Offices or [kevin.flaherty@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto: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
June 2020	<b>Sydenham Park Foot Bridge - Single Tender Action</b>	18/08/20 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Gillian Redrup, Senior Engineer and Councillor Sophie McGeevor, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport		
June 2020	<b>Permission to extend current Removal, Storage and Disposal of Abandoned Vehicles and other Nuisance Vehicle Services Contract</b>	18/08/20 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Martin Skipper and Councillor Sophie McGeevor, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport		
June 2020	<b>Contract to refurbish premises at 43 and 45 Bromley Road</b>	18/08/20 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Adam Platts, Project Manager and Councillor Chris Barnham, Cabinet Member for Children's Services and School Performance		
June 2020	<b>Catford Regeneration Programme Approval of Phase 1</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Sandra Plummer, Senior Project Manager and Mayor Damien Egan, Mayor		
February 2020	<b>Approval to proceed with Procurement - Digitisation of Records - Council Wide</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	David Austin, Acting Chief Finance Officer and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member for Democracy, Refugees & Accountability		
February 2020	<b>Renewal of Pension Administration IT System</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Ian Andrews, IT Procurement and Supplier Manager 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
			Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member for Democracy, Refugees & Accountability		
October 2019	<b>Adoption of the Catford Regeneration Masterplan Framework</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration & Environment and Mayor Damien Egan, Mayor		
June 2020	<b>Conversion Sites</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	James Masini, Regeneration and New Supply Manager and Councillor Paul Bell, Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning		
June 2020	<b>Options appraisal of the security contract</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Chris Damri, SGM Asset Strategy and Technical Support and Councillor Amanda De Ryk, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources		
June 2020	<b>Procurement strategy and possible appointment new purchasing body for one or more corporate utility contracts</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Martin O'Brien, Climate Resilience Manager and Councillor Sophie McGeevor, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport		
June 2020	<b>Review of Statement of Community Involvement</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Christopher Dale, Development Manager and Mayor Damien Egan, 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
June 2020	<b>Local Authority Governor Nominations</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Suhaib Saeed, Strategic Lead Governors' Services and School Leadership and Councillor Chris Barnham, Cabinet Member for Children's Services and School Performance		
June 2020	<b>Former Ladywell Leisure Centre - Update</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Karen Barke, Head of Strategic Development and Councillor Paul Bell, Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning		
June 2020	<b>Declaration of Grove Park Nature Reserve LNR.</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Nick Pond, Parks and Open Space Contracts and Service Development Manager and Councillor Sophie McGeevor, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport		
July 2020	<b>Health &amp; Care Recovery Plan</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Dr Catherine Mbema, Director of Public Health and Councillor Chris Best, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care		
August 2020	<b>Approval of the Lewisham Homes Business Plan</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Michael Moncrieff, Housing Policy &		

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
			Partnerships Manager and Councillor Paul Bell, Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning		
August 2020	<b>Request for s106 monies to support the delivery of affordable homes at Sydenham Hill</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Karen Barke, Head of Strategic Development and Councillor Paul Bell, Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning		
August 2020	<b>Small Sites Small Builders GLA Funding - Second Submission</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	James Ringwood, Housing Delivery Manager and Councillor Paul Bell, Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning		
August 2020	<b>Approval of the lease arrangements for Abbotshall Road Playing Fields</b>	16/09/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Andy Thomas, Cultural Development Manager and Councillor Andre Bourne, Cabinet member for Culture, Jobs and Skills (job share)		
February 2020	<b>Award of London Borough of Culture Programme Delivery Partner</b>	29/09/20 Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Liz Dart, Head of Culture and Community Development and Councillor Andre Bourne, Cabinet member for Culture, Jobs and Skills (job share)		
October 2019	<b>Contract Award for Stage 2 of Greenvale School Expansion Project</b>	07/10/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Pinaki Ghoshal, Executive Director for Children & 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
			and Councillor Chris Barnham, Cabinet Member for Children's Services and School Performance		
June 2020	<b>Amending Lewisham Homes Articles of Association</b>	07/10/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Michael Moncrieff, Housing Policy & Partnerships Manager and Councillor Paul Bell, Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning		
April 2020	<b>Sanctuary Strategy</b>	07/10/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Paul Aladenika, Service Group Manager, Policy Development and Analytical Insight and Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member for Democracy, Refugees & Accountability		
December 2019	<b>Additions of new buildings to Local List St Lukes Church</b>	07/10/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Joanna Ecclestone, Senior Conservation Officer and Mayor Damien Egan, Mayor		
June 2020	<b>School meal provision</b>	07/10/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Fiona Gavin, Senior Contracts Officer and Councillor Chris Barnham, Cabinet Member for Children's Services and School Performance		
June 2020	<b>School kitchen equipment</b>	07/10/20	Fiona Gavin, Senior		

