

Public Document Pack

Council Members

Members of the committee, listed below, are summoned to attend the meeting to be held on Wednesday, 28 September 2022.



Kim Wright, Chief Executive
20 September 2022

Mayor Damien Egan	
Councillor Yemisi Anifowose	Labour Party
Councillor Tauseef Anwar	
Councillor Chris Barnham	
Councillor Paul Bell	
Councillor Peter Bernards	
Councillor Chris Best	
Councillor Andre Bourne	
Councillor Bill Brown	
Councillor Natasha Burgess	Labour Party
Councillor Juliet Campbell	
Councillor Suzannah Clarke	
Councillor Will Cooper	Labour Party
Councillor Laura Cunningham	
Councillor Liam Curran	
Councillor Brenda Dacres	
Councillor Sophie Davis	
Councillor Amanda De Ryk	

Councillor Sian Eiles	Labour Party
Councillor Ese Erheriene	
Councillor Billy Harding	Labour and Co-operative Party
Councillor Stephen Hayes	Labour and Co-operative Party
Councillor Coral Howard	
Councillor Edison Huynh	
Councillor Mark Ingleby	
Councillor Mark Jackson	Labour Party
Councillor Liz Johnston-Franklin	
Councillor Eva Kestner	
Councillor Louise Krupski	
Councillor Ayesha Lahai-Taylor	Labour Party
Councillor Jack Lavery	
Councillor Aisha Malik-Smith	
Councillor Joan Millbank	
Councillor Hilary Moore	
Councillor John Muldoon	
Councillor Oana Olaru	Labour Party
Councillor Rachel Onikosi	
Councillor Rosie Parry	Labour and Co-operative Party
Councillor Jacq Paschoud	
Councillor John Paschoud	
Councillor Stephen Penfold	
Councillor Kim Powell	
Councillor James Rathbone	
Councillor James Royston	
Councillor Rudi Schmidt	Labour Party
Councillor Aliya Sheikh	Labour Party

Councillor Sakina Sheikh

Councillor Liam Shrivastava

Councillor Luke Sorba

Councillor Eva Stamirowski

Councillor Hau-Yu Tam

Labour Party

Councillor James-J Walsh

Councillor Luke Warner

Labour Party

Councillor Carol Webley-Brown

Councillor Susan Wise

Council Agenda

Wednesday, 28 September 2022
7.30 pm, Council Chamber - Civic Suite
Civic Suite
Lewisham Town Hall
London SE6 4RU

For more information contact: Emma Aye-Kumi (Tel: 0208 314 9534)

Part 1

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MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

Wednesday, 20 July 2022 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Damien Egan (Mayor), Yemisi Anifowose, Tauseef Anwar (Chair), Chris Barnham, Paul Bell, Peter Bernards, Chris Best, Bill Brown, Juliet Campbell, Will Cooper, Laura Cunningham, Liam Curran, Brenda Dacres, Sophie Davis, Amanda De Ryk, Sian Eiles, Billy Harding, Coral Howard, Edison Huynh, Mark Ingleby, Mark Jackson, Liz Johnston-Franklin, Louise Krupski, Ayesha Lahai-Taylor, Jack Lavery, Joan Millbank, John Muldoon, Oana Olaru, Rosie Parry, Jacq Paschoud, John Paschoud, Stephen Penfold, James Rathbone, James Royston, Aliya Sheikh, Sakina Sheikh, Liam Shrivastava, Luke Sorba, Eva Stamirowski, Hau-Yu Tam, James-J Walsh, Luke Warner, Carol Webley-Brown and Susan Wise.

ALSO JOINING THE MEETING VIRTUALLY: Councillor Kim Powell.

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Executive, Director of Law, Governance and Elections, Head of Governance and Committee Services (Secretary).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Andre Bourne, Councillor Ese Erheriene and Councillor Rudi Schmidt.

Those Councillors listed as joining virtually were not in attendance for the purposes of the meeting being quorate, any decisions taken, or to satisfy the requirements of s85 Local Government Act 1972.

82. Declaration of Interests

No declarations were made.

83. Minutes

The Speaker of the Council MOVED, the Deputy Mayor SECONDED and it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the AGM held on 25 May 2022 be confirmed and signed as a true and accurate record.

84. Announcements or Communications

In addition to the four written announcements, the Speaker made two further announcements as follows:

1. He wished the England women's football team good luck in the Women's Euro quarterfinal; and
2. The Speaker's consort for 2022-23 would be his daughter, Safa Noor Tauseef.

85. Petitions

Councillor Jacq Paschoud presented a public petition containing 92 signatures and calling for the provision of a swimming pool at the Bellingham Leisure and Lifestyle Centre in Randlesdown Road.

86. Public Questions

29 questions were received from members of the public and were answered. A copy of the questions and answers can be viewed on the Council website with the meeting papers.

Thirty minutes were set aside at the meeting for questioners to raise supplementary questions.

87. Member questions

Nine questions were received from Members of the Council and were answered by the relevant Cabinet Member. A copy of the questions and answers was circulated separately and can be viewed on the Council website with the meeting papers.

Thirty minutes were made available at the meeting for questioners to raise supplementary questions.

88. Members Allowance Scheme

Councillor De Ryk **MOVED**, the Deputy Mayor **SECONDED** and it was **RESOLVED** that the Director of Law, Governance and Elections be instructed to amend the Special Responsibility Allowances Scheme to achieve the following:

- Wherever and only where there is a Cabinet Member supported by an Associate Cabinet Member, the Cabinet Member receives 50% of the full SRA payable to Cabinet Members;
- The Associate Cabinet Member receives an allowance the equivalent of 50% of the full SRA ordinarily payable to Cabinet Members.

89. Action Taken by the Speaker of Council Under Rule 19 of Section E of the Constitution

It was **RESOLVED** that Members of the Council note the action taken by the Speaker of the Council.

90. Motions

Motion 1: Housing Association

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Will Cooper, **SECONDED** by Councillor Rosie Parry and **RESOLVED** that the motion be carried.

Motion 2: Local Government Pay

It was MOVED by Councillor Luke Sorba, SECONDED by Councillor Liz Johnston-Franklin and RESOLVED that the motion be carried.

Agenda Item 2



Council

Declarations of Interest

Date: 28 September 2022

Key decision: N/a

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: n/a

Contributors: Chief Executive (**Head of Governance and Committee Services**)

Outline and recommendation

Members are asked to declare any interests they may have on any agenda item.

Declaration of interests

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

1 Personal interests

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

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

2 Disclosable pecuniary interests are defined by regulation as:-

- (a) Employment, trade, profession or vocation of a relevant person* for profit or gain
- (b) Sponsorship –payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than by the Council) within the 12 months prior to giving notice for inclusion in the register in respect of expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member or towards your election expenses (including payment or financial benefit from a Trade Union).

