

## Meet your new Young Mayor!

Jentai tells us his  
priorities for young  
people across the  
borough



- Get out and about and Discover Lewisham this summer
- Find out about a career in care
- Save Lewisham Hospital campaign – 10 years on



Lewisham

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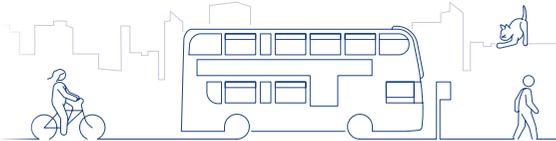


Open Day  
Saturday 24 June 2023  
Register now

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# Your Catford. Your say.

We are proposing changes to the way people move around the town centre and would like to hear your views.



Have your say

Our proposals include changes to how the roads operate, including for buses, and improvements for people walking and cycling around Catford. For more information and to have your say, please scan the QR code or:

Visit: [haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk/catford-town-centre](https://haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk/catford-town-centre)  
Email: [haveyoursay@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:haveyoursay@tfl.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 020 3054 6037 (call back service)  
Consultation ends Monday 5 June 2023

# Message from the Mayor



Damien Egan, Mayor of Lewisham

Welcome to your Summer issue of Lewisham Life. In this issue you'll find lots of useful updates from the Council and from across our borough.

We're pleased to share an update on our ambitious plans for Lewisham Town Centre, after we successfully bid for money from the Levelling Up Fund. The £24m investment is an exciting opportunity to upgrade the library, market and high street, and you can find out more about the plans on page 20.

As you may be aware, the housing management services currently provided by Lewisham Homes will be transferring to the Council in October. This follows a consultation with tenants and leaseholders last year. Colleagues at the Council and Lewisham Homes have been busy preparing for the transfer, and you can find out more on page 10.

On page 12 you can meet our new Mayoress, Bridget Sam-Bailey. Bridget is a true inspiration; a former teacher, member of the Windrush generation and Chair of the Lewisham Pensioners' Forum. I'm looking forward to working with her over the coming year.

I'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated to my Mayor's Charity over the last year. Together we raised £36,500 for the Young Lewisham Project who do life changing work with local young people. You can find out more about them – as well as my nominated charity for the upcoming year, Lewisham Foodbank, on page 20.

And finally, on page 22 you can find out about events going on across the borough this summer, as we extend our Discover Lewisham programme that proved so popular during our year as London Borough of Culture.

Best wishes,

Damien Egan, Mayor of Lewisham

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**If you cannot contact us online, you can call 020 8314 6000**

**Useful contacts:**

**Lewisham Homes**  
 0800 028 2028  
[lewishamhomes.org.uk](http://lewishamhomes.org.uk)

**Local health service**  
[nhs.uk](http://nhs.uk) or NHS 111

**Police (non-emergency) 101**

**Thames Water**  
 0845 920 0800  
 (customer services)  
 0800 714614 (24-hour leakline)

**Gas emergencies 0800 111 999**

# Lewisham Foodbank - Mayor's charity for 2023

Thanks to the generosity of local people, at a recent Council meeting, the Mayor was able to hand over a £36,500 cheque to his Mayoral charity of 2022, the Young Lewisham Project. Anna Lumley, Managing Director of the charity was thrilled to accept the cheque and said: "Thanks so much to everyone for all their support and generous donations over the last year. It's made a huge difference to us! We've been able to order a load of new equipment for the gym, kitchen and digital media studio, plus even a container for our bicycle project. Everyone is very excited about it all."



The Mayor also announced his

new charity for 2023 – Lewisham Food Bank, who do brilliant work in the community – providing a week's worth of nutritionally balanced emergency food and

support to local people who are referred to them in crisis.

Visit their website to find out more about them [lewisham.foodbank.org.uk](http://lewisham.foodbank.org.uk)

## New support service for mental health

A new service providing free mental health and wellbeing support for people in Lewisham is now open. The Lewisham Wellbeing Hub on Lewisham High Street is open to residents over 18 who want help with mental health challenges or to improve their wellbeing.

Residents can access one-to-one sessions with mental health advisors, get help with managing finances and resolve debt issues.

