

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
Report Title	Update from Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport (job share)	
Key Decision	No	Item No: 4a
Ward	All	
Contributors	Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport (job share)	
Class		Date: 29 October 2019

### Purpose

1. This report provides an update to Overview and Scrutiny Committee from the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport (job share), Cllr Sophie McGeever and Cllr Brenda Dacres.

### Recommendation

2. Overview & Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note this report.

### Environment

3. Lewisham Council declared a Climate Emergency in February 2019. The Council has committed to do everything within its power to become carbon neutral by 2030. Lewisham is emerging as one of the lead local authorities when it comes to action against a climate catastrophe. This declaration has led to a flurry of activity across the Council.
4. Lewisham's existing greenhouse gas emission target was to reduce carbon emissions by 44% by 2020, from a 2005 baseline. The Council is on track to meet this target. According to the latest data from Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS), the Council has reduced emissions by 38% by 2017 and has the second lowest greenhouse gas emissions per capita of any local authority in England.
5. Lewisham Council has commissioned expert research to provide an evidence base for compiling a comprehensive Climate Emergency Action Plan. The evidence base will:
  - Establish the basis for defining and measuring the carbon neutral target
  - Identify the 'business as usual' trajectory for carbon emissions in Lewisham
  - Identify and cost the additional actions required to reach the target

This Action Plan is due to be presented to Mayor and Cabinet in March 2020.

6. The Council removed single use plastic cups and stirrers from Council buildings in 2019.
7. The Council successfully launched the Greening Fund this year. The Greening Fund makes accessing Section 106 agreements easier for local community groups for improvements to green spaces. 45 applications were received, of which 32 have been provisionally allocated funding. Overall £360,000 has been allocated in total to the projects currently approved. Projects in this funding include 113 extra bins, 8 water fountains and 3 outdoor gym equipment.
8. 4 water fountains were installed in 2019 and 8 further fountains have been given provisionally approval via the Greening Fund.

9. On air pollution, Lewisham Council continues to be a leading borough in tackling air pollution. For London's first Car Free Day, Lewisham had the third highest number of road closures by borough, with 34 play streets taking place. This is in addition to the 4 play streets that have taken place in 2019.
10. In 2019, the Council has supported 3 schools in installing Green Screens. These 3 schools were awarded £10,000 in funding from the GLA, each award was match-funded by £10,000 from the Council. These three schools were Deptford Park Primary School, Haseltine Primary School and St James Hatcham Primary School.
11. To tackle air pollution, in September 2019, Mayor and Cabinet approved a Traffic Management Order to be put in place across the borough to allow Penalty Charge Notices to be issued when a driver refuses to stop idling, under the provisions of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended by section 87 of the Environment Act 1995). This will see people who refused to turn off their engines be fined up to £80. This will hopefully act as an effective deterrent to idling, which causes increased particulate matter pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, Lewisham is continuing to run an anti-idling awareness campaign with our schools. This has seen a banner competition using school children's winning designs to raise awareness with parents about the dangers of idling.
12. Lewisham's parks continue to be some of the best in London with 15 Green Flags and a further 3 Community Green Flags. This summer saw the launch of the restored Beckenham Place Park. The Park has already seen unprecedented use by residents. The Council responded quickly to health and safety concerns over the paddling area in the lake by shutting off the lake to the public. The lake was then quickly reopened with additional safety restrictions to ensure the enjoyment of the lake for all users. The use of the lake over the autumn and winter months are currently in discussion. Additionally, improvements to the eastern side of the park remain a key priority.
13. On 10 October 2019, Mayor and Cabinet made the decision in principle to insource Lewisham's parks and open spaces services on 1 November 2021. The current contract will be extended on the existing terms and conditions with Glendale Grounds Management for 20 months from 29 February 2020 until 31 October 2021. Officers are developing a detailed evaluation of the option to establish a wider divisional Local Authority Trading Company (LATCo).
14. The Council ran our Barriers to Waste Disposal consultation from 18 February 2019 to 8 April 2019. The aim of the consultation was to understand the barriers that are stopping residents from disposing of their household rubbish appropriately. The consultation included 11 talks at Local Ward Assembly Meetings and 11 drop in sessions. In total 5,528 responses were recorded to the consultation. Findings found that over three quarters of residents were either very or fairly happy with refuse and recycling services provided by the Council and over two thirds were either very or fairly happy with food waste services. However, two thirds of respondents were unaware that Lewisham collected commercial waste, over half were unaware that the Council will collect and recycle an old mattress for free and around a fifth of respondents were either not or not at all confident about what can and can't be recycled. In response new communal bin stickers are being promoted and a number of events have been held on increasing awareness of recycling.

