

**QUESTION No. 1**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Harris  
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

**Question**

How many times have the following websites been accessed from computers provided by Lewisham Council (in libraries, computers used by council staff) or over Wifi provided by Lewisham Council in September 2013 (or any appropriate 30 day period)?

- i. Wonga.com
- ii. [www.quickquid.co.uk/](http://www.quickquid.co.uk/)
- iii. <https://www.wizzcash.com/payday-loans/>
- iv. [www.paydaysuk.com/](http://www.paydaysuk.com/)
- v. moneyshop.tv
- vi. [www.epayday.co.uk/](http://www.epayday.co.uk/)
- vii. [www.albemarlebond.co.uk](http://www.albemarlebond.co.uk)
- xiii. <http://www.oakam.com/>

And

<http://www.lewishampluscu.co.uk/>

**Reply**

The reports below detail the number of hits at the top level of the websites defined in the Council Question. Table 1 shows access by Council staff using Council equipment and the Council network. Table 2 shows similar information in respect of members of the public accessing the same websites. The reporting is only on the top level URL (e.g. [www.wizzcash.com](http://www.wizzcash.com)) and it is not possible to identify access to individual pages within the site.

## ACCESS BY STAFF TO SELECTED WEBSITES

WebSense Appliance reporting – 1 September 2013 to 30 September 2013		
URL	Total Number Users	Total Number Hits
<a href="http://www.wonga.com">www.wonga.com</a>	16	456
<a href="http://www.quickquid.co.uk">www.quickquid.co.uk</a>	5	258
<a href="http://www.wizzcash.com">www.wizzcash.com</a>	1	26
<a href="http://www.paydaysuk.com">www.paydaysuk.com</a>	0	0
<a href="http://www.moneyshop.tv">www.moneyshop.tv</a>	3	5
<a href="http://www.epayday.co.uk">www.epayday.co.uk</a>	1	1
<a href="http://www.albemarlebond.co.uk">www.albemarlebond.co.uk</a>	0	0
<a href="http://www.oakam.com">www.oakam.com</a>	2	5
<a href="http://www.lewishampluscu.co.uk">www.lewishampluscu.co.uk</a>	6	95

*please note the users are reported by code numbers and are not actually identified in the reports*

## ACCESS BY THE PUBLIC TO SELECTED WEBSITES

WebSense Appliance reporting – 1 September 2013 to 30 September 2013		
URL	Total Number Users	Total Number Hits
<a href="http://www.wonga.com">www.wonga.com</a>	10	30
<a href="http://www.quickquid.co.uk">www.quickquid.co.uk</a>	10	47
<a href="http://www.wizzcash.com">www.wizzcash.com</a>	2	2
<a href="http://www.paydaysuk.com">www.paydaysuk.com</a>	1	1
<a href="http://www.moneyshop.tv">www.moneyshop.tv</a>	1	3
<a href="http://www.epayday.co.uk">www.epayday.co.uk</a>	0	0
<a href="http://www.albemarlebond.co.uk">www.albemarlebond.co.uk</a>	0	0
<a href="http://www.oakam.com">www.oakam.com</a>	0	0
<a href="http://www.lewishampluscu.co.uk">www.lewishampluscu.co.uk</a>	9	264

*please note the users are often reported by IP address and may represent more than one user of that machine*

\* The Websense reports show that all the Wonga.com hits for a user occurred on one day, with the six users in October accruing 118, 40, 6, 139, 16 & 31 hits respectively.

**QUESTION No. 2**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Brooks  
of the Mayor**

**Question**

Following the revelation that Her Majesty's official opposition, will, if elected continue the Coalitions spending plans for 15/16, 16/17, is it still the Mayor's view that the cuts are bad for Lewisham ?

**Reply**

It is hardly a revelation, more a statement of the obvious. The Labour Party have pledged to match the Coalition Government's overall spending envelope for 2015/16 when they are successful at the next general election but within that envelope I have no doubt that Chancellor Balls will make some very different choices about priority areas of spending and achieve a much greater degree of fairness than Chancellor Osborne has even attempted.

The shadow chancellor has also made clear that he will increase borrowing to enable infrastructure projects like building 200,000 new homes a year to go ahead thus not only helping to solve the housing crisis but also creating jobs and growth.

The damage that has been done by the cuts forced on this borough by the Coalition Government is very significant. The Council has been forced to make cuts of £83m since 2010 and has to find a further £85m over the next four years. So far we have been able to minimise the impact on front line services, but the savings we have to find in the future will be very tough.

But the cuts to the borough go much further than those to the Council budget. Thousands of households in Lewisham are suffering as a result of the bedroom tax, hundreds of households are being hit by the benefit cap, and countless more working households are seeing their incomes fall because of

the below inflation rises to pay and tax credits. Overall, it's estimated that the impact of the government's welfare reforms alone is more than £80m in Lewisham.

I am asked if it is still my "view that the cuts are bad for Lewisham?" - I do and I am very surprised that the questioner doesn't think so too.

**QUESTION No. 3**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Ingleby  
of the Deputy Mayor**

**Question**

Does London Borough of Lewisham have any possible buildings for siting micro-windmills, and over what period of time could they deliver a profit or saving to the building's costs?

**Reply**

In 2009 the Council analysed the different renewable energy technologies and their relative applicability within Lewisham<sup>1</sup>. The report suggested that wind power was a comparatively less suitable technology in an urban environment like Lewisham since “local microclimate issues coupled with the presence of multi-storey buildings are likely to affect local wind conditions significantly which will affect the efficiency of equipment”.

In many cases however there are alternative renewable technologies that can be considered, for example photovoltaic solar panels that convert the energy of the sun to electricity.

One of the key factors in relation to decisions to retrofit renewable technologies on buildings is the length of time the building is expected to be owned for. This can have a significant effect on the business case if the lifespan of the building is shorter than the likely payback period. The payback period for renewable technologies, including the Government’s feed-in-tariff where appropriate, is usually from around 8 years and upwards. Payback periods will vary depending on the cost of the technology, site-specific issues

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<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/planning/policy/Documents/Lewisham%20Renewables%20Evidence%20Base%20Study.pdf>

such as shading or the angle or pitch of roofs and whether the installation attracts the feed-in-tariff subsidy and the rate it is eligible for.