There is no need to wait for someone to refer you. If you need support you can contact the service directly, either by using the online referral form at [together-uk.org/projects/lewisham-wellbeing-hub](http://together-uk.org/projects/lewisham-wellbeing-hub) or by calling 020 8609 6747.

## Energetic waste!

More than half of Lewisham's primary schools have enrolled in the food waste recycling service. As part of this, we are carrying out workshops and assemblies with pupils to share the benefits of recycling food waste.

Like food waste collected from homes across Lewisham, school food waste is sent for anaerobic digestion and converted into renewable energy.

Food waste recycling is part of our commitment to deliver Lewisham's Climate Emergency Action Plan, lowering carbon emissions and helping us reach Net-Zero by 2030.

Find out more [lewisham.gov.uk/foodwaste](http://lewisham.gov.uk/foodwaste)

# Join our Windrush 75 commemorations

The HMT Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury Docks in June 1948. It was a defining moment for our country and became known as Windrush Day. On Thursday 22 June we mark its 75th anniversary.

We are proud to honour the contribution of our Caribbean communities to every aspect of British life, and there's lots going on in the borough to commemorate this milestone. Among the highlights:

**Windrush 75: The Lewisham Story**  
 Thursday 22 June,  
 7-9.30pm  
 Tickets £5/£2 concessions  
 A special tribute to the legacy



of the Windrush Generation at Broadway hosted by Robbie Gee and Eddie Nestor with live performances including music, spoken word and more. Free for over-65s who have the option to collect physical tickets from

Catford Library (first come, first served). Buy all other tickets online at [broadwaytheatre.org.uk](http://broadwaytheatre.org.uk)  
 For more information on how Lewisham is marking Windrush 75, head to [lewisham.gov.uk/Windrush75](http://lewisham.gov.uk/Windrush75)

## New report about disability

The Lewisham Disabled People's Commission's report was published in March. This comprehensive report gives us detailed information about the experiences of deaf and disabled residents in Lewisham.

It makes several recommendations to help remove barriers for our deaf and disabled residents. We know that more needs to be done and this is the start of a much longer piece of work to improve access across the borough.

The Commission was set up by the Council in December 2019 and we are grateful to its Chair, Jamie Hale, and all the Commission members, for their work. You can read the full report at [lewisham.gov.uk/disabledpeoplescommissionreport](http://lewisham.gov.uk/disabledpeoplescommissionreport)



## Community-led housing complete

11 affordable homes for local residents have been completed at Citizens House – a new, pioneering, community-led housing development in Sydenham. The homes have been delivered by London Community Land Trust, in partnership with Lewisham Citizens, Lewisham

Council and the Greater London Authority. All 11 homes are genuinely affordable, with prices linked to average incomes in Lewisham. If residents move out, they must resell their homes at prices linked to local incomes, meaning they will be permanently affordable for generations to come.

## Do you care for a family member or friend?

If you look after a family member, neighbour or close friend, with a disability, physical or mental health condition who couldn't manage without your help, Lewisham Carers are here to support you.

Lewisham Carers is an organisation helping local carers manage the challenges they face. They can help with a carers assessment, carers related welfare benefits

emergency grants, provide emotional support when you are struggling or signpost to specialist organisations. Services are open to all those caring for a Lewisham resident whether they live with them or not. Asking for support means you can claim the rights you are entitled to.

To find out more information contact our advice line on 020 3886 0970 or email [info@carerslewisham.org.uk](mailto:info@carerslewisham.org.uk)

## Catford pub restoration

Work has begun to bring the former Catford Constitutional Club – one of Catford's oldest buildings – back into use. The locally listed Victorian building previously operated as a pub but was forced to close in 2019 due to structural and safety concerns. The historic local landmark will be refurbished and reopened as a pub, with a community kitchen and space for performance, music and arts. The project is being delivered by the Council, supported by £1.65m in funding from the Mayor of London's Good Growth Fund. Works are expected to finish in 2024.

## Slim down

Managing your weight can improve your happiness, confidence and health. Lewisham residents can now access different weight management services, all free of charge.

Up! Up! is a free weight management programme tailored for people of Black, African & Caribbean heritage living in Lewisham. Additionally, residents can gain free access to Slimming World classes and online tools, free consultations with a dietician, or a referral for one-to-one specialist weight management courses.

