

**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 1.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Mr Woolford

Member to reply: Councillor Egan

**Question**

1. How many Council flats have been demolished and sites cleared?
2. How many homes bought under right to buy?
3. How many council homes been sold on the open market?

**Reply**

The Council has a wide ranging approach to tackling the housing crisis, prioritising the construction of as many new homes as possible in a range of ways. These include our first new Council homes for a generation, of which 162 are either under construction today. We are well on our way to our target of 500 net new Council homes.

Our approach also includes innovative new ways to better house homeless families, buying street properties across the borough – 81 to date – and larger properties like Hamilton Lodge. Of course this also includes the award winning PLACE/Ladywell development, which houses homeless families and creates jobs for local people.

Where it is the best option overall, we are also undertaking large scale estate regeneration, but we are doing it in a way that prioritises the needs and interests of our residents. We are delivering two such projects at present, on the Heathside and Lethbridge and Excalibur estates, and between them these will deliver 820 net new homes, as well as rehousing every existing resident who chooses to remain in a new home that meets the decent homes standard. To do this 284 homes were demolished, alongside one further home, on Mayow Road in Sydenham which was demolished following a fire

The number of homes sold under the Right to Buy over the past five years is as follows, sadly there has been a sharp increase since the government increased the level of discounts:

2016 / 2017: 117

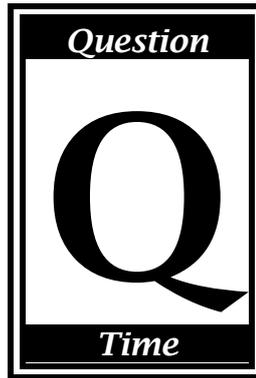
2015 / 2016: 116

2014 / 2015: 122

2013 / 2014: 102

2012 / 2013: 17

The number of homes sold on the open market is one. This property, on Ashmead Road, was sold in order to fund the construction of a further four Council homes.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 2.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Andy Hughes

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

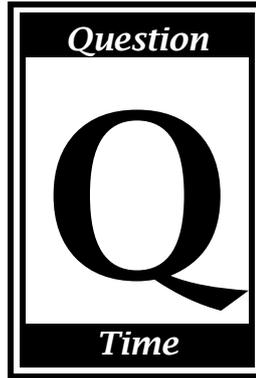
**Question**

1. The following appeared in the latest edition of Private Eye No.1437 10<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> Feb - "Members of the overview and scrutiny committee were handed confidential documents shortly before their meeting last week, which made it clear that the CPO's had not been stopped". This seems to conflict with an earlier quote in the Guardian from the 25<sup>th</sup> of January where you are quoted as saying "the CPO should not proceed and that all parties concerned should enter discussions to identify an agreed way to achieve the regeneration of this area while resolving these concerns" – Can you confirm that the CPO's have been stopped until the Renewal Millwall project is independently investigated?
2. Given that Councillor Alan Hall, a fellow Labour member and head of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee described the CPO as being "spectacularly mishandled" back on the 27<sup>th</sup> of October 2016, with "so many holes in the plans, so many questions unanswered and so many alarm bells going off" and with the situation still unresolved - where does responsibility for this failed project ultimately lie?

**Reply**

On 22 February 2017, the Council agreed to commission an independent inquiry into the proposed CPO at New Bermondsey/Surrey Canal. When that inquiry is complete, its findings will be reported to the Council. It is not appropriate to comment further pending the outcome of that inquiry.

As was set out in the report to Council on the 22 February 2017, the decision made in September 2016 to pursue a CPO has no effect.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 3.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Carole Hope

Member to reply: Councillor Millbank

**Question**

Where does the money come from for Main Grants Programme as distributed by Mayor and Cabinet? Does it come out of overall council budget, does it include s106/CIL, if so does all of the s106/Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money go into it? If not, how is the distribution of s106/CIL decided?

**Reply**

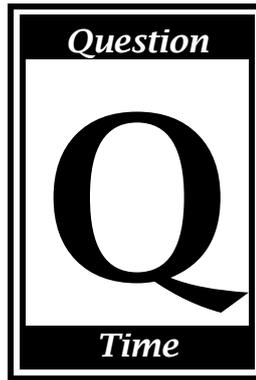
The funding allocated through the Main Grants Programme is all council base budget and does not include s106 or CIL.

S106 monies can be allocated by the S106 Steering Group, which consists of a group of cross council officers chaired by the Head of Planning. The Steering Group principally allocates any S106 amounts that are under £40,000 and which do not have a specific use defined in the obligation (such as financial contributions towards generic categories such as 'health' or 'open space'), or S106 amounts up to £250,000 where the S106 obligation specifies the precise works to be undertaken (such as upgrades to a certain park, or specific works to a road junction) that are clearly identified in the legal agreement.

All other amounts are allocated by the Regeneration Board, through the Regeneration and Capital Delivery Programme Board. These include S106 amounts above £40,000 where the precise use of the money is not specified in the obligation, and amounts over £250,000 for proposals that have a specific use defined in the obligation. The Board also review any proposals which also seek to secure additional Capital Support.

All S106 amounts are allocated having regard to the individual legal agreement for the planning decision in question, and may be subject to time limitations, or be required to be spent in the vicinity of the development. Local communities can get involved in suggesting how some relevant S106 monies can be spent, primarily through their local assembly. To date, no CIL amounts have been allocated.

CIL is a planning charge levied on most new developments, introduced in Lewisham on 1 April 2015. As CIL is still an emerging mechanism, the council is prioritising the expenditure of S106 amounts until CIL becomes the main source of infrastructure funding. The mechanisms for allocating CIL are still being developed, with preliminary discussion being initiated through the Sustainable Development Select Committee, within the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 4.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: John Russell

Member to reply: Councillor Maslin

**Question**

Local Parents are troubled to hear that Forest Hill School is planning to make £1.3 million in budget cuts and feel that cuts of this nature could seriously damage the future of the school and its ability to provide the required standard of education. What will the council be doing to help find a solution to this financial crisis while protecting educational provision? What steps will the council be taking to look at why the school was allowed to significantly over spend in past budget years and to ensure that the right budget monitoring mechanism are in place in the borough to ensure that other schools do not end up in similar position?

**Reply**

The financial allocations to Forest Hill School have been on the same basis as all the other secondary schools in Lewisham, with a similar level of fixed costs (such as premises and facilities management). All schools have had to rein in spend in the last year because national education spend is not keeping pace with rising costs. But Forest Hill has accumulated a large budget deficit. The Mayor has agreed a loan to cover that deficit but the school is required by law to bring its budget into line with

its income and, eventually, to pay off the loan since that money belongs to all schools.

Council officers have worked closely with the headteacher and governors of Forest Hill School to help them set a financial plan that brings them out of their deficit situation. In particular the HR Team has supported with the staff restructuring. The school's staffing spend was higher than that of other similar sized schools and needed to be put onto a sustainable footing. The school also experienced a serious dip in GCSE results in 2016 and the Local Authority and Lewisham Secondary Challenge have been supporting school improvement at the school all year.

Over the last 18 months significant work has been undertaken to make schools more aware of the financial constraints and to improve financial management in schools, particularly targeting governing bodies.

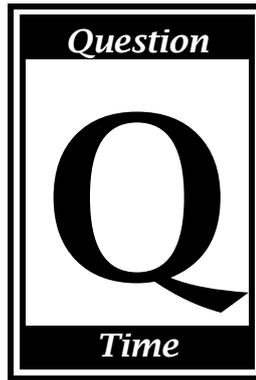
The following support to schools has been delivered over the last year

- 17 Finance based training sessions, with hundreds of school staff and governors attending
- 66 Finance visits to schools
- 50 HR health checks completed
- 10 reorganisations / redundancy consultations underway

The Schools Finance Team has changed its ways of working in order to better assist schools in their financial management. This has included issuing new self checking budget monitoring and budget planning toolkits.

Last year at this time officers were predicting that 17 schools would go into deficit this year but there are now 13. It was predicted that 50 schools would have in year deficits (ie spending more than income) but by year end this was reduced to 32.

Schools are now making budget returns and budget monitoring returns on time with the new escalation process proving effective.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 5.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Emily Frith

Member to reply: Councillor Alan Smith

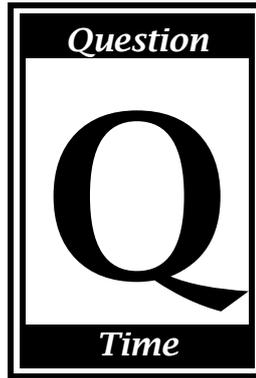
**Question**

How many burst water mains occurred in each Lewisham ward in the last 12 months?

