



Mayor and Cabinet

Young Mayor's budget proposals

Date: 21 September 2022

Key decision: No

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: Borough wide

Contributors: Young Mayor, Young Advisors, Advisers to the Young Mayor

Outline and recommendations

This report is set out into two sections:

1. An update for Mayor & Cabinet on the work of the Lewisham Young Mayor and Young Advisors for 2021-2022.
2. A proposal from the Lewisham Young Mayor, Rosanna Campbell on spending of the Young Mayor's budget in 2022/23

Mayor & Cabinet are recommended to agree the Lewisham Young Mayor's budget proposals set out in section 8 of this report.

1. Summary

- 1.1 On 20th October 2021, Rosanna Campbell was elected the seventeenth Lewisham Young Mayor of Lewisham and Olivia Mardling was elected Deputy Young Mayor. The top five were all young women for the first time in the history of the Young Mayor Election. The Young Mayor and Young Advisors worked together over the last six months to develop and then consult on a range of ideas that now form the Young Mayor's Budget proposals for 2022-23.
- 1.2 In previous years the Young Mayor's budget has been created at the end of the Young Mayor's term. This year the Young Mayor's budget will be agreed within the term of the Young Mayor. As the Young Mayor Election was in October 2021, the term of office crosses over the financial year so expenditure will be in the financial year 2022/23.
- 1.3 This report is set out into two sections:
 - 1.3.1 An update for Mayor & Cabinet on the work of the Young Mayor and Young Advisors for 2021-2022.
 - 1.3.2 A proposal from the Young Mayor, Rosanna Campbell on the spending of the Young Mayor's budget.
- 1.4 These proposals are intended to provide improvements in services for children and young people in the borough. The Young Mayor for 2021-22 has a budget of £25,000 to be allocated after consultation with young people.
- 1.5 The report summarises the proposals which the 2021-22 Young Mayor is recommending to spend the £25,000.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Mayor & Cabinet are recommended to agree the Young Mayor's budget proposals set out in section 8.

3. Policy context

- 3.1 The Young Mayor Programme is a key priority for the Council in delivering on its commitment to giving children and young people the best start in life and building an inclusive local economy.
- 3.2 The Young Mayor Programme makes an important contribution to the objectives and priorities identified in the 2018-2022 Corporate Strategy. These priorities are:
 - Open Lewisham - Lewisham is a welcoming place of safety for all where we celebrate the diversity that strengthens us.
 - Tackling the housing crisis - Everyone has a decent home that is secure and affordable.
 - Giving children and young people the best start in life - Every child has access to an outstanding and inspiring education and is given the support they need to keep them safe, well and able to achieve their full potential.
 - Building an inclusive local economy - Everyone can access high quality job opportunities, with decent pay and security in our thriving and inclusive local economy.
 - Delivering & defending: Health, Social Care and Support - Ensuring everyone receives the health, mental health, social care and support services they need.
 - Making Lewisham greener - Everyone enjoys our green spaces and benefits from a healthy environment as we work to protect and improve our local environment.

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- Building safer communities - Every resident feels safe and secure living here as we work together towards a borough free from the fear of crime.
- 3.3 The work of the Young Mayor and Young Advisors make a particular contribution to many of the outcomes set out in the Children and Young People’s Plan.
- 4. Background**
- 4.1 The Young Mayor Programme has been in place since April 2004. Rosanna Campbell is the seventeenth Young Mayor, winning the election on a turnout of 50.87 per cent which represents 9,839 young people voting.
- 5. Budget Expenditure and Achievements, 2019/21 Young Mayor, Femi Komolafe**
- 5.1 Following consultation with young people across the borough, the Young Mayor and Young Advisors identified that the key concerns of young people in the borough were related to poverty and the lack of opportunities. This of course was exacerbated by the Covid pandemic where young people were adversely affected by not having access to school and their families as well coming under increased pressure. The proposal was to support the Bank of Things, initially a budget priority for former Young Mayor, Adam Abdullah. The “Bank of Things” is a resource for young people who need to access school equipment and other necessities, that were not available to them due to low household incomes, in order to take a full and active role in their education and in society.
- 5.2 The Bank of Things**
- The “Bank of Things” was launched by Femi and Rosanna in February 2022, after weeks of work negotiating with the cross sector partners, Landsec (Shopping centre), Lewisham Local and colleagues in the Council. The shop in Lewisham Shopping Centre kept its name as Unit 19 and was cleaned and decorated by volunteers from Lewisham Local, young advisors and colleagues to be ready for the opening. Colleagues from Baseline and Youth Futures are also based in Unit 19, creating a hub for young people.
- 5.3 The project is based on the principles of a food bank to identify (with young people) and enable the supply items of need to young people through a standardised menu (for example school equipment/ arts equipment/ toiletries) and donations. The increased cost of living crisis means that the “Bank of Things” is more needed than ever.
- 5.4 Progress of the “Bank of Things”**
- Established with part time worker through Lewisham Local, volunteers identified to support the project, including young people.
 - Logo and promotional material produced with young people.
 - Menu of things needed by young people established through work with young advisors and young people in school and youth clubs.
 - Regular donations from Hygiene Bank, Trussle Trust and others in the shopping centre. Donations received from Just Giving Tuesday – schools and others and the public.
 - Partnership in premises Unit 19 in Lewisham shopping centre secured as venue for “Bank of Things”.
 - “Bank of Things” open to young people every Monday and Wednesday after school.
 - Additional support for young people in Unit 19 including Baseline and Lewisham Works, advice and information for young people aged 16 -25.
 - Outreach programme being developed to take items out to youth clubs and projects