To find out more about weight management services visit [lewisham.gov.uk/healthy-weight](http://lewisham.gov.uk/healthy-weight)

# Unsung heroes awarded at ceremony

The best of the borough was celebrated in March when the recipients of the Mayor of Lewisham's Community Awards 2023 were announced. The awards recognise the tireless efforts of residents, organisations and businesses who go above and beyond to support others in the community. Among those to receive an accolade this year were volunteers Sadie Pattison and Agnieszka Lokaj, Base 13 fitness studio and Bank of Things. Head to Lewisham Council's YouTube channel to watch their inspirational stories first hand.



## St Mary's Forest School opens

There was a celebratory atmosphere and the smell of bonfires in the air when St Mary's opened the doors to their new Forest School. Funded by a number of grants including the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL), the area has vegetable patches, a firepit, pond and a covered base camp for outdoor learning.

The area was a disused space between flats and now the school and residents can access the Forest School for

stay and play sessions.

Christine Bernard, headteacher at St Mary's Lewisham CE Primary School said:

*"The Forest School has already made such a difference to the mental health and wellbeing of our pupils and wider school community. Our pupils – many of whom don't have gardens or green spaces of their own – have really engaged with their natural environment, planting trees and flowers, making compost and learning about the ecosystem."*

*"I love base camp and whittling wood!"*  
Kanyinsola, 6

*"I love the pond! It's good because we can learn how to feed creatures in the pond and it's actually in our school!"*  
Tamiyah, 7

St Mary's Forest School was made possible by NCIL grant funding. You can find out more about NCIL grants funding other community projects on page 29.



## Adult Learning Open Day

Our adult learning service is holding an open day on Thursday 20 July, 1–7pm at the Granville Park Adult Education Centre, SE13 7DU, just a few minutes from Lewisham station.

Visit the facilities, talk to subject specialists, take part in free drop-in activities and demonstrations, and enrol for courses starting in September.

If you're thinking about retraining for a new career, preparing for your next steps in education, or would like to develop a hobby or learn a new language, this is the perfect opportunity to discover more about the wide variety of courses on offer at our adult learning centres.

Find out more at:  
[lewisham.gov.uk/adultlearning](http://lewisham.gov.uk/adultlearning)

## Protect your child's health

Immunisations are the best way to protect your children's health from illness now and in future. This is important as illnesses such as polio and measles can be serious and potentially life-threatening.

Sadly, in recent years fewer children in Lewisham have been getting the immunisations they need. It's important that children are up to date with their vaccinations, especially polio and MMR, and that's why we're encouraging parents and carers to see what immunisations are due and to get them done as soon as they can.

Information is available at [nhs.uk/child-vaccines](http://nhs.uk/child-vaccines), and [selondonics.org/childrenshealth](http://selondonics.org/childrenshealth) has a useful timeline where you can see at which age vaccinations are due. You can also speak to your GP.

## Panto returns to Broadway

Pantomime makes a comeback at the Broadway this year, with a brand-new production of Jack and the Beanstalk taking centre stage from Wednesday 13–Sunday 31 December.

Written and directed by critically acclaimed 'Queen of Panto', Susie McKenna, this glorious production has been made specially for South London. It's

packed with magic beans, slapstick routines, laughs and silliness galore. You won't want to miss it. Tickets start at £10 each. Cast announcements to follow soon.

It heralds the start of a new partnership between Broadway and Joy Productions who will co-produce the theatre's pantomime for the next five years. For more information and to book tickets [broadwaytheatre.org.uk](http://broadwaytheatre.org.uk)



Susie McKenna

# New Fostering Hub open

The new Fostering Hub has opened on 45 Bromley Road, where Lewisham Council will be running regular fostering recruitment drop-in sessions every Wednesday, 10am–12 noon. Residents will be able to come and speak to member of the fostering community about becoming a foster carer.

You can also contact Lewisham Fostering today about becoming a foster carer by emailing [fosteringrecruitment@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:fosteringrecruitment@lewisham.gov.uk), calling 0800 015 0129 (freephone), or visiting our website [lewisham.gov.uk/fostering](http://lewisham.gov.uk/fostering)



## Lewisham Council to manage 20,000 homes

Work is under way to prepare for the transfer of Lewisham Homes to Lewisham Council in October.