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

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

(3) Other registerable interests

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

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

(4) Non registerable interests

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

(5) Declaration and Impact of interest on members' participation

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

(6) Sensitive information

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

(7) Exempt categories

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

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

Agenda Item 3



Council

Announcements and Communications

Date: 28 September 2022

Key decision: N/a

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: n/a

Contributors: Chief Executive (**Head of Governance and Committee Services**)

Outline and recommendations

Members are asked to receive any announcements or communications

Recommendation

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

The Death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II

Alongside the rest of the country, Lewisham has been mourning the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Having served our country and the Commonwealth for over seven decades, she was a constant in an ever changing society and gained admiration and respect all over the world.

Earlier this year, Lewisham came together to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, with community events and street parties across the borough. These are special memories that will be cherished.

Prior to her funeral, faith leaders and the local community all came together over services at Lewisham Sivan Temple, Catford and Bromley Synagogue and St Mary the Virgin Church to pay our respects. Our thoughts are with her family at this sad time.

Past Badges of Office

It is common practice to recognise the people who have held civic office by presenting them with a miniature badge of the Council's coat of arms to express the gratitude of the Council. The replica badges recognise the commitment of their roles undertaking civic engagements on behalf of the London Borough of Lewisham.

The immediate former Speaker, Councillor Jacq Paschoud, and her consort, Councillor John Paschoud, are asked to come up to receive their badges from the Speaker.

Black History Month in October

Lewisham is looking forward to commemorating Black History Month in October which highlights the history, achievements and contributions of Black communities in the UK.

We're proud of the diversity of our borough. Lewisham has undoubtedly been positively shaped by our Black communities and October will be a month to celebrate these contributions.

As London's Borough of Culture 2022, we have also been exploring Black history and culture throughout the year with Black History Lewisham 365, our year-round commitment to acknowledging the legacies and contributions of our Black communities.

The theme for this year's Black History Month is "Time for Change: Action Not Words". Events will be held across the borough during October. Further information can be found on the Council website.

Agenda Item 4



Council

Petitions

Date: 28 September 2022

Key decision: N/a

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: n/a

Contributors: Chief Executive (Head of Governance and Committee Services)

Outline and recommendation

Members are invited to receive any petitions from members of the Council or the public

1. The Council is invited to receive petitions (if any) from members of the Council or the public. There is no requirement for Councillors to give prior notice of any petitions that might be presented.
2. The Council welcomes petitions from the public and recognises that petitions are one way in which people can let us know their concerns. All petitions sent or presented to the Council will receive an acknowledgement from the Council within 14 days of receipt. This acknowledgement will set out what we plan to do with the petition.
3. Paper petitions can be sent to :-

Governance and Committee Services, Civic Suite, Catford, SE6 4RU

Or be created, signed and submitted on line by following this link

<https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ielogon.aspx?lp=1&RPID=49729383&HPI D=49729383&Forms=1>
4. Petitions can also be presented to a meeting of the Council. Anyone who would like to present a petition at a Council meeting, or would like a Councillor to present it on their behalf, should contact the Governance and Committee Services on 0208 314 9534 at least 5 working days before the meeting.

5. Public petitions that meet the conditions described in the Council's published petitions scheme and which have been notified in advance, will be accepted and may be presented from the public gallery at the meeting.
6. No public petitions have been notified for this meeting.

Agenda Item 5

COUNCIL		
Report Title	SECTION 85(1) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – DISPENSATION	
Key Decision	N/A	Item No. 5
Ward	N/A	
Contributors	Monitoring Officer	
Class	Part 1	Date: 28 September 2022

1 Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to bring to the attention of the Council that notification has been received that, owing to a serious accident, Councillor Hilary Moore has asked for a leave of absence commencing from 24 August 2022 until 30 November 20

2 Purpose of this report

- 2.1 To approve the reason for Councillor Moore's non-attendance at Council meetings between 24 August 2022 and 30 November 2022, so that she may lawfully continue to be a Member of the Authority.

3 Recommendation

- 3.1 That the Council in accordance with S85 of the Local Government Act 1972 , approves a dispensation for Councillor Moore's non-attendance at meetings between 24 August 2022 to 30 November 2022 while she recovers from an accident.

4 Background

- 4.1 Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 states that "if a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of [their] last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, [they] shall, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of that authority."
- 4.2 Section 85(1) of the Act therefore provides that an authority may grant dispensation for such absence providing the dispensation is granted before the 6 month period of absence has expired.
- 4.3 Councillor Hilary Moore last attended a council meeting, the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee, on 16 June 2022. Under the circumstances it

is requested that Council approve a dispensation of the 6 month rule for this Councillor until 30 November 2022. By agreeing to this request, it would not prevent the Councillor from physically returning to meetings at any time before this date, or participating virtually should she be able to do so. It should be noted, however, that virtual attendance does not satisfy the requirements of Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

- 4.4 Councillor Moore's ward duties during any Council approved period of leave for her would be undertaken by her ward colleagues.
- 4.5 Were the Council not to approve the reason for absence, Councillor Moore would be automatically disqualified from office and a vacancy would then arise on expiry of the six month period of absence.

5 Legal implications

- 5.1 Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 ('LGA') states that if a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of their last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, they shall cease to be a member of the authority. (This is also known as the "6 month rule".)
- 5.2 The only exception is if their non-attendance has been approved by the authority before the expiry of that period. Attendance can be at any committee or sub-committee, or at any joint committee, joint board or other body where the functions of the authority are discharged. Section 85(1) of the LGA allows an authority to grant dispensation for such absence providing the dispensation is granted before the 6 month period of absence has expired.
- 5.3 This report is to enable the Council to consider a dispensation of the 6 month rule for the Councillor Moore while she recuperates.

6 Equalities Implications

- 6.1 The Equality Act 2010 (the 2010 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.
- 6.2 In summary, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
 - eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the 2010 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.

- 6.3 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 above.
- 6.4 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 the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. The Mayor 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.
- 6.5 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>
- 6.6 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](#)
- 6.7 The essential guide provides an overview of the equality duty requirements including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. It covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty including steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The other four documents provide more detailed guidance on key areas and advice on good practice. Further information and resources are available at:
<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty-guidance#h1>

6.8. The request and recommendation as set out within this report are compliant with the provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

7 Financial implications

7.1 Councillor Moore would retain her Members Allowance during her period of absence.

8 Crime and Disorder implications

8.1 There are no relevant crime and disorder implications arising from this report

9 Conclusion

9.1 Council is asked to agree a dispensation for Councillor Hilary Moore's non-attendance at meetings for the period 24 August 2022 to 30 November 2022.

Agenda Item 6



Council

Public Questions

Date: 28 September 2022

Key decision: N/a

Class: Part 1

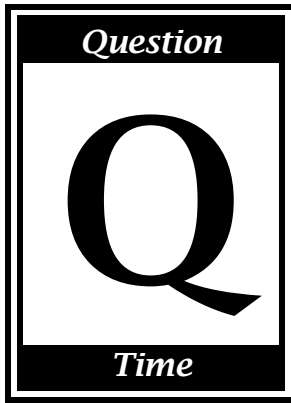
Ward(s) affected: n/a

Contributors: Chief Executive (Head of Governance and Committee Services)

Outline and recommendation

Members are asked to consider questions received from members of the public.