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during the school holidays. Uniform and equipment drive planned for August with some food provided too.

- Outreach work being established with Youth First.
- Steering group of young people and colleagues to oversee the direction of the project.

6. Activities during 2021/22 by Young Mayor Rosanna Campbell, Deputy Young Mayor, Olivia Mardling and the Young Advisors Group

- 6.1 Since October 2021, the Young Mayor and Young Advisors have continued to represent their peers at the local, regional, national and international level. Working collaboratively with the Mayor and Cabinet, scrutiny committees, councillors, council officers, partner agencies and other key stakeholders, the Young Mayor and Young Advisors have made an important contribution to local policy development over the course of the last year. They have also continued to support projects that relate to and address issues which concern young people.
- 6.2 The Young Advisors continued to meet at Lewisham Local, following the election in 2022, when candidate training took place there. The space proved to be good for transport and facilities while the Civic Suite remained as a Covid testing centre. The Young Advisors then met in Unit 19 in the shopping centre before returning to the Civic Suite in May 2022.
- 6.3 Colleagues and partners were able to join the meetings to continue the work finding out from young people what their priorities were and helping with policy development.
- 6.4 Young Mayor Rosanna Campbell and Former Young Mayor, Femi Komolafe launched the “Bank of Things” in Unit 19 in Lewisham shopping centre in February and it is now open for young people every Monday and Wednesday afternoon. As well as providing advice and information through Baseline and Youth Futures during the day, it has been a collaborative cross-sector partnership with the support of Lewisham Local.
- 6.5 The team were also able to develop some work from the Young Mayor’s Manifesto with a focus on equalities, which also coincided with the Tackling Race Inequalities in Education pledge being brought into schools. Starting with a workshop with five schools at Deptford Green School in October 2021 there followed workshops in eight secondary schools resulting in a sharing day in May 2022 at Bonus Pastor Catholic College. This is a continuing piece of work.
- 6.6 Champions of Inclusion, working with special schools and units, has held a forum where students from special schools and units met to share what they think is important both in school and out of school with a follow up at the end of the summer term. We’ve also been working with students from Drumbeat Autism Hub over five weeks to create a workshop about autism awareness which is being shared with the wider community and services.
- 6.7 The London Borough of Culture programme has been an exciting addition to the Young Mayor’s calendar, being part of the launch event and International Women’s Day activities. The Young Mayor was profiled in a film, photography and poem as part of the ‘Sheroes’ project.
- 6.8 Deputy Young Mayor Olivia and Young Advisors have been keen to learn and develop ideas about how to address sexual harassment through talking to the Violence against Women and Girls team, visiting a school and taking part in training.
- 6.9 We have continued to maintain our European links through online meetings of

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colleagues and young people, despite Brexit and Covid. We have our final Erasmus + projects to complete in 2022 with colleagues from Sweden, Portugal, Italy and the Czech Republic.

6.10 The Young Mayor and Young Advisors have continued to support the messaging around vaccinations and to work with Public Health in positive Covid communications with young people.

6.11 The below table provides an update of some of the projects, work and activities that have been carried out by the Young Mayor and Young Advisors over the past seven months since the Young Mayor Election and inauguration in November 2021.