**Reply**

There have been a total of 9 burst water mains that have resulted in a major incident during the last twelve months. These occurred in the following wards:-

Blackheath	2
Downham	2
Telegraph Hill	1
Forest Hill	1
Lewisham Central	1
Grove Park	2



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 6.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Georgia Smith

Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

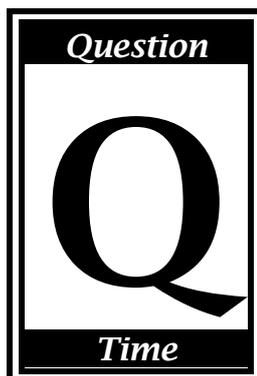
A large quantity of litter is being left along the Quietway 1 cycle and pedestrian route which runs alongside Millwall Stadium with a particular increase in glass bottles and cans littering the path following Millwall matches. The single bin on the path is often overflowing and a large trade waste fly-tip on Senegal Road was set alight on the weekend of 11/12 March. Who is responsible for maintaining and cleaning Quietway 1 between Senegal Road and Rotherhithe New Road/Stubbs Drive? How often is the path cleaned and what measures are in place for post-match clean-ups?

**Reply**

The Cleansing Department were consulted by the Councils Highways department, when this path was constructed, and it was jointly agreed that the path from Bolina Road to Surrey Canal Road (the section within the borough) would be swept and the litter bin emptied once a month.

There is an agreement in place with Millwall Football Club that it is their responsibility to ensure the path is cleaned post match games. Our Enforcement Officers will

pursue this and take the necessary action to ensure the environment is cleaned and improved.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 7.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Saraid Dodd

Member to reply: Councillor Maslin

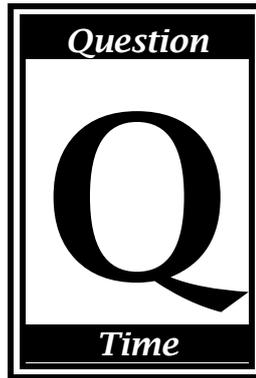
**Question**

Can the Council confirm that a licensed deficit can be extended to improve educational services in our community preventing the cuts that are due to seriously damage educational outcomes for boys at Forest Hill School.

**Reply**

The Mayor agreed a loan in autumn 2016 to cover Forest Hill School's accumulated budget deficit, to be repaid over 5 years which is the maximum allowed by Lewisham's Scheme of Delegation. The government regulations recommend a maximum of three years and schemes of delegation across the country set out a maximum of either 3 or 5 years.

The Mayor will however review the loan agreement for Forest Hill School annually to ensure that the pay back plan is viable for the school.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 8.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Andrew Tonge

Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

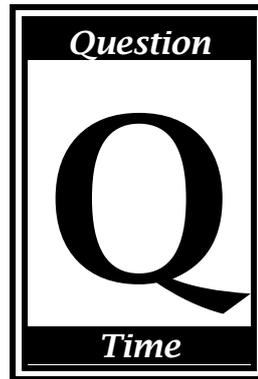
**Question**

According to the Maintenance and Management Plan for Beckenham Place Park, drawn up by consultants, there will be a holiday club run by Wide Horizons costing £15 per child per day, with (unspecified) concessionary rates of £10, plus each child to bring their own lunch. Yet, for the recent half term holiday club run by Wide Horizons at their Eltham Centre the equivalent charge was £30 per child per day (with a longer day option at £40) with a 10% discount for siblings. How does the Council account for this discrepancy in the pricing structure? Will the Council be subsidising Wide Horizons and, if so, will the subsidy benefit those families most in need or will it be a universal subsidy available to all families?

**Reply**

The management and maintenance plan show sources of income planned for the park to demonstrate future income streams. It takes a cautious approach to revenue generation, showing that even if these are significantly lower than market level the Heritage Lottery Funds investment in the park can be sustained. These activities will

not be subsidised by the council and a modest income is expected from all such commercial activity.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 9.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Mrs Richardson

Member to reply: Councillor Best

**Question**

Lewisham Library Service is seeking volunteers for this year's Summer Reading Challenge in Lewisham's Libraries. Will the community libraries be responsible for their own volunteers, giving training, DBS checks, explaining rights and obligations? Will the hub libraries offer the same levels of security, safety and training with any volunteers it recruits for this unique literary and educational opportunity for the children of Lewisham?

**Reply**

The partner organisations responsible for the community library buildings are responsible for their ongoing recruitment, including volunteering. The council has offered the Summer Reading Challenge since 1999, and will deliver the training and support that volunteers require to assist children during their summer reading.

So far, 15 people have completed the application form to volunteer for the SRC and have expressed their preferences for the library that they wish to volunteer at. The Library Service will ensure an even spread of volunteers, as all libraries have children wanting to participate in the Challenge over the summer.

All volunteers will receive training and support from the Library Service. This will take the form of an initial training session and details of library staff that volunteers can contact in case of any questions throughout their placement. Named members of staff / senior volunteers at the library where they are helping will oversee their volunteering, providing them with induction training and ongoing support.

The volunteers will not be DBS checked, but their supervision will cover safeguarding concerns. The training provided explains what is expected of the volunteers who

- help children to find books that they really want to read
- help with displays and activities in the library
- register children for the Challenge
- explain to children and their parents how to take part
- encourage children to discuss what they have been reading
- give out rewards
- help the library service to select stock for young people



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 10.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Carol Spurling

Member to reply: Councillor Best

**Question**

Manor House Library now has a new computer system. Is the newly installed equipment paid for by V22 or was money from other sources involved, for example, council funding? In the future, will the maintenance and upgrading be the responsibility of V22?

For how long will Lewisham library staff be on duty in the Manor House and what are the plans after that period for peripatetic staff to be used and for how many hours per week?

**Reply**

The new IT equipment installed at Manor House has not been funded by the council, and its maintenance and upgrading is not the council's responsibility.

The Library and Information Service is supporting V22 in the initial weeks and will sustain a continued presence until mid-July, possibly longer. However, the Community Library Model is based on a peripatetic presence, which may vary in relation to the volume of outreach work required by the Library and Information

Service. As such, it is not possible to confirm a number of hours/week or the number of staff likely to be present in each community library.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 11.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Shereener Hudson

Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

Why does the Council take an inordinate length of time to collect fly tipped rubbish from the streets? I recently reported some items left on my street and it took over a month for them to be collected.

Do you agree that the Council should accept the level of the fly tipping problem in the borough and organise a day each week when residents can place items for rubbish removal in a particular place?

**Reply**

There has been a significant reduction in Cleansing resources over the past 5 years, which has ultimately lengthened the time it takes for the Council to collect flytipped waste in the borough.

I am sure that this incident would have been an exception as small fly tipped waste is normally collected within seven days and larger flytipping, which requires a specialist vehicle with a hydraulic grab attached takes slightly longer.

The Council recognises that flytipping is a problem within the borough and are taking measures to reduce this. A number of CCTV cameras have been placed at fly tipping hot spots and fines and prosecutions are initiated by our Enforcement team.

The Council provides a domestic bulky waste collection service where residents can pay £15 for the collection of 3 items from their property.

The Council also encourages residents to dispose of their non-domestic rubbish, free of charge at their Civic Amenities site, Landmann Way SE14, which is open 7 days a week.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 12.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Trina Lynskey

Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

Are you aware that there is an ongoing issue with the use of public highways in Evelyn Ward to store or park vehicles that are not permitted to be on the road. This includes vehicles without tax, without MOT, and without licence plates. When reported to enforcement officers there is little action taken to address the issue. When vehicles without registration plates are reported to enforcement officers the response is as follows:

"We are unable to action a vehicle as untaxed without plates due to not knowing if the vehicle is taxed or not."

On a single visit to street outside the garage at 111 Rolt Street enforcement officers reported that they passed 2 vehicles that were untaxed for over 2 months and 1 day to their contractor to action using DVLA devolved powers. There was also a vehicle with no plates and crash damage which they placed a AVH notice on. Whilst placing the notice on this vehicle the garage owner came out and confirmed that the vehicle was his and he was instructed by enforcement officers to move it. The vehicle was returned to the street once the officers had left. These vehicles should be removed and the local authority has devolved powers form the DVLA to do so.

Through issuing fines and monitoring the area effectively enforcement officers could create revenue for Lewisham Council. This revenue could fund the upgrading of pavements in the area which are sadly neglected. It would also ensure that only roadworthy vehicles that do not cause a danger to the public are parked on the roadside. This includes smashed up vehicles without registration plates on school routes.

Can you explain why Lewisham Council takes no action to address the issue of vehicles without registration plates on the public highway?

How much revenue has been generated from fines issued by Lewisham Council to vehicles illegally parked on the roads of Evelyn Ward in the last year?

How many vehicles have been removed from the street in Evelyn Ward in the last year by Lewisham Council using delegated powers from the DVLA?

### **Reply**

Lewisham Council do actively remove vehicles without number plates. Under guidance from DEFRA a vehicle which has number plates missing could be deemed abandoned and subsequently removed. In 2016/17 we removed 41 vehicles as abandoned which were without number plates.

Lewisham do not currently aggregate data on fines by ward so this is not readily available.

A number of vehicles have been removed across Evelyn ward this data is not currently aggregated by ward so the specific numbers are not readily available.

