

COUNCIL		
Report Title	The Young Mayor of Lewisham	
Key Decision		Item No.
Ward	All	
Contributors	Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: 23 November 2016

The Young Mayor of Lewisham

On 24 March 2004 the Council endorsed the Mayor's decisions on the proposal to set up and fund the office of an annually elected Young Mayor.

The Mayor also agreed to set up an advisory group of between 12 to 30 young people to support the Young Mayor. These young people will also serve for a 1 year period and will be drawn from school councils and other representative forums from across the borough. The membership will have a degree of flexibility to allow for co-options for particular areas of interest. The group will also allow for non-successful young mayoral candidates to participate.

The Young Mayor will be an adviser to both the Mayor and to the Council as a whole, bringing a young person's perspective to issues of interest. The Young Mayor will, through various programmes have access to a wider cross section of young people's views and will be able to reflect these where appropriate. The Young Mayor will also advise the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board; and be at the forefront of the framework for youth participation in the borough.

The election for a Young Mayor for 2016/17 was held on October 19 2016 with 31 candidates on the ballot paper. As a result, on a turnout of 49.03%, and after a recount in the closest ever election, Kayla Sh'ay Nswa was elected Young Mayor for the year 2016/17. She will be the second female to serve in this position.

The candidate with the second highest number of votes, Tekisha Henry, will act as her Deputy Mayor during her year of office. The third and fourth placed candidates, Destiny Chapman and Riley Jhanji will represent the Borough at the UK Youth Parliament.

A Code of Conduct for the Young Mayor and the Deputy Mayor is attached as an Appendix.

Both the Young Mayor and the appointed Deputy Mayor have been invited to attend the meeting to sign their Declaration of Acceptance of Office, and an undertaking that they will abide by the Code of Conduct for their respective offices, which will be witnessed by the Chief Executive. An invitation to attend the meeting has also been extended to the members of the Advisory Group who will support the Young Mayor during her year of office.



COUNCIL MEETING

23 NOVEMBER 2016

APPENDIX

ITEM NO.

Young Mayor for Lewisham

Code of Conduct

Purpose

This Code of Conduct for the Young Mayor, and the Deputy Young Mayor, is designed to promote public confidence in the actions of elected representatives, and will apply whenever they carry out activities on behalf of the Council, or act as representatives of the Council.

The Code

- I agree that I will carry out any duties required of me to the best of my ability, and recognise I have a special duty to all young people in Lewisham, including those who did not vote for me.
- I agree that I will work closely with the Mayor, the Council, the Young Advisers and the Young Citizens' Panel, and report regularly to the young people of Lewisham.
- I agree that I will not produce materials or use access to publicity that is disrespectful to other young people, the Council or the Mayor.
- I recognise that if I bring the office of Young Mayor into disrepute or if a complaint is made against me, that I may be subject to an investigation carried out by the Chief Executive. If any allegations or breaches of code of conduct are upheld then I recognise that my term of office may be terminated immediately.
- I agree that I will not behave in a sexist, racist or other manner that may offend or discriminate against people.
- And furthermore, as the key representative of young people within the borough, I will try and challenge such behaviour if I come across it.

Signed..... **Dated: 23 November 2016**