Project or work area	Activity
Young Advisors meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regular meeting time 5-7pm Mondays for young people to plan and organise their activities and for partners, colleagues and peers to consult and discuss issues with the group. All face to face meetings. ▪ Website and online young people's voice. ▪ Alumni meetings.
Employment and enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting opportunities for young people, activities, jobs and training through sharing on social media and through informal networks. ▪ Developing Unit 19 with Baseline and Youth Futures to create an accessible hub for young people in the borough to receive support. ▪ Students on work experience with the team.
Intergenerational activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working together with older people to build understanding through intergenerational projects – there has been less of these opportunities due to the Covid situation through the winter months. ▪ Attending Positive Ageing Council meetings.
Social justice and diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Participating in debates and panels on social justice and diversity. Young people's voices and opinions being heard and shared with other community members and professionals such as the police and others, to help create change and influence policy making. ▪ Now and Then – Young people building their agenda around anti-racism and equality and in Lewisham – workshops in schools. ▪ Champions of Inclusion meeting working with Lewisham special schools. ▪ Drumbeat Autism Hub workshops and sharing space ▪ Contributing to the Lewisham Race Equality Strategy and workshops in schools and film. ▪ Attending the Liberty Festival introduction and being on the young people's panel ▪ White Ribbon Week visits and Beleve workshop and Ambassador training.

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Project or work area	Activity
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Young people learning and contributing to public health strategies and young people's services. ▪ Co-produced materials as part of the Obesity Trailblazer and continue to contribute young people's views into the project. ▪ Continue to contribute to the messaging around Covid for young people including mask wearing, and social distancing and vaccine hesitancy – Instagram live. ▪ Meeting with Healthwatch. ▪ Discussion on the development of the Young Peoples GP service. ▪ Contributing to and finding out about services for young people with mental health issues; Kooth. ▪ Understanding thrive. ▪ Meeting with NHS CCG to discuss Self Harm.
Environmental issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How to work towards carbon neutrality and address the Climate Emergency. ▪ Meeting with colleagues in the climate emergency team, supporting the development of schools conference. ▪ Working with Sounds like Chaos/ Albany and Climate Home/ BoC.
Community safety, policing and youth justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working with the Public Safety team around Violence Reduction and the Public Health approach to serious youth violence. ▪ Hate Crime Awareness week supporting the White Ribbon Campaign, awareness building in the community and for young people. ▪ Contributing to the Youth Offending Service management board. ▪ Discussion about the role of the Youth Offending service and in partnership supporting the procurement of the contract for the appropriate adult service. ▪ World Cafe – community safety day conference.
Housing and regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contributing to the consultation with Team Catford including a discussion on affordable housing. ▪ Working with Lewisham Homes engagement team about the needs and interests of young people and assessing young people's projects for the funding pot. ▪ Participating in the consultation around Lewisham shopping centre redevelopment ▪ Contributing to the Local plan.
Sports, arts and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting the Borough of Culture launch and programme. ▪ Participating in planning for People's day. ▪ International Women's Day 'Sheroes' Project.

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Project or work area	Activity
Working with schools and colleges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Visits to primary, secondary schools and colleges: campaigning, raising awareness, budget consultations and feedback through assemblies, citizenship days and school councils. Supporting other young people at exhibitions, achievement events and activities. ▪ Drumbeat Autism Hub workshops. ▪ Now and Then – Young people building their agenda about anti-racism and equality in Lewisham – eight secondary schools. ▪ Young Mayor Budget consultation. ▪ Discussion on school catering.
Working with Children and Young People Directorate and Youth First / Youth Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Update and discussion on progress of Youth First, attending Youth Forum. Participating in children in care council sessions. ▪ Meeting with CYP Select Committee to discuss priorities ▪ Contributing to Early Help strategy. ▪ Recruiting Director CYP /Head of Service /Early Help ▪ Contributing young people’s voices to the Safeguarding. Partnership Board Neglect strategy. ▪ Developing partnership with Baseline, Advice and information in Unit 19. ▪ Lewisham Youth Theatre social action project. ▪ Consultation and discussion on the Play Strategy. ▪ Consultation on Education Strategy. ▪ Care Leavers event.
Community events and organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending community events representing young people, recognising achievement, encouraging participation, cohesion and volunteering. • Speaking at Prison Ministries event (local Church and voluntary organisation) around safety and knife crime. • Deptford People’s museum, developing workshops with Deptford Green school about the Deptford docks and Empire. • Developing a partnership with Lewisham Local and launching the “Bank of Things” • Working with Lewisham Local Volunteers to paint and decorate Unit 19 for the Bank of things and to run the “Bank of Things”. • Young Mayor giving out prizes at Prendergast Ladywell PTA fun run. • YM/YAs judging Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge.
Working with politicians and engagement with politics and public life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people developing knowledge and understanding of party politics and democratic engagement which can then be shared with their peers. • Meetings with the Mayor and Cabinet Members. • Meeting with CYP Select Committee. • Meeting with MPs and working on particular issues • LGA peer inspection.