Questions received from members of the public will be published together with written answers on 27 September. Questioners will be entitled to attend the meeting and ask a supplementary question.



LIST OF PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Public questions and answers for the Council Meeting of the London Borough of Lewisham to be held on Wednesday 28 September 2022.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 1

Priority 1

Question asked by: Andrew Brown

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

Can you share the results of the traffic counts/speeds from the recent monitoring in Lee Green and whether the traffic reductions from the revised 'LTN' scheme seen back in 2021 are still working now traffic has returned to pre-pandemic levels?

And if some roads e.g. Leahurst Road are shown to not be seeing benefits from the LTN what your next actions are for making these roads safer to walk and cycle.

Reply

The review of the LTN has taken place and was reported to Mayor & Cabinet in January 2022. The committee asked for further monitoring to be undertaken and the results of these can be found within a report on the relevant website, as below:
<https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=139&MId=7912&Ver=4>

This report was presented to the Mayor & Cabinet on 21 September 2022.

The Council is committed to continuing to monitor the LTN and report the results. A series of School Streets are also expected to be implemented, including on Leahurst Road, over the next few weeks.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 2

Priority 1

Question asked by: Mark Morris

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

On the 12th August 2022 Transport for London announced that there will be new docking stations for the Santander cycle hire scheme located at Burgess Park Albany Road, South Bermondsey station, Clements Road, Harris Academy, Brandon Street, Crimscott Street and The Blue. It was further stated that the new docking stations will be built with funding from Southwark Council.

With the final Evelyn Street section of Cycleway 4 set to be fully completed this Summer, creating a clearer and safer route for cycling on roads in Bermondsey, Rotherhithe, Deptford and Greenwich will Lewisham Council follow the initiative of Southwark Council and many other London Boroughs and fund through CIL and/or Section 106 money the provision of Santander docking stations in this borough, enabling the benefits for Cycleway 4 and the provision of Santander cycles (including e- bikes) to be available to Lewisham residents?

Reply

Lewisham have engaged with TfL to seek an expansion to the Santander cycle hire scheme. Meetings are due to take place with TfL this autumn where this issue will be further discussed. Any decision between TfL and Lewisham will be dependent on many factors including available funding.

The cost of living crisis and strains on local authority and TfL budgets means there will need to be a careful assessment on any future funding commitments and allocations, including Council priorities.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 3

Priority 1

Question asked by: Phil Bridger

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

Further to my question in July, around Sunday Parking enforcement in Albion Way and the surrounding area:

Cllr Krupski stated that "The Council does deploy parking enforcement teams on Sundays and bank holidays except on Easter Sunday and Christmas Day, to minimise the cost to the Council considering controls are not in place. On these days enforcement does take place for contraventions to double yellow lines, disabled bays and dropped kerbs, as examples.

How many times, this year, has a parking enforcement team been active in Albion Way / Clarendon Rise Car park on a Sunday?

Reply

Since the beginning of the year, 11 enforcement visits were made out of 35 Sundays by Sunday attending enforcement officers to Albion way and other adjoining streets surrounding Clarendon Rise Car Park.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 4

Priority 1

Question asked by: Kraig Donald

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

When was the last time Chalsey Road in Brockley was cleaned or had weeds and grass removed from the pavements? The weeds are now high and there is grass growing in the pavement in large clumps all down the street. I haven't seen a street cleaner or anyone to take care of the weeds and grass and general condition of the pavement this year. When will this be addressed?

Reply

A borough wide weed eradication spray has been recently completed, including Chalsey Road. The weeds will be removed once the spray has taken effect, which normally takes up to 3 weeks. Officers will monitor the progress in Chalsey Road to ensure the service is completed successfully.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 5

Priority 1

Question asked by: Kate Richardson

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

Discriminatory Parking in Lewisham car parks? It seems that you need to be digital savvy. Not everyone has a smart phone and not everyone wants to clutter up their phone with what they consider unnecessary apps. For the less technology savvy and some of the older generation it does feel discriminatory and to say you can ring up a certain number to find out where the nearest pay point is just adds to the frustration! I do not think this was well thought out. It appears designed for the convenience of the council not for the residents. At a time when more people are choosing to use cash in order for them to keep a better check on their finances, I would have thought it better to have a machine that offers an alternative to cashless payment other boroughs do, why can't Lewisham? It would be helpful to many if Lewisham would reconsider this policy.

Reply

We understand and sympathise with the concern raised. However, please be advised the intention of the policy is partly to remove any additional fees associated with cashless payment and as a means of encouraging more sustainable methods of transport. Normalising cashless payment is a step towards ensuring that public money is not inefficiently spent, investing in new pay and display machines, which may prove to be a misallocation of funds at a time when cashless payments are already preferred and dominant.

The Council has introduced 'PayPoint' outlet usage, which will enable cash user groups without access to telephones or smartphone devices as a mitigation against the cashless payment method. We are periodically reviewing the outlet availability with the supplier to ensure that each outlet is within close proximity of parking bays for the convenience of elderly residents and will look to install additional signposts (car parks only) to indicate nearest available PayPoint outlets.

Additionally there is a customer service telephone number which is provided on the customer facing signage to provide further guidance and support for customers wishing to use web, app, telephone payment or looking for the nearest PayPoint outlet.

Due to rising costs and budget constraints in the Council, there is no immediate plan of action to re-introduce Pay and Display machines in the Borough.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 6

Priority 1

Question asked by: Mark Bennett

Relevant Directorate: Corporate Resources

Member to reply: Councillor Amanda De Ryk

Question

How does the Council plan to reduce its energy consumption this winter from current levels? What contingency plans are there for Council services over the winter in the event of extended power cuts or power rationing? When was the last exercise carried out to test how Council services would function in the event of power rationing?

Reply

We are engaging an energy engineer to look at options in reducing energy consumption. Immediate actions we can take are from optimising our equipment such as the Building Management Systems (BMS). BMS systems are currently set to adapt to the changing seasons and personnel presence within the buildings. We can adjust them as and when consumption patterns change, thereby optimising our use of heating and lighting.

In addition to this we are in the process of reviewing our opening hours of our office buildings. This in turn will reduce the energy consumption of Council owned buildings.

Hybrid working has been maintained so staff are able to work flexibly either at home or in the office. Therefore, all services can continue without any disruption in the event of extended power cuts or power rationing.

All the teams in the Council have business continuity plans that set out how they will continue to operate should an event like an extended power cut occur.