However, as you have raised concerns about a specific location we will ask officers to ensure that action is taken if appropriate.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 13.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Barry O'Donovan

Member to reply: Councillor Best

**Question**

Can you please tell me what progress has been made with regard to the formal process of transferring the heritage asset Grove Park Youth Club to Grove Park Youth building preservation trust following the officer review? The matter has been with the Council's Head of Asset Strategy since April 2017, and Grove Park Youth club has been closed for a number of years.

I am sure you will agree that it is a serious failure for Grove Park young people, and the community in general, to have a perfectly decent, purpose-built youth club lying empty in an area of deprivation. There are problems with social isolation and young people being enticed to join gangs, with a teenager also having been murdered locally in the past few months. How can we have it on our conscience not to open up and use the youth club?

I am not sure if you are aware of them, but Youth First, a local employee- and young person-owned mutual, are looking for a venue and would be well-suited to the youth club space. So why would we not give them access to the youth club?

**Reply**

Correspondence should now be with the relevant people within the organisation looking to apply for a community asset transfer. This sets out the Council's requirements for any potential transfer but also a proposal to look at a meanwhile use for the building, together with the organisation.

There is currently youth provision in the area, however Youth First are developing proposals to increase this, although this is not necessarily dependant on use of the former Grover Park Youth Club building.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 14.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Karen Galloway

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

**Question**

Is any of the "community chest fund" from Grove Park housing stock transfer being used for the flood alleviation work in Beckenham Place Park?

**Reply**

No funds from the Grove Park 'Community Chest Fund' are being used to support the flood alleviation scheme for the river Ravensbourne including work at Beckenham Place Park. The Grove Park Community Facilities and Services fund totalling £800k is specifically allocated by the receiving landlord to be spent on priorities identified by local residents.

As part of the Grove Park stock transfer the receiving landlord chose to opt out of the usual right to buy process whereby the Council receives a capital receipt each time a transferred property is sold under the right to buy. Right to buy receipts are treated as un-ring fenced capital receipts and are used to support general capital priorities in the borough. In order to facilitate this opt out, a capital sum was agreed in advance as part of the stock transfer and paid into an account called a 'Community Benefit Fund'. Under this arrangement the authority is able to nominate the use of these

resources for schemes which benefit the borough and £910k has been allocated towards implementation of flood alleviation measures which safeguard vital public infrastructure including, road, rail, DLR, hospital, electrical, water and sewerage infrastructure which serve the borough's population.

The two funds are completely separate elements of the stock transfer.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 15.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Mari

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

**Question**

The imminent re-paving of Trundleys road at the end of June is very welcome news (and long overdue). When I called the number provided on the leaflet to enquire about specific plans, I was told that the Road would only be replaced 'like for like' without any improvements. It is obviously highly disappointing that the Council will not take this opportunity to improve the inefficient speed bumps, add width restrictions and add some much needed safe crossings for pedestrians.

Do you agree that the Council needs to commit to making Trundleys Road safe for pedestrians, especially those with low mobility (the elderly, young families, kids travelling to schools etc..) by providing safe crossing as well as avoiding cars using the road as a race track?

1. Will the Council commit to provide safe crossings? At least three needed at the junctions and bus stops as well as the highly trafficked crossing near Lidl. There are currently 0.4 miles worth of road without any safe crossings but at least 6 bus stops, one primary school, one park and a supermarket as well as normal commuters. I have personally witnessed recently a pedestrian hit by a car, shopping scattered across the road, ambulance being called. Not a sight I want my kids to witness

again.

2. Will the Council commit to improving the speed of traffic on Trundleys Road and provide efficient speed bumps, width restrictions and/or speed cameras?

The current speed bumps do nothing to prevent cars from speeding as cars veer to the middle of the road to navigate the easiest path and avoid slowing down? This coupled with the lack of safe crossing, makes Trundleys Road a highly dangerous and unpleasant road for pedestrians to use.

### **Reply**

The Council is committed to improving road safety across the Borough but must balance that by prioritising limited funds. The provision of controlled pedestrian crossings would require justification in terms of volume of pedestrians and vehicles in conjunction with such proposals being sited in a safe and desired crossing path. Such provision, if justified, would require the removal of parking to increase visibility and any necessary traffic islands or kerbed build outs. Such constraints make controlled crossings difficult to justify and there are no plans for new controlled crossings. However, at junctions there should be dropped kerbs and tactile paving, and if not insitu then this will be considered as part of our annual programme.

The resurfacing of Trundleys Road is proposed at the end of June and speed cushions will be replaced. Speed cushions are the type of traffic calming that can be used on a bus / emergency services priority route as it allows such vehicles to straddle them. There are no current plans to amend the traffic calming in this road, but we will continue to monitor safety and take action at our high priority locations.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 16.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Christian Turner

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

**Question**

I am a Trundleys road resident for the past 4 years and am happy to see the road and footpaths are finally being renewed. I do have some concerns though.

- Is the road going to have provision for safe crossing, particularly near the 'Lidl' end of the road at the bend? I have witnessed on more than one occasion a near accident as cars navigate a blind bend with ineffective speed-humps, and families attempt to cross at this point... there is no option. Are we going to accept this danger as standard when something can be done now while we have the opportunity?

- Is the footpath going to be renewed for the entire road? It seems that the whole footpath needs attention, not just around the bus stops... A beautiful new road with a patchy paved footpath, chequered bitumen, littered with wheelie bins... seems a shame to not do a proper job of it.

**Reply**

The works to the bus stops were funded by Transport for London to make the buses more accessible. Unfortunately, due to limited funding, there are no further plans to

do any additional footway works in this road. There is, however, a proposal to resurface Trundleys Road from the end of June 17, and the existing speed cushions will be replaced.

There are a number of constraints when considering controlled pedestrian crossings. We are generally unable to locate crossing on or near to bends in the road, and often proposals are ruled out at the design stage due to the curvature of the road and the constraint this places on drivers' sight lines.

However, before feasibility is considered, new crossings must be justified in terms of vehicle flows and pedestrian volumes, as well as collision rates. This is important to ensure that limited funds are prioritised effectively.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 17.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Mr Richardson

Member to reply: Councillor Best

**Question**

For some 6 years now, the vast majority of Lewisham's branch libraries have been kept open, but their management has been handed over to a third party - either a Charity or Social Enterprise based organisation. All of which have dutifully provided enviable opening hours, but have removed the costs of library service personnel.

The method of service delivery used in Community Libraries is 'Lewisham's Preferred Model'. This actually means that book and media stock is sourced and provided by Lewisham's Library and Information Service, with actual issues and returns being handled by volunteers, or by machine.

Unfortunately, the dramatic decline of issues - including the more robust figures supplied by the three remaining hub libraries which are manned by trained library staff - clearly indicate the model chosen may well be the Council's preferred model, but clearly is not that preferred by library customers.

Compare the figures provided by our neighbouring Royal Borough of Greenwich, operated on a professional basis throughout by a wholly owned Trust.

Is it not time to review the adoption of Lewisham's Preferred Model of library service delivery, if only to give some solace to Lewisham's library users and Council Tax Payers?

### **Reply**

It is pleasing to hear that Lewisham libraries' very long opening hours are considered positively. Indeed, offering access for extended hours is reflected in increased visits to Lewisham's libraries, even at a time of great change such as last year – when the service went through a full reorganisation and the Community Library Model was extended to three more buildings.

The role of the library and information service has changed over the years and this is clearly reflected in national trends. One of the most visible of these relates to the decrease in issues of paper-based books. This is true in Lewisham as it is nationally.

However, there are two factors that should be considered in relation to Lewisham. First, our library service has invested in its electronic resources, the usage of which is on a path of steady growth. Second, Lewisham's collections of books have gone through a radical review, new stock has been added to our shelves, and new book promotion activities will run in the coming months.

This is important because, while we are moving with the times, we are committed to promoting more traditional forms reading.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 18.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Moira Kerrane

Member to reply: Councillor Maslin

**Question**

Three Mayor and Cabinet public reports relate to Addey & Stanhope & Ashmead Primary proposed expansions;

In the first dated September 28 2016 we are told shortfall for Addey & Stanhope expansion is 8 Million pounds

In the second dated September 7 2016 we are told shortfall for Ashmead expansion is 8 million pounds

In the third dated January 11 2017 we are told both expansions the shortfall is 3 million pounds

Can you show how the costing and expenditure information has been broken down and estimated by the Council for each of the two school expansions, in terms of allocated basic need grant and school places capital and S106 vs the total of Capital reserves, showing the estimated depletion and shortfall forecast.

Can this be shown in a Spreadsheet format?

Can you also show where the S106 funds for these expansions are being allocated from?

## Reply

To clarify the three reports that you specify above have differing budget implications as a result of the wider school places programme. In September 2016 the expected in-year position for the whole programme predicted a shortfall of up to £8m. By January that expected in-year shortfall had reduced to £3m, this is mainly as a result of programming, and that more costs will be borne at a later date.