Last year, tenants and leaseholders voted in favour of the plans, which will see the Council become responsible for managing homes, including repairs, maintenance, improvements and rent and service charge collections.

There will be no changes to tenants and leaseholders' rights and rent levels and service charges will continue to be

reviewed annually.

The two organisations are working together to ensure a seamless transfer and aim to improve services for residents linking housing and other Council teams that residents rely on, and strengthening resident voices.

Tenants and leaseholders will receive a letter with all the information ahead of the transfer, but can contact the housing management services on the same phone number and email addresses.

## Nominate now!

The Mayor of Lewisham Business Awards 2023 are now open for nominations. If there's a fantastic local business that you think deserves recognition – whether for great products or services – this is your opportunity to say a big thank you.

There are various award categories to choose from and they are open to all businesses based in the borough. Last year, we received a whopping 2,000 nominations and, with your help, we can go even higher this year!

To find out more and make your nominations [lewisham.gov.uk/businessawards](http://lewisham.gov.uk/businessawards)



Damien Egan, Mayor of Lewisham and Brenda Dacres, Deputy Mayor



Beckenham Place Park

# A weekend fit for a King

In May we saw the country come together and celebrate the King's Coronation. Lewisham residents got stuck into the celebrations, and we enjoyed a weekend of screenings, concerts, sports events and street parties. Here are some of our highlights!



**Marian (Sydenham Centre guest)**

"Great party. I loved the music, it took me right back. I was a youngster during the Queen's coronation and stood on the Embankment to watch the entire procession. The weather was terrible that day too. I remember the Queen of Tonga wanted an open carriage and she got soaked – poor thing!"

**Pat aged 94, above, right (Sydenham Centre guest and sandwich maker)**

"I had a great time, with great company and we won the quiz, which is the cherry on top. You know, I remember what I was doing during the Queen's coronation too. At the time, my (now) husband and I had just started courting and we'd snuck off to Brighton for the weekend – things were a bit stricter in those days. The coronation happened while we were away. This is a bit different but just as much fun!"



Mountsfield Park



St Mary's Church



The Big Help Out



# A new Mayoress

We are happy to announce that Bridgit Sam-Bailey has agreed to be the Mayoress of Lewisham for 2023. Former businesswoman, trade unionist and teacher, Bridgit is the Chair of Lewisham Pensioner's Forum and has turned the forum into a campaigning force for older people.

## Tell us about yourself

I was born and raised in the colony of British Guiana, and came to England as part of the Windrush generation in 1960, joining my cousins who arrived in 1947. I first settled in East London, and in 1983 came to live in Lewisham. I worked as a civil servant in the Home Office for many years and then trained as a teacher, which I continued to do until I retired in 1995. I remain in contact with many of my students who still call me 'Miss'!

## How did you feel when the Mayor asked you to be Mayoress?

I was gobsmacked when the Mayor offered me the position, and I reacted in a way I would not normally do – I covered my mouth and took a deep breath. I told him I would consider the offer, and after a few days of careful consideration I contacted him to accept and I am happy I did.

## There is a lot happening this year – the Coronation and Windrush anniversary, plus much more... What are you most excited about in your role as Mayoress?

Needless to say, I am ecstatic that the 75th anniversary of the Windrush is being celebrated. There is a wonderful programme being planned here in Lewisham (read more details about Windrush events on page 6).

I watched Queen Elizabeth II's coronation on a big screen back in what is now Guyana, and have met King Charles III and Queen Camilla at Clarence House.

## What do you want your legacy to be from this year?

I would like to see parity and equity for all. I can't change the world, but if I can change one corner of it, that would make me very happy.

# Meet Lewisham's Young Mayor

Jentai Gen-One became Lewisham's newest Young Mayor in February following an election that saw record numbers cast their votes in schools and colleges across the borough.