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Project or work area	Activity
UK Youth Parliament (UKYP), British Youth Council (BYC) and other regional and national work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engagement with the national Youth Voice Strategies and meeting other young people who are representing their areas. ▪ Participating in London Youth Assembly meetings and online. ▪ Attending the UK Youth Parliament meetings. ▪ Attending BYC conventions and meeting other young people who are active in their communities across London and the South East. ▪ Meeting and working with Lambeth Youth Council.
European visits and welcoming visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Erasmus+: Youth Mobility Projects (European funded projects) with youth groups in Alingsas near Gothenburg, Sweden. Prague 7, Czech Republic, Santa Maria da Feira, Portugal and Portici in Italy. Young people creating relationships, working and sharing ideas and aspirations about being European raising aspirations and being part of a wider world. ▪ Working with Folk School alternative education in Sweden around Curriculum for Life ideas and ways of working with young people in a holistic and support way, to offer opportunities to young people with most needs. Sharing ideas and creating projects around lifelong learning and community based education. ▪ Online meetings with young people and colleagues, sharing experiences of Covid and planning for future projects, including visits to Portugal and Italy and a return visit for young people to Lewisham in 2022. Funded by Erasmus+ postponed because of Covid. ▪ Online project with Young people from Tanzania with Kings College about healthy relationships and creating a comic resource. ▪ Planning for Northern Irish young people's group to visit Lewisham.
Civic events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Young Advisers attend events to recognise the importance for the wider community of events with important historical roots. Recognising achievements and being involved in and learning about other civic institutions. As elected representatives this is part of the role and is important both for them to attend and for others to see they recognise and take these responsibilities seriously. Fewer events during Covid as these were mainly cancelled. ▪ Holocaust Memorial Day event ▪ Meeting and working with Lewisham's Mayoresses. ▪ Remembrance Sunday.

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Project or work area	Activity
Research and evaluation projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Taking part in interviews and helping evaluate the Young Mayor Project. Interviewing candidates and recording their journey and experiences. ▪ Continue to follow candidates and record their experiences, creating a longitudinal study conducted by Dr Kalbir Shukra at Goldsmiths. ▪ Goldsmiths applied for and received a grant for a scoping project of the Young Mayor archive. Looking at the archive in the Civic suite and how it can be developed as a community resource to support, encourage and recognise activism in the borough. Scoping project identified the next steps, cataloguing grant, ongoing.

7. The Young Mayor's Budget Proposals 2021/22 Young Mayor Rosanna Campbell

7.1 Consultation

7.1.1 The Young Mayor has worked closely with both the Young Advisors and with schools and youth organisations in identifying how to best spend the allocated budget. An online survey was created to gain young people's views on what the budget should be spent on and shared with schools and youth groups.

7.1.2 Initial ideas for spending proposals were gathered from a range of sources and forums, including from candidates' manifestos and the election campaign. These were then discussed at Young Advisors meetings and created the long-list.

7.1.3 There are lots of issues that young people are interested in and concerned about, including:

- Arts, sports and performance opportunities
- Employment and enterprise opportunities
- Healthy Living and lifestyles
- How to support work with faith groups, and diverse projects
- Environment issues, plastic waste, air pollution and rubbish
- Being safe, working together to help everyone feel and be safe
- School; what we learn and why, linking school to working life, support in school.
- Informal education, youth services

8. Budget Proposals for 2021/22

8.1 Having worked with the Young Advisors and talked to other young people across the borough, including the consultation set out above, these proposals recognise that many of the interests, concerns and experience of young people in the borough. Young Mayor, Rosanna Campbell and Deputy, Olivia Mardling have spent the first half of their term in office talking to other young people, participating in community events and projects and representing the young people of Lewisham. Combined with some of their original ideas in their manifestos, they have drawn up some areas for their budget proposals and what their £25,000 budget should be spent on. There have been many ideas and areas of interest and concern, as identified above.