The Council is evaluating the use of all corporate sites in relation to the wider review of efficiency savings required over the short and medium term. The accommodation strategy resulting from this assessment will inform future investment priorities across the corporate estate including for renewable technologies.

The most effective way to reduce costs associated with gas and electricity is to reduce consumption. Improvements to heating systems, insulation and other potential actions that can reduce energy consumption will be considered alongside investment in renewables to ensure most effective use of resources. Alongside this the Council has an on-going programme of monitoring energy consumption across the corporate estate and schools, and targeting improvements designed to minimise waste and reduce energy bills.

**QUESTION No. 4**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Hall  
of the Mayor**

**Question**

Will the Mayor make a statement on the Lewisham Future Programme?

**Reply**

The impact of the government's most recent public spending review means that the Council has to plan now for significantly higher levels of savings, on top of those already taken in the last 3 years. The scale of the challenge ahead is huge, with savings now targeted at around £85m over the next four years. The Lewisham Future Programme is recognition of the need to adopt a budget approach at a scale to match the challenge.

In preparing savings options for members, officers are having, under the Lewisham Future Programme, to look at new ways of working: to innovate internally across council services and with partner agencies to achieve savings at an unprecedented level, whilst trying to minimise the impact on local communities. The Lewisham Future Programme and the approach adopted to scale up our savings commitment is now the subject of reports to overview & scrutiny select committees, the outcomes from which will be reported into the Mayor & Cabinet for 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2013.

**QUESTION No. 5**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Johnson  
of the Deputy Mayor**

**Question**

Given that the Deputy Mayor cited concerns about lack of enforcement as one of the reasons why he was unwilling to introduce a default borough-wide 20mph policy, will he now review his position in the light of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) announcement that they have strengthened their guidance on effectively enforcing 20mph speed limits, and will he follow Southwark, Camden, Islington, City of London, Waltham Forrest, Greenwich, Hackney, Haringey and Lambeth and ensure Lewisham also adopts a default borough-wide 20mph policy?

**Reply**

The “ACPO Speed Enforcement Policy Guidelines 2011-2015: Joining Forces for Safer Roads” gives guidance on the application and enforcement of 20mph and other speed limits. It does not support the adoption of borough-wide 20mph zones/limits but does support the introduction of 20mph zones/limits in certain circumstances and locations such as residential and shopping areas. The Summary at the end of the Police Policy Guidelines includes the following “Police service position on all speed limits (including 20mph roads)” as:

- Appropriate speed limits are supported, so long as they look and feel like the limit giving visiting motorists who wish to confirm that choice;
- The desired outcome has to be speeds at the limit chosen so as to achieve safe roads for other and vulnerable users not high speeds and high enforcement;
- Self-enforcing (with reducing features) not requiring large scale enforcement;

- Only introduce where average speeds are already close to the limit imposed (24 in a proposed 20mph area) or with interventions that make the limit clear to visiting motorists;
- Speeding problems identified in an area must have the engineering, site clarity and need re-assessed not simply a call for more enforcement; and
- Enforcing against drivers who simply misread the road is not appropriate.

The Council will continue to introduce 20mph speed limits/zones in appropriate roads with due regard to these guidelines and other relevant regulations. Working within these guidelines will ensure that the Police will consider routine enforcement of the 20mph speed limit (patrols attending whenever possible).

Based on this, a borough wide 20mph limit is not being considered at this time.

**QUESTION No. 6**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Curran  
of the Mayor**

**Question**

Will the Mayor advise us of any meetings he has had or intends to have with the Mayor of London to press for a decision that is sympathetic to Deptford's heritage with regard to Sayes Court Garden and the Royal Dockyard at the site sometimes known as Convoys Wharf?

**Reply**

The decision by the Mayor of London to intervene in the Convoys Wharf project is wrong and was opposed by this Council. The legislation which established the London Mayoralty gave that mayor individual powers in relation to planning matters which no other mayor, including myself, enjoys. This intervention exposes the dangers of giving an individual such unfettered power.

I have already made it very clear that the Council is supportive of the Build the Lenox and Sayes Court Garden projects. Council officers will work with the GLA, Hutchison Whampoa, Sayes Court Garden Group and the Build the Lenox Group to review and agree the most appropriate way forward to ensure the inclusion of the projects in the overall Convoys Wharf development. We will also make very clear the key issues and concerns about this scheme more generally. I shall demand a meeting with the Mayor of London to press those views at the most appropriate time ahead of his decision making on the application.

**QUESTION No. 7**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor De Ryk  
of the Mayor**

**Question**

John Ball school in Blackheath is some way into the process of becoming a three-form entry primary school, and other schools have been encouraged to take bulge classes and/or are being explored for permanent expansion. It is clear that we need solutions to a permanent lack of available primary places across London. Would the Mayor comment on what steps are being taken to get ahead of the crisis in Lewisham?

**Reply**

Since 2008 Lewisham has responded successfully to an unprecedented increase in demand for primary places by creating over 2,600 additional reception places for 5 year olds. This demand has been driven by a continuing surge in the birth rate, and latterly, significant net inward migration. Approximately 2,300 of these places have been through partial expansions of schools (77 bulge classes), and 270 have been through full school expansions. Insufficient capital funding has been made available from central government to allow more full expansions of schools. Over this 5 year period, more than three quarters of Lewisham primary schools have been expanded.

For the 2013-14 school year, Lewisham has created 455 additional places, and has begun the process of some school expansions for delivery in 2014/15, including at John Ball. Detailed plans are in place to meet the projected demand for additional primary places through to 2016/17. Beyond delivery for the 2014/15 academic year, for which the required funding is in place, the implementation of these plans depends on surety of finance from Central Government.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Ibitson  
of the Deputy Mayor**

**Question**

Please give an update on the efforts of Lewisham Sports Consortium to extend their lease on Firhill Road playing field. When is this likely to be completed?

**Reply**

The Lewisham Sports Consortium (LSC) occupy the above property under the terms of a lease which was granted for 25 years from 28<sup>th</sup> November 2003 until 27<sup>th</sup> November 2028 (approximately 15 years unexpired) with 5 yearly rent reviews.

The LSC are seeking a longer lease and removal of certain terms in their existing lease to facilitate a Lottery Funding (LF) Application. Whilst the council in principle support this application, we are not in a position to grant the new longer lease until lottery funding has been approved.