## **Transport**

15. Progress on working with Transport for London (TfL) to secure funding for the Bakerloo Line Upgrade and Extension (BLE) is very promising, with officers working closely and effectively with the London Borough of Southwark.
16. Over 19,000 residents have signed the Back the Bakerloo campaign. A joint open letter to the Prime Minister was compiled by Lewisham and Southwark Councils which was signed by the leaders of Lewisham, Southwark, Westminster, and Brent councils, 8 MPs, and

many prominent businesses. Additionally, promotion of the BLE has taken place at high level conferences, such as the London Infrastructure Summit. The Council has also completed the New Cross Area Framework, which incorporates BLE into the local draft plan, and we have commissioned a Local Economic Impact Assessment. The Council has also worked to support and promote TfL's public consultation that went live on 14 October 2019. Alongside this work, the borough is working in partnership with Network Rail and TfL to develop proposals for Lewisham interchange, which will be integrated with the BLE proposals. The above work will all be reflected in an updated Rail Vision for the borough.

17. Lewisham is one of the most pro-cycling boroughs in London. On 5 June 2019, Mayor & Cabinet agreed to begin the implementation of Cycleway 4 along Evelyn Street, in conjunction with TfL. It is planned that construction of this segregated cycle path will commence in Lewisham from April 2020, and be completed by spring 2021, transforming cycling in the borough. Officers are also working closely with TfL to develop a number of other Cycleways throughout the borough.
18. The £2.9 million Deptford Parks Liveable Neighbourhood scheme is continuing with its innovative community led design and engagement. A further round of consultation on the design will commence on 29 October 2019, after which the results will be analysed and the scheme will move into the detailed design phase. The project will include a new world-class traffic-free walking and cycling facility, road closures, traffic reduction, improved public realm and healthier routes to schools. The project is due to be delivered by spring 2021.
19. The Council launched its Healthy Neighbourhood programme in 2019. This traffic reduction scheme will help the Council reach the target of 80% of all journeys in the borough to be taken by sustainable modes of transport, such as walking, cycling and public transport by 2041. There are 18 neighbourhoods across the borough that are bounded by key transport corridors, such as main roads and railway lines. Community consultation on project designs began in May 2019 in Lewisham & Lee Green, and in June 2019 in East Sydenham. The next two healthy neighbourhood areas will be Telegraph Hill and Bellingham.
20. The Council continues working with local schools to encourage children to walk, cycle or scoot to school. Lewisham has been developing a school street pilot with two schools in each of the Healthy Neighbourhood Areas in 2019 and 2020. There are also plans to extend this to other schools outside of the Healthy Neighbourhood Areas from 2020.
21. Cycle storage across the borough continues to grow with 78 hangars across 13 wards in the borough. 11 new hangars are set to be installed by the end of November 2019. The borough has submitted an ambitious bid to TfL for further funding for more cycle hangars, as well as new visitor cycle parking facilities at key locations.
22. There has been positive movement in working with TfL over a segregated cycle route connecting Downham to Deptford. TfL are currently working on a jointly funded outcome definition study, with input from LBL officers. This report is expected by spring 2020.
23. The UK has proved to be a very challenging market for dockless bike schemes and many international companies are reviewing their strategy. However, the Council remains committed to supporting dockless bike hire in Lewisham. The borough hopes to be able to sign up to a pan-London bylaw in the coming months. This puts us on a strong footing to work closely with operators to manage any schemes that we decide to trial in 2020.
24. On 10 July 2019, Mayor & Cabinet approved the Low Emission Vehicle Charging Strategy. This strategy will ensure all Lewisham residents, businesses and visitors are within 500meters of an electric vehicle charge point by 2021. On public consultation of this strategy, 84% of the respondents supported or strongly supported the proposal. To provide