With regards to exact costs of building contracts these are not published for reasons of commercial confidentiality.

However, with regards to the S106 element, we can inform that the following funds have been identified towards the two projects mentioned.

Address	Ward	Type	Amount	Suggested Allocations
483-485 NEW CROSS ROAD, LONDON, SE14 6TQ	New Cross	Education Contribution	117,933.98	Addey and Stanhope
MARINE WHARF WEST, PLOUGH WAY, LONDON, SE16 7UE	Evelyn	Education Contribution	342,696.41	Addey and Stanhope
Cannon Wharf Business Centre, 35 Evelyn Street	Evelyn	Education Contribution	402,891.96	Addey and Stanhope
VACANT LAND TO THE NORTH AND, 54B TRUNDLEY'S ROAD, LONDON, SE8 5JG	Evelyn	Education Contribution	104,664.00	Addey and Stanhope
Cannon Wharf Business Centre, 35 Evelyn Street	Evelyn	Education Contribution	1,088,372.03	Addey and Stanhope
MARINE WHARF WEST, PLOUGH WAY, LONDON, SE16 7UE	Evelyn	Education Contribution	588,615.85	Addey and Stanhope
Tanner's Hill, London, SE8	Brockley	Education - Secondary	83,052.91	Addey and Stanhope
Site of the old Seager Distillery and Norfolk House, Brookmill Road, SE8	Brockley	Education Contribution	444,822.80	Ashmead
The Deptford Project	New Cross	Education Contribution	267,606.06	Ashmead
LAND AT THURSTON ROAD TO THE NORTH WEST OF SHERWOOD COURT, THURSTON ROAD, LONDON, SE13 7SD	Lewisham Central	Education Contribution	193,236.00	Ashmead
180 Brockley Road	Brockley	Education Contribution	44,119.78	Ashmead
Tanner's Hill, London, SE8	Brockley	Education - Primary	92,379.29	Ashmead



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 19.**

**Priority 1**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Scott Barkwith

Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

The London Borough of Lewisham Streetscape Guide states that the Council seeks to maintain, protect and increase the number and quality of trees in the borough. (pg 16). The number off street trees in Evelyn Ward has reduced over many years and the ward now has the lowest level of tree coverage in Lewisham - according to the Mayor of London Tree Initiative map (2015)

Will the Council commit to consulting with residents of Evelyn Ward to identify locations for street trees and aim to have a replacement programme up and running in time for London Tree Week 2018?

**Reply**

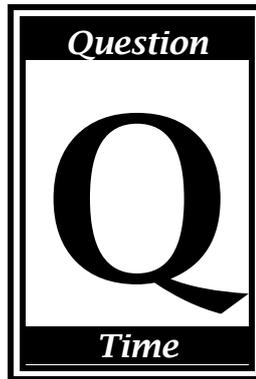
This summer the Council is undertaking a survey of all the boroughs street trees to identify their condition and maintenance requirements.

The survey will also identify the locations where trees have been lost so that replacement opportunities can be explored. This will involve working with our community partners and the GLA to further develop the Street Trees for Living scheme and other projects that have resulted in 145 new street tree planted this year alone.

Information on how local residents can become involved in the Street Trees for Living Scheme can be found on the Councils Website.

Alternatively you can contact John Thompson Group Manager Green Scene who will be happy to discuss the opportunities for tree replacement in Evelyn Ward specifically.

John can be contacted on Tel: 020 8314 2015 or email [john.thompson@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:john.thompson@lewisham.gov.uk)



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 20.**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Andy Hughes

Member to reply: Councillor Egan

**Question**

1. Over a five month period the Guardian newspaper correspondent Barney Roney wrote multiple articles highlighting several serious questions about the Millwall CPO including:  
Questions about Renewals ownership dating back to a 2013 PWC report prepared for the council. Questions regarding Renewals ability of experience in handling a development project of this size, questions as to why Millwall were not allowed to buy the land around the stadium or allowed to submit their own plans for redevelopment. As the cabinet member responsible for housing, with all these questions being asked and the evidence mounting, why did it take you almost 5 months until the 24th of January 2017 to publically announce your concerns about Renewal?
2. If, as you say in your online article of the 24th of January, “social and affordable housing is my top priority” and that “we have a housing crisis that is so severe, it is eating at the dignity of the community we were elected to serve”. Given that statement, why then did you not insist that the level of

social housing was set higher than 12%? Why wave through a project that was devised in 2011 and no longer fit for purpose? What is the current minimum % that Lewisham council requires developers to put aside for social housing?

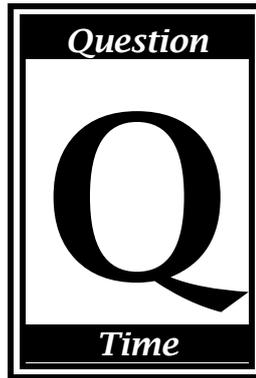
### **Reply**

Thank you for your question.

I believe I set out quite clearly my views in the statement you refer to.

As there is now an independent inquiry into the proposals relating to the site myself, and my fellow Councillor colleagues, have agreed to refrain from making further public statements or comment until the findings are published.

I'm sure once they are published there will be much opportunity for discussion.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 21.**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Carole Hope

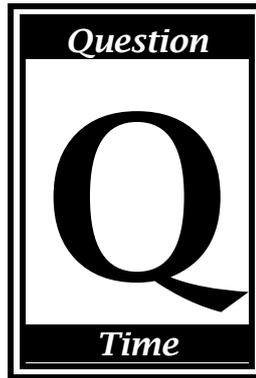
Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

1. According to the Key Decision plan the "restoration and repurposing of buildings in Beckenham Place Park" was supposed to be decided at Mayor and Cabinet 9/11/16, but it wasn't and wasn't minuted as being postponed. It has also dropped off the plan. Why?
2. On 17/2/16 the Mayor made a political decision to close Beckenham Place Park Golf Course. This was his decision alone. Please advise i) the previous occasion such an action had been taken ii) the next occasion such a decision will be taken.
3. Why does the council meeting keywords search engine no longer return results for Beckenham Place Park?
4. Why has the audio recording of Mayor and Council meeting 17/2/16 been removed from the website?

**Reply**

1. The update report for Beckenham Place Park was deferred from November 2016 as there was no immediate need for any decisions in respect of the buildings.
2. In the course of his duties the Mayor makes decisions about many different facilities in the borough. In this case he chose to close the loss making golf course and pursue restoration of the park for a wider group of users.
3. An engine search for 'Beckenham' reveals multiple references to Beckenham Place Park whereas a more elaborate search of 'Beckenham Place Park' fails to deliver any results. The external provider of the Content Management System has been asked to investigate further this anomaly.
4. The Council does not as of yet routinely broadcast meetings. Some free experiments were conducted in 2016 but these could not be progressed owing to hardware deficiencies. The broadcasts which did take place remain the property of the originating companies and any which have been removed would have been done at their discretion.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 22.**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Emily Frith

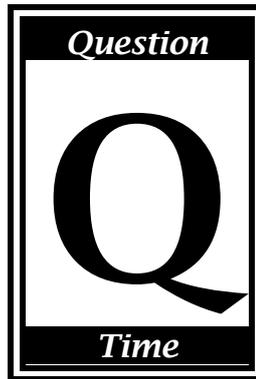
Member to reply: Alan Smith

**Question**

What action does the Council propose to take to remove old phone boxes which are no longer used but which are subject to vandalism, look unattractive and clutter up pavements? As an illustration between Catford Theatre and Holbeach Road, a distance of less than 100 metres there are 10 phone boxes.

**Reply**

Generally phone boxes, even redundant ones, are the property of BT and as such any decision and action to remove them sits with BT. The Council can make contact with BT to ascertain their requirements and plans for the boxes in question.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 23.**

**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Georgia Smith

Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

RTS Waste Management (Unit 1 Stockholm Road, SE16 3LP) use Senegal Road to access their London weighbridge. According to RTS's website, tipping at this site is currently suspended to non-account customers until further notice. Does RTS have a permit to park vehicles or leave large skips on Senegal Road or anywhere outside the curtilage of RTS Waste Management's business premises? What efforts are being made to tackle the problem of commercial trade waste dumping in the vicinity of the numerous refuse facilities along Surrey Canal Road?

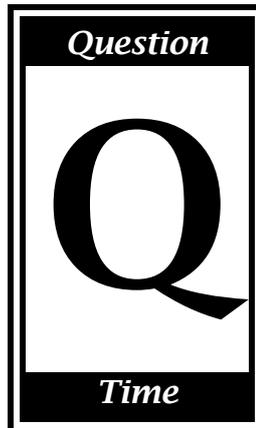
**Reply**

The Council has checked land ownership for Senegal Road and can confirm the land is private property. Therefore, we have no powers and are unable to take parking enforcement action against vehicles in Senegal Road as it is private property.