Across London we have capabilities and frameworks we abide to, ensuring scenarios such as these are considered and planned for. In addition to this, power rationing/usage/failure has been tested on a pan-London level by Emergency Planning teams and are incorporated into risk registers. It should be noted that public service buildings have not attracted government support, yet are facing massively increased bills at a time when we want to open our buildings more to provide warm centres.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 7

Priority 1

Question asked by: Mark De-Laurey

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

Can the council info Lee Road residents as to when the traffic monitor on Lee Rd will be installed? In the Lewisham Life magazine published in Sept 2022, the council state that 75 new monitors will be rolled out across Lewisham. However, the Lee Rd monitor was promised by the council back in Nov 2021, and agreed to, with location, in May 2022,.But we are yet to see any evidence that it has been installed, despite a number of requests, and despite the previous Head of Highway Strategy stating it was installed in July 2022.

Reply

I believe you are referring to an air quality monitor that was agreed to be installed. A Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) diffusion tube monitor was installed in July 2022 on a Lampost near the vicinity of 129 Lee Road.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 8

Priority 1

Question asked by: Patricia Richardson

Relevant Directorate: Community Services

Member to reply: Councillor James-J Walsh

Question

Where does the council currently keep the Local History Archive collection and the Local Studies material that were available in Lewisham Central Library? Are the collections accessible to the public, if so, when and where?

Recently the Central Library was temporarily closed according to a notice pinned to the front doors. What was the reason for this and does the council have plans to restore fully the functions of Lewisham Central Library? Are plans under consideration for other plans for the future of what was Lewisham's main library?

Reply

Firstly thank you Mrs Richardson for the work both yourself and your husband do as part of the Friends of Manor House Library and the wider Lewisham Libraries Family. From our previous correspondence you will be aware that the Library in Lewisham's Town Centre requires capital investment to it. As such the Lewisham Archives and Local History Service which was housed in it is now being delivered differently as an interim measure. All physical collections that can be made freely available to the public have been moved to the open shelves of the Reference Collection of the library, for the majority of resources however we have had to take a different approach in the interim to protect these historical assets for the long-term. Lewisham Council takes its responsibility as an archive seriously and while the Council is developing an investment and works programme – a decision was rightly taken to safeguard the collections which the Council is responsible for, that met the standards set out by the National Archives. As such a skilled contractor was identified in Harrow Green Restore that would satisfy these standards and would pack, transport, and store the collections until we are ready to accept them back into adequate premises.

It is important to note our Archivists and Local History team remain on hand curating and producing accessible and engaging content that unlocks our hidden history and celebrates our heritage and past. One way we are doing this is through StoryTrails – an engaging virtual and augmented reality 'step back in time' into our rich past, based on resources from the archive.

Additionally, Lewisham's Library Service is now offering staff supported free premium access to popular family history research databases, Ancestry.com and FindMyPast.co.uk Between them, they cover all UK Census material, Military

records, Births, Marriages and Deaths from 1837 onwards, UK Parish Records from 1754, British Phone Books, local directories and emigration and immigration records. These new facilities are helping library users answer the vast majority of their queries from the Library and have been a good addition to the offering.

Meanwhile, you or any library user are welcome to get in touch with us by emailing local.studies@lewisham.gov.uk or leaving a message on 020 8314 8501. We will be very happy to talk to you about what you need and how we can help.

With regard to the recent temporary closure at Lewisham Library this was due to a technical fault with the fire alarm system which has now been rectified.

To your final point, yes Lewisham Council is exploring options for the redevelopment of Lewisham Library, including funding through the central government Levelling Up Fund and possible Council capital expenditure. Investment of this nature however after 12 years of real terms cuts from Central Government to Local Government funding (to which Lewisham Council has not been immune) becomes increasingly more challenging.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 9

Priority 1

Question asked by: Peter Richardson

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

The lamp post on Manor Lane Terrace, west side, south end, last one, seems to have had a camera installed, very high up.

Can the council say what is the purpose of this installation? Will residents be informed as to its purpose? Will extra street furniture be required and where will that be installed?

Reply

As a part of several measures, including traffic enforcement cameras, this camera was installed to support the traffic restriction in Lee Green Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) in 2020. Traffic signs are installed in this area highlighting the use of the enforcement camera.

A wide and thorough consultation with residents on the future of this LTN was undertaken in the summer of 2021 and the Mayor & Cabinet committee agreed to retain this scheme in January 2022, including this measure.

For more information on this, please visit:

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/roads-and-transport/lewisham-and-lee-green-low-traffic-neighbourhood>

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 10

Priority 1

Question asked by: Alan Hall

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

Will the Cabinet Member publish Lewisham Council's response to the recent London City Airport consultation on their Statement of Community Involvement and plans to meet an increase in passenger demand?

Reply

The response can be found on the Council's website:
<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/environment/air-pollution/consultation-responses-and-other-reports>

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 11

Priority 1

Question asked by: Jacquie Utley

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Sophie Davis

Question

Are Lewisham council or any housing associations you are associated with using any commercial letting agencies to let out any homes in the borough of Lewisham and if so why?

Reply

The Council works with commercial letting agencies to access properties to use as temporary accommodation for homeless households. The Council also uses commercial letting agencies to help households find homes to rent.

The Council does not use commercial letting agencies to let out any council owned homes.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 12

Priority 1

Question asked by: Rick Hebditch

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

Lewisham's 2020 Climate Emergency Action Plan is for the whole borough to be carbon neutral by 2030. The plan says that emissions from the council made up only 3% of the borough's total emissions. The 2022 manifesto from the Mayor does not mention the plan nor pledges for the borough to be carbon neutral by 2030. It does though pledge "to make the Council net-zero by 2030". Does the commitment for the Council itself to be net zero by 2030 now have greater priority than the 2020 commitment and plan for the borough as a whole to be carbon neutral by 2030?

Reply

No the commitment for the Council itself to be net zero by 2030 does not have greater priority than the 2020 commitment and plan for the borough as a whole to be carbon neutral by 2030.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 13

Priority 1

Question asked by: Helen Kinsey

Relevant Directorate: Community Services

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

Does the Mayor recognise that Sydenham Hill has a diverse and important habitat for London's wildlife?

Reply

Yes, the Mayor recognises the importance of biodiversity across the whole of the borough and is proud of the work that the Council do to protect this. This work is set out in the Borough's Biodiversity Action Plan:

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/articles/news/creating-a-greener-lewisham-new-biodiversity-action-plan-endorsed>

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 14

Priority 1

Question asked by: Heather Gilmore

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Sophie Davis

Question

When will those eligible on the council waiting list for a social/council rented property be able to move into the 107 flats promised to them on the granting of planning permission for the Frankham Street development in Deptford?

Reply

The new homes on the Frankham Street scheme are being delivered in partnership with Peabody. The first phases are currently in construction and will deliver 144 new homes, with 79 of these being for social rent to be offered to residents on the Council's Housing Register. The current programme is for all homes to be completed in August 2023. Properties will be ready in phases, with the social rented homes being made available first.