this level of coverage, by 2021 there will need to be at least 70 electric vehicle charging locations. There are currently 38 7-kilowatt points installed, across 22 locations. A further 8 locations are currently in the planning stage. There are currently 3 existing rapid chargers in the borough with site selection beginning for the next phase of installation.

25. Lewisham has been effective in lobbying for low emission buses. Of the 12 Low Emission Bus Zones across London, two are within Lewisham and all will be in place by the end of 2019. The Lewisham to Catford bus zone will clean up more than 470 buses, while the Camberwell to New Cross bus zone will clean up more than 380 buses. Additionally TfL have confirmed that by 2020 the entire fleet will be Euro 6+ engines.
26. Lewisham continues to meet with TfL to support the Ultra Low Emission Zone Extension (ULEZ). We have been clear that the borough's aspiration is to see the entire borough covered by the zone, although TfL has advised that this is not feasible at present. We are working closely with TfL to raise awareness of the scheme, identify any supporting measures that may be required and to support residents in this transition.
27. In 2019, the Council undertook an extensive consultation on a number of updates to the Council's parking policy. The key changes are to parking permits, which proposes the introduction of emission based charging. This would help reduce both air pollution and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by encouraging residents to adopt cleaner vehicles. With over 3,500 comments, the consultation comments are currently being analysed, with a decision due later this year.
28. Lewisham has an annual maintenance programme for responsive highway works along with its capital programme for resurfacing and footway major maintenance works. This helps the Council provide safer conditions for all road users and fulfil its highway statutory duties for such maintenance of the network. A borough-wide highway condition survey has been completed which enables an update of the Highways Asset Management Strategy, currently being progressed. In addition the Winter Maintenance Strategy is annually updated prior to the winter season. These documents are to ensure that resources are prioritised and targeted towards the highway assets most in need of improvements. The prioritisation for major maintenance works includes those carrying the highest volumes of traffic eg; vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists and public transport. Additionally we are proposing to enhance the highways enforcement of road works, to optimise the network capacity for road users.

### **Financial implications**

29. There are no direct financial implications from noting the contents of this report.

### **Legal implications**

30. There are no specific legal implications of relevance to this report.

### **Equalities implications**

31. The information included in this reported makes a direct contribution to the Council's Comprehensive Equalities Scheme 2016-20. The five objectives of the Scheme are as follows:
  - Tackle, victimisation, discrimination and harassment
  - Increase access to services
  - Close the gap in outcomes between citizens
  - Increase mutual understanding and respect with and between communities
  - Increase participation and engagement

Specifically, by tackling the harmful impacts of climate change on future generations' and maintaining the local environment, this report shows how the Council is helping to close the gap in life chances between current and future residents of the borough. Similarly, work undertaken to improve transport links will help improve access to services and create socio-economic opportunities for Lewisham residents, some 60% of whom travel outside the borough each day to work. In addition, action being taken to increase the number of bicycle storage spaces and promote Low Emission Vehicles, will help tackle health inequality and reduce the number of Lewisham residents who contract preventable illnesses (Lewisham performs significantly worse than the England average for diabetes diagnosis and childhood obesity).

The information contained in this report affects all characteristics protected by the Equality Act 2010, but in particular those relating to age and disability.