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
	<b>maintenance contract</b>	Mayor and Cabinet	Contracts Officer and Councillor Chris Barnham, Cabinet Member for Children's Services and School Performance		
August 2020	<b>Article 4 Direction in Deptford High Street Conservation Area</b>	07/10/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Joanna Ecclestone, Senior Conservation Officer and Councillor Paul Bell, Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning		
August 2020	<b>Besson Street update'</b>	07/10/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Monique Wallace, Planning Manager, Strategic Housing and Councillor Paul Bell, Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning		
December 2019	<b>Approval of the draft Lewisham Local Plan for public consultation</b>	28/10/20 Council	Kevin Sheehan, Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration & Environment and Mayor Damien Egan, Mayor		
April 2020	<b>Approval of the Local Development Scheme (Update)</b>	28/10/20 Council	David Syme, Strategic Planning Manager and Mayor Damien Egan, Mayor		
June 2020	<b>Extension of Resurfacing and Footways Contract</b>	28/10/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Tom Henry, Engineering Manager, Transport Division and Councillor Sophie McGeevor,		

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 for Environment and Transport		
June 2020	<b>Highway term Contract tender award</b>	28/10/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Tom Henry, Engineering Manager, Transport Division and Councillor Sophie McGeevor, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport		
April 2020	<b>Revised Statement of Licensing Policy</b>	11/11/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Lisa Hooper, Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Manager and Councillor Andre Bourne, Cabinet member for Culture, Jobs and Skills (job share)		
April 2020	<b>Adoption of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy</b>	11/11/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Michael Moncrieff, Housing Policy & Partnerships Manager and Councillor Paul Bell, Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning		
April 2020	<b>Adoption of the Housing Strategy 2020-26</b>	11/11/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Michael Moncrieff, Housing Policy & Partnerships Manager and Councillor Paul Bell, Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning		
April 2020	<b>Refugee Resettlement Support Service Contract Award</b>	11/11/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Madeleine Jeffery, Director of Housing 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
			Councillor Kevin Bonavia, Cabinet Member for Democracy, Refugees & Accountability		
February 2020	<b>Revised Statement of Licensing Policy</b>	25/11/20 Council	Lisa Hooper, Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Manager and Councillor Eva Stamirowski		
October 2019	<b>Mayow Road Supported Living Service Parts 1 &amp; 2</b>	09/12/20 Mayor and Cabinet	Tom Brown, Executive Director for Community Services and Councillor Chris Best, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care		
November 2019	<b>Approval to appoint operator for concessions contract at the lake, Beckenham Place Park</b>	13/01/21 Mayor and Cabinet	Gavin Plaskitt, Programme Manager and Councillor Sophie McGeevor, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport		
June 2020	<b>Climate emergency action plan update</b>	03/02/21 Mayor and Cabinet	Martin O'Brien, Climate Resilience Manager and Councillor Sophie McGeevor, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport		
August 2020	<b>Occupational Health EAP contract</b>	10/03/21 Mayor and Cabinet	David Austin, Acting Chief Finance Officer and Councillor Amanda De		

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
			Ryk, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources		

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



## **1. Sydenham Park Footbridge**

That the Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration and Environment gives approval to a single tender action to appoint CML Ltd as lead contractor, with Topbond PLC as a subcontractor, for the replacement of the main span of Sydenham Park Footbridge, CML Ltd hold a Network Rail Principal Contractor License which is necessary to obtain access railway to undertake the replacement.

## **2. Permission to extend current Removal, Storage and Disposal of Abandoned Vehicles and other Nuisance Vehicle Services Contract**

The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from the Executive Director for Housing, Environment and Regeneration to extend the services contract for the removal, storage and disposal of abandoned vehicles and other nuisance vehicles.

## **3. Contract to refurbish premises at 43 and 45 Bromley Road**

This report is to seek agreement to tender a contract to refurbish Council premises at nos. 43 and 45 Bromley Road in order to reinstate a young care leavers' facility and a training and support base for Lewisham's foster carers. 43 and 45 Bromley Road are large Victorian semi-detached properties. The young care leavers' facility will be a dedicated hub for care leavers to attend. The Support and Training Hub for foster carers will be used as a facility which will support the recruitment, training and retention of foster carers. The contract opportunity will be advertised through the London Tenders Portal.

