

MAYOR AND CABINET			
Report Title	Young Mayor of Lewisham – Budget Proposals for 2009/10		
Key Decision	No	Item No.	5
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources		
Class	Part 1	Date: January 19 2011	

1. Summary

On 13 October 2010, Kieza Silveira de Sousa was elected as the seventh Young Mayor of Lewisham. The new Young Mayor, alongside existing and new young advisors, has begun to plan areas of work and processes of consultation and involvement for the 2010/11 Young Mayor's budget.

Bringing the work of the previous Young Mayor and advisers to a close, this report recommends the proposals suggested by Jacob Sakil (Young Mayor for 2009/10). These proposals are intended to provide improvements in services for children and young people in the borough. The Young Mayor for 2009/10 has had a budget of £30,000 to be allocated after consultation with young people. This report summarises the proposals recommended from the 2009/10 budget.

2. Recommendation

That the Mayor considers the Young Mayor's budget proposals of £30,000 for 2009/10.

3. Policy Context

3.1 The voice of the child has long been recognised as an essential component in the shaping of youth policy as well as in the life choices that face individual children and young people. This was first enshrined in the U.N. Rights of the Child (1991) and reflected in children and young people's social policy.

3.2 The Young Mayor's initiative is a key corporate priority for the Council in meeting its commitment to enhance young people's achievement and involvement. This priority is further emphasised by the Council's commitment to engaging with young people as part of its community engagement strategy to strengthen engagement with local communities.

- 3.3 The Young Mayor Programme contributes to the priorities in Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 - 2020. Specifically the priority Empowered and responsible- where people are actively involved in their local area and contribute to supportive communities.

The young mayors budget addresses further priorities notably Ambitious and achieving – to Inspire our young people to achieve their full potential by removing the barriers to learning and Encourage and facilitate access to education, training and employment opportunities for all our citizens.

- 3.4 The Young Mayor of Lewisham is central to the Council's Children and Young People's Participation Strategy, which has developed a framework in which to enhance and evaluate youth participation. For 2009/10 the allocation received by the Young Mayor increased to £30,000 highlighting the commitment to the programme. The Young Mayor makes proposals on expenditure to the Mayor following consultation with young people in Lewisham during their one year term of office.
- 3.5 In April 2006, this innovative initiative was nationally recognised when the London Borough of Lewisham was awarded Beacon Status for 2006 – 2007 for its 'Positive Youth Engagement' (In the Community and Democratic Process by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister & the Improvement & Development Agency).
- 3.6 In June 2007, Wilf Petherbridge, former Young Mayor of Lewisham, and the Young Advisors chaired the Youth Cabinet, at Downing Street with the Prime Minister and other Cabinet Ministers as part of the launch of 'Aiming Higher'. This was a result of their contribution to the reviews and consultation that informed the Aiming Higher 10 year Strategy.
- 3.7 In 2010 the Young Mayor Programme contributed to the Local Government Group paper "valuing young voices, strengthening democracy: the contribution made by youth engagement". And a case study for the IDEA on youth participation.

4. Background

- 4.1 Lewisham's first directly elected Young Mayor, Manny Hawks, took office in April 2004. The election took place across Lewisham's secondary schools and sixth form colleges, and all pupils were eligible to stand as candidates and to vote. Lewisham residents attending secondary schools and colleges outside the borough were also encouraged to vote through local youth centres or on-line. Forty

candidates, under the age of 18 years were nominated to stand in the election and the turnout was 44.6% representing 7653 votes cast.

- 4.2 Lewisham's second directly elected Young Mayor, Wilf Petherbridge, was elected in October 2005, using a similar democratic process that includes postal votes, and direct mailing to home educated pupils. There were thirty three candidates aged 14 -17 years, and the election turnout was increased to 46.9% representing 8110 votes cast.
- 4.3 Lewisham's third directly elected Young Mayor, Siobhan Bell, was elected in October 2006 in the same way, and was the first Young Woman to be Elected as Young Mayor in the UK.
- 4.4 Lewisham's fourth elected young mayor was Justin Cole, who attended Crofton School in Lewisham. Justin's proposals included "Block parties" and indicated a shift towards the Young Mayor and Advisors working with the wider community as well as around young people's issues.
- 4.5 Lewisham's fifth elected young mayor was Miguel Gutierrez Astudillo. Miguel attended Addey and Stanhope School in New Cross and had a turn out of 49.6%.
- 4.6 Lewisham's sixth elected Young Mayor was Jacob Sakil, who attended Sedgehill School and now attends Haberdasher Askes Sixth Form college. The turn out increased to 52.5% which represents 9616 young people voting.