As evidence to support the application to the LF the Council is supplying the lessee with Heads of Terms (HOT's) . It has been proven in connection with a similar case that a supportive letter by the council is sufficient for an application to the LF. Supplying HOT's provides more detail of terms of a new lease, and the Councils support for the application.

Dialogue has been on-going with LSC for approximately 1 year with a number of Council Officers, some of whom no longer work for Lewisham. This has clearly had an impact on the length of time that the process has taken.

There are points in the HOT's that remain to be agreed between the parties but these should be agreed over the course of the next few weeks. A meeting with the lessee is proposed in order to ensure that the process is concluded.

**QUESTION No. 9**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Maines  
of the Deputy Mayor**

**Question**

What is the Council budget in the current financial year for fixing pot holes in the borough's roads.

**Reply**

The Council has budgeted £139k for potholes in this current financial year.

**QUESTION No. 10**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Foreman  
of the Cabinet Member for Community Safety**

**Question**

At what point does the Council feel it is necessary for a CCTV camera to be installed on a residential street? What is the criteria for such installation?

**Reply**

The installation of any new CCTV in the Borough needs to be inline with the Home Office guidance and an assessment of the area.

Guidance can be found under:

Information Commissioners Office (ICO) CCTV code of practice: Revised edition 2008

[http://www.ico.gov.uk/for\\_organisations/data\\_protection/topic\\_guides/cctv.aspx](http://www.ico.gov.uk/for_organisations/data_protection/topic_guides/cctv.aspx)

Although the vast majority of Lewisham's CCTV camera system is located on main roads, town centres and key transport routes, some CCTV provision already exists in a number of residential locations around the Borough.

Where an assessment of crime or ASB in a residential street warrants a coordinated response, the Council also has access to a number of mobile CCTV cameras which can be installed on almost any street in Lewisham (depending on the availability of an electricity point and a secure location for the camera) and these are connected directly to the CCTV control room.

These mobile cameras offer the Local Authority and the Police a vital tool in investigating and detecting crime and ASB as the costs of installing

permanent CCTV at certain locations would be disproportionate to the level of crime reported.

While many people welcome an increase in CCTV on our streets, we have to strike a balance between use of CCTV and other surveillance equipment in public places to protect people's safety against their right to privacy.

**QUESTION No. 11**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Bonavia  
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

**Question**

The public fireworks display organised by the Council and held on Blackheath earlier this month was once again enjoyed by many local residents and residents. For the purposes of preparing for future fireworks displays, please could you confirm the following for each of the events held in 2012 and 2013 respectively:

- (a) An estimate of the numbers attending the fireworks display;
- (b) The overall cost of the fireworks display, together with a breakdown of costs for stock, fireworks specialists' services and other costs;
- (c) How the cost was met broken down by: sponsorship, online donations, donations given to volunteers on the day of the fireworks display and by the Council itself; and
- (d) The cost borne by the Council divided by the number of Lewisham Council Tax payers.

Finally, please can you confirm what steps are being taken to attract funding for future displays, including whether the Council will approach the Royal Borough of Greenwich for a financial contribution.

**Reply**

- a) The attendance numbers for 2012 and 2013 are estimated to be between 80,000 and 100,000.

- b) In 2013 the total cost of Blackheath Fireworks is estimated to be £108,673. The cost of the display is £25,000 with production costs at £83,673.

In 2012 the total cost of Blackheath Fireworks was £106,341. The cost of the display was £25,000 and the production costs was £81,341.

- c) In 2013 the Council budget for the event is £36,000 and the additional income generated is £43,017, which is made up of the following:

Bar and catering income	£17,312
Sponsorship L&Q	£10,000
Glendale (annual funfair income)	£5,000
Business contributions	£1,565
Public donations (online and bucket collection)	£8,660
Prize draw entries	£480

The remaining shortfall of £29,656 will be met from budgets elsewhere in the Culture and Community Services division.

In 2012 the Council budget for the event was £36,000 and additional income generated was £62,422, which was made up of the following:

Private sponsors of the fireworks	£25,000
Bar and catering income	£14,148
Sponsorship L&Q	£5,000
Glendale (annual funfair income)	£10,000
Business contributions	£601
Public donations (online and bucket collection)	£7,673

The remaining shortfall of £7,919 was met from budgets elsewhere in the Culture and Community Services division.

- d) On the basis that there are 120,777 Council Tax payers in the borough the cost borne by the Council divided by the number of Council Tax payers in 2013 was 54p and in 2012 was 36p.

Officers continually look for different ways to attract funding for the Event. We will continue to request financial and other support from the Royal Borough of Greenwich.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Jacq Paschoud**  
**of the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People**

**Question**

How much progress has been made in handing the Generation Playclubs over to new management? What is the timescale for the completion of the handover and establishment of new services? What services are proposed to be run from the playclub on Bellingham Green?

**Reply**

Deptford Park and Forster Park Generation Playclub sites have been handed over to Clyde Early Childhood Centre and Downderry Primary School respectively. Clyde started new provision at the site from 28<sup>th</sup> October. Downderry have started renovation work on the building with the delivery of services set to begin from the start of January 2014.

All providers have been sent the Heads of Terms for the sites and once these have been agreed and returned, leases will be produced by the Council's legal services for signature and leasing of the buildings.

Those new services proposed to run from Bellingham are:

- Cook and eat sessions for parents and children together – cooking simple family food (bookable).
- Healthy eating on a budget – to include a 'shopping tour' to the local Co-op (bookable).
- Outdoor Learning sessions (combination of open access and bookable).
- 'Bouncy Beats' sessions – music and movement for under 5s and their mothers, fathers and carers (bookable).
- Mental well-being sessions (bookable).
- Soft-play sessions (open-access).
- Sessions for dads, childminders and other particular groups (open-access).
- Toy library sessions and 2 'stay and play' sessions per week (open-access).

**QUESTION No. 13**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Peake  
of the Deputy Mayor**

**Question**

Is the council adequately prepared for this winter in terms of grit availability?

**Reply**

The highways term contractor has commenced the winter season. Our salt barn is full in anticipation and will be replenished as used during the season.

**QUESTION No. 14**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Feakes  
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

**Question**

How were new procurement rules (contracts under £50,000 must include one small business on the tender list) publicised to small businesses?

