

# We want your views about proposed changes to this children's centre



We would like you come to a meeting to be part of the discussion around changes to your Children's Centre.

The Council needs to make changes to children's centres across Lewisham. Because of the savings the Council has to make from its budget, it can no longer afford the level of provision we have had in recent years.

We know that parents, carers and children value our Children's Centres. We do too.

That's why **all centres will stay open** under the Council's proposals.<sup>1</sup>

To achieve this it might however be necessary to reduce the hours of opening and to change the services offered at a number of the centres.

This is your opportunity to help to shape those changes.

## What the Council is proposing

- Four Children's Centres remain as they are now – one in each area of the borough. These would be Clyde, Ladywell, Downderry and Bellingham.
- 12 centres offering the sorts of services that parents have told us are most important to them such as stay and play sessions, messy play, a chance to meet

other parents, advice and information.

The opening hours of these centres may be reduced.

- Some children's centre services will still be delivered in other buildings such as health centres.

We have thought long and hard about how we can save money without closing Children's Centres and still ensure quality services. And we have talked with parents and listened to your ideas and suggestions.

Whichever centre you use you will always be able to speak to someone on the phone or visit another centre in your area to speak with someone.

Health visitors, midwives, schools, GPs and other professionals will still be able to make referrals to local centres and continue to work from centres and families will still be able to refer themselves.



## Meeting

Please come along to hear more about proposals for this centre, talk to us about your concerns and let us know what you think.

### Manor House Children's Centre

Lower Ground Floor, Manor House Library, Old Road, Lee SE13 5SY  
Thursday 28 May, 2–3pm

<sup>1</sup> Except the Heathside and Lethbridge centre which is due to be demolished as part of the regeneration of the estate.

# Questionnaire

1. We want to know which services you think it is most important to have at this local centre. Please rank this list in order of priority from 1 to 5, where 1 is the most important.

stay and play for children of specific ages		a chance to meet other parents in similar situations	
messy play		a person I know and trust to ask for advice	
practical tips and advice on how to do the best for your child		experts who can inform me how my child is developing	
parenting programmes		child developmental checks	
support with breastfeeding		parenting courses	
health visitor appointments		one to one help	
advice and info on where to get other help		help with domestic abuse, drug/alcohol use or mental health problems	
immunisations		maternity appointments and clinics	
help to get employment		one to one help and advice in the home	
help with finance problems			

Please tell us if there are other services we have not listed that you think are most important.

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2. We want to know which times in the week you think it is most important that this local centre is open. **Please select up to five sessions.**

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|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday morning    | <input type="checkbox"/> Monday afternoon    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday morning   | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday afternoon   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday morning | <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday afternoon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday morning  | <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday afternoon  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday morning    | <input type="checkbox"/> Friday afternoon    |

3. By making some of the changes, it is possible that some of our centres might no longer be inspected by Ofsted.

Would that change how you use centres?  Yes  No