5. Activities during 2009/10

- 5.1 In 2009/10, the Young Mayor and Young Advisors have continued to represent their peers at local, regional, national and international events, becoming involved in policy development and reviews.
- 5.2 The Young Mayor and the Young Advisers continue to build relationships and work across the local authority and partners, advising on different policy areas.
- 5.3 *Examples of the range of activities and events that young advisors have participated in developing/ supporting, or contributing too through conferences and consultations locally.*
 - Young Citizens Panel monthly meetings and consultations
 - Safer Lewisham Partnership: Stop and search strategy,
 - Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group, Youth Advising Police group, YOS, Trident
 - Termly School Council Meeting
 - Supporting schools PSHE/ Citizenship curriculum, cultural and peer led

- Positive Aging Board Intergenerational project
- Block Parties – working with others in the community
- Young Planners – young people contributing to the regeneration of the borough.
- Policy and partnerships -Our Lewisham Our Say; developing consultation for young people on the boroughs efficiencies.
- People's Day
- Young People's Talent Show and Auditions
- RAR under 18s Band Nights
- YOF/YCF, publicising positive activities, peer inspections.
- Positive Activities for Young People Commissioning
- Organise and participate in Annual Youth Conference
- Community Football Tournaments and alternative Sports Day.
- Local Assemblies – supporting young people's participation
- Lewisham Link – encouraging Young peoples voice on health and social care issues
- LGBT anti bullying Event
- SE London Chamber of Commerce – building links with local business.
- Lewisham Education Business Partnership
- Voluntary Action Lewisham CYP Forum
- Civic Engagements which the Young Mayor and Advisors attend include the Looked after Children Awards, Pride Awards, LBL Sports Award, Holocaust Memorial Event, LBL Schools Award, LBL Anti bullying conference , LBL Travellers conference, Transition Day – Contact a family, Lewisham Business Awards, Make a Difference Award.

5.4 *Examples of the range of activities and events that young advisors have participated in developing/ supporting, or contributing too through conferences and consultations regionally.*

- Good Practice sharing with LB Sutton, Merton, Greenwich, Tower Hamlets, Newham.
- Young Mayor Network – sharing good practice, research and meeting with the Met Deputy Commissioner
- Greater London Authority: Parliamentary Outreach Programme
- Operation Black Vote – encouraging young peoples participation

5.5 *Examples of the range of activities and events that young advisors have participated in, or contributed to, through conferences and consultations nationally.*

- UKYP including debate at the House of Commons
- UK Youth Hearing unheard Voices – campaigning group
- British Council European Conference at the House of Commons
- British Youth Council Deficit consultation
- RSPCA – research on dangerous dogs

- 5.6 *Examples of the range of activities and events that young advisors have participated in developing/ supporting, or contributing too through conferences and consultations Internationally.*
- Poland visit – sharing good practice with young people and local authorities about participating in local democracy.
 - Sharing good practice internationally with South Africa (meeting the SA President) Sweden, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Russia
- 5.7 Over the last year, the Young Mayor and advisers have also worked extremely effectively with colleagues and services across the Council. Increasingly, this collaborative working has extended to other local agencies within the wider partnership structure. In order to both sustain the proposals of the previous Young Mayor, and to develop their own, these networks and relationships are providing crucial.

6. The Young Mayors Proposals 09/10

- 6.1 The proposals outlined below build upon some of the issues and interests that Miguel Gutierrez Astudillo (Young Mayor for 2009/10) budget addressed. These included supporting and offering additional opportunities for young people to show existing talents and try new activities, which they otherwise might not have the opportunity to experience. And continue to develop how young people and others in the community work together to better understand each other and to increase community cohesion and safety.
- 6.2 Over the past year Jacob Sakil has worked closely with both his Young Advisors, the Young Citizens' Panel and more regularly with school councils on how to best spend his budget. As well as consulting more widely through a newsletter, online survey and discussions with local groups in the voluntary and community sector.