The Council takes commercial fly-tipping very seriously and will usually investigate reported incidents of commercial fly-tipping. This will often involve searching through

fly-tips with a view to seizing evidence, attempting to locate witnesses and any CCTV evidence. Borough wide (including SE14) the Council's Clean Streets (Enforcement) Team are issuing on the spot fines to those fly-tipping and to those not maintaining waste disposal documents.

Senegal Road, SE14 has experienced two significant fly-tips in the past couple of months. The latest fly-tip is still under investigation and if sufficient evidence is obtained the Council will look to prosecute the perpetrators. We will now consider a mobile CCTV camera for the vicinity of Senegal Road.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 24 .**

**Priority 2**

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**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Mr Woolford

Member to reply: Councillor Smith

**Question**

New proposals to build a new station at New Cross Gate would demolish the entire commercial park including Sainsbury's that offers hundreds of jobs on flexible hours crucial to the local economy and to support young workers and woman hit hardest by austerity agenda. Will the Council support Lewisham People Before Profit's proposal to save jobs by moving the planned new station to the adjacent empty land to New Cross Gate Station; a site which would be better for disabled access, parents with buggies and would save not just hundreds of jobs, but protect a much needed petrol station and the substantial business rates this site presently generates?

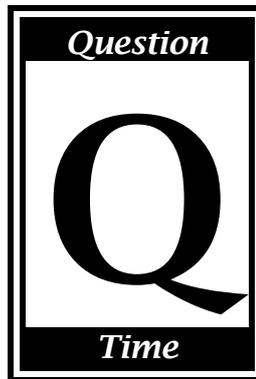
**Reply**

The extension of the Bakerloo Line to Lewisham and beyond is strongly supported by the Council. It is however recognised that whilst there are clear long term economic benefits and future job creation, there are inevitable short term impacts

that need to be managed and minimised. Officers are working with TfL and the GLA to explore the issues and ensure that impacts on Lewisham residents and businesses are addressed from this early stage.

TfL have undertaken extensive public consultation regarding the location of the proposed station to serve a Bakerloo Line extension and considered a number of sites as part of that work. Their work to date has concluded that the Sainsbury's site, which is a site already allocated for redevelopment in the existing development plan, is the most suitable location. They note that the Goodwood Road site alone is not large enough to provide the necessary construction site and if chosen, would likely necessitate the acquisition of further land and have significant impacts on the operation of the highway network.

The Council is in ongoing discussions with TfL and we have responded to the BLE consultation with a holding response whilst we await further detail to enable a fuller response. It is understood that TfL will also be undertaking further work to review the socio-economic impact on local area, including loss of existing jobs and retail during the construction phase. The Council welcome this and will continue to work with TfL to get the best possible outcome for Lewisham and secure the extension of the Bakerloo Line.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 25.**  
**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Andrew Tonge

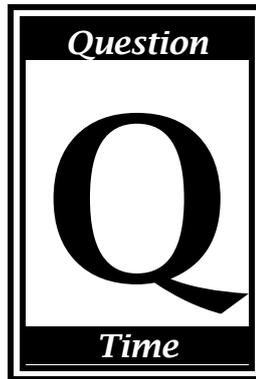
Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

Given that the Council has failed to achieve all significant milestones for the redevelopment of Beckenham Place Park, what is the current, true, schedule?

**Reply**

The main phase of work is planned to run from February 2018 to May 2019.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 26.**  
**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Mrs Richardson

Member to reply: Councillor Best

**Question**

A friend recently returned a book to Catford Library a day late, as she had been unwell and had not been able to do so beforehand. This resulted in a 10p fine, but the person on duty said she was unable to accept the money, instead it could be paid at Lewisham Central, or Downham, or Deptford Lounge. This seemed quite outlandish, but, if the fine is not paid would issues be refused in the future? Would other borrowers see it in their interests to run up fines? Does the Council have a limit on fines before taking enforcement action?

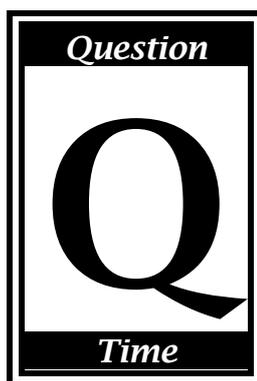
**Reply**

Catford Library is being redeveloped as part of the redesign of the ground floor of the Laurence House building. The resulting operation will rely on new self-service terminals that can take card payments and an option to pay at the new combined reception point.

We regret the inconvenience caused by the interim provision at Catford, and consider this when customers who have not been able to pay bring this to our

attention.

Borrowers with outstanding balances on their account are invited to clear it, but are not stopped from borrowing before they reach an outstanding balance of £10. At this point, readers would not be able to borrow a book, place reservations, or book and use a library computer.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 27.**  
**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Shereener Hudson

Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

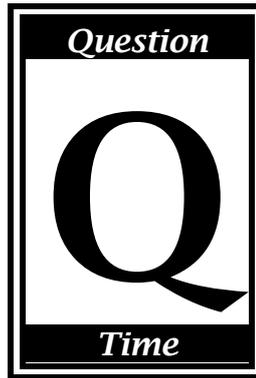
Why are there so few bins on the streets of the Hatcham Park Conservation area? As a result of the lack of bins, street litter is a serious problem.

Why aren't there more street cleaners and more regular street cleaning in Hatcham Park? My street gets cleaned on average once per month. This is not frequent enough with the result that rubbish, including broken bottles (a potential cause of injury) builds up to unacceptable levels.

**Reply**

The Cleansing Team Manager for this area informs me that there are an adequate amount of litter bins within this area.

There has been a significant cut in Street Cleansing resources over the past 5 years, this has resulted in the frequency of sweeping of all residential roads within the borough having to be reduced to once a week.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 28.**  
**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Trina Lynskey

Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

Are you aware that the Highway Code states in rule 245 that 'You must not park partially or wholly on the pavement in London and should not do so elsewhere unless signs permit it.' This means that offenders in London can be given a parking ticket.

On Saturday June 3rd in the space of 30 minutes while walking to the high street using a pushchair I was forced to walk in the road with two small children because cars were parked ON the pavement. This is against the law. Is it true that a photograph is sufficient evidence to issue a fine. I have submitted photographs to enforcement officers.

In one of the photographs, the car on Childers Street is parked up on the newly laid paving. It is a struggle to get the hazardous paving re-laid in this area. If enforcement action is not taken on illegal pavement parking any work undertaken to make our streets more accessible will have been in vain. Lewisham Council has devolved powers to issue fines and create revenue which could be used to improve the quality and accessibility of pavements.

Parking on pavements in Evelyn Ward is commonplace and it causes obstruction and damage. Can you tell me what action Lewisham Council will take to make pavements accessible and unobstructed for use by pedestrians and what action you will take to address the offences photographed in a short 30 minute period?

### **Reply**

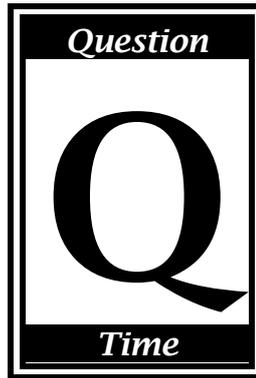
The Council is aware of the Highway Code rule 245 regarding pavement parking and will take enforcement action against those not complying where it has the authority to do so. The Council does not have authority to do so on private land.

Dorking Close – The Council has jurisdiction to enforce Dorking Close from Abinger Grove to Alverton Street. However, the remainder of the road and the whole of the pavement area is the responsibility of Lewisham Homes as they are the relevant housing authority. We shall ensure that we raise your concerns with them and that the appropriate action is taken. The Council are unable to take action on the land we have no control of.

Staunton Street – The Council will instruct their enforcement contractor NSL Ltd to visit the area. Should they see vehicles parking on the pavement, they will initially place a warning notice advising the driver of the infringement. NSL Ltd would normally take this course of action a few days prior to issuing a Penalty Charge Notice. Historically, this course of action has been very effective in dealing with similar complaints of this nature.

Childers Street – NSL Ltd confirm that Childers Street is regularly patrolled by Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs) who take action whenever a parking contravention is identified. In the past 3 months NSL Ltd have visited the road 12 times and issued 2 Penalty Charge Notices. NSL Ltd reported that the bay markings allowing pavement parking are faded between the junction of Abinger Grove and Rolt Street. The bays will be remarked as a matter of priority. The newly re-laid paving is demarcated with bollards at the end of the street, outside the new building, which defines the building line. Unfortunately, the Council is unable to undertake enforcement on the land behind the building line. However, NSL Ltd will continue to tackle pavement parking in front of the building line to improve compliance.