8.2 As we are coming through the pandemic, an unprecedented time of change and disruption for everyone, Rosanna and Olivia are keen to make sure their proposals are sustainable and carry on some of the work already started, in order to support young

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people in the borough and reach as many as possible, while addressing young people's real and current concerns and priorities.

8.3 The Young Mayor proposal for the Young Mayor budget 2021-22 is to have two main areas:

▪ **Democracy and Equality**

- Continue the work around equity and anti-discrimination in schools and widen into other areas of discrimination – workshops in schools and wider community
- Peer Training for young people to lead the discussion, workshops and actions to influence change.
- Host events like Young People's Question times and a big Lewisham Debate to engage young people in critical dialogue across the borough

Total £12,500.00

▪ **Our borough - creating connections**

- Creative and immersive activities to have the difficult discussions around safety and how we look after each other.
- Music, spoken word, film and other activities with young people led community projects to address some of the challenges young people face in being safe. Including scamming, fraud, serious youth violence and sexual harassment. To be developed further with the young people led groups and shared with the wider community.

Total £12,500.00

Total Budget proposal £25,000

8.4 Progress and Evaluation

8.4.1 The new Young Mayor and Young Advisors will report progress in implementing these proposals to Youth Forums, School Councils, Mayor and Cabinet and on social media.

8.4.2 An ongoing consultation and evaluation process will take place with local young people through the Youth Service, School Councils, the Voluntary and Community Sector and People's Day, as well as the B-involved website.

9. Financial implications

9.1 The cost of the proposed programme is £25,000 and will be met from the budget for the Young Mayor's programme.

9.2 There are no financial implications arising from this report as there is a specific budget for this area.

9.3 The term of office of the Young Mayor is from October to September – the £25k spend will be incurred in the financial year 2022/23.

10. Legal implications

10.1 Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 empowers the local authority to do anything which it considers likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of all or any persons within the local authority's area. It enables the Council to incur expenditure under these wellbeing powers which could include a budget for the Young Mayor. The sum of £25,000 is a reasonable for the purposes outlined in the report. "The decision to approve the budget

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does not have to be made Mayor & Cabinet but is officers' preference for reasons mentioned in the report. This is not a key decision."

11. Equality Implications

- 11.1 The Young Mayor and Young Advisors have considered the equalities implications in all of the proposals and will ensure an inclusive approach to all activities undertaken. For example working with the special schools and groups such as Looked after Children and Young Carers who might find it more difficult to participate.
- 11.2 The various activities described in this report (e.g.: intergenerational activities; healthy lifestyles; social justice and diversity; environmental issues; community safety, policing and youth justice and education & employment) make an important contribution to the five objectives of the Council's Comprehensive Equalities Scheme 2016-20 as follows:
- Tackle victimisation discrimination and harassment
 - Improve access to services
 - Close the gap in outcomes between citizens
 - Increase mutual understanding and respect within and between communities
 - Increase participation and engagement
- 11.3 The activities described in this report will benefit all protected characteristics, but in particular that of age. Lewisham's population is driven by the birth rate and one in four Lewisham residents is aged 0-19.
- 11.4 Although socio-economic status is not a characteristics protected under the Equality Act 2020, the activities described in this report will also make a contribution to tackling socio-economic inequality. Nearly one in four Lewisham children under 16 live in a low income household (over three in ten after housing costs have been considered). The Young Mayor's proposals for the coming year, includes specific proposals to tackle poverty affecting children and young people living in the borough.

12. Climate Change and Environmental Implications

- 12.1 There are no negative environmental implications arising from this report. The Young Mayor is recommending investing £2,000 of his budget to the Lewisham Youth Climate Forum which will work directly with the Council to promote the implications of climate change and be part of the Council's response to the climate emergency.

13. Crime and Disorder Implications

- 13.1 There are no negative crime and disorder implications arising from this report. The Young Mayor's proposals relate to the development of activities, resources and information that will provide young people with diversionary activities, contribute to community initiatives and provide opportunities for young people to address issues concerned with their safety.

14. Health and wellbeing implications

- 14.1 There are no negative health implications arising from this report. The Young Mayor and Young Advisors will continue to support public health projects and contribute to involving and representing young people in discussions around health and wellbeing. They have a long standing interest in young people's mental health and well-being in the borough and remain keen to contribute and support young people where possible.

15. Report Author and contact

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