## **4. Catford Regeneration Programme Approval of Phase 1**

### *Proposal 1: Thomas' Lane Yard*

Enabled by £1.65m from the GLA Good Growth Fund to support social integration, with equivalent match funding the project restores and integrates the CCC building and garden with a new workspace hub focused around a public yard on Thomas' Lane car park. It combines old and new, it will produce a full study and proposals to link outside spaces and offer a rich mix of workspace, retail and community uses for Catford at street level, providing up to 100 new homes at upper level in new buildings.

### *Proposal 2: Catford Stations Links*

The Catford Road footpath between the two stations and the subway below are widened for a safer arrival experience, and sundecks are placed over the river to create additional amenity space away from traffic. This package of improved 'links' will enhance accessibility and legibility and create and animate a new park setting for Catford, delivering a missing link in Lewisham's green chain of parkland on Catford's doorstep.

## **5. Approval to proceed with Procurement – Digitisation of Records - Councilwide**

This report seeks the approval of Mayor and Cabinet to proceed with full procurement of a Council-wide scanning and storage solution, via an already approved National Framework Agreement for Document Management Services

(preferred procurement option). The contract is scheduled to spend over a stated sum (with an estimated value); subject to scrutiny in the Full Business Case to be presented to Lewisham Executive Management Team once the contract has been awarded to the preferred Supplier

## **6. Renewal of Pension Administration IT System**

This report seeks to establish a new contract for the critical Pensions Administration system, including the additional Member Self-Service functionality with the incumbent Heywoods Limited whose current contract expires in October 2020 . The recommendation is to establish the new contract for an additional five year period.

## **7. Adoption of the Catford Regeneration Masterplan Framework**

### **8. Conversion Sites**

This report relates to potential opportunities in various locations across the borough for converting properties for use as temporary housing for homeless households. The report sets out the properties, the early design work and the viability based on those designs. The report will request a budget to complete design work, submit planning applications (where applicable) and a budget to complete the work

### **9. Options Appraisal for Security Contracts**

Mayor & Cabinet approved an extension of the current security contract with CIS until Dec 2020 at Oct 2019 M&C, subject to an options appraisal to determine whether to insource or re-tender the contract. The Mayor & Cabinet paper will detail that options appraisal and make a recommendation.

## **10. Procurement Strategy and Possible Appointment of new purchasing body for one or more corporate utility contracts**

Mayor and Cabinet agreed an overall approach to reviewing the procurement of corporate energy contracts on the 11 March 2020 (item 294). As part of that approach to procurement this item is to consideration of the options ahead of any decision to commit to procurement of gas and electricity for a further 12 months through our existing arrangements.

## **11. Review of Statement of Community Involvement**

Changes made to the Statement of Community Invovement in June 2020 are subject to review after 3 months.

## **12. Local Authority Governor Nominations**

To nominate potential governors to school governing bodies.

## **13. Former Ladywell Leisure Centre – Update**

This report will include Ladywell S105, appropriation for planning purposes, registering of the land/stopping up and the recognition of scheme to allow submission for Planning along with a Procurement approach for Tendering the contracts.

## **14. Declaration of Grove Park Nature Reserve**

The report provides a summary of the relevant information required for the declaration of Grove Park Nature Reserve as a Local Nature Reserve as required by Section 21 (6) of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. Grove Park Nature Reserve is a Borough Grade I Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC), a Metropolitan Open Land, part of the South East London Green Chain Walk and the regional Capital Ring. The reserve contains many habitats, including the only substantial area of calcareous grassland in the borough. These habitats support a wide diversity of plants and animals, including a number of species for conservation interest (e.g. Slow Worm, Common Lizard, Stag Beetle). The reserve is an integral part of the plans to create the Railway Children Urban National Park proposed by the Grove Park Neighbourhood Forum and supported by local councillors and in principle by Mayor and Cabinet. There has been a long term aspiration to declare the site as a Local Nature Reserve to enhance the protection of the site and its surroundings.

## **15. Health & Care Recovery Plan**

A public health recovery plan prepared in conjunction with NHS Lewisham for submission to Our Healthier South East London.

## **16. Approval of Lewisham Homes Business Plan**

This report sets out the Lewisham Homes Annual Business Plan for 2020-21, considers the actions and measures that will allow delivery of this plan and how this fits into the broader Lewisham Homes corporate plan and the Council's Corporate Strategy.

## **17. Request for Section 106 monies to support the delivery of affordable homes at Sydenham Hill**

A request for s106 monies prepared by Planning and Housing Officers to support the delivery of affordable homes at Sydenham Hill

## **18. Small Sites Small Builders GLA Funding – Second Submission**

Lewisham Council has successfully bid for funding from the GLA to provide grant funding under the 'Unlocking unviable sites' category for 4 sites within the borough. This report seeks permission to receive the additional GLA funding.

