

MAYOR & CABINET

Report Title	Mayoral response to the Sustainable Development Select Committee on the Lewisham Cycling Strategy.		
Key Decision	No		Item No.
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration		
Class	Part 1	Date: 19 October 2016	

1 Purpose

- 1.1 This report sets out the response to the Sustainable Development Select Committee's report and the Lewisham Cyclists' Cycling Strategy for Lewisham, which was presented to the Mayor and Cabinet meeting on 13th July 2016

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Mayor:
- 2.2 Notes the response from the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration to the report of the Sustainable Development Select Committee as set out in section 6 of this report, and;
- 2.3 Agrees that this report be forwarded to the Sustainable Development Select Committee.

3 Policy Context

- 3.1 The Local Implementation Plan (LIP) sets out Lewisham's policy objectives for transport including cycling and has been developed within the framework provided by the Mayor's Transport Strategy.
- 3.2 Lewisham's second LIP was approved by the Lewisham Mayor and the London Mayor in 2011. The LIP was developed within the framework provided by the MTS and consists of an evidence base, objectives, targets and initial three year programme. The goals, objectives, and outcomes for the LIP reflect local policies and priorities and are aligned with the Council's Corporate Priorities and the Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 3.3 As a major policy document, the LIP supports all six priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy and has particular relevance to the many economic, environmental and social improvements that rely on a modern transport system. In particular it impacts on the following Corporate Priorities:
- clean, green and liveable
 - safety, security and a visible presence
 - strengthening the local economy
 - active, healthy citizens

4 Background

- 4.1 At the Sustainable Development Select Committee on 29th June 2016, the Committee was presented with a Draft Cycling Strategy for Lewisham, by Lewisham Cyclists (a local cycling group affiliated with London Cycling Campaign LCC).
- 4.2 Contained within the document is some base line data relating to current cycling rates in Lewisham (Census 2011), and the report goes on to highlight the desire to increase numbers of borough residents partaking in cycling. Aims and objectives are included within the document that Lewisham Cyclists believe would help to increase participation - these include both infrastructure and publicity measures, along with strategic network maps showing current and potential routes through the borough.

5 Sustainable Development Select Committee Recommendations

- 5.1 On 29th June 2016, the Committee made the following recommendations to the Mayor and Cabinet:
1. The Committee commended Lewisham Cyclists' Lewisham Borough Cycling Strategy to Mayor and Cabinet.
 2. The Committee recommended that the strategy be formally adopted as Council policy and is referred to in the local development plan.

6 Mayoral Response to the Sustainable Development Select Committee

- 6.1 The Council commends Lewisham Cyclists for their commitment to cycling and for the valuable work they do promoting and supporting cycling initiatives in the borough.
- 6.2 The Council welcomes Lewisham Cyclists' draft Cycling Strategy. Cycling across London has seen rapid growth over the past decade or so, with funding for cycle related initiatives increasing yearly.
- 6.3 Lewisham Council is committed to encouraging and supporting sustainable forms of transport, and cycling is a major priority of the Local Implementation Plan (LIP), which is the Council's holistic transport strategy document.
- 6.4 The Borough's commitment to cycling has led to several high profile schemes being delivered in the Borough such as the new Quietway 1 cycle route, the Council's highly successful cycle training and hire-bike schemes, and the forthcoming Cycle Superhighway 4.
- 6.5 That said, it is recognised that a stand-alone Cycling Strategy for the Borough would enable the Council to expand on the outcomes in the LIP and focus new funding streams to specific projects contained within it. The timing for a new cycling strategy is also well-aligned with the future development of a new LIP strategy in 2018.