The Council is unable to issue Penalty Charge Notices using photographic evidence provided by a resident.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 29.**  
**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Christian Turner

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

**Question**

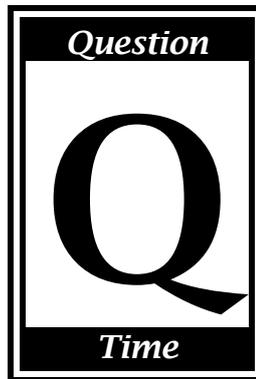
Is the going to be a provision for trees or shrubbery on Trundleys Road? Do you agree that the street needs to be more pedestrian friendly, of which there is many, and increasing, not a vehicular thoroughfare! The speed bumps are not working! Also is there a commitment to green living? Families are increasingly moving to the area and these issues need to be addressed, to develop and promote healthy, attractive living.

**Reply**

Introducing new street trees can be challenging with limited space available. It is also important to prioritise space for pedestrians and cyclists. The underground utilities can often make new trees too costly and reduced revenue budgets mean that damaged trees aren't always maintained. Despite these challenges, the Council seeks to maintain, protect and increase the number and quality of trees in the borough.

The Council has no specific budgets for the introduction of new trees, but instead must look for opportunities to obtain funding. This is usually achieved through major schemes and developments, where there are sufficient resources to deal with the challenges and maintenance commitments. Unfortunately budgets for maintenance or road safety are limited and must be strictly prioritised to achieve those specific objectives.

The resurfacing of Trundleys Road is proposed at the end of June and speed cushions will be replaced.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 30.**  
**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Mari

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

**Question**

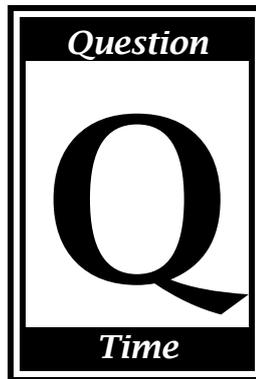
The re-paving of parts of Trundleys Road footpath is a welcome news (and long overdue) - however it is disappointing to hear that only few parts of the footpath are actually being redone by TfL (only where the bus stops are situated) with most of the road remaining as it is. This is not only unacceptable but also poses a great danger to pedestrians using the footpath having to navigate the bumps and holes within it. As a matter of fact, most of the footpaths in the north Deptford area are in desperate need of resurfacing.

1. Is the Council concerned about the safety of pedestrians and their wellbeing and will the council commit to repairing the whole of Trundleys Road's footpath to give the opportunity to people to use it and not skip hop whilst doing so?
2. Will the Council commit to repair the footpaths of most of the surrounding roads and what timeframe are we looking at for this?

## **Reply**

The Council is committed to improving road safety across the Borough but must balance that by prioritising limited funds. The provision of controlled pedestrian crossings would require justification in terms of volume of pedestrians and vehicles in conjunction with such proposals being sited in a safe and desired crossing path. Such provision, if justified, would require the removal of parking to increase visibility and any necessary traffic islands or kerbed build outs. Such constraints make controlled crossings difficult to justify and there are no plans for new controlled crossings. However, at junctions there should be dropped kerbs and tactile paving, and if not insitu then this will considered as part of our annual programme.

The recent footway works in Trundleys Road were to make the bus stops more accessible and this was funded by TfL. No further funding is identified for additional footway works from Council budgets. However, there is a proposal to resurface part of Trundleys Road from late June 2017.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 31.**  
**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Christian Turner

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

**Question**

There is an increasing habit for motorists to use Trundleys Road and even worse Grinstead Road as a race track! The current smiley face deterrent is just not working! We are trying to encourage the area as family friendly. What plans are there in the current works to address this issue?

**Reply**

Trundleys Road and Grinstead Road are part of a 20mph zone which is supported by speed cushions of the type that can be used on a bus / emergency services priority route.

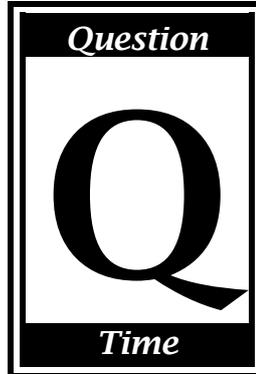
The current works proposed are for resurfacing in Trundleys Road and for some footway improvements alongside improved bus stops. There are no plans to extend these specific works to include road safety improvements. However, there are a number of recent and planned schemes in the vicinity which include benefits for road

safety, including the Quietway improvements at the junction of Trundleys Road and Surrey Canal Road, improvements associated with the development of Sir Francis Drake School, the proposed Cycle Superhighway on Evelyn Street, and Quietway improvements to Rolt Street and Childers Street.

The speed indicator device is part of a range of softer measures that we employ to encourage drivers to drive more slowly. Community Roadwatch is a locally driven initiative where active members of the community join together with the support of the Police and in some Boroughs the Road Safety Officer to monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices. (Speed Guns) Vehicles exceeding the speed limit are referred to the Police with the aim of educating drivers to reduce their speeds.

An official Police letter is sent to the speeding driver to highlight they have been 'spotted' exceeding the speed limit and advising them of the speed and reminding them of why it is a community concern.

Community Roadwatch events can be requested directly from the Police: [CommunityRoadwatch@met.police.uk](mailto:CommunityRoadwatch@met.police.uk)



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 32.**  
**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Mr Richardson

Member to reply: Councillor Bonavia

**Question**

As the Library Budget Book forms part of the overall Council Spend, could the responsible council person inform me exactly where the Library Budget Book is located in Lewisham's annual budgets for the years 2016-17 and 2017-18 in order the figures may be publicly scrutinised?

**Reply**

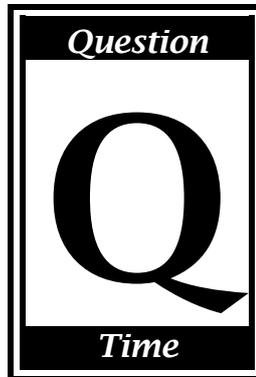
The Corporate Budget Book is available online. On the Council's website, click on "Mayor and Council", then "About the Council", and "Finances", and "Budgets". The "Budget Book for 2016/17" is at the bottom of the page.

The "2017/18 Revenue Budget Outlook" is available in the "Statement of Accounts", also available online. On the Council's website, click on "Mayor and Council", then

“About the Council”, and “Finances”, and “Statement of Accounts”. The “Statement of Accounts for 2016/17” – which contains the Budget Outlook for 2017/18 is at the top of the page.

The Council does not provide details of the individual services’ budgets in the format of a Budget Book. However, the Council’s spend on the Library Service is reported – and publicly available from – the Department for Culture Media and Sport Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accounting libraries survey on their website (<http://www.cipfa.org/services/statistics/comparative-profiles/public-libraries>). This survey, published annually in the Autumn, includes a detailed breakdown of spend on materials including books, DVDs, etc..

Furthermore, an update on the financial position of the Library service will be part of the Annual Report due to be presented to the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on 12 July 2017 with the papers available on the Council’s website.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 33.**  
**Priority 2**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Moira Kerrane

Member to reply: Councillor Maslin

**Question**

In Deptford Evelyn Ward there is no secondary school provision - our children have go to schools out of their ward and or borough.

The two local secondary schools Evelyn Ward children attend are (New Cross) Deptford Green which is recovering from Special measures and Bacons college Southwark has been rated for Special measures failing in every category.

How are Lewisham addressing the need for an Evelyn Ward Secondary school given that 10000 new homes are being built in Evelyn Ward, and what are the plans to address the shortage of special education needs especially Autism Spectrum children's secondary provision?

**Reply**

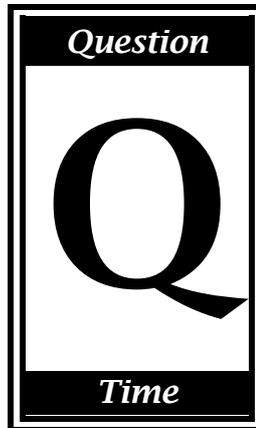
Lewisham council, like most other London boroughs, plans secondary school places at a borough level (and indeed wider than this as a result of pupil mobility and parental choice).

Secondary planning also depends on history and availability of sites since these are so large.

At this point there are places available within the existing secondary schools in Lewisham. However, the council is committed to reviewing these projections on a yearly basis, and is aware that the demography of London is in a current state of flux.

The recently launched Lewisham Secondary Challenge programme of school improvement is improving the quality of our secondary schools within the borough, and indeed schools such as Deptford Green are on an upward trajectory.

With regards to pupils with SEND needs the council is currently creating a SEND place planning strategy, based upon the recent SEND sufficiency review and the ASD review that is currently ongoing. This new document will be ready for public consultation in the Autumn.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 34.**

**Priority 3**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Emily Frith

Member to reply: Alan Smith

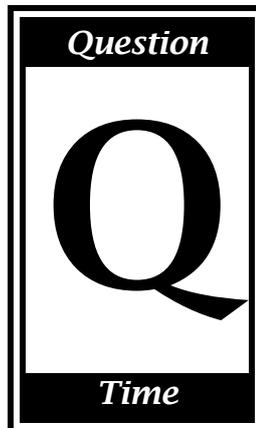
**Question**

In Blackheath, pedestrians crossing at the corner of Tranquil Vale and Royal Parade to reach the Heath cannot see cars coming up Tranquil Vale. Will the Council install a convex mirror on the wall in the traffic island to enable pedestrians to see round the corner and to know whether it is safe to cross?