**Reply**

The Procurement rules were changed for processes below £50,00 to include the requirement that *“At least one of the quotations must be from a local contractor, supplier or service provider, if feasible.”*

The Contract Procedure Rules, which form part of the Constitution (April 2013) was changed to reflect this policy and this is published on the Council's webpage. The Economic Development section have also publicised this change to the rules via the Business Advisory Service. Officers have also attended a meeting of the South East London Chamber of Commerce to brief them of this change.

An article appeared in the Guardian in April showing the impact of this change :<http://www.theguardian.com/local-government-network/small-business-blog/2013/apr/25/lewisham-council-support-local-businesses>

The Code of Practice for Contractors, Suppliers and Service Providers includes a section on Local, Business, Local Labour, and this document is issued to all companies and organisations who express an interest in providing services to Lewisham.

**QUESTION No. 15**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Fletcher  
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

**Question**

Please provide figures for the amount paid out in Housing Benefit in each of the last ten years.

**Reply**

The information requested is shown below.

Financial Year	HB expenditure £m
2003/04	100.5
2004/05	115.1
2005/06	127.6
2006/07	140.6
2007/08	151.4
2008/09	161.0
2009/10	191.7
2010/11	204.8
2011/12	218.0
2012/13	229.5

**QUESTION No. 16**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Harris  
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

**Question**

What is the timetable for Decent Homes works for social properties (Lewisham Homes plus other relevant social housing providers) within Lewisham Central Ward?

**Reply**

Lewisham Homes publishes its future major works programme for Decent Homes on its website – please see link for full programme.

[http://www.lewishamhomes.org.uk/major\\_works/our\\_future\\_mw\\_programme](http://www.lewishamhomes.org.uk/major_works/our_future_mw_programme)

The extract relating to the Lewisham Central Ward is provided below. The year provided indicates when the Decent Homes programme will commence. The statement '*complete/ongoing*' means that the Decent Homes process has begun. This may mean that a survey has been carried out but it does not necessarily mean that actual works have started.

<b>WARD</b>	<b>ESTATE</b>	<b>STREET</b>	<b>YEAR</b>
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	31 BEACON RD	31 Beacon Rd	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	HETHER GROVE	Benden House	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	HETHER GROVE	Campshill Place	2015-16
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	HETHER GROVE	Canada Gardens	2014-15
LEWISHAM	HETHER GROVE	Canterbury	2014-15

WARD	ESTATE	STREET	YEAR
CENTRAL			
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	HETHER GROVE	Chiddingstone	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	HETHER GROVE	Monument Gardens	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	HITHER GREEN LANE	Campshill Road	2015-16
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	HITHER GREEN LANE	Courthill Road	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	HITHER GREEN LANE	Hither Green Lane	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	KNOWLES HILL CRESCENT	Knowles Hill Crescent	2015-16
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	LEGGES ST	Legge Street	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	LEWISHAM PARK 72 TO 77	Lewisham Park 72 To 77	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	LINGARDS ROAD 9 TO 20	Lingards Road 9 To 20	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	LITTLEBOURNE	Littlebourne	2015-16
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	LONGBRIDGE WAY	Longbridge Way	2015-16
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	MERCATOR	Chesney House	complete/ ongoing
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	MERCATOR	Clavering House	complete/ ongoing
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	MERCATOR	Ericson House	complete/ ongoing
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	MERCATOR	Freshfield Close	complete/ ongoing
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	MERCATOR	Mercator Road	complete/ ongoing
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	MERCATOR	Rawlinson House	complete/ ongoing
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	MERCATOR	Saxton Close	complete/ ongoing
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	PLUMMER COURT	Plummer Court	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	ROMBOROUGH GDNS	Guyscliff Road	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	ROMBOROUGH GDNS	Romborough Gardens	2015-16
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	ROMBOROUGH GDNS	Romborough Way	2015-16
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STANTON AND WOODLANDS	Stanton Road	2015-16

<b>WARD</b>	<b>ESTATE</b>	<b>STREET</b>	<b>YEAR</b>
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STANTON AND WOODLANDS	The Woodlands	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES LEE GREEN	Bonfield Road	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES LEE GREEN	Cressingham Road	complete/ongoing
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES LEE GREEN	Gilmore Road	complete/ongoing
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES LEE GREEN	Limes Grove	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES LEE GREEN	Lingards Road	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES LEE GREEN	Manor Park	complete/ongoing
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES LEE GREEN	Morley Road	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES LEE GREEN	Sharsted Villas	complete/ongoing
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES LEE GREEN	Slaithwaite Road	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES RUSHEY GREEN	Beacon Road	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES RUSHEY GREEN	Brightside Road	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES RUSHEY GREEN	Courthill Road	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES RUSHEY GREEN	Elthruda Road	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES RUSHEY GREEN	Harvard Road	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES RUSHEY GREEN	Hither Green Lane	2015-16
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES RUSHEY GREEN	Knowles Hill Crescent	2015-16
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES RUSHEY GREEN	Lewisham Park	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES RUSHEY GREEN	Mount Pleasant Road	2015-16
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES RUSHEY GREEN	Romborough Way	2015-16
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES RUSHEY GREEN	Springrice Road	2014-15
LEWISHAM CENTRAL	STREET PROPERTIES RUSHEY GREEN	Wellmeadow Road	2015-16

The Council's first stock transfer – Lewisham Park was transferred to L&Q in April 2007 and is located within the Lewisham Central ward. The three tower blocks, opposite Lewisham Hospital, comprise 204 homes of which 164 were tenanted homes. Decent homes works were completed to these properties in 2009.

The Council transferred its street properties in wards of Forest Hill, Sydenham, Perry Vale, Rushey Green, Catford South and Lewisham Central to L&Q in 2010. The transfer area comprised 2413 tenanted homes and 1180 leasehold homes. L&Q has completed all kitchens, bathrooms, electrical upgrades and heating works in 2012 to its tenanted properties within Lewisham Central ward and the window replacement works will commence across the ward in 2014.

**QUESTION No. 17**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Brooks  
of the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People**

**Question**

Paragraph 5.29 of the 2010/11 budget – 10<sup>th</sup> February 2010 states the following:

‘During 2010, the Council bid for additional funding from the Basic Need Safety Valve round of capital grant, but received no allocation.