The main aim of the 2009/10 budget is to provide opportunities for young people to increase their skills and raise their aspirations through:

- a. Role model and mentoring programme.**
- b. Raising the profile of young people in Lewisham by collecting and publicising positive stories.**
- c. Developing opportunities to perform and learn skills in the arts.**
- d. Sports tournaments which offer the chance to be scouted for further opportunities.**
- e. Block parties/ community events and Intergenerational work.**

Some of these themes for Jacob's budget will be developing and building on the work of his predecessors. In particular sports, arts and

community events, to continue some of the recurring areas of interest for young people in Lewisham, with the aim of making them sustainable.

6.3 Proposal 1 – Role model and mentoring programme

Role model seminars to meet achievers from the local community, local business and further afield. Young people able to find out about career paths they may not have thought about .

Young people will be recruited through schools and the voluntary youth and community sector .

Young people then able to participate in an e-mentoring scheme to have the support to develop skills, confidence and knowledge to make decisions about their futures..

6.4 Proposal 2 – Positive Stories

Researching, publishing, publicising and celebrating the achievements of young people in Lewisham. Researching individual and group achievements by young people in schools, youth clubs, church groups, scout groups who have achieved through different ways; academically, supporting the community, developing activities for peers and/or others.

6.5 Proposal 3 - Performing and learning new skills

Lewisham has a thriving young arts scene and it is important that talented young people are given the opportunity to perform and display their work. The proposal, therefore, is for a performing showcase event in early 2010 which will provide an opportunity for young musicians, artists and poets to perform and promote their work. This will also bring together young people from across the borough through universal mediums. Young People will also have the chance to learn skills in backstage and front of house management.

There will also be opportunities for young people to perform at Lewisham People's Day in July 2011 – a continuation of previous Young Mayor Wilf Petherbridge's idea.

6.6 Proposal 4 – Sports Tournaments

Community football and sports events involving young people from across the borough. Young people come together to meet new people with the opportunity for being scouted for a club, therefore raising their aspiration and extending their opportunities to reach their potential.

6.7 Proposal 5 - Block Parties/ community events/ intergenerational work

Working with colleagues, partners and members of the community to organise and participate in community days bringing together young people/older people others with a range of activities, food and opportunities to build community understanding and cohesion. Based in different neighbourhoods

7. Summary of proposed Expenditure

7.1 Role model and mentoring programme

Planning, Coordination and delivery	£5500.00
Staffing support	£2500.00
Promotion	£1000.00
Events/ venue	£1000.00

7.2 Positive Stories

Research hours	£3500.00
Promotion	£1500.00
Celebration Event	£1500.00
Equipment	£1000.00

7.3 Performing and learning new skills

Marketing, training and support	£5,000.00
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7.4 Sports tournaments

Venue	£1500.00
Coordination	£1000.00
Promotion	£500.00

7.5 Block Parties /community events and intergenerational work

Community/ Block Parties	£2500
Intergenerational project	£1500

Total £30,000.00

8. Consultation

8.1 The Young Mayor has remained committed to his election manifesto in identifying ways in which to promote opportunities for young people to have their voices heard, acknowledging and addressing issues of safety for young people and supporting local community initiatives.

8.2 The proposals were discussed at meetings of the Young Advisers who fully support the recommendations. The Young Advisers will help to plan, design and manage the planned events, where they have the capacity to do so. Colleagues, partners and young people from other organisations will also be asked to contribute to planning and organising the proposals.

8.3 The young mayor and advisors will report back to the Young Citizen's Panel, School Councils, Mayor and cabinet and the Annual Youth Conference.

8.4 Ongoing consultation of these proposals will take place with young people in through the Youth Service, School Councils, voluntary Sector and People's Day, and Young People's Conference.

9 Financial Implications

9.1 The net costs of the proposed programme is £30k and will be met from the budget for the Young Mayor's programme.

10 Legal Implications

10.1 Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 empowers the local authority to do anything which it considers likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of all or any persons within the local authority's area. It enables the Council to incur expenditure under these wellbeing powers which could include a budget for the Young Mayor. The sum of £30,000 is a reasonable for the purposes outlined in the Report.

11. Crime and Disorder Implications

11.1 The Young Mayor's proposals relate to the development of activities, resources and information that will provide young people with diversionary activities, contribute to community initiatives and provide opportunities for young people to address issues concerned with their safety.

12. Equality Implications

12.1 The Young Mayor and Young Advisors have considered the equalities implications in all of the proposals and will ensure an inclusive approach to all activities undertaken.

13. Environmental Implications

13.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

14. Background papers

For further information on this report contact Malcolm Ball, Young Mayor's adviser on 0208 3146354