**Reply**

The Council does not install mirrors on the highway as they cannot always be relied upon to provide a sufficient line of sight for either pedestrians or vehicles. Of particular concern is the false sense of security that they can give, leading to increased speeds or poor decision-making. Pedestrians who may find it difficult to

cross Royal Parade, at the corner of Tranquil Vale, to access the heath, would be encouraged to cross further along Royal Parade where the road narrows and where there is better visibility.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 35.**

**Priority 3**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Georgia Smith

Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

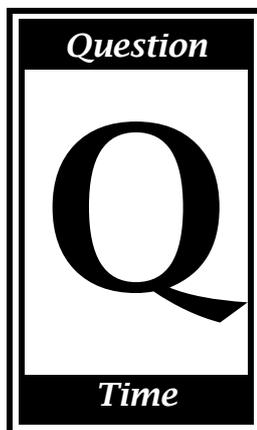
In May 2016 Lewisham Council announced that new on-the-spot fines were being introduced to reduce fly-tipping offences in the borough. How many of these fines have been issued in Evelyn & New Cross and has fly-tipping in these wards reduced? How much has been spent by the council on clearing fly-tipped waste in New Cross and Evelyn wards in 2014/15, 2015/16 and thus far in 2016/17?

**Reply**

Since May 2017 26 Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued in Evelyn ward in relation to waste offences. Of the 26 FPNs 7 of those were £400 waste deposit penalties.

Since May 2017 22 Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued in New Cross ward in relation to waste offences. Of the 22 FPNs 7 of those were £400 waste deposit penalties.

It is not operationally possible to gather data in regards to the cost of clearing flytipping in individual wards of the borough.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 36.**

**Priority 3**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Mr Woolford

Member to reply: Councillor Smith

**Question**

Why are there no Deptford schools with any school awareness signs? Three local residents were hit by lorries working on the growing number of developments in the area. I fear it is only a matter of time before a child is hit because Deptford Park school is a massive danger zone for parents and children. Deptford is the only area in the UK whose schools have NO road school safety awareness signage.

**Reply**

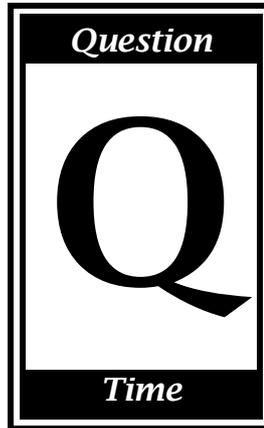
The road safety team have carried out a review of signs in this area. Generally schools are able to request additional signs and report issues through their school

travel plan. Therefore any absence of signs or issues around schools is reported by the school community and acted upon immediately.

The review has found that all schools in Deptford already have school/child warning signs, some have additional illuminated signs, signs painted on the road, and unless they are located on the TLRN (Transport for London Road Network) they are also within a 20 mph speed limit.

In particular there are signs in both directions of Evelyn Street warning drivers of the location of Deptford Park School.

There are currently reviews of the 20mph speed limit compliance at which time we will be able to look at roads where there is evidence to show that additional engineering measures are required to slow traffic down and reduce casualties.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 37.**

**Priority 3**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Carole Hope

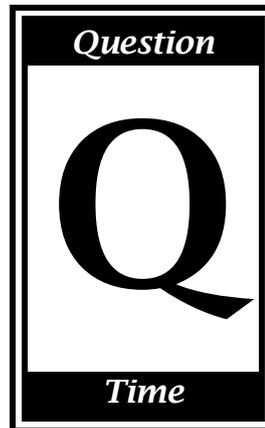
Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

The Heritage Lottery Fund case paper to Trustees says the total project cost (as at December 2016) for the redevelopment of Beckenham Place Park is £8,368,938, of which HLF will grant £4,729,400 (57%) leaving the council to secure £3,639,538 (43%). From where will this significant figure be sourced and will any services be cut to make up that shortfall?

**Reply**

The remaining funds will be sourced from the Environment Agency and GLA who will contribute towards flood alleviation landscaping costs on the east side of the park. The remaining insurance funds from the stable block fire, Section 106 contributions, and Access Sport investment in the BMX track will also contribute to the investment total. Volunteer time is also factored into the overall contribution with activities like the recent tree planting by more than 100 volunteers making a direct contribution towards the finished park.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 38.**

**Priority 3**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Andrew Tonge

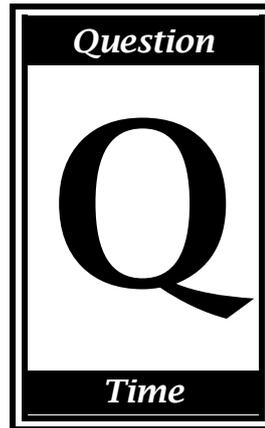
Member to reply: Councillor Onikosi

**Question**

Has the changed demographic of Beckenham Place Park users lined up with Council expectations following the closure of the public golf course and its claimed barrier to use and how has the Council measured/assessed this?

**Reply**

No further surveys are planned until after project completion so that the impact of all changes can be assessed.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 39.**

**Priority 3**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Shereener Hudson

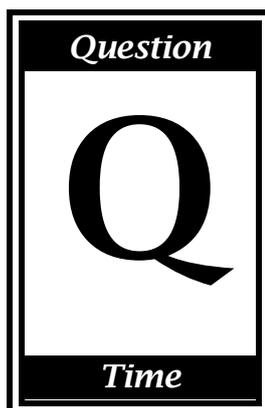
Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

**Question**

Do you agree that the Council should try to do something to improve the look and feel of New Cross High street particularly at the end nearer the Old Kent Road. There are far too many vacant, boarded up and unkempt properties. It is notable that the neighbouring borough of Lambeth has a scheme in Kennington to improve the local high street.

## **Reply**

The Council is committed to improving neighbourhood and town centres across the Borough. As part of the work to secure the Bakerloo Line Extension to Lewisham and beyond, the Council is due to carry out master plan work looking at the entire New Cross Road corridor, which will include looking at how to improve the streetscape and economy in the area. To that effect the Council has applied to the GLA for funding from its Good Growth Fund to help with this work.



## **PUBLIC QUESTION NO 40.**

### **Priority 3**

## **LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

### **COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Trina Lynskey

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

### **Question**

Are you aware that the long neglected streets in Evelyn Ward need resurfacing and the issue has been raised by residents and road users for many years? However, the pavements in Evelyn Ward remain hazardous and inaccessible despite a programme road surface upgrades.

The London Borough of Lewisham Streetscape Guide (LBLSG) states that “without

good planning, the streetscape can easily become unsafe, unpleasant and intimidating” (LBSG pg 1). This guide lists the Council’s objectives to create an inclusive environment by designing the streetscape so that it can be used by everyone (regardless of age, gender or disability). It also states the council’s aim to improve the experience of pedestrians and make streets friendlier for pedestrians through careful consideration of easy access and movement. Do you accept that there is little evidence of a joined-up approach to highway maintenance inclusive of the needs of all road users in Evelyn Ward.

Accessibility to local schools, workplaces, parks and other amenities has a profound impact on education, employment and health. The built environment is integral to our ability to be safe and feel safe. The Mayor of London & TfL “Safe London streets” programme asks councils to “adopt an approach that prioritises improvements for vulnerable road users” as they “make up 80 per cent of serious and fatal collisions”.

Funding from central government may be reduced but this should not have a disproportionate impact on vulnerable road users. Central Government cuts cannot be used as an excuse for poor joined up thinking and a lack of commitment to protecting pedestrians and improving accessibility. There seems to be ample scope for revenue creation in the area if enforcement action is taken on vehicles without tax, MOT or registration plates and those parked ON the pavements causing obstruction.

Will the Council commit to upgrading pavements, replacing street trees, installing traffic calming measures and pedestrian safety measures on all streets in Evelyn Ward during the current administration?

### **Reply**

The Council fully agrees with the need for joined up approach to highway maintenance. It is particularly important in the context of reducing budgets to ensure maintenance and surface renewals are co-ordinated with other improvements and investment opportunities.

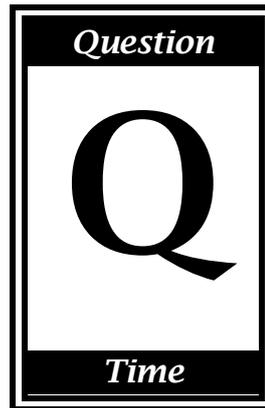
For example, the Council has recently secured and delivered cycling improvements on the new Quietway, which has enabled new road or footway surfaces in Surrey Canal Road, Childers Street, Edward Street, and we are currently working with the local community to develop proposals for Rolt Street.