During 2009, short term measures have been taken to provide additional capacity in a number of schools via ‘bulge’ classes. Although further similar expansion is planned for 2010, along with a permanent expansion and rebuild of both Gordonbrock and Brockley schools, these measures fall short of meeting the projected permanent needs’.

Can the Cabinet Member please confirm that the additional funding requested and refused was under a Labour government ?

Does the Cabinet Member today accept as stated above ‘Those measures fell short of meeting the projected permanent needs’ ?

**Reply**

The government in 2010 used a flawed formula to allocate Basic Needs funding which is why Lewisham failed to receive the grant we required.

The scale of the problem in London has become much clearer since then and yet the Coalition Government has so far not addressed the crisis in funding across the capital.

**QUESTION No. 18**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question**

**Question by Councillor Ingleby  
of the Cabinet Member for Strategy and Communications**

Is it possible to have calendars showing the advance of both Skanska lighting posts and the tree pruning rota to the relevant neighbourhoods of Lewisham over the next 3 months printed in *Lewisham Life*?

**Reply**

The communication team have looked into this. The biggest issue is that *Lewisham Life* is produced quarterly and the detailed programme of works scheduled by Skanska can change from week to week. We would not be able to guarantee that the information would be accurate once it is down in print. The schedule is available online and I will ask officers to make reference to this and promote the link in a future edition of *Lewisham Life*. All information about street lighting can be found at <http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/transport/roads-and-pavements/Pages/street-lighting-questions.aspx>

Tree pruning is slightly different. Officers are currently analysing the results of the Council's 2013 Street Tree Stock Condition Survey before they make recommendations about future maintenance regimes. Once this is completed it will be clearer if it may be possible to publish a forward plan of works.

**QUESTION No. 19**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Johnson  
of the Deputy Mayor**

**Question**

In the light of continuing concerns from local residents, will the Deputy Mayor agree to review traffic speeds on Brookmill Road as well as working with the Metropolitan Police to ensure enforcement action on speeding traffic is stepped up?

**Reply**

Brookmill Road (A2210) is a London Distributor road and hence an important part of the Lewisham's road network. It is also part of the Emergency Services Priority Route Network and a bus route. A Zebra crossing was installed in 2002 and more recently two vehicle activated bend signs were installed to improve safety. Although a change on speed limit is not considered suitable I will ensure that Brookmill Road is on the list of roads that the Council wish to see enforced by the Police. The Police maintain a list of roads where excessive speed has been cited by the Council which they endeavour to enforce as and when they have available resources.

**QUESTION No. 20**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Ibitson  
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

**Question**

Please can the Cabinet Member give an update on when Bellingham Leisure & Lifestyles Centre will be transferred into the main Fusion leisure contract?

**Reply**

All the legal documentation relating to the transfer has been agreed. However, the list of staff due to be transferred from GLL to Fusion via BCP is subject to TUPE transfer and is currently under negotiation. We are working towards a handover date of 1 February 2014.

**QUESTION No. 21**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Maines  
of the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People**

**Question**

Will the Deputy Prime Minister's announcement that all Lewisham year 1 & 2 pupils will receive a free, healthy, hot school lunch from next September have any;

- i) impact on the capital budget
- ii) effect on the revenue budget of Lewisham schools ?

**Reply**

I understand that the Coalition Government has set aside £600m to provide a free meal to all key stage 1 pupils nationally. However, no details have been made available as to how the policy will be implemented in practice nor how local authorities will be funded for this new duty. It is unclear whether the £600m will cover the real costs of this initiative. For example, in order to provide more hot meals in our primary schools there will inevitably be some capital investment required.

We will be lobbying central government to ensure that no additional costs fall upon local authorities or schools.

Schools currently pay for the costs of free school meals through their delegated budgets funded by the Dedicated Schools Grant. An increase in the numbers of free meals will have an impact on schools' budgets in terms of meals costs and potentially on related supervision costs. Once firm details are provided by the Government we shall work with schools to assess the capital and revenue implications.

**QUESTION No. 22**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Foreman  
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

**Question**

Does the Council log the costings of the removal of rubbish that has been fly-tipped by street? If so, how much has removal from Further Green Road cost over the last 18 months?

**Reply**

The Council logs and monitors the overall costs of removing fly tipping from the streets of Lewisham. The Council does not currently log the costs of removing fly tips from individual roads and we are therefore unable to provide a costing by road.

The Council removes fly tips quickly and, year to date, the Council has cleared 68% of fly tips that have been reported within one day.

The Council also takes enforcement action against fly tipping and these actions are logged. For the period May – September 13 there have been 689 actions taken in relation to fly tipping. These include investigations, warning letters, statutory notices, FPN and Duty of Care Inspection.

The Council advertises to residents the correct way to dispose of waste and makes it easy for people to report fly tips through the use of the Love Lewisham app. This has the added benefit of reducing the transactions costs of reporting fly tips and other environmental issues.

**QUESTION No.23**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Bonavia  
of the Deputy Mayor**

**Question**

Transport for London are currently considering the prospects of constructing one or more new river crossings across the Thames between East and South-East London. Please can you confirm what engagement the Council has had with Transport for London on this issue and what views the Council has so far expressed in such engagement, in particular on the proposal known as the new Silvertown Tunnel. Please also confirm the Council's understanding as to the future development of TFL's proposals.

**Reply**

The Council waits for further consultation/dialogue with TfL on the subject following our initial consultation in early 2012. The following is a synopsis of our response to that consultation:

- LB Lewisham supports the principle of increasing capacity across the river to unlock economic potential in the southeast region of London.
- The Council has concerns about the proposed locations of the crossings which are concentrated into a fairly small area, mostly serving Greenwich and the Enterprise Zone at the Royal Docks. This concentration will exacerbate, rather than disperse the current congestion pressures.
- The proposed Silvertown Tunnel relies on the same southern approaches as the existing Blackwall Tunnel. These routes, including the A2 area and the South Circular, already suffer from daily congestion. As the only primary alternative to the Dartford crossings, these routes come under extreme pressure when the M25 is not operating smoothly. The Council therefore has reservations about the impact of an additional 6000 vehicles per hour on these routes.