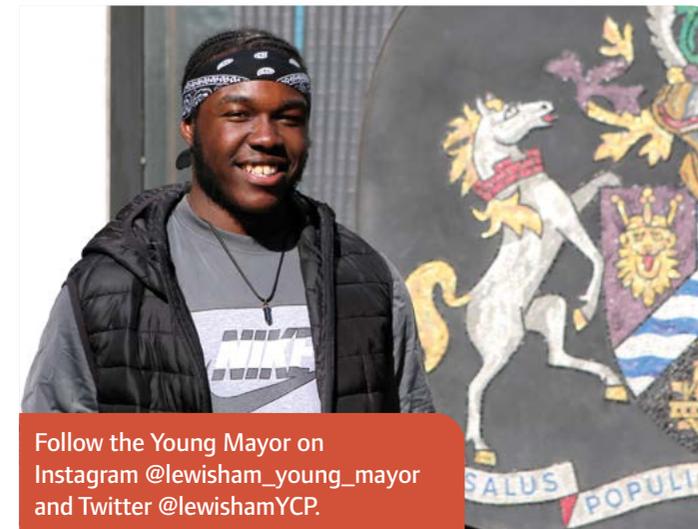
We asked Jentai to tell us a bit about his first few months and his priorities for young people across the borough.

"What's good Lewisham, my name is Jentai 'Jen-Tay' Gen-One and I'm that one guy who came to your school and said 'wa gwan' which among other things led to me becoming your new young mayor of Lewisham!"

"As Young Mayor, I'm here to represent the young people of Lewisham in the council and do what my people need to enjoy their hometown to the fullest. In my manifesto, I planned to achieve five things to live up to the title as well as support all of you in seeing the other changes you want to see in our borough:

1. Make Lewisham the home of vibes by hosting loads of events
2. Get a new BMX Track built in our borough
3. Create a Lewisham young people's radio station
4. Assist young people in getting into business
5. Bring opportunities for us to change the narratives on how young people from our borough are seen

"So far I've made some good progress on keeping my promises to you all! I've had meetings to make moves on three of the five points above and I've also attended events and meetings alongside the deputy young mayor and the young advisors including:



Follow the Young Mayor on Instagram @lewisham\_young\_mayor and Twitter @lewishamYCP.

If you're a young person aged over 11 and interested in politics or getting involved in the community, why not consider volunteering as a young advisor? Contact [katy.brown@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:katy.brown@lewisham.gov.uk) to find out more.

- Lewisham International Women's Day Event
- Borough of Culture review meeting at City Hall
- Lewisham SDA Church Community Event
- Meeting with the youth council of Kuwait
- Lewisham Youth Theatre

And more!

"For the future, you'll see me continue to put in the work to make sure I do you all proud!"

# Why we're Proud to Care

**If you're looking for a rewarding career where you can make a difference to people's lives, a Wellbeing Worker role could be for you. We spoke to our Wellbeing Workers to find out how they turned their passion for helping others into a career.**

“I was working in hospitality but felt strongly that I wanted a job where I could make a real difference in people's lives”, says James Chiwocha, a Wellbeing Worker Team Leader. James is one of the borough's growing family of 'Wellbeing Workers', the term used locally to refer to staff who care for people in their own home.

Wellbeing Workers like James make a huge difference across the borough by providing adult social care services and enabling people to remain at home for as long as possible. A Wellbeing Worker role is varied and will normally include tasks such as providing personal care as well as helping with cooking and household activities such as cleaning. Many subsequently go on to develop their skills and talents in other roles within social care, including office-based roles such as administration, HR and marketing.

“When someone becomes a Wellbeing Worker, they don't just get a job, they also get a career”, explains Michelle Penalver, Registered Care Manager at Beverley Martin Agency, one of Lewisham's adult social care providers. Michelle explains: “We want our Wellbeing Workers to have the opportunity to grow and develop in their roles. When they first join, we fund them to do a nationally-recognised qualification in Adult Social



**“We want our Wellbeing Workers to have the opportunity to grow and develop in their roles”**

Care at Lewisham College. Within two years of becoming a Wellbeing Worker, they are funded to do a prestigious Community Health and Wellbeing Worker apprenticeship course.”

What's more, anyone can become a Wellbeing Worker. People who are interested in starting and building a career in care in Lewisham don't need a CV or any previous experience. Michelle explains: “Nobody needs to worry about having a polished CV or whether they have relevant experience, as



## Becoming a Wellbeing Worker was a great decision

James Chiwocha, a Wellbeing Worker Team Leader at Eleanor Care, tells us why he's Proud to Care

I enjoy being a Wellbeing Worker. More than that – I am passionate about it.