Following completion of the first phases, work will commence on the final phase. This will deliver at least another 65 new homes, with at least 38 of these being available for social rent to residents on the Council's Housing Register. Programmes are constantly under review and may change. Residents will be informed of any confirmed changes to programme dates.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 15

Priority 2

Question asked by: Kate Richardson

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

Does Lewisham have the use of a mechanical street cleaning machine? The pavements in and around Catford are very stained and sticky. If the borough does have a machine(s) how often is it used in our key Centres? If the borough does not possess one will they consider purchasing one? Some of the pavements in the borough do not show a "Borough of Culture" in the best Light.

Reply

The Council has one pressure washing vehicle to remove graffiti/fly posting and for cleaning pavements. It is also used for pavement washing in Town Centres. The aim is to wash Town Centres every 4 to 6 weeks and the Council is reviewing the equipment needed to increase the capacity for this service.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 16

Priority 2

Question asked by: Mark Bennett

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Brenda Dacres

Question

Once the flats currently being built as part of the latest phase of Lewisham Gateway have been completed and occupied, how many of them does the Council estimate would be habitable without air-conditioning when the heat waves we experienced this summer are repeated?

Reply

The Lewisham Gateway scheme is compliant with the planning policies in place in 2009 when it was approved and is subject to Building Regulations.

The Council does not hold the information necessary to undertake the assessment being sought but is satisfied that the development meets all relevant requirements relating to heating, cooling and ventilation.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 17

Priority 2

Question asked by: Mark De-Laurey

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

Can the Council and the Mayor inform residents of Lee Road as to when the traffic evaporation that we were told would come about due to the introduction of the LTN (by Cllr Codd and the Mayor) will happen? We are now 9 months into the LTN being retained and yet traffic levels on Lee Road remain the same, with unusually long queues of idling traffic during both rush hours. The Mayor stated there would be a 6 month review of the impact of the LTN, has this review taken place? if so what was the outcome? Also, what data was used to influence the outcome?

Reply

The review of the LTN has taken place and was reported to Mayor & Cabinet in January 2022. The committee asked for further monitoring to be undertaken and the results of these can be found within a report on the relevant website, as below:
<https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=139&MId=7912&Ver=4>

This report was presented to the Mayor & Cabinet session on 21 September 2022. The Council is committed to continuing to monitor the LTN and report the results.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 18

Priority 2

Question asked by: Patricia Richardson

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

Recently there were many Lime bikes parked in all sorts of various public places in the Lee/Blackheath area, obstructing pavements, obstructing access to various places/public space and causing problems for the infirm, elderly etc. There seem to be fewer at present. If they reappear will users be asked to be mindful of where they are left and where did they come from?"

Reply

Lime Bikes are used and enjoyed by many members of the public, which is helping to reduce traffic in the borough. However, they need to be used and left with due consideration to pedestrians, including people with mobility impairments. The Council is currently in discussions with Lime to address these issues and seek improvements for the benefit of all road users.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 19
Priority 2

Question asked by: Alan Hall

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Brenda Dacres

Question

Please outline plans to reform Lewisham Council's Statement of Community Involvement in relation to planning matters?

Reply

Following the Council's Local Democracy Review, the Planning Service propose to update the SCI to bring it up to date with current legislation and good practice. Initial discussions and thoughts on future proposals will be discussed at Sustainable Development Select Committee in October 2022 (rearranged from September), the report for which is already published online (<https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=136&MId=7771&Ver=4>) and provides information on the currently anticipated next steps and future proposals.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 20

Priority 2

Question asked by: Mark Morris

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

I understand that Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, the Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality at Westminster City Council has recently declared that his council will soon start to seize dockless bikes that are found to be blocking pavements and roads in Westminster.

I further understand the council has contacted the major dockless bike operators and made it clear that if they do not remove their bikes from the pavement the council will - and then charge them for doing so, with any money raised going towards improving cycling infrastructure on their streets.

Will Lewisham Council adopt a similar approach to the commercial operators of dockless bikes who fail to ensure that their bikes are left in locations that do not hinder pedestrians?

Reply

Dockless bikes are used and enjoyed by many members of the public, which is helping to reduce traffic in the borough. As such, the Council is actively exploring options for establishing a more formalised arrangement with a dockless bike operator next year to expand their use across Lewisham and also establish a self-enforcing system to address the problem of abandoned bikes.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 21
Priority 2

Question asked by: Peter Richardson

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Brenda Dacres

Question

What are Lewisham Council's plans for development in Lee Green in general and Leegate in particular?

In view of the new proposals in the draft local plan concerning the heights of new build plans for the East sub-area of the borough how will the council gain public approval? How does it plan to inform residents of such proposals? As the new Local Plan may last for another 20 years how does the council consider this to be a democratic procedure?

Reply

The strategic policy direction for Lee Green is outlined in the draft Local Plan which is progressing through its statutory stages. This includes Development Management policies which development within Lee Green will be assessed against, Site allocations within the area deemed appropriate for development and infrastructure requirements to accommodate growth. These include requirements for improved access and permeability, active ground floor frontages, new and improved public realm and a new health facility along with a series of design guidelines.

A regulation 18 consultation was carried out on the draft plan during January to April 2021 in accordance with our Statement of Community Involvement. We received feedback from over 1400 local residents, community groups, businesses, government bodies and other organisations. The thousands of comments received have all been reviewed, considered and responded to by officers and have helped inform the next stage of the Local Plan process.

A Regulation 19 draft of the Local Plan is due to be considered by Mayor and Cabinet and by Council over the coming months.. This document proposes changes informed in part by the Regulation 18 consultation and further evidence work undertaken. Subject to approval, public consultation on the Regulation 19 draft Local Plan will take place after the Mayor and Cabinet and Council decisions.

Whilst the draft Local Plan has a 20 year duration the National Planning Policy Framework requires Local Authorities to update them every 5 years with any changes subject to public consultation at that time.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 22

Priority 3

Question asked by: Mark Bennett

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Brenda Dacres

Question

Leaving aside the Council's role as planning authority and focusing entirely on its role as freeholder and potential owner of a number of leaseholds in the proposed Kitewood Creekside development, what influence does Council have on the design of the flats, their environmental impact and sustainability?

Reply

The bedroom numbers in the Copperas Street development are prescribed in the contract with Kitewood. In terms of environmental impact and sustainability, each of the units will be built in accordance with the new national technical standards (which replaces code for sustainable homes). It will also be in accordance with London Plan design standards that include standards required on property sizes, security, accessibility, energy use etc. Therefore the Council's influence and remit is to ensure planning policies and design quality is adhered to.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 23

Priority 3

Question asked by: Mark De-Laurey

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

The council installed traffic counts (ATCs) as part of a process of gathering data for the impact of the LTN in April 2022, and took counts from Friday 22nd April through to Thursday 28th April 2022. Can the council tell us why these traffic counter were installed at the end of a school holiday when private school such as Colfes (one of the biggest school inside the LTN) were still on holiday? Surely such data gathering is inaccurate of normal conditions, and weights heavily data in favour of a positive affect for the LTN.