- The Council requests details of the modelling underpinning the proposals, the predicted additional flows on roads affecting the Lewisham area, and any mitigating measures that would be proposed as part of the project.
- The Council urged greater consideration of a major heavy goods crossing further to the east of Blackwall Tunnel. Such a crossing would relieve, rather than exacerbate congestion on the existing approaches to the Blackwall Tunnel. This would also increase resilience to events at the Dartford crossings by greater dispersal on key routes across south east London.
- A greater spread of alternative river crossings would allow a greater dispersal of economic benefits, whilst still supporting the important regeneration sites in east London.
- Another concern allied to the new crossing was the proposed new ferry crossing at Gallions Reach and the potential loss of the free crossing at Woolwich. The Council have reservations about replacing it with a charged service, or replacing it with a service in too close proximity to the Blackwall and Silvertown crossing points.

**QUESTION No. 24**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Peake  
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

**Question**

What are the usage figures for Forest Hill Pools for each of the last twelve Saturdays?

**Reply**

The usage figures for Forest Hill Pools for the last twelve Saturdays are as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Number of users</b>
31 August 2013	357
7 September	384
14 September	344
21 September	302
28 September	266
5 October	296
12 October	393
19 October	387
26 October	285
2 November	383
9 November	359
16 November	320

**QUESTION No. 25**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Feakes  
of the Cabinet Member for Resources**

**Question**

Taking into account the recent takeover of responsibility for public health by local authorities, and the fact that smoking in Lewisham is at 22.1% which is higher than the England average, does the Council feel it is appropriate to have £5.5 million invested in tobacco companies?

**Reply**

The pension fund's investment in equities, is done as part of pooled funds. These funds are not managed on an active basis, which would be when stocks are selected because they are expected to make a good return. Instead, their selection is made on a passive basis, whereby the aim is to achieve returns in line with the index.

The purpose of the funds in which the pension fund invests is that they replicate and track their respective indices. By their nature, these funds will need to hold a stock if it is included in the index. Therefore, if tobacco companies are in the FTSE All Share index, then in order for the fund to achieve its goal of closely tracking the index and matching the index return, they must also invest in the tobacco stocks, in the same weights as the index.

In line with the current strategy, it is not possible to exclude any particular industry, such as tobacco, from the pension fund, or have any direct influence to change the portfolio of stocks through exercising our voting rights. Such exclusions can only be made with a segregated portfolio, which would need to be managed on an active basis. This would incur significantly higher administration fees and would go against the current investment strategy, as the pension fund has a duty to its members to maximise financial returns over the long term within acceptable risk parameters.

To put this level of investment in context, as at the end of March 2013, an investment of £5.5m represented 0.6% of the overall value of the fund, which stood at £868m.

**QUESTION No. 26**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Fletcher  
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

**Question**

What proportion of the budget for the Local Support Scheme has been spent so far?

**Reply**

The annual budget for the Local Support Scheme (LSS) is £1.5m. This covers emergency loans and grants. To date, expenditure against this has been: £30k on loans and £114k on grants, overall spend being £144k.

Spend is less than anticipated and significantly lower when compared to Jobcentre+ spend for the same period last year. However, the downturn in spend is consistent with the position both nationally and across all London boroughs. The main reason for the underspend is that councils have different award criteria compared to that adopted by Jobcentre+ and generally they do not offer a second emergency loan where the first one remains outstanding. This is very different from previous years when Jobcentre+ would make a maximum of 3 awards at any given point.

The Council is currently reviewing qualifying criteria with a view to widening the Scheme's accessibility to more of Lewisham's residents. In addition, and in conjunction with Southwark and Lambeth, we are currently exploring the development of a shared service arrangement as a delivery model. It is anticipated that as a result of the review, the qualifying criteria will be modified to ensure a consistent approach is adopted across all 3 councils.

**QUESTION No. 27**

**Priority 3**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Ingleby  
of the Deputy Mayor**

**Question**

What are the minimum safe distances beyond which trees are not liable to be pursued for subsidence cases against the Council? Does a legal responsibility remain on a developer not to build in the first place within a minimum distance of disruptive tree roots, similar to legislation with regard to building in flood plains?

**Reply**

It is not possible to identify a general zone of influence for all trees as each species grows differently and may be influenced by other factors such as size, health and soil conditions. Any claim alleging subsidence damage due to the action of tree roots are considered based on the evidence presented.

Building Regulations require suitable foundation design to ensure that roots from nearby trees will not damage the building.

There is good practice advice (for example BS Trees in relation to construction, NHBC guidance on foundation design for tree roots), but not primary legislation.

Planning permission for new development often requires developers to take account of the proximity of trees and requires evidence and suitable protection measures to ensure that development will not damage trees that contribute to amenity.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Johnson  
of the Mayor**

**Question**

Given recent revelations about the deplorable and illegal practice of 'blacklisting' within the construction industry, will the Mayor ensure that any company known to have been involved in blacklisting practices and not to have indemnified their victims, will not be invited to tender contracts by the London Borough of Lewisham until they have:

- (1) identified the steps taken to remedy blacklisting for affected workers;
- (2) identified the steps taken to ensure blacklisting will not happen again; and,
- (3) given assurances that they do not employ individuals who were named contacts for the Consulting Association.

**Reply**

I agree with the questioner that the illegal practice of blacklisting in the construction industry is deplorable. He will note that there is a motion on the Council agenda to discuss this issue and I trust that he will support it.

Although in principle the Council would not wish to employ a company found to have been involved in blacklisting activities and which had failed to compensate the victims of such blacklisting, it may not be possible to determine at this point all of the victims who have not been indemnified and whether any compensation scheme or actual compensation proposed by a bidding company will provide a reasonable indemnity. The Council has to act fairly in all its procurement decisions. However, I have asked officers to look into what we can do within our procurement processes.

**QUESTION No. 29**

**Priority 3**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Ibitson  
of the Deputy Mayor**

**Question**

Is there any update on Network Rail's plans to 'renew' the footbridge over the Hayes line at Broadmead? If not, can we get one please?

**Reply**

The Council knows of no proposals to renew this bridge and is waiting for a response from Network Rail as to whether this is on any future programme.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Maines  
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

**Question**

Has a study been undertaken on the impact of the changes in ways parking can be paid for on the performance of traffic wardens ?

**Reply**

The Council is not aware of any studies being undertaken that specifically examines the impact of the changes in the ways parking can be paid for on the level of penalty charge notices issued.

A study by London Councils reviewed the number of penalty charge notices issued over the last five years and found the number issued had decreased by 10%. The study concluded the reduction was attributable to the economic downturn and the introduction of the mobile telephone payment option which reminds drivers their parking session is about to expire and gives them the option of extending it.

The Council is implementing the mobile phone payment option alongside other methods of payment and does anticipate a drop in the number of penalty charge notices issued as a result.

**QUESTION No. 31**

**Priority 3**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Foreman  
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

**Question**

Does Love Lewisham keep a list of fly-tipping “hotspots” so further action can be taken in the relevant areas if needed?

**Reply**

Love Lewisham is a reporting method for the public. It enables staff to respond and deal with fly-tipping cases. Staff utilise this to take appropriate action and tackle relevant areas. It enables hot-spots to be proactively patrolled as much as resources allow.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Peake  
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

**Question**

- a) Does Lewisham Council aim to be the leading collector of business and commercial waste in the borough, or is it happy for businesses to use other, private-sector, collectors?
- b) Does Lewisham Council make a profit on its business and commercial waste collection service? If so, how much last year?
- c) Do businesses which use other services need to undergo more detailed inspection regimes?

**Reply**

a) Lewisham is the leading collector of commercial waste in the borough, with over 50% business with LB Lewisham. The Commercial Waste team are striving to have all of the businesses in the borough with Lewisham.

If enforcement action is taken out against a business, legally the team must ensure that a contract is in place, though legally are not at liberty to persuade businesses to take out a Lewisham contract. (This is carried out by a different team to the Commercial Waste team)

b) Lewisham Council does not make a profit on its commercial waste collection service. It strives to provide an excellent service and the budget is based on nil surplus over the year. On occasions it may make a small surplus at the end of the year. When this occurs consideration is given in regard to raising the fees and charges for the service the following year.

c) The Clean Streets (Enforcement) team do check businesses to ensure that they have suitable trade waste contracts and take enforcement action as necessary, however they do this based on fly tipping hotspots or other intelligence given to them and not based on which company the business use.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Feakes  
of the Deputy Mayor**

**Question**

Can the Council estimate the financial loss to businesses and market traders while work on Deptford High Street has been taking place?

**Reply**

It is not possible to quantify losses to business. However, the aim of the works that have been funded by the GLA through the Outer London Fund, is to provide a longer term benefit to the High Street and to encourage more people to visit the town centre.

Deptford High Street was in poor condition with inadequate lighting, inefficient drainage and a cluttered public realm making the space unpleasant to use. Consultation with local people had also revealed that many felt unsafe using the street at night.

Prior to the works, occupation of the street market had been in steady decline for a number of years and action was needed to stem the decline and to improve its prospects. The layout and quality of the street made the market environment very dysfunctional and difficult for pedestrians to move through. Added to this, as market traders retired, the market was not attracting younger people to replace them.

The works undertaken have addressed all of the physical issues, however a lot of other work has been undertaken to draw people to the town centre. This includes events and marketing, training for new market apprentices and support to help shop keepers to embrace technology and social networking to improve their business' bottom line.

Although works to the street were completed ahead of schedule, in recognition of the disruption, officers sought relief from the Business Rates Agency and asked them to assess the current rates charges for suitable dispensation. This assessment was undertaken independently by the agency and as a result a 10% discount was applied to business rates for the duration of the works.

Shop keepers who rent a forecourt from the Council will also not be charged for any period that their forecourt was unusable. For example they won't be charged the monthly fee that their forecourt was out of use even if it was out of use for just a week.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Fletcher  
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

**Question**

How many contracts does the Council have in place in relation to adult social care? Of these how many include stipulations against the use of zero hours contracts and in relation to payment of the London Living Wage?

**Reply**

The Council has 81 procured / commissioned contracts across older adults, mental health and learning disability services ranging from residential care, supported living (including Extra Care Housing), day services, welfare meals, cleaning, funeral and domiciliary / personal care services. Additionally, the Council has individual spot placement contracts for 184 older adults and 130 adults with a learning disability, both in and out of borough. Individual services for adults with a learning disability are mainly commissioned through SLaM.

The Domiciliary Care Framework and commissioned services for people with a learning disability pay at the London Living Wage level.

There is no specific mention of zero hours contracts in our contracts and no reference in the Code of Practice for Contractors. There is specification in contracts to pay London Living Wage where it is possible to identify staffing costs that are attributable to Lewisham residents.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Johnson  
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

**Question**

What is the Cabinet Member doing to ensure residents in receipt of direct payments for care packages are not disadvantaged by the switchover from weekly to four-weekly payments and can you guarantee that any resident who has an ongoing contract obliging them to make weekly outgoing payments for their care will have the option of continuing to receive weekly payments from the Council?

**Reply**

We have the facility in place to pay Direct Payment users weekly, fortnightly and four weekly and we have been paying users this way for the last two months.

If you are aware of specific users with issues about their payments please do forward their names to the Direct Payments Team and we will fully investigate. The Direct Payments Team can be contacted directly 020 8314 9675.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Ibitson  
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

**Question**

What support can the Council offer to a local resident who is interested in setting up a 'Men in Shed' project in Bellingham?

**Reply**

We recognise the very important role that initiatives like 'Men in Shed' projects play in supporting older people to continue to lead active lives and we are keen to support the development of community solutions like this.

The Council has recently funded a community development worker for each of the GP neighbourhood clusters. The role of these workers is to provide practical support for initiatives such as this. This will improve the ability to provide services which sustain older and more vulnerable residents in playing an active role in their communities.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Maines  
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

**Question**

What is the financial out turn of the Blackheath firework display held on Saturday 2nd November. How much money was raised and from what sources?

**Reply**

The cost of this Blackheath Fireworks 2013 is estimated to be £108,673. The fixed cost of the display is £25,000 with production costs of £83,673.

The Council budget for the event is £36,000 and the additional income generated is £43,017, which is made up of the following:

Bar and catering income	£17,312
Sponsorship (L&Q and Glendale)	£15,000
Business contributions	£1,565
Public donations (bucket collection and online donations)	£8,660
Prize draw entries	£480

Based on the figures above, the shortfall for this year's display is £29,656. We expect the final budget to be very close to the details outlined above.