- 6.6 Therefore, the Council proposes to take the draft Lewisham Cyclists Cycling Strategy and use it to work up a fully developed Borough Cycling Strategy, detailing the current status of the Borough's cycling facilities, infrastructure opportunities based on local and regional priorities, and any potential funding attributed to them. The strategy will also contain a delivery plan for identified projects.
- 6.7 Such a strategy will take time to develop, as baseline data is needed and local opinion canvased in order to build a document that can guide investment to the correct areas. Below is an indicative timetable for the production of a stand-alone cycling strategy.
- 6.8 Until the strategy has been published and adopted the LIP will continue to form the basis of the borough cycling strategy, However the Council recognises the need for continued investment and has made LIP funding available for high priority, deliverable projects.
- 6.9 Timetable for Strategy:
- 2016/17 – Baseline surveys, Consultation with local cycling groups and development of quick win projects/improvements.
- 2017/18 – Development and adoption of Lewisham Borough Cycling Strategy

7 Financial Implications

- 7.1 Funding to develop the cycling strategy has been identified in the LIP, which was approved by Mayor & Cabinet on 28 September 2016. The LIP spending submission includes an allocation of £100,000 per annum from 2017/18 to 2019/20 to develop the cycling strategy and to deliver small scale local improvements to the cycle network. The LIP also includes an allocation of £153,000 per annum over the same three year period towards Cycle Training.
- 7.2 Financial resources will be required in the future to develop projects identified by the strategy. Where new projects and funding gaps are identified, the need for such resources will be considered as part of the strategy.

8 Legal Implications

- 8.1 The Constitution provides that the Executive respond to reports and or recommendations by the overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 8.2 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 8.3 In summary, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
 - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 8.4 It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct, or to promote equality of opportunity or foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. It is a duty to have due regard to the need to achieve the goals listed at 12.2 above.
- 8.5 The weight to be attached to the duty will be dependent on the nature of the decision and the circumstances in which it is made. This is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. The Mayor must understand the impact or likely impact of the decision on those with protected characteristics who are potentially affected by the decision. The extent of the duty will necessarily vary from case to case and due regard is such regard as is appropriate in all the circumstances.
- 8.6 The Equality and Human Rights Commission has issued Technical Guidance on the Public Sector Equality Duty and statutory guidance entitled “Equality Act 2010 Services, Public Functions & Associations Statutory Code of Practice”. The Council must have regard to the statutory code in so far as it relates to the duty and attention is drawn to Chapter 11 which deals particularly with the equality duty. The Technical Guidance also covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guidance does not have statutory force but nonetheless regard should be had to it, as failure to do so without compelling reason would be of evidential value. The statutory code and the technical guidance can be found at:
<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/equality-act-codes-practice>
<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/equality-act-technical-guidance>
- 8.7 The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has previously issued five guides for public authorities in England giving advice on the equality duty:
- [The essential guide to the public sector equality duty](#)
 - [Meeting the equality duty in policy and decision-making](#)
 - [Engagement and the equality duty: A guide for public authorities](#)
 - [Objectives and the equality duty. A guide for public authorities](#)
 - [Equality Information and the Equality Duty: A Guide for Public Authorities](#)
- 8.8 The essential guide provides an overview of the equality duty requirements including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. It covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty including steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The other four documents provide more

detailed guidance on key areas and advice on good practice. Further information and resources are available at:

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty-guidance#h1>

9 Crime and Disorder Implications

- 9.1 There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this response.

10 Equalities Implications

- 10.1 The Council's Comprehensive Equality Scheme for 2016-20 will provide an overarching framework and focus for the Council's work on equalities and help ensure compliance with the Equality Act 2010.
- 10.2 An Equalities Analysis Assessment has been developed alongside the LIP to ensure that any potential adverse impacts were fully considered and, where necessary, appropriate changes made. The overall findings of the assessment were that the proposals within the LIP do not discriminate or have significant adverse impacts on any of the protected characteristics.
- 10.3 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this response, however, an assessment of differential impact on equalities would be required at such time as detailed proposals are considered.

11 Environmental Implications

- 11.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this response.

12 Background Papers and originator

- 12.1 Lewisham Local Implementation Plan 2011 to 2031
<https://www.lewisham.gov.uk/mayorandcouncil/aboutthecouncil/strategies/Documents/Local%20Implementation%20Plan%202011-31.pdf>
- 12.2 Mayors Transport Strategy
<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/transport/our-vision-transport/mayors-transport-strategy>
- 12.3 For further details about the content of this report contact:

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