Reply

It is normal to install survey equipment in advance of their use. Colfes School returned from Easter holidays on the 25th April. The survey equipment collected data from 25th April to at least the 29th April.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 24

Priority 3

Question asked by: Patricia Richardson

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Brenda Dacres

Question

In the past questions have been put to council concerning the structure in place at the front of Pentland House (Grade II listed, in the Lee Manor Conservation area, Old Road, Lewisham SE13.)

It is next to the entrance, next to the front wall, is visible from the road and it was understood an enforcement notice would be issued due to the lack of a planning application.

Would the council please update the position as the structure is still there?

Reply

The Council opened an investigation in to the unauthorised structure following reports but determined that enforcement action was not appropriate. The case has therefore been closed. This structure serves as a security kiosk and had been erected in response to a legal agreement between Lewisham Council and the owners of the site. This was following reports of anti-social behaviour and various other issues arising from the property's authorised use as a hostel.

As a result, the kiosk will remain in place to facilitate the security services in and around the property to ensure there is no detrimental impact on surrounding amenity, as a result of the use of the premises. This is considered to be a more favourable outcome for the surrounding residents than attempting to have the structure removed due to the relatively minor visual impact.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 25

Priority 3

Question asked by: Alan Hall

Relevant Directorate: Community Services

Member to reply: Councillor Paul Bell

Question

Will the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board make a statement on Lewisham Council's actions to tackle monkey pox and will he release the last three monthly figures for infections within the London Borough of Lewisham?

Reply

The last meeting of the Lewisham Health and Wellbeing Board on 7th September 2022 received an update about the response to monkey pox in Lewisham as part of the Local COVID-19 Outbreak and Engagement Board report that can be found here:

<https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=315&MId=7825&Ver=4>

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) is leading the national response to the monkey pox outbreak and the UKHSA London Co-ordination Response Cell (LCRC) is leading the response in London. The LCRC keeps the Lewisham Public Health team based in Lewisham Council informed of actions being taken for Lewisham including any support required from Lewisham Council. The NHS is leading the delivery of smallpox vaccination to people who are most likely to be exposed to monkeypox and local NHS services will contact those eligible to offer them a vaccine if they are at risk of exposure. For Lewisham, our sexual health services have been working with the tripartite commissioners and regional teams to get the prevention messaging out to the local population. The local sexual health service has stocks of vaccine and is able to vaccinate eligible residents. Lewisham residents are able to attend any of the vaccination clinics in London including GSTT.

Epidemiological data for monkey pox cases is publicly available from UKHSA at the following website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/monkeypox-outbreak-epidemiological-overview/monkeypox-outbreak-epidemiological-overview-13-september-2022>.

The number of confirmed and highly probable monkeypox cases between 6th May and 12th September in England is 3,383, of which 2,335 live in London and 81 of whom are Lewisham resident. After the local elections and over the summer, I've been working with the South East London ICS to highlight the need for faster and prolonged action to tackle monkeypox through the vaccination of at risk residents. I've also made the request for a Lewisham clinic to administer the vaccine.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 26

Priority 4

Question asked by: Mark Bennett

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Brenda Dacres

Question

What is the Council's role as a planning authority in making sure there are adequate services in place (e.g. schools, GPs and water) before agreeing major developments such as Lewisham Gateway or as proposed for Catford and Leegate? What is the Council's assessment of the power grid around the last two projects and how does it keep such things under review?

Reply

The Council has an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) which identifies what infrastructure is needed to sustainably support future population growth and housing delivery in Lewisham.

A draft IDP is being prepared alongside the draft Local Plan 2020–2040. The Regulation 19 draft Local Plan and draft IDP can be viewed [here](#). These are due to be considered by Mayor and Cabinet and by Council later this year.

The IDP is prepared by the Planning team with input from all infrastructure providers including UK Power Networks. The IDP notes that while no current new projects are identified, projects will be required to accommodate future growth, and the electricity operator, UKPN, will be required to respond to individual requests for connections. As the statutory undertaker they are required to oversee the delivery and maintenance of the network and system of distribution. The identification process for developing new projects associated with electrical infrastructure will be led by the operator. Separately, the National Power Grid are already investing in electrical capacity via the London Power Tunnels project which will run through the borough from Southwark, via New Cross and into Greenwich.

The Planning team consult Lewisham Departments and infrastructure providers when planning applications are received, and necessary infrastructure is secured through planning conditions, S106 legal agreements and the collection of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payments. There are currently no known electricity capacity issues for Catford or Leegate.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 27

Priority 4

Question asked by: Mark De-Laurey

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

Lee Road residents have been informed by the metropolitan police that the 20mph speed limit on Lee Road is unenforceable due to the current signage and road layout. What do the council intend to do about this to prevent speeding and potential accidents from occurring?

Reply

The Council have not received this feedback directly from the Police. The issue is to be raised at the regular liaison meeting with the Police and other emergency services to clarify their position

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 28

Priority 4

Question asked by: Patricia Richardson

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Brenda Dacres

Question

Can the Council explain why all the maximum heights for new build in the Local Plan Addendum have been confirmed? For Leegate the increase is from 12 storeys in the Addendum to 15 storeys in the revised Local Draft Plan?

Will the Council publish a review setting out the comments received on the Tall Buildings Study Addendum and the officers' responses?

Were most comments from all quarters arguing for a decrease in maximum height? If so, were they considered and how does the Draft Local Plan take account of such comments?

The revised policy is QD4 Buildings Heights and in particular Section C, also relevant is the background paper's discussion of the east sub-area, comprising Blackheath, Lee and Grove Park. Despite the increase in maximum height for Lee Green why does the supporting paper suggest the approach to growth and density in the East sub-area is being held constant?

Do local residents have any say at all in what happens in their environment and surroundings?

As each ward has a borough boundary what is the impact on adjacent boroughs and their residents i.e. RBG and Bromley?

Reply

The Regulation 19 draft Local Plan Policy QD4 Building Heights sets out a range of maximum building heights drawn from the tall building evidence base work. This includes maximum heights of "32.8 meters (10 storeys) to 48.8 meters (15 storeys) in other centres identified – such as Bellingham, Ladywell, Lee Green, New Cross and New Cross Gate". These are officer recommendations that have yet to go through M&C.

The approach to grouping locations identified and providing a broader range of maximum heights for each grouping was as a direct response to comments received from all parties on the Tall Building Addendum. We believe that this approach will allow for a more robust assessment of 'appropriate' scale at the development management stage, where all detailed information such as impact on views,

microclimate analysis etc can be scrutinised. It is also through this Development Management process that residents have opportunities to express their views in detail on any development schemes being prepared through any pre-application consultation held by the developer and then statutory consultation at application stage held by the Council.