There are so many things that make my job enjoyable. It's so rewarding knowing that I am making a difference in someone's life. I also work with a great team, and have friendly, supportive and hardworking colleagues. We often say we are like a family!

When I first applied to be a Wellbeing Worker, I never needed to worry if I had enough experience. I was told that experience mattered much less than showing that I had the right caring qualities. I had lots of training and opportunities to shadow more experienced Wellbeing Workers.

At first I was nervous but the team, from the managers to the person I was shadowing, was helpful and encouraging. That helped with my confidence.

I can honestly say that this job has changed me for the better. Becoming a Wellbeing Worker was a great decision and I've never looked back!

what matters to us when we meet candidates is that they show the right caring qualities. If they can show us that, we'll do the rest!”

Anyone interested in becoming a Wellbeing Worker can apply quickly and easily through the Proud to Care Lewisham online recruitment pool, which is run by Lewisham Council in partnership with care providers to help people find roles in care. Regardless of the provider they work with, all Lewisham's Wellbeing Workers get the same benefits, including free training, a competitive London Living Wage, flexible working hours and more.

Michelle says: “With the qualifications and training we offer, there are so many future pathways for people who want to build a career in care. My team often tell me how rewarding they find the work, seeing the difference that it can make to the person they're caring for. If anyone is struggling to find work or is simply looking to do something different – where they can make a real difference while building a career – I'd encourage them to apply.”

## How to apply

Become a wellbeing worker by joining the Proud to Care recruitment pool today. No experience or CV needed. [lewisham.gov.uk/proudtocare](http://lewisham.gov.uk/proudtocare).

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 T: 07961440762

# 10 years on

Ten years ago, our community united in a massive campaign to save Lewisham Hospital. We look back at the remarkable journey so many of us took part in to save our vital NHS services.

**P**atients, NHS staff, Lewisham Council, MPs, schools, pensioners, families, businesses, faith groups, charities, unions, students and health campaigners worked together. The Save Lewisham Hospital campaign worked tirelessly. From primary school dressing up days to pub quiz nights, from collections in buckets at Lewisham Market to the support of Millwall FC, the whole community quickly rallied across the borough to fundraise.

There were two huge demonstrations in Lewisham of more than 25,000 people and so much activity – from the ‘Buggy Army’ of parents and babies at the Department of Health (DoH) to the Pensioners’ Forum trolley march and the campaign single from Lewisham rapper Question Musiq. There was an innovative People’s Commission of Inquiry chaired by Michael Mansfield KC. Posters were in thousands of home and shop windows and there was extensive national TV and press coverage throughout the year.

**In the last 10 years:**

- Over 33,000 babies born at Lewisham Hospital
- More than 1.1 million people used A&E
- 4,671 patients treated for COVID-19

The Save Lewisham Hospital campaign and Lewisham Council challenged the government with Judicial Reviews. On 31 July 2013 the High Court ruled in favour of the Judicial Reviews and quashed the Government’s closure plans.

After the most extraordinary year of campaigning across our whole community, Lewisham Hospital was saved.

The Save Lewisham Hospital campaign and Lewisham Council will jointly mark this 10 year anniversary with a new commemorative bench and tree in Ladywell Fields on Saturday 8 July. [savelewishamhospital.com](http://savelewishamhospital.com)