## **19. Approval of the Lease arrangements for Abbotshall Road Playing Fields**

This report will set out the terms and conditions for the letting of a lease of a sports ground to a community organisation in Catford South.

## **20. Award of London Borough of Culture Programme Delivery Partner**

The purpose of the report is to appoint a cultural organisation to be our main programme delivery partner for Lewisham London Borough of Culture 2022. This follows an open call in March 2020 when appointment was put on hold owing to Covid 19. The programme delivery partner will work alongside an enhanced Culture

Team within the council and a number of smaller delivery partners to develop and deliver the Borough of Culture programme.

## **21. Greenvale School Expansion Project**

The report seeks approval from Mayor and Cabinet to enter into a construction contract for the expansion of Greenvale Special School onto an annexe site in Mayow Road. As well as containing the financial information relating to the land to be transferred.

## **22. Amending Lewisham Homes Articles of Association**

A report seeking approval from Mayor & Cabinet to make a number of changes to the Articles of Association by which Lewisham Homes is incorporated. This includes but is not limited to changes in how the board is composed and governed, some changes in terminology and definition and other procedural matters.

## **23. Sanctuary Strategy**

This report presents Lewisham's Sanctuary Strategy for approval. The Strategy and approach, draw from the principles of City of Sanctuary and the Council's equalities duties and processes to form a cohesive approach which will see action plans developed across Council services to deliver sanctuary across the business. The strategy sets out the equalities perspective of the sanctuary work. Sanctuary is thematic equalities issue – it relates to a group of individuals who will all have at least one protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010, and who often have intersectionality of protected characteristics. Sanctuary is ultimately about reducing the marginalisation of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants.

## **24. Additions of New Building to Local List – St Lukes Church**

Consideration of a proposal to add a church in Deptford to the Local List

## **25. School Meal Provision**

Previous approval was given to pursue an insource model for the schools catering contract. However, as insufficient numbers of school leaders support the model, we will now need to consider whether we continue to provide an outsource option to the remaining schools and seek M&C approval if required.

## **26. School Kitchen Equipment Maintenance Contract**

This contract supports the school meals contract maintaining kitchen equipment in order to deliver school meal provision.

## **27. Article 4 Direction Deptford High Street Conservation Area**

Consideration of the report published with the agenda papers of the Mayoral meeting held on March 25 2020.

## **28. Besson Street Update**

A project update following the granting of planning permission by the Strategic Planning Committee.

### **31. Extension of Resurfacing and Footways Contract**

The highways major resurfacing and footways contracts are tendered separately to the main highways term contract as these are currently capital funded. Both these contracts expire on the 31st March 2021 but allow for a year's extension to each of these contracts. This report is for the Council to approve the extensions where proposed by Officers .

### **32. Highway term Contract tender award**

The current main highways' term maintenance and planned works contract with F M Conway comes to an end on the 31 March 2021. The Council tendered a new contract for this service for a period of 5 years plus up to 3 years extension, and this report is for the Council to approve the contract award.

### **35. Adoption of the Housing Strategy**

The purpose of this report is to review the responses to the recent consultation on the draft Lewisham Housing Strategy and to agree a new Housing Strategy. The new Housing Strategy is proposed to last from 2020-26, and will shape the direction of the housing service over this period. The strategy will be supported by a regularly reviewed action plan that sets out how the service and partners will achieve the goals of the strategy.

### **39. Approval to Appoint Operator for Concessions Contract at the Lake, Beckenham Place Park**

This report seeks the approval of Mayor & Cabinet to award a new five year concession contract for the operation of swimming and boating activities at Beckenham Place Park lake.

### **40. Climate Emergency Action Plan update**

The Climate Emergency Action Plan agreed on the 11 March 2020 (item 282) included proposals for Mayor and Cabinet to undertake an annual review of progress.



## Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel

### Exclusion of the Press and Public

**Date:** 18 August 2020

**Key decision:** No

**Class:** Part 1

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Contributors:** Chief Executive / Head of Business and Committee

### Outline and recommendations

Members are asked to note items that will be considered in closed session

### Recommendation

It is recommended that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act, as amended by the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (Amendments) (England) Regulations 2006:-

Decision made by

6. Decision taken the Mayor and Cabinet on 12 August 2020 – permission to award a Leisure Management Contract.
7. Decision taken by Executive Director – Abandoned Vehicles Contract.

# Agenda Item 6

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

# Agenda Item 7

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted