



Mayor and Cabinet

Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL)

Date: 12th March 2025

Key decision: Yes

Class: 1

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors:

James Lee - Director of Community Services

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Outline and recommendations

Following agreement by Mayor and Cabinet on 13th March 2024, the Council launched the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL) fund on 8th July 2024. The fund is generated from a Levy on new development within the borough and is topped up each year. Lewisham's innovative approach to the allocation of these funds allows the local community, working in partnership with elected members and Council officers, to derive benefits from growth and to determine the best use of resources at a local level.

This is the second round of NCIL funding in Lewisham, comprising of £2,553,243, collected between 2020-2024 and £9,273 funding carried forward from the first round of NCIL funding. This gives a total of £2,562,516 which is available to fund new projects which support and benefit Lewisham's communities and neighbourhoods.

This report sets out a summary of the NCIL Round 2 fund programme, the criteria for assessing applications, involvement by councillors and ward assemblies and a list of projects for individual wards and borough-wide that have been recommended for funding.

It is recommended that Mayor and Cabinet:

- Approve the list of recommended ward and borough-wide projects is shown in Section 9 of the report to be awarded Round 2 NCIL funding from April 2025-March 2027. The total recommended funding is £2,562,511 which can be fully met from the available funding.

Timeline of engagement and decision-making

5th June 2019 – Mayor and Cabinet. Approval of London Borough of Lewisham NCIL strategy

24th July 2019 – Full Council. Approval of London Borough of Lewisham NCIL strategy

3rd November 2021 – Mayor and Cabinet. Approval of recommended projects for Round One NCIL borough-wide fund.

9th March 2022 – Mayor and Cabinet. Recommended Round One NCIL ward-based projects for funding.

13th March 2024 – Mayor and Cabinet. Approved Round 2 NCIL report recommendations for changed approach to funding application approach and assessment.

8th July 2024 – Launch of NCIL Round 2 - consultation on Council-led capital projects and open call for community applications for ward-based and borough-wide funding.

23rd September 2024 – Closing date for capital projects consultation and applications for ward-based and borough-wide funding.

October – November 2024 – Assessment of capital and open call projects

November – December 2024 – Councillor review panels approve final recommendations

January – February 2025 – Local Assembly meetings to review and feedback on recommended projects.

12th March 2025 – Mayor and Cabinet to agree recommended projects.

March 2025 – Grant award announcements.

April - June 2025 – Mobilisation and grant agreement reviews with successful projects.

July 2025 onwards – Project delivery.

Summary

- 1.1. The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a levy that local authorities can choose to charge on “chargeable” new development in their area. The Levy is collected and monitored in Lewisham by the Council’s planning department. An element of these funds is to be spent at a local level and is known as Neighbourhood CIL (NCIL).
- 1.2. Lewisham’s NCIL strategy was agreed by Mayor and Cabinet on 5 June 2019 and Full Council 24 July 2019 and represents an innovative and exciting approach that ensures that the voice of the local community is the heart of our decision making and funding allocations.
- 1.3. The agreed strategy allocates 25% of CIL receipts as NCIL and uses the ward structure as the basis for distribution. A portion of receipts are retained in the ward where they were generated; a further portion is redistributed across the wards based on the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), and a further portion is set aside for projects that contribute to borough-wide benefit (borough-wide fund).
- 1.4. Building on lessons learnt from Round One funding assessment and distribution, the process for the distribution of borough-wide and ward-based funding in Round Two was adjusted to reduce the number of stages in the application process from two to one, as detailed in the Mayor and Cabinet presented in March 2024.
- 1.5. The current report makes recommendations for approval by Mayor and Cabinet of proposed projects utilising both ward and borough-wide NCIL funding. It sets out details of the current NCIL ward and borough-based funding programme, the criteria for assessing applications, the involvement of ward councillors and ward assemblies and a list of projects recommended for funding.

Recommendations

- 1.6. It is recommended that Mayor and Cabinet:
 - Approve the list of recommended ward and borough-wide projects in Section 9 to be awarded Round 2 NCIL funding from April 2025- March 2027

Policy Context

- 1.7. The contents of this report are consistent with the Council’s policy framework.
- 1.8. NCIL will contribute to the implementation of the Council’s seven corporate priorities from the Corporate Strategy 2022-2026 through supporting local projects that are aligned with those objectives.
- 1.9. NCIL provides funding and a system to help support the implementation of the Corporate Strategy, and this report is consistent with the six priorities identified:
 - Cleaner and greener – Supporting the Council’s aims to be a cleaner and greener borough for its residents.
 - A strong local economy – Supporting the Council’s aim to protect and enhance the local economy.
 - Children and Young People – Supporting the Council’s aim to provide a safe and supportive environment and increase opportunities for young people.
 - Safer Communities – Supporting the Council’s aims to provide a safe borough and reduce youth violence through prevention.
 - Open Lewisham – Supporting the Council’s aims to celebrate Lewisham’s diversity, build on our legacy as London Borough of Culture and work in collaboration with our voluntary and community sectors.

- Health and Wellbeing – Supporting the Council’s aim to collaborate with other organisations to deliver the places, activities and programmes our residents need to feel empowered.

1.10. The recommended projects in this report meet at least one of the above priorities. In the case of borough-wide projects, there is a requirement for applications to address the Equalities priority in addition. All borough-wide projects also need to demonstrate benefits to at least three Lewisham wards.

Background

1.11. CIL is a levy that local authorities can choose to charge on new development in their area. The Levy is collected and monitored by the Council’s planning department. Local authorities must spend the levy on infrastructure needed to support development within the borough, which can include a wide range of infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, roads, open space and leisure facilities. An element of these funds is to be spent at a local level and is known as Neighbourhood CIL (NCIL).

1.12. NCIL is defined through R59F of the CIL Regulations (2010) which enables the Council to allocate a portion of CIL receipts to be spent on local priorities, with spending of this portion subject to a wider definition of *“The charging authority may use the CIL to which this regulation applies, or cause it to be used, to support the development of the relevant area by funding –*

- (a) *the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or*
- (b) *anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area.”*

1.13. Lewisham’s NCIL strategy was agreed by Mayor and Cabinet on 5 June 2019 and Full Council 24 July 2019. The agreed strategy allocates 25% of CIL receipts as NCIL and uses the ward structure as the basis for distribution. A portion of receipts are retained in the ward where they were generated ensuring local communities benefit from development in their area; a further portion is redistributed across the wards based on the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), and a further portion is set aside for projects that contribute to borough-wide benefit (borough-wide fund).

1.14. Lewisham’s innovative approach puts the local community at the heart of decision making and priority setting through an open call for projects and review via their local Assembly. Alongside this, local elected members have been fully involved in the process to ensure that their local knowledge is key to determining how best to ensure that all local residents benefit from the development and investment in their local wards and the borough overall.

1.15. Under NCIL Round One, 25 borough-wide projects were approved for funding in 2021 to a value of £877,094. In 2022, 150 ward-based projects were approved for funding under the same round, to a value of £2,931,270. All projects ran between 2022 and 2024.

1.16. **Review of NCIL Round 1 and Proposals for Round 2**

1.17. Following completion of the NCIL 2022-24 funding round, Lewisham Council officers reviewed the process and made recommendations to inform the second Round of NCIL funding.

1.18. These recommendations were agreed at the meeting of Mayor and Cabinet on 13th March 2024 and included:

1.19. Stage 1 – Priority setting - The priority setting stage involved multiple workshops with all 18 wards to agree priorities. Having analysed the agreed priorities across all wards it was evident that the majority of these were similar and overlapped in most

instances. It was also clear that the priorities by in large reflect the council's overall corporate priorities. As such, Mayor and Cabinet agreed that the priority stage for the NCIL 2 programme be dropped and that the corporate priorities (2022-2026) used across all wards and across both funds.

- 1.20. Through the NCIL programme it became apparent that some capital projects that were suggested by residents, such as highways works, pedestrian crossings etc were very difficult to deliver. This was primarily due to the technical nature of the work, costs associated with the projects and feasibility studies required to initiate such projects. As such, Mayor and Cabinet agreed that the Council should identify a series of oven ready capital projects aligned with the corporate priorities and supported by residents that could be delivered by the Council to supplement the open call for projects.
- 1.21. The Borough-Wide Fund was retained at 25% of the total NCIL fund. It was recommended that applicable projects must be able to meet the requirements set out in the CIL regulations, namely that each project supports the development within the area by funding:
 - a. The provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or
 - b. Anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on the area.
- 1.22. Over and above this, Mayor and Cabinet agreed the following criteria for the assessment of borough-wide projects. Applicable projects have demonstrated that they:
 - Meet at least one of the corporate priorities.
 - Seek to address inequalities.
 - Impact at least three or more wards.
- 1.23. In NCIL Round One arrangements for borough-wide projects had been subject to a separate application and assessment phase which had resulted in several strong projects but had duplicated effort in terms of assessment. It was identified that project strength would not suffer significantly from removing this phase for borough-wide applications. As a result, it was agreed that the borough-wide application process would operate alongside the ward-based application process in Round Two.

2. NCIL and other Council Funding

- 2.1 NCIL sits alongside and complements other Council funding streams.
 - 2.2 In addition to NCIL, the Council operate the Main Grants, Greening Fund and Section 106 funded programmes. Each have a positive impact on Lewisham's communities at both a borough-wide scale and more locally within specific neighbourhoods.
- ### **2.4 Main Grants**
- 2.4.1 The Main Grants programme provides funding to a range of local organisations from the voluntary and community sector. The programme operates on a 3-year cycle. Due to the letting of NCIL in the same timeframe, it was agreed by Mayor and Cabinet that the last round of the Main Grants Programme is extended for a further year to March 2026.
 - 2.4.2 Over the 3-year cycle, the Main Grants programme will have invested over £7 million of grant funding to local groups to support their work in the community. The Main Grants programme's priorities for this round are:

- An economically sound future, specifically
 - Advice Services and
 - Enabling Digital Access for All
- A healthy and well future
- A future we all have a part in

2.5 Greening Fund

2.5.1 The Greening Fund provides grants of up to £40,000 to support volunteers and community groups working to make the borough greener. The funding was secured from Section 106 money. The Greening Funds priorities are:

- **Access to open spaces**
- **Young People and Play**
- **Biodiversity and Sustainability**

2.6 Section 106

2.6.1 Section 106 agreements are negotiated between the Council and developers. Funding can address a range of infrastructure priorities which are linked to the mitigation of the specific impacts of a development. The exact contributions are determined through a Section 106 agreement which is legally attached to a specific development. Projects delivered through Section 106 must be delivered within the vicinity of the development or in a pre-determined area as specified within the Section 106 agreement. Further details on Section 106 monies and spend can be found in the Council's Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) on the Council's website.

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/planning/policy/cil>

3 Summary of the NCIL Fund Round 2

3.1 Council-led Capital Projects

- 3.1.1 Services across the Council were sent a capital bid proforma to submit either borough-wide or ward-level capital proposals. The proposals had to demonstrate that they met corporate priorities, offered value for money and were deliverable within the NCIL timeframe.
- 3.1.2 Alongside this, all members were asked to put forward suggestions for capital projects in their wards that they felt met local need.
- 3.1.3 A total of 166 pro-formas were submitted by officers from 15 departments. and 94 proposals came forward from Councillors.
- 3.1.4 Triangulating the two lists, projects put forward by both officers and councillors were identified and longlisted. Projects which were put forward by Councillors but had not come forward from departments were further explored and if viable, were added to the list.
- 3.1.5 A panel of senior officers shortlisted proposals based on:
- Does it meet the NCIL regulations?
 - Does it meet the Council's Corporate Priorities?
 - Does it meet a local need as assessed by Councillors and officers (preferably both)?
 - Is it deliverable?
 - Is it affordable?
 - Does it require ongoing revenue?
- 3.1.6 The shortlisted proposals were reviewed by ward members for final approval.

- 3.1.7 The final shortlist of 155 capital projects were uploaded to the Council's consultation platform, which was then open for consultation with residents from the 8th of July – 23rd September.
- 3.1.8 Residents could like up to three projects in up to three wards and could comment or provide feedback on specific proposals. Residents were asked to identify their connection to the ward in which they were endorsing or providing feedback on projects.
- 3.1.9 A total of 72 outreach sessions across wards were undertaken to encourage participation in the survey and to submit applications to the NCIL open call process. Ongoing review of the responses by ward enabled targeted outreach to areas with a poor response rate.
- 3.1.10 Results of consultation exercise
- 11,804 `likes`, 4,260 surveys completed by 1,910 unique individuals.
 - For comparison, the largest consultation response (based on data to May 2024) for Council surveys has been 894 unique individuals (Have your say! Shaping Lewisham 2030)

3.2 Assessment of capital proposals post-consultation

- 3.2.1 The NCIL consultation was undertaken to give an idea of which of the projects identified were recognised as needed and supported by residents. However, it was recognised from analysis of NCIL and other consultations, that responses vary across wards dependent on a range of factors such as digital inclusion, how engaged residents are in their local area and the existence of voluntary and community and resident-led organisations in an area who can promote and advocate for resident engagement.
- 3.2.2 For this reason, the number of likes alone were not the key consideration in awarding funding. The assessment process involved consideration of the following alongside the number of likes that a project received on the consultation platform, and the comments made about the project.
- If the project meets an urgent and/or important local need in addition meeting corporate priorities
 - The number of ward residents who are likely to benefit from the project
 - If the project has a positive impact on vulnerable groups and/or particular communities either geographically or as defined in the Equalities Act
 - If the project represents value for money and/or is affordable in the context of available funding for the ward/borough.
- 3.2.3 Unallocated s106 spends were looked at as part of the shortlisting of NCIL capital projects. Any unallocated spend that fit the location and type of proposed capital projects were identified and `matched` to NCIL spend to free up the pot for open call projects. Outlined below are s106 unallocated funds by borough/ward pots. The total amount of s106 funding identified: £167,950.

<i>NCIL pot</i>	<i>Number of s106 projects matched</i>	<i>Amount s106 funding</i>
Borough	1	£24,000
Bellingham		

Blackheath		
Brockley	1	£14,739.28
Catford South		
Crofton Park		
Deptford		
Downham		
Evelyn	7	£71,060.67
Forest Hill	1	£1,808.40
Grove Park		
Hither Green	1	£3,280.16
Ladywell	1	£300
Lee Green	1	£45,000
Lewisham Central	1	£761.33
New Cross Gate	1	£7,000
Perry Vale		
Rushey Green		
Sydenham		
Telegraph Hill		
Total		£167,950

3.2.4 Further to officer assessment, capital projects which met the criteria outlined above were recommended for funding. The recommendations were reviewed and agreed by councillors at final panel assessment meetings in November-December 2024.

3.2.6 Council-led capital proposals recommended for funding:

Ward	Street Bins	Other Bins	Street Trees	Other Trees	Cycle Hangars	Parks	Libraries	Other	Ward Totals
Bellingham			£4,800.00					£16,000.00	£20,800.00
Blackheath	£23,129.39	£19,000.00	£12,000.00	£1,400.00	£8,634.00	£30,000.00			£94,163.39
Brockley	£7,979.69			£4,535.00		£15,255.00			£27,769.69
Catford South	£3,800.00		£2,400.00			£15,000.00		£3,581.00	£24,781.00
Crofton Park							£17,907.62		£17,907.62
Deptford	£6,593.80		£6,000.00			£45,000.00		£50,000.00	£107,593.80
Downham				£2,000.00		£29,983.00			£31,983.00
Evelyn						£179,000.00		£135,000.00	£314,000.00
Forest Hill				£10,350.00		£28,192.00			£38,542.00
Grove Park						£28,000.00	£18,000.00		£46,000.00
Hither Green	£8,228.00		£6,000.00						£14,228.00
Ladywell				£4,535.00		£35,581.75			£40,116.75
Lee Green						£7,500.00			£7,500.00
Lewisham Central								£176,903.00	£176,903.00
New Cross Gate	£6,214.21	£2,500.00	£12,000.00	£4,535.00		£55,000.00			£80,249.21
Perry Vale						£35,700.00			£35,700.00
Rushey Green	£28,116.24		£12,000.00	£10,000.00		£34,254.16			£84,370.40
Sydenham							£35,000.00		£35,000.00
Telegraph Hill								£15,000.00	£15,000.00
Totals	£84,061.33	£21,500.00	£55,200.00	£37,355.00	£8,634.00	£538,465.91	£70,907.62	£406,484.00	

3.3 Open Call Projects

- 3.3.1 The open call for bids ran alongside the consultation process from 8th July – 23rd September 2024.
- 3.3.2 As in the previous round of NCIL, applications were invited via the online funding platform (Community Funding).
- 3.3.3 Feedback from last round of NCIL, specifically from 242 applicants to Round 1, was analysed and used to improve and simplify the application form and guidance as well as the website.
- 3.3.4 The functionality of the online platform was improved so that information from applications could be used to auto-fill assessment and monitoring forms.
- 3.3.5 A communication plan was developed to support the launch and highlight opportunities for applicants throughout the open call period.
- 3.3.6 A Workshops programme was developed that included internal and external stakeholders as well as potential applicants. Community fundraisers and other VCS partners with a role in capacity building were engaged so that they could support potential applicants.
- 3.3.7 246 applications were received, with a total value of £9.2m, an oversubscription of approx. £6.7m

3.4 Assessments of Open call projects

- 3.4.1 The initial stage of the assessment process was a due diligence check on all applications ensuring:
 - The application met with one or more of the agreed ward priorities.
 - The application met the definition of infrastructure set out in the CIL regulations as outlined in section 4.2.
 - The applicant was a resident of the ward that they were applying for funding from.
 - And/or that an organisation applying for over £10,000 had at least three years of financial records.
- 3.4.2 All open call applications, ward and borough-wide, were assessed by two officers with an average score assigned to each. If there were large discrepancies (more than 4 points) in scores, these were moderated through discussion to arrive at an average.
- 3.4.3 The scoring of applications was based on the following criteria:
 - Project summary and activities
 - Project need
 - Impact on the community
 - How it meets CIL regulations
 - Accessibility and equalities impact
 - How it meets corporate priorities
 - Value for money
- 3.4.4 Recommendations were reviewed by the Director of Communities, prior to being reviewed and finalised by councillors at their ward assessment panels along with the council-led capital projects.
- 3.4.5 A key part of the overall assessment process was an analysis of the high scoring projects by protected characteristics, intended beneficiaries and topics to ensure that there is a good spread of projects across vulnerable communities in the borough, and to ensure that no communities are disproportionately impacted by allocation of funds.
- 3.4.6 The borough-wide projects were reviewed with senior officers and the Cabinet Lead for Communities.

3.5 Presentation of recommendations at ward Assemblies

- 3.5.1 As in the previous Round of NCIL, it was agreed that recommendations will be presented at ward Assemblies for feedback from residents.
- 3.5.2 Throughout January and February 2025, Assembly meetings have been held in all 19 wards to ensure residents are aware of and can give their views on the recommended projects. Feedback from Assemblies are attached (Appendix D) for consideration by Mayor and Cabinet when making decisions on allocation of funds.

3.6 Date of Assemblies:

Ward Assembly	Date of Assembly
Perry Vale	14 th January 2025
Blackheath	15 th January 2025
New Cross Gate	16 th January 2025
Forest Hill	23 rd January 2025
Lewisham Central	23 rd January 2025
Evelyn	25 th January 2025
Grove Park	25 th January 2025
Bellingham	30 th January 2025
Hither Green	30 th January 2025
Ladywell	30 th January 2025
Brockley	1 st February 2025
Deptford	1 st February 2025
Sydenham	1 st February 2025
Telegraph Hill	3 rd February 2025
Downham	4 th February 2025
Catford South	6 th February 2025
Lee Green	6 th February 2025
Crofton Park	11 th February 2025
Rushey Green	13 th February 2025

4. NCIL Ward fund support programme

- 4.1 The NCIL support programme aimed to provide a variety of mechanisms to reach residents and encourage them to participate.
- 4.2 A key early concern expressed by Members was around digital exclusion and how those who don't have access to digital technology or are unable to use it can be part of the NCIL process.
- 4.3 As part of our commitment to supporting residents face digital exclusion, the outreach programme for NCIL had two strands – one for potential applicants and one resident wishing to demonstrate their support for capital projects in their wards.
- 4.4 Support for applicants included:
- Face-to-face workshops in several venues across the borough advertised locally
 - At least two face-to-face drop-in sessions per ward for 1 - 1 advice
 - Support to complete online applications for those with additional needs
- 4.5 To ensure all residents have an opportunity to demonstrate their support for capital projects in their wards, Community Development Officers visited local groups throughout July, August and September. Visits combined some, or all the following elements:
- Demonstration of the consultation hub
 - Signposting to free ICT access locally
 - Sharing ward brochures in hard copy and talking through the projects
 - Capturing resident support offline, which will be added to the final data
- 4.6 In addition, the Community Development Team attended a number of community events across the borough to promote the NCIL programme more widely, and requested any organisations requiring a visit, to get in touch. These visits have included older people's groups and community food provisions.
- 4.7 A number of sessions were held both online and in person, including 1-2 support and outreach sessions
- 4.8 Additionally, in recognition that queries about funding can be time critical particularly for small organisations, support for potential applicants was available throughout the open call period via the NCIL e-mail, by phone and via the website.

5. Applications received

5.1 The number of applications received, and the total funding requested during the open call for projects is set out below:

NCIL Borough Fund Applications Breakdown	
NCIL Borough Funding Pot	£621,732.92
No. of applications	93
No. of applications not meeting due diligence	0
Total NCIL funding requested pre due diligence	£5,679,335.93
Total funding requested post due diligence	£5,679,335.93

NCIL Ward Fund Applications Breakdown	
NCIL Ward Funding Pot	£1,940,783.09
No. of applications	153
No. of applications not meeting due diligence	7
Total NCIL funding requested pre due diligence	£3,634,895.35
Total funding requested post due diligence	£3,517,493.55

5.2.1 The total number of applications submitted by ward, funding available in each ward and the total amount of funding requested is set out below:

NCIL Fund 2025-2027			
Applications Breakdown by Ward			
Ward	Fund Pot	Funding Requested	Number of Applications (Includes cross ward)
Bellingham	£53,804.26	£86,732.00	9
Blackheath	£104,163.39	£10,000.00	1
Brockley	£46,409.69	£51,080.00	5
Catford South	£40,331.36	£15,550.00	2
Crofton Park	£32,387.62	£26,880.00	3
Deptford	£199,894.67	£689,053.75	22
Downham	£61,849.25	£220,275.01	14
Evelyn	£437,337.68	£1,027,004.99	25
Forest Hill	£52,874.29	£17,389.90	3
Grove Park	£64,468.71	£75,188.00	5
Hither Green	£39,821.96	£65,124.20	11
Ladywell	£44,916.75	£19,658.00	2
Lee Green	£27,950.93	£29,838.60	5
Lewisham Central	£313,414.20	£503,412.58	8
New Cross Gate	£141,910.36	£291,332.20	13
Perry Vale	£41,301.76	£30,144.00	5
Rushey Green	£129,470.40	£157,877.00	5

Sydenham	£74,275.20	£144,513.72	9
Telegraph Hill	£34,201.01	£56,439.60	6
Total	£1,940,783.09	£3,517,493.55	153

6. Final Recommendations

6.1 A summary of the total recommended funding being put forward in this report.

Borough/Ward	Fund Pot Available	Funding Recommended	No of Applications Recommended
Borough	£621,732.92	£621,732.92	16
Bellingham	£53,804.26	£53,804.26	8
Blackheath	£104,163.39	£104,163.39	7
Brockley	£46,409.69	£46,409.69	7
Catford South	£40,331.36	£40,331.00	3
Crofton Park	£32,387.62	£32,387.62	6
Deptford	£199,894.67	£199,894.67	12
Downham	£61,849.25	£61,848.50	
Evelyn	£437,337.68	£437,337.68	
Forest Hill	£52,874.29	£52,871.00	
Grove Park	£64,468.71	£64,469.00	
Hither Green	£39,821.96	£39,822.00	
Ladywell	£44,916.75	£44,916.75	
Lee Green	£27,950.93	£27,950.00	
Lewisham Central	£313,414.20	£313,414.00	

New Cross Gate	£141,910.36	£141,910.36	
Perry Vale	£41,301.76	£41,301.76	
Rushey Green	£129,470.00	£129,470.40	
Sydenham	£74,275.20	£74,275.20	
Telegraph Hill	£34,201.01	£34,201.01	
Total	£2,562,516.41	£2,562,511.21	

6.2 The breakdown of recommendations for borough-wide projects are presented in the tables below:

Borough-Wide Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Air Quality Network	Council	£46,157.80
Deployable CCTV Cameras	Council	£95,000.00
Hilly Fields Basketball Courts	Council	£124,000.00
Home Park Play Area Improvements	Council	£26,000.00
SIGNAL Family Support	SIGNAL - Autistic Young Peoples Activities in Lewisham	£24,011.00
Capture Art and Creative Projects Ltd	LGBTQ+ Community Matters	£30,000.00
BlindAid	Lewisham Sight Support Service	£34,000.00
Spark2Life	Therapeutic mentoring	£55,000.00
Facework Group CIC	Lewisham Changemakers	£30,000.00
Coco Collective Community Hub	Lewisham Liberation: Food Justice	£23,274.12
Lewisham Black VCS Network (LBVN)	LBVN Project Administrator	£10,000.00
Lewisham Local	Lewisham Food Hub	£35,000.00
Spontaneous Productions Theatre Company Ltd	Spontaneous Productions' Refugee and Migrant writing and performance project Summer 2025-Summer 2026	£12,500.00
Friends of Forster Memorial Park	A Park for All - Inclusive Activities for Young People in Forster Memorial Park	£20,300.00
Social Inclusion Recovery Group CIC	The Parent Empowerment Project	£29,075.00
Ignition Brewery	Developing Employability	£27,415.00
Total		£621,732.92

6.3 The breakdown of project recommendations is presented individually by ward in the tables below:

Bellingham Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Bellingham Youth Club Improvements	Council	£16,000.00
Street Trees for Bellingham	Council	£4,800.00
Bellingham Festival	Bellingham Community Project	£9,083.86
Saving Souls Hub	The OTMS Foundation Ltd	£8,627.40
Bringing Health & Wellbeing to Bellingham	Therapy 4 Healing	£5,308.00
Carols on the Green	Christ Church	£3,485.00
Music & History for all in Bellingham	St Dunstan's Church	£2,000.00
Fathers & Families	Sports Fun 4 All	£4,500.00
	Total	£53,804.26

Blackheath Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Bins & Benches for Blackheath Common	Council	£19,000.00
Cycle Hangers for Blackheath	Council	£8,634.00
Hare and Billet Pond Trees	Council	£1,400.00
Street Bins for Blackheath	Council	£23,129.39
Street Trees for Blackheath x 10	Council	£12,000.00
Talbot Place Playground Improvements	Council	£30,000.00
Bundles of Joy	MammaKind	£10,000.00
Total		£104,163.39

Brockley Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Brookmill Park Pond Platform	Council	£10,000.00
Christmas Trees for Brockley	Council	£4,535.00
Friendly Garden Improvements	Council	£5,255.00
Street Bins for Brockley	Council	£7,979.69
St. Peters Brockley Food Bank and Social Supermarket	St. Peters Brockley	£8,240.00
Developing the Opening Night programme	Max Media Arts CIC	£4,900.00
Brockley Football Project	Sports Fun 4 All	£5,500.00
Total		£46,409.69

Catford South Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Culverley Green Railings	Council	£3,581.00
Forster Park Basketball Courts	Council	£15,000.00
Street Bins for Catford South	Council	£3,800.00
Street Trees for Catford South	Council	£2,400.00
Bringing Sunshine, fun & Wellbeing to Elders	Therapy 4 Healing	£4,200.00
Happyfying Older Adults at the Diamond Club	Diamond Club	£11,350.00
Total		£40,331.00

Crofton Park Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Crofton Park Library Improvements	Council	£17,907.62
Main Hall Floor Refurbishment	Ackroyd Community Association	£8,000.00
Improving Ravensbourne Road	Blythe Hill Action Group	£6,480.00
Total		£32,387.62

Deptford Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Fordham Park Boardwalk Improvements	Council	£30,000.00
Margaret McMillan Park under 5s play Equipment	Council	£15,000.00
Street Bins for Deptford	Council	£6,593.80
Street Trees for Deptford	Council	£6,000.00
Woodpecker Estate Improvements	Council	£50,000.00
Deptford Health & Wellbeing Project	Therapy 4 Healing	£10,528.87
NXL Accessibility	New Cross Learning	£11,800.00
The Bear Community Kitchen	The Bear Church	£12,500.00
Shower Upgrades	999 Club	£17,500.00
Run Lewisham	Run Lewisham	£2,100.00
New Cross & Deptford Film Festival 2026	NXDfff	£5,000.00
Aspiring Culinary Youth Project	Legendary Community Club	£32,872.00
	Total	£199,894.67

Downham Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Christmas Trees for Downham	Council	£2,000.00
Downham Fields Improvements	Council	£29,983.00
Downham Football Project	Sports Fun 4 All	£6,000.00
Downham Men's Art Project	St Lukes Church	£5,000.00
The Downham Wall	Teatro Vivo	£7,372.50
Downham Games Careers Festival	Into Games	£4,500.00
Catering & Furniture Upgrades	Downham (Wesley Halls) Community Association	£6,993.00
Total		£61,848.50

Evelyn Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
2CACKitchen	Council	£15,000.00
Deptford Park Football Pitches	Council	£60,000.00
Deptford Park Play Equipment	Council	£54,000.00
Foreshore Improvements	Council	£95,000.00
Greening Evelyn	Council	£60,000.00
Riverside Youth Club Refurbishment	Council	£25,000.00
Windlass Place Allotment Toilets	Council	£5,000.00
Evelyn Wellbeing: Health & Resilience for All	Therapy 4 Healing	£12,000
Riverside Music Project	Inspiring Your Imagination	£37,587.68
Risk, Resilience & Safety in a Changing World	Second Wave Centre for Youth Arts	£31,250.00
Community Kitchen	The Bear Church	£12,500.00
Moira's Place	Evelyn Parents Forum	£30,000.00
	Total	£437,337.68

Forest Hill Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Christmas Trees in Forest Hill	Council	£5,175.00
Christmas Trees in Forest Hill Kirkdale	Council	£5,175.00
Horniman Triangle Play Equipment	Council	£28,192.00
Street Trees in Forest Hill	Council	£1,200.00
Lighting Up Kirkdale	Sydenham Community Project	£6,250.00
Outdoor Learning Classroom Seating Area	Horniman Museum & Gardens	£6,879.00
Total		£52,871.00

Grove Park Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Chinbrook Meadow Toilet Refurbishments	Council	£28,000.00
Grove Park Library Accessibility	Council	£18,000.00
Grove Park Carnival ft Chinbrook Dog Show	Grove Park Carnival ft Chinbrook Dog Show	£5,961.00
Installation of electric vehicle charging equipment	St Mildreds Church	£12,508.00
Total		£64,469.00

Hither Green Ward Project Recommendations

Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Street Bins for Hither Green	Council	£8,228.00
Street Trees for Hither Green	Council	£6,000.00
Women's Project	St Marks Church	£5,896.00
Health & Wellbeing in Hither Green	Therapy 4 Healing	£3,900.00
Planters for Knowles Hill Crescent	Knowles Hill Crescent Residents Association	£4,147.00
Littlewood Neighbourhood Planters	The Littlewood Community Group	£1,656.00
The Goldsmiths Culture Inclusion Den	The Goldsmiths Community Centre	£3,995.00
Bring Me Sunshine	Lewisham Churches Care	£6,000.00
Total		£39,822.00

Ladywell Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Christmas Tree in Ladywell	Council	£4,535.00
Ladywell Fields Play Improvements	Council	£35,581.75
Increasing Diversity of Max in the Park Creative Practitioners	Max Media Arts CIC	£4,800.00
Total		£44,916.75

Lee Green Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Manor House Gardens Play Equipment	Lee Green	£7,500.00
Christmas Tree & Lights for the Christmas Fair	Friends & Users of Staplehurst Shops	£6,000.00
Newstead Estate Intergenerational Green Project	Winning Post Arts & Sports Services Ltd	£6,000.00
Staying Healthy, Safe & Connected in the Community	Lee Fair Share	£6,000.00
The Big Bed Rescue	Lee Manor Society	£2,450.00
Total		£27,950.00

Lewisham Central Ward Project Recommendations

Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Family Sensory Play Area	Council	£176,903.00
Complementary Health & Wellbeing Hubs for Lewisham Central	Therapy 4 Healing	£39,690.00
Lewisham Bank of Things	Lewisham Local	£62,065.00
The Bridge	Amuru Charity	£34,756.00
Total		£313,414.00

New Cross Gate Ward Project Recommendations

Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Bridgehouse Meadows Bins	Council	£2,500.00
Christmas Trees in New Cross Gate	Council	£4,535.00
Eckington Gardens Table Tennis	Council	£5,000.00
Street Bins in New Cross Gate	Council	£6,214.21
Street Trees in New Cross Gate	Council	£12,000.00
Winslade Estate Play Equipment Improvements	Council	£50,000.00
Therapy 4 Healing	New Cross Gate Wellbeing: Health & Resilience for All	£15,750.00
All Saints Hatcham Community Centre	All Saints weekly community lunch and social café	£30,211.15
Dynamic Coaching SE England CIC	The Dynamic Coaching Inclusive Multi Sports Programme	£10,000.00
Grow London	Surrey Canal Road Fruit Commons	£5,700.00
Total		£141,910.36

Perry Vale Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Bellingham Play Park Improvements	Council	£35,700.00
Meeting Up	Sydenham Garden	£5,601.76
Total		£41,301.76

Rushey Green Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Christmas Trees in Rushey Green	Council	£10,000.00
Refurbishment of Mountsfield Park Bandstand	Council	£34,254.16
Street Bins in Rushey Green	Council	£28,116.24
Street Trees in Rushey Green	Council	£12,000.00
Eco refit for our concrete playground	Friends of Rathfern	£5,100.00
Food, Advice & Wellbeing at Lewisham Irish	Lewisham Irish Centre	£32,000.00
Catford Football Project	Sports Fun 4 All	£8,000.00
Total		£129,470.40

Sydenham Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Sydenham Library Improvements	Council	£35,000.00
Sip n Talk Community	James Ross Hunter Youth Support CIC	£10,000.00
TNG Music Project	Inspiring Your Imagination	£10,000.00
Sydenham Library Enrichment Activities	Friends of Sydenham Community Library	£5,360.00
Ageing Well in Lewisham's Grove Centre Groups	Lewisham Churches Care	£10,000.00
High Street Happenings	SEE3	£3,915.20
Total		£74,275.20

Telegraph Hill Ward Project Recommendations		
Name of Project	Delivery Organisation	Recommended Funding
Hill Station Café Community Toilet	Council	£15,000.00
Cabin Upgrade Project	Friends of Friendsbury Gardens	£2,500.00
Honor Oak Walking Bus	Youth First	£8,701.01
Nurture Hatcham Gardens	Friends of Hatcham Gardens	£8,000.00
Total		£34,201.01

7. Financial implications

- 7.1. This is the second round of NCIL funding in Lewisham, comprising of £2,553,243, collected between 2020-2024 and £9,273 funding carried forward from the first round of NCIL funding. This gives a total of £2,562,516 which is available to fund new projects which support and benefit Lewisham's communities and neighbourhoods.
- 7.1.1 This report is seeking approval from Mayor and Cabinet to the allocation of NCIL Borough-wide and Ward funding in line with the list of recommended projects found in section 8 of this report costing £2,562,511.
- 7.1.2. Any spend on these priorities will be contained within the fund and will add no further pressure to the Council's GF.
- 7.1.3 Individual projects of over £50k which include expenditure on the creation and enhancements of assets should be set up as capital projects to enable correct accounting and project management. Smaller projects will be accounted for through the General Fund. The NCIL funding will be drawdown to cover all costs incurred.

8. Legal implications

- 8.1 Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 gives the Council a general power of competence to do anything which an individual may do unless it is expressly prohibited.
- 8.1.1 The giving of grants to voluntary organisations is a discretionary power which must be exercised reasonably taking into account all relevant considerations and ignoring irrelevant considerations.
- 8.1.2 Regulation 59 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 requires that a charging authority must apply CIL to funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation, or maintenance of infrastructure to support the development of its area. Section 216 of the Planning Act 2008 defines infrastructure as including (a) roads and other transport facilities, (b) flood defences, (c) schools and other educational facilities, (d) medical facilities, (e) sporting and recreational facilities, and (f) open spaces.
- 8.1.3 Where some or all of a chargeable development takes place in an area for which there is a Parish council, the charging authority (other than the Mayor of London) for that area is under a duty to pass to that Parish Council a proportion of CIL receipts, calculated in accordance with CIL Regulations 59A and 59B. The amount of the proportion to be passed depends upon the precise circumstances, for example In England, where all or part of a chargeable development is within an area that has a neighbourhood development plan in place the charging authority must pass 25% of the relevant CIL receipts to the parish council for that area, however where all or part of a chargeable development is not within an area that has a neighbourhood development plan in place, and was not granted permission by a neighbourhood development order made under S61E of the TCPA 1990 or by a community right to build order made under S61Q of the TCPA 1990 of the amount to be passed is 15% of the 'relevant CIL receipts' to the parish council for that area.
- 8.1.4 Regulation 59F provides that where all or part of a chargeable development is in an area which is not a parish council, which is the position within the London Borough of Lewisham, then a charging authority, which in this instance is the Council, may use or cause to be used the CIL which would have had to have been passed to a parish Council, (the 15% or 25% set out in paragraph 12.6 subject to the restriction in 59A(7) set out in paragraph 12.8 below), to support the development of the area by funding:-
 - (a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of

infrastructure; or (b) anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area. Therefore, any projects approved will need to meet this legal requirement.

- 8.1.5 Regulation 59A(7) states that the total amount of CIL receipts passed to a parish council in each financial year, in accordance with paragraph (5), shall not exceed:

$(£100 \times N) \times (IY / IO)$ where:

IY is the index figure for the calendar year in which the amount is passed to the parish council (as determined in accordance with paragraph 1(5) of Schedule 1);

IO is the index figure for 2013 (as determined in accordance with paragraph 1(5) of Schedule 1); and

N is the number of dwellings in the area of the parish council.

Therefore, members will need to be satisfied that the amount passed for use does not exceed this amount.

9. Equalities implications

- 9.1 The council's Comprehensive Equality Scheme for 2016-20 provides an overarching framework and focus for the council's work on equalities and helps ensure compliance with the Equality Act 2010.
- 9.2 An equalities analysis was undertaken as part of the preparation of the council's existing CIL charging schedule. In accordance with the Equality Act 2010, the analysis considers the potential impacts of the charging schedule on those groups identified within the Act as having protected characteristics.
- 9.3 There are no major concerns regarding equalities. The council should be mindful however to ensure that the income from CIL is allocated and spent is fair and equal across types of infrastructure and the geography of the borough.
- 9.4 Ultimately, CIL is a mechanism intended to raise money to fund infrastructure that will contribute to sustainable development in the borough. In this sense, the neighbourhood CIL strategy proposed should have an overall positive impact on the various equalities groups.

10. Climate change and environmental implications

- 10.1 Environmental issues are at the heart both planning process and the delivery of supporting infrastructure. Although the proceeds from neighbourhood CIL do not have to be specifically spent on environmental project, it is fair to assume that over time environmentally beneficial infrastructure projects will receive funding from NCIL.

11. Crime and disorder implications

- 11.1 The fund overall will have a positive impact in reducing crime and disorder.

12. Health and wellbeing implications

- 12.1 The purpose of all NCIL funding is to offset any impacts of development and population growth. All projects that receive funding will improve the wellbeing of the local community.

13. Glossary

Term	Definition
CIL	The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a levy that local authorities can choose to charge on “chargeable” new development in their area.
NCIL	An element of the CIL funds (see above definition) is to be spend at a local level and are known as Neighbourhood CIL (NCIL).
CIL Regulations	Regulations set be central government to which local authorities are required to adhere when collecting, monitoring and spending the CIL.
Corporate Strategy	The Corporate Strategy sets out the ambitions for the Borough of Lewisham and how they will be achieved.
Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)	The Index of Multiple Deprivation is the official measure of relative deprivation in England and is part of a suite of outputs that form the Indices of Deprivation (IMD).

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17. Appendices

Appendix A - NCIL Borough and Ward Recommended Projects list

Appendix B – NCIL Borough and Ward Non- recommended projects list

Appendix C – NCIL Borough and Ward Recommended Project Summaries

Appendix D – Breakdown Summary of feedback received during each ward assembly

Appendix E – Breakdown of Borough and Ward projects by protected characteristics and topics

Appendix F – NCIL Borough & Ward mapped projects

Appendix G – NCIL Fund EAA