

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Announcements or Communications	
Key Decision		Item No.
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive	
Class	Part 1	Date: October 21 2020

Recommendation

The Council is invited to receive any announcements or communications from the Mayor or the Chief Executive.

1. COVID-19 response

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in March, Lewisham Council has focussed on its emergency services to support the most vulnerable members of the community. With COVID-19 spreading across every part of London, including Lewisham, additional restrictions are now highly likely at some point in the future. The Council is preparing for this and is urging everyone in the borough to continue to follow the latest rules and guidance to protect themselves and others and slow the spread of the virus. For the latest information visit the [Council website](#).

The Council is recruiting a diverse cohort of Community Champions to sign up to become a COVID-19 Champion to help share the latest trustworthy information in their community to help fight COVID-19. For more information about becoming a Community Champion visit the [Council website](#).

2. Black History Month

October marks Black History Month. This is an important month for Lewisham Council and we are celebrating it in a variety of ways.

Lewisham is launching a 'Decolonising the Archives' project on 19th October to produce an archive and learning resource about the life of Asquith Gibbes MBE, a prominent Lewisham anti-racism campaigner, for use in Lewisham schools.

The Stephen Lawrence Trust is organising a virtual three day 'Black Third Sector Summit' (26, 28, 30 October), bringing together some of England's key Black voluntary sector stakeholders to examine some of the priority Black Third Sector Agenda issues.

Working with Goldsmiths, University of London, the Broadway Theatre have installed a Windrush installation and 'Caribbean living room' by Goldsmiths Lecturer in Design (Textiles) Rose Sinclair.

The Council is establishing a local forum, Lewisham Culture and Diversity Advisory Forum, to advise on how the borough can use culture to amplify black and other diverse voices, and celebrate how Lewisham is strengthened by its diversity. Details of the forum will be announced in the coming weeks.

Laurence House is lit up in green, red and yellow this month and the Black History Month flag is flying outside the Town Hall.

For the full programme of events visit iamlewisham.uk

3. Lewisham Mayor's Awards 2020

This year Lewisham is recognising the phenomenal contribution of so many who have played a critical role in the borough's response to COVID-19. Essential contributions have been made through so many ways including: formal volunteering, helping a neighbour, starting a mutual aid group, donating money and food, businesses redirecting services and goods.

If you know an individual, young person, community or faith group, voluntary organisation, local charity or business that has made a difference during the coronavirus pandemic, please take a few minutes to nominate them for a Mayor's Award. Nominations close at midnight Sunday 6th November.

Nominations can be made on the [Council website](#). You can also make a nomination via a paper form by contact Liam.O'DohertyLovely@lewisham.gov.uk or 0208 314 7733.

4. The Queen's Birthday Honours List 2020

The Council congratulates Trevor Elliott, Residential Home Manager of Ladywell Children's Home, for being awarded an MBE for his services to vulnerable children particularly during COVID-19.

5. Award to Lewisham's Youth Offending Service

Lewisham Council has won a prestigious national award from the Municipal Journal for the transformation of its Youth Offending Service (YOS). Lewisham was praised for the remodelling of the service to support some of the most vulnerable and at risk young people.

6. 2020 Planning Awards

Lewisham has won three awards at the 2020 Planning Awards, which celebrate the diverse talent working in the built environment sector.

Team Catford, the locally-based team which leads on community engagement on the regeneration of Catford town centre on behalf of Lewisham Council, won the Award for Community-Led Placemaking.

The proposals for the Bakerloo line extension, coordinated by Lewisham Council and other key partners, won the Award for Infrastructure Planning.

Developers Really Local Group won the Award for Fostering a Healthy High Street for the Catford Mews cinema and community space.