Public consultation on the draft Local Plan is open to all residents and stakeholders of other boroughs.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 29

Priority 5

Question asked by: Mark Bennett

Relevant Directorate: Community Services

Member to reply: Councillor Chris Barnham

Question

Less than 3% of police officers and staff reported for domestic abuse in the last four years have been dismissed. Only 9% of those reported were professionally disciplined. In his meetings with the Met's borough commander, has the Mayor raised either of these concerns? Will the Mayor ask the borough commander how many such people are based in Lewisham?

Reply

Domestic abuse and wider violence against women and girls is on the agenda for the next meeting between with Mayor and the Borough Commander and the findings of the Report on the Centre for Women's Justice super complaint regarding this issue will be raised then.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 30

Priority 6

Question asked by: Mark Bennett

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Brenda Dacres

Question

In light of Peabody's painfully slow progress in developing land in Thamesmead is the Council confident the Trust is still a suitable partner for the Tidemill development? When did the Council last re-assess the position?

Reply

Conditions for development have been challenging over recent years. A range of factors have made a significant impact across the sector, causing delays. The Council works closely with Peabody on the progression of the development at the former Tidemill School site as well as other developments in the Borough and we are confident and trust that they have and continue to manage the various challenges.

The current programme is for all 144 homes in phases 1 and 2 to be completed by August 2023. Properties will be ready in phases, with the 79 social rented homes being made available first.

Following completion of the first phases, work will commence on the final phase. This will deliver at least another 65 new homes, with at least 38 of these being available for social rent to residents on the Council's Housing Register.

Programmes are constantly under review and may change. Residents will be informed of any confirmed changes to programme dates.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 31

Priority 7

Question asked by: Mark Bennett

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

When the Council collects surplus green/brown /black wheelie bins from residents, are they allocated to other residents? How long does it normally take to collect such bins? On average, how long can people expect to wait for the Council to provide a new / refurbished wheelie bin requested via the Council's website?

Reply

The Council utilises used/repaired wheelie bins to ensure a sufficient stock of wheelie bins is available. This reduces waste, cost and negative effects to the environment.

The current lead in time, the time a resident can expect to wait from the point of ordering to delivery is up to 5 weeks. A service review is underway to reduce the time taken to deliver bins.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 32

Priority 8

Question asked by: Mark Bennett

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Brenda Dacres

Question

When does the Council expect to demolish Reginald House in Deptford? Why did the Council serve eviction notices on residents telling them to leave by July 26th?

Reply

The building at 2-30A Reginald Road forms part of Phase 3 of the development of the former Tidemill School site. The Council has been working with permanent residents to assist them to find and move to new homes including the new homes built at the linked site at Amersham Vale and new homes being built in Phases 1 and 2 on the Tidemill site. This was one of the commitments made to residents at the outset of the scheme. The building will not be demolished until the new homes are ready on Phases 1 and 2 for those permanent residents who wish to move into the new build homes.

The majority of original residents have already moved. The Council has been using the vacated properties for temporary accommodation for homeless households. The Council has started the formal possession process for temporary residents, which has included the service of notices. This is a necessary process to ensure that the Council can achieve vacant possession when needed for the development of the new homes. Officers have had contact with all households to assure them that the serving of a notice is part of the lengthy possession process and that they were not required to physically leave on 26 July.

Officers are working with households to offer them alternative homes.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 33
Priority 1

Question asked by: Diana Cashin

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

What are the performance targets and level of attainment for maintenance of clean and tidy streets in the central of Catford? Given the current poor state of Catford Centre what plans does the council have to rectify this and make the centre more attractive for people to use?

Reply

The Lewisham service standards for street cleansing is aligned with the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse, which sets out the standard that streets should be in, immediately after cleansing and the condition they should be maintained at throughout the day and into the evening / overnight.

Following a review, an improvement plan for street cleanliness across Lewisham is being developed to improve the cleanliness of the borough.

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 34

Priority 2

Question asked by: Diana Cashin

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

What are the plans and aims of the council to improve the pedestrian experience in Lewisham given the current state of pavements?

Reply

The Council sees pavements as vital to allow people to walk and move about safely within the borough. Lewisham has an annual footway repair programme that aims to ensure that defects are identified and attended to. Should you feel there are specific areas that the Council should investigate, please forward your queries to highways@lewisham.gov.uk.

Please be aware that not all the pavements or roads within Lewisham are maintained by the Council. Strategic roads, which are mostly identified with the red road markings, are maintained by Transport for London (TfL) as the Highways Authority. Should you have any concerns on these routes, please contact TfL via the following web link:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/help-and-contact/contact-us-about-streets-and-other-road-issues#:~:text=If%20you%27d%20like%20to,or%20use%20this%20contact%20form>

Agenda Item 7



Council

Member questions

Date: 28 September 2022

Key decision: N/a

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: n/a

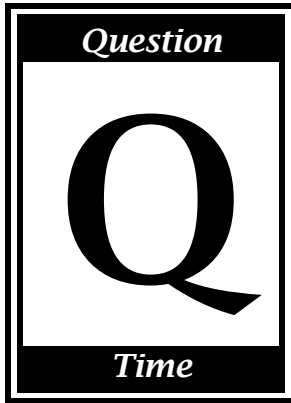
Contributors: Chief Executive (Head of Governance and Committee Services)

Outline and recommendation

To receive questions from members of the Council.

Questions from Members of the Council

Section C, paragraph 14 of the Constitution, provides for questions relevant to the general work or procedure of the Council to be asked by Members of the Council. Copies of the questions received and the replies to them will be published as an attachment to this document on 27 September 2022.



LIST OF MEMBER QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Member questions and answers for the Council Meeting of the London Borough of Lewisham to be held on Wednesday 28 September 2022.

MEMBER QUESTION NO. 1
Priority 1

Question asked by: Councillor Cooper

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

What action is being taken to mitigate the impact of the Rotherhithe Movement Plan on traffic and congestion in the north of Lewisham, especially roads in Evelyn ward that border the new initiative in Southwark?

Reply

We continue to liaise with Southwark who consulted Lewisham on their plans in 2019. The Council's response to Southwark's plans was generally in support of the principle, however we raised some concerns about the detailed proposals, most notably their plans for the gyratory in the vicinity of Trundleys Road, which according to Southwark is currently on hold. We will continue engagement with Southwark on these matters.

Lewisham have completed our portion of Cycleway 4 and later this year a report will be presented to Mayor and Cabinet, setting out the Council's strategy and programme for the roll-out of controlled parking zones across the borough where they do not exist. The strategy will include resident and business engagement exercises, which will help shape any detailed proposals.

MEMBER QUESTION NO. 2

Priority 1

Question asked by: Councillor Warner

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councilor Sophie Davis

Question

Can an update be provided on the progress of the Lewisham Homes consultation?