A shortfall of £25,000 is attributed to the withdrawal of financial support from a key, long-term sponsor of the display. The amount contributed by Glendale has reduced by half, to £5,000, as a result of a reduction in income due to a limit on the number of annual funfairs taking place on Blackheath.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Feakes  
of the Cabinet Member for Children and Young Services**

**Question**

What actions are the Council taking to improve the educational outcomes for Looked after Children, which are much worse than average for Lewisham?

**Reply**

Looked After Children in Lewisham currently achieve higher than those nationally and in inner London. We are proud that 40 of our Looked After young people are currently at university, more than in other London boroughs. However, we remain determined that our Looked After Children should achieve as well as their peers.

We are in the process of appointing a virtual Headteacher to the Looked After Children Education team to focus on raising standards further. We are currently reviewing all the Personal Education plans (PEPs) to ensure they provide additional support where needed and have aspirational targets for our young people.

From April next year, funding to schools which our Looked After Children attend will increase. PEPs will ensure this funding is used appropriately to support their learning needs.

Because our Looked After Children have multiple needs, we are also ensuring that partners across the system play their role, including from mental health services to ensure barriers to learning are removed.

**QUESTION No. 39**

**Priority 4**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Fletcher  
of the Cabinet Member for Community Services**

**Question**

The Council holds a large amount of artwork that is not on display - when does the Council intend to have this valued?

**Reply**

Officers currently have two quotations for providing services to value the artwork collection. A third quotation is being sought and a decision will then be made on when this work can be carried out.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Feakes  
of the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People**

**Question**

The Council has not been meeting it's targets on the stability of placements for Looked after Children. How does it hope to improve this?

**Reply**

Providing our looked after children with stability of care is key to all aspects of their development and therefore the outcomes they are likely to achieve.

We measure both short (looked after for 12 months) and longer term (four years plus) stability and we have found it difficult to reach our targets in the last six months.

We have put the following measures in place to address this issue:

- providing more placement support, for example CAMHS support, at an earlier stage before difficulties escalate;
- delivering specific training to foster carers to assist them in managing Looked After Children with complex needs and challenging behaviours;
- a senior manager will be required to review any case before a placement move is agreed;

Our Looked After Children figures do not include our Adoption figures which remain good. 56 children have been adopted in the last 2 years. As we also place children quickly it means that this cohort of settled children do not appear in the data for placement stability.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Feakes  
of the Deputy Mayor**

**Question**

How did the Council decide on a “pop-up restaurant” as the best choice of event for Catford, taking into account the fact that a ticket costs £35?

**Reply**

The Catford Canteen came about as the result of several initiatives, including the Outer London Fund project on Catford Broadway, which includes ventures both to attract visitors to the town centre and support local businesses and entrepreneurs by holding events (monthly markets and supper clubs) and training schemes for market traders. As a result of both of these ventures, the project team gathered feedback from the local community and from those businesses trading at the markets and supper clubs, which suggested that further food related events would be well attended and provide important business testing opportunities.

Whilst the initiatives discussed above were underway, CRPL (the Council’s regeneration company for Catford) forfeited a unit lease in the Catford Centre and had an empty unit on the market. Officers utilised this as an opportunity to create a space for a pop-up restaurant, supported by funding from the Outer London Fund and the High Street Innovation Fund, which provides a meanwhile use whilst the unit is being marketed. This supports the CRPL objectives to ensure that the centre is well managed and supportive of the regeneration aims for the town centre.

The space is being rented out to individual chefs and caterers, who are running evening dinner events and brunch events. Each individual chef decides on the price of their menu, which ranges at present from £15 - £35 and can include up to 6 courses and wine. The Catford Canteen currently has around 15 different people booked in to run events between now and March

2014, the majority of which are local businesses or market traders. The space is designed to allow these individuals to test business ideas and to gain valuable experience in event and restaurant management. They also receive business and event management support from existing council services. Whilst CRPL and the Council are accommodating these events by providing a space for them to happen in and support for the traders, each individual event is managed by the chef or caterer.

**QUESTION No. 42**

**Priority 7**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Feakes  
of the Customer Services**

**Question**

Will the Council be taking remedial action to replace trees lost during "St Jude's Storm" on 28<sup>th</sup> October?

**Reply**

Unfortunately a total of 118 trees were brought down by the high winds generated by this storm. 92 of these were street trees with the remaining 26 lost from parks and other open spaces.

Officers will continue to work with resident and amenity groups to identify and where possible secure funding for replacement trees.

This year's new tree planting programme will see 73 trees planted and officers hope to plant a minimum of 41 in the 2014/15 season.

**QUESTION No. 43**

**Priority 8**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Feakes  
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

**Question**

What is the average waiting time for an allotment for a Lewisham resident?

**Reply**

The current average waiting time for a Lewisham applicant across all 37 sites in Lewisham is 4 years.

**QUESTION No. 44**

**Written Reply**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Maines  
of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services**

**Question**

What is the net increase in affordable homes in Lewisham in each of the last five years ?

**Reply**

The Planning Service Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) sets out details of affordable housing provision annually. The table below, taken from the AMR, provides details of net housing completions and affordable housing completions from 2008/9 to 2012/13.

<b>Year</b>	<b>2008/9</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>
<b>Social rented/ affordable rent</b>	69	87	259	357	299
<b>Inter-mediate</b>	159	81	100	197	265
<b>Ratio</b>	30:70	52:48	72:28	64:36	57:43
<b>Total net affordable</b>	228	168	359	554	564

The table shows that both the level of affordable housing and the ratio between social rented and intermediate units varies on a year-to-year basis. The number of affordable housing units completed in 2011/12 and 2012/13 are higher than preceding years. In total there have been 1,873 affordable homes completed since 2008/9.

Over the three years 2009/10 to 2011/12 the percentage of new housing available in Lewisham that was affordable was 36%, roughly in line with the London average of 38%.

**QUESTION No. 45**

**Written Reply**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**27 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Question by Councillor Maines**  
**of the Deputy Mayor**

**Question**

How many apprenticeships have been created by Lewisham Council, in year over the last 5 years?

**Reply**

A total of 354 apprenticeships have been created by Lewisham Council over the last five years.