However, this approach of co-ordination is reliant on the timing of such opportunities. In the Evelyn Ward we are anticipating very significant investment from developments such as Convoys Wharf, which is accessed from Grove Street, and from TfL, who are proposing a new Cycle Superhighway along the length of Evelyn Street.

The scale of investment from schemes such as these means that co-ordinating our own investment in surface improvements is the most prudent use of limited public funds. Although this sometimes means delaying road repairs, we are committed to ensuring that our roads and footways meet expected safety standards, and we continue to inspect and make localised repairs to dangerous surfaces.

The Cycle Superhighway and major developments will provide a wide range of improvements in the Evelyn Ward, but we continue to invest in cycle routes, bus infrastructure and traffic calming features to support the new Boroughwide 20mph limit.

The Council collects revenue through the enforcement of parking restrictions, including footway parking, and revenue generated supports our investment in the highway network. Unfortunately, enforcement of tax, MOT and vehicle registration is a matter for the DVSA.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 41.**

**Priority 3**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Mari

Member to reply: Deputy Mayor

**Question**

Parking on Trundleys Road is an increasingly worrying issue. When the 'newly' developed 'Miflats' planning application was put in, one of the main concerns was the need for parking for those hundreds of flats. Condition was put in place for the developers offer parking underneath the development. Those flats were due to be sold with parking. The developer then turned around and decided to rent the flats instead to increase their profit.

The parking spaces are now 'rented' for an extra £50 a month leaving the residents with no option but to park on Trundleys Road and save £600 a year. I have

personally called the agency renting those flats and they offered me a parking space (paid for) even though I don't reside in the Miflats.

1. Will the council take the developer to task and enforce that they provide a parking space free of charge for those flats to avoid congestion of parking on Trundleys Road?

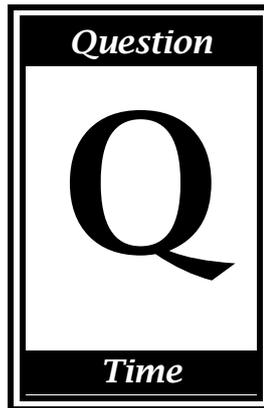
2. Will the Council take the developer to task and provide the landscaping (trees etc..) which were in the original plan and drawings to improve the look of Trundleys Road?

### **Reply**

The planning application at 50-52 Trundleys Road, London, SE8 5JQ for the retention of the existing building as 126 one bedroom and 12 two bedroom flats (total 138) with basement parking for 91 cars Ref DC/11/78342, was refused planning permission by the Council on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2012. However, it was granted planning permission at appeal by the Planning Inspectorate on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

The Planning Inspector didn't attach any planning conditions or obligations to the planning permission in relation to the parking spaces within the development. Therefore, the Council has no powers or influence over how the developer allocates the parking spaces within the development and can take no action.

The Planning Inspector also did not attach any planning conditions or obligations to the planning permission in relation to landscaping and it is therefore considered that the Council can also take no action on this matter.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 42.**

**Priority 3**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Moira Kerrane

Member to reply: Councillor Maslin

**Question**

Road Crossing at Grinstead Road Deptford for Sir Francis Drake Primary school.

For approximately 2 months the crossing warden (lollipop person) for this school crossing has been missing - this is a very dangerous road crossing several near misses and crashes are recorded at this crossing when there was provision, now there is none.

Question: What happened to the warden and why has it been two months with no crossing provision:

Why were parents not told there was no person at the crossing for this period of time?

Can the Council and the school ensure there is a responsible adult there to guide the children at opening and closing times for the school term until this post is filled?

### **Reply**

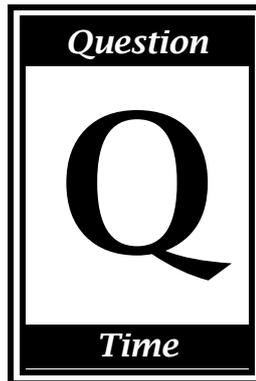
The school were informed when we received the employee's resignation, which was 2 weeks before she left.

We have had two job adverts out, but have had no one apply for the job who is suitable. There is currently another advert out that closes on Sunday June 11<sup>th</sup>.

We do not have any relief patrols so cannot offer this service.

If you know of anyone who would be interested in applying for the post please send them this link or email [roadsafetyeducation@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:roadsafetyeducation@lewisham.gov.uk)

<https://jobs.lewisham.gov.uk/transport-resources-regeneration-school-crossing-patrol-officer-x3/15017.job>



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 43.**

**Priority 4**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Emily Frith

Member to reply: Alan Smith

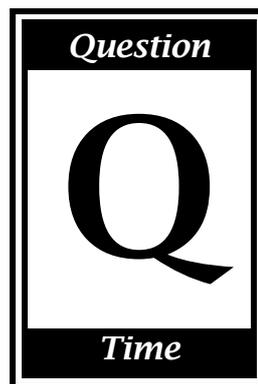
**Question**

Will the Council use its influence on Transport for London to ensure that bus route 180 is not affected by proposed cuts?

**Reply**

The Council has not had any formal notification from TfL of any plans to re-route the 180 bus from Lewisham. The Council has made representation to TfL on the issue

as a precaution and will continue to lobby TfL to protect and enhance bus services in the Borough.



**PUBLIC QUESTION NO 44.**

**Priority 4**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**21 JUNE 2017**

Question asked by: Carole Hope

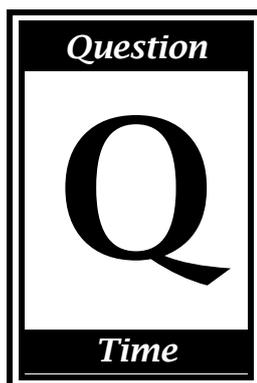
Member to reply: Cllr Onikosi

**Question**

The Heritage Lottery Fund case paper to Trustees says of the £8,368,938 (as at December 2016) project cost for the redevelopment of Beckenham Place Park, £1,111,574 is "other" costs i.e. not capital or activity costs. Given that since then consultants have been required to conduct more archaeology investigations into the site of the relocated car park, what is the new anticipated figure for consultancy fees and will that detract from the funds available for capital works and activity costs?

## Reply

We do not expect the overall fee level to change from that outlined to the HLF despite the need for some small scale archaeological investigations.



### PUBLIC QUESTION NO 45.

#### Priority 4

### LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

#### COUNCIL MEETING

21 JUNE 2017

Question asked by: Georgia Smith

Member to reply: Councillor Best

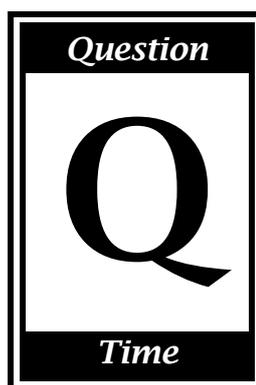
#### Question

The Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) off Clyde Street footpath opposite Evelyn Community Centre consists of two basketball courts in a cage. There has been a large sunken hole in the surface of the right-hand court for at least the last five months rendering it unusable for basketball games or other use. The hole is insecurely covered with several pieces of fencing. The MUGA is one of the few places in the local vicinity for teenagers to play. Will the surface be repaired in advance of the summer holidays? If not, what is the timescale for repairs?

## Reply

The MUGA is located within Evelyn Green a park that is managed as part of the council's Green Space Management Contract.

The council's contractors Glendale are aware of the issue with the playing surface and have been liaising with Thames Water to establish if there was a problem with their infrastructure below the playing surface that could have been causing the problem. It has been established that this is not the case, therefore Glendale have arranged for the necessary repairs to take place. This work should happen within the next two weeks.



## PUBLIC QUESTION NO 46.

### Priority 5

## LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

### COUNCIL MEETING

21 JUNE 2017

Question asked by: Carole Hope

Member to reply: Cllr Onikosi

### Question

Are you aware that the Environment Agency confirm in their policy document of 9 February 2017, that a flood alleviation scheme "is being delivered in partnership with Lewisham Council to ensure that the flood alleviation proposals in the eastern half of Beckenham Place Park form part of a joined up plan to rejuvenate the whole of the park."? The Environment Agency also state they "received a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund which helps the flood alleviation scheme in the eastern half of the park form part of a joined up plan to rejuvenate the whole area." However, the only grant from HLF in respect of Beckenham Place Park is to Lewisham Council and at Mayor and Cabinet on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016, regarding item 383 River Ravensbourne Flood Defence Works, it was resolved that "a contribution from the Council of a stated

value over three years be approved to ensure the flood defence works planned.” Can the Council explain how the undisclosed partnership funding for Beckenham Place Park going from Lewisham Council to Environment Agency fits with the total HLF project costs (as at December 2016) of £8,369,938, of which only £4,729,400 is funded by HLF?

**Reply**

Partnership funding from the Council towards the Environment Agency’s flood alleviation scheme is in addition to the £8.3m HLF project. This funding is from a separate budget.