Reply

Engagement events to shape the consultation took place throughout August on estates and in the community. The consultation documents and response questionnaires were sent out to all tenants and leaseholders and arrived in homes during week commencing 12 September. Drop-in support sessions are taking place from 22nd September across the Borough to provide assistance and support to tenants and leaseholders in responding. There will also be selective telephoning and visits to encourage and assist tenants and leaseholders to respond, which will be targeted at underrepresented groups and seldom heard groups.

The consultation will end on 16 October.

MEMBER QUESTION NO. 3

Priority 1

Question asked by: Councillor Jackson

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councilor Sophie Davis

Question

What action is Lewisham Council taking to tackle rogue landlords and the proliferation of poor-quality lettings in the private rented sector in the Borough?

Reply

In April 2022 the council introduced a borough-wide additional HMO licensing scheme. All Houses in Multiple Occupation in the borough are now licensable. The Private Sector Licensing and Enforcement Team are actively seeking out unlicensed HMOs, bringing them into licensing and fining or prosecuting landlords who do not comply. Approximately 900 large HMOs are also licensed by the council under the national mandatory HMO licensing scheme.

The service is also carrying out its statutory duty to respond to resident complaints about disrepair, harassment and illegal eviction in the wider private rented sector. In 2022 the council successfully prosecuted two landlords for allowing a tenant's ceiling to collapse, resulting in a £4,000 fine. A number of other cases are progressing through the courts.

The council recently consulted on the introduction of a selective licensing scheme to cover 16 out of 18 wards, bringing nearly all privately rented properties in Lewisham into the scope of licensing. The results of the consultation will be presented at the next Housing Select Committee meeting.

MEMBER QUESTION NO. 4

Priority 1

Question asked by: Councillor Ingleby

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councilor Sophie Davis

Question

Is the revenue from the Council's HMO Licence Fees hypothecated, to help build up resources for the considerable enforcement requirements that this sector can & does generate? Is there therefore a business plan for dealing with the still increasing amount of HMO applications and their management in Lewisham?

Do the Council's HMO Licensing Conditions specify garden maintenance responsibilities (eg at least every six weeks) by the licensee, their agent or their tenants, and can there be overall Key Performance Indicators in the agreements that can be used to hold to account licensees?

Reply

The council has set the additional HMO license fee at the correct level to fund the enforcement of the scheme for the full five year term of the licenses issued. This figure includes assumptions about new HMOs that will come into existence during the life of the scheme. The council has a statutory obligation to spend the income from licensing only on the administration and enforcement of the licensing scheme. We are also obliged to spend this income during the lifetime of the scheme, meaning that the council cannot legally make a profit on the proceeds of the licensing scheme.

The Private Sector Licensing and Enforcement Team are currently working to expand the team to fully resource the administration and enforcement of the scheme.

The additional HMO license conditions do not specify the need for garden maintenance, because this is already set out in the HMO management regulations 2006, section 7.4.(b), which apply to all Houses in Multiple Occupation.

MEMBER QUESTION NO. 5

Priority 1

Question asked by: Councillor A Sheikh

Relevant Directorate: Community Services

Member to reply: Councillor James-J Walsh

Question

Myself and co Councillor Huynh have been approached by residents to enquire what are the plans to refurbish Lewisham library and restore it as the community hub, and what is the proposed timeline for these plans?

Reply

Thank you, Councillor Sheikh, for your work representing residents of Lewisham Central on the matter of Lewisham Library and its regeneration. You and I both share a passion for Libraries as we know the value to communities that they afford. As the new Cabinet Member for Libraries I am committed to working towards finding solutions for Lewisham Town Centre Library & Archives, and securing them in the long-term.

As a Council we are exploring all options for the redevelopment of Lewisham Library, including funding through the central government as well as possible Council capital expenditure. However, following 12 years of Conservative Government austerity, the ability for Councils to fund capital projects directly themselves has declined, with an ever greater reliance on central government funding.

Since May the Council have identified funding, produced a strong and coherent funding bid, and applied for funding for the Library in your ward through the Government's Levelling Up Fund. This was agreed at Mayor and Cabinet in June 2022

(<https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/s100224/Levelling%20Up%20Fund%20Bid.pdf>)

A decision on the Levelling Up Fund was expected in September 2022 but has been subject to delay because of the recent changes in central government. As a contingency to the LUF bid, I continue to work with Council Officers to identify and develop an options appraisal for the Library, and how we can invest in it as an asset.

MEMBER QUESTION NO. 6

Priority 1

Question asked by: Councillor Huynh

Relevant Directorate: Community Services

Member to reply: Councillor Amanda De Ryk

Question

With residents facing a tough winter of high energy prices, does the council have any plans to identify council-owned buildings, and other community locations, to serve as 'warm banks' as has been done in our neighbouring borough of Greenwich?

Reply

The Council has a programme of work to mitigate the impacts of the cost of living crisis covering work around food justice, maximising income and energy advice which includes work to develop a network of warm spaces in the borough for residents to use over autumn/winter. Planning is taking place with the Council library service and partner organisations in the first instance to develop the network.

The lead Cabinet Member is happy to provide further information.

MEMBER QUESTION NO. 7

Priority 2

Question asked by: Councillor Cooper

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

What progress is being made in rolling out Controlled Parking Zones across Lewisham, in light of several bordering areas of Southwark having full CPZs implemented this winter?

Reply

Later this year a report will be presented to Mayor and Cabinet setting out the Council's strategy and programme for the roll-out of controlled parking zones across the borough where they do not exist. The strategy will include resident/business engagement exercises, which will help shape any detailed proposals.

MEMBER QUESTION NO. 8

Priority 2

Question asked by: Councillor Ingleby

Relevant Directorate: Housing, Regeneration & Public Realm

Member to reply: Councillor Louise Krupski

Question

Was an equalities impact assessment with regard to the banding of car parking charges done before car parking charges were introduced at Beckenham Place Park? The question has arisen in the context of older, cheaper cars potentially owned by those who cannot afford newer, more environmentally friendly vehicles being charged more for more polluting models at present. How did the assessment wrestle with this issue?

Reply

An Equalities Analysis Assessment was completed in Dec 2019 for the introduction of an emissions-based charging scheme. The scheme was proposed to promote the shift to more sustainable transport modes.

It had been determined that it was likely to benefit protected groups who are disproportionately exposed to negative externalities such as air quality impacts and who are also likely to benefit from health impacts associated with active transport.

The assessment acknowledged that whilst there may be impacts to persons on low incomes as a result of this scheme, as they are not a protected group they have not been considered in this assessment.

Equally, the increased cost of pay-and-display parking would still be significantly cheaper than the lowest rates in neighbouring boroughs - £2.80 across much of RB Greenwich and between £2.75 and £6 across LB Southwark.

Agenda Item 8



Council

Motions

Date: 28 September 2022

Key decision: N/a

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: n/a

Contributors: Chief Executive (Head of Governance and Committee Services)

Outline and recommendation

Members are asked to consider motions submitted to Council

No motions were submitted.