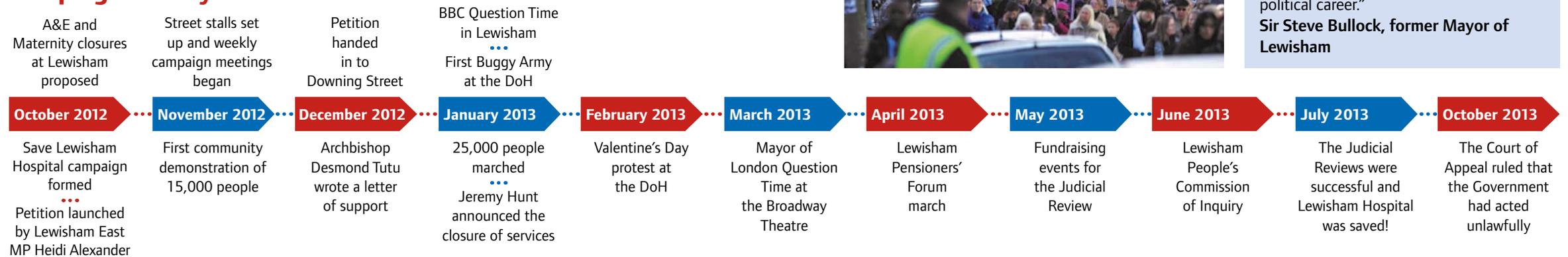
  
 “Thousands of people in Lewisham united in our vibrant campaign. The amazing victory we had was due to the people of Lewisham and our campaign’s determination, commitment and creativity.”  
**Dr Louise Irvine, Chair of Save Lewisham Hospital campaign**

  
 “I am proud of our community for rallying so magnificently to save our vital A&E and maternity services. Ten years on, we continue to serve the residents of Lewisham and beyond.”  
**Dr Chidi Ejimofe, Consultant in Emergency Medicine, Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust**

  
 “We celebrate this significant achievement in Lewisham and thank our wonderful NHS staff who face increasing and relentless pressures on health services. This year is the 75th anniversary of the NHS and we must defend it for us all now and for the generations to come.”  
**Cllr Paul Bell, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care**

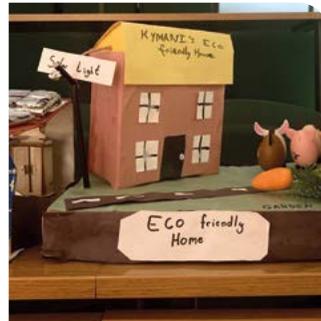
  
 “Justice was delivered for Lewisham – where would we have been during the Covid pandemic had we lost our hospital? This has been the most significant and successful community campaign that I have experienced in my political career.”  
**Sir Steve Bullock, former Mayor of Lewisham**

## Campaign history



# Creating a GREENER Lewisham

As we stride toward making Lewisham Net Zero by 2030, we are continuing to lead by example from retrofitting our buildings to planting hundreds of street trees. Read about some of the events and projects happening across the borough and how you can get involved.



## Climate Emergency: Our achievements so far

In 2020, we launched our Climate Emergency Action Plan and since then we have taken important steps towards making Lewisham a net-zero borough by 2030. This plan continues to be ranked as one of the best in London by Climate Emergency UK.

In the last 12 months, we have:

- Secured £3 million to improve the energy efficiency of our housing stock and local schools.
- Planted more than 500 new street trees in partnership with Street Trees for Living.
- Achieved one of the highest levels of School Street coverage in London, with 48 streets covering 39 schools.
- Installed more secure cycle hangars and electric vehicle charging points – with more than 150 EV charging points now in place across the borough.
- Engaged 5,000 residents through our 'Lewisham Speaks' project, which saw artists popping up across the borough to speak with residents about issues around the Climate Emergency.

## Lewisham schools come together to tackle the Climate Emergency

Our Schools Climate Network has been in full swing this year. Schools in the network take turns to host.

We held our second Pupil Climate Network in December, bringing local schools together to share ideas to address the Climate Emergency. Pupils have shared ideas on how to address the Climate Emergency in their communities.

This term, Deptford Green School hosted pupils from Drumbeat School, Addey & Stanhope and Prendergast Vale to learn about work taking place to make Fordham Park a safer, greener space.

CLlr Louise Krupski, Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Action, joined and answered pupils' questions about things like recycling bins in parks, and everyone enjoyed a workshop by Lewisham Youth Theatre on climate anxiety.



Electric vehicle charging point

## Our trees need you!

Protecting and nurturing existing trees and planting new trees across Lewisham is an important part of our work to create a greener borough and become carbon neutral by 2030. Planting trees where they will be of the most benefit for Lewisham residents and wildlife is at the core of our tree planting work.

We are embarking on an exciting new project with partners Street Trees for Living (STfL) and Greentalk in a planting project with funding from the Mayor of London. We will be planting 100 new trees across the borough. Once mature, the new trees will provide 1,300 square metres of canopy cover, decrease flood risk and provide essential shade during the warmer months.

We are looking for volunteers to take care of new trees when they are planted to help improve their chances of survival. All you need to do is water it! Anyone who lives or



New trees outside Rathfern school



works in Lewisham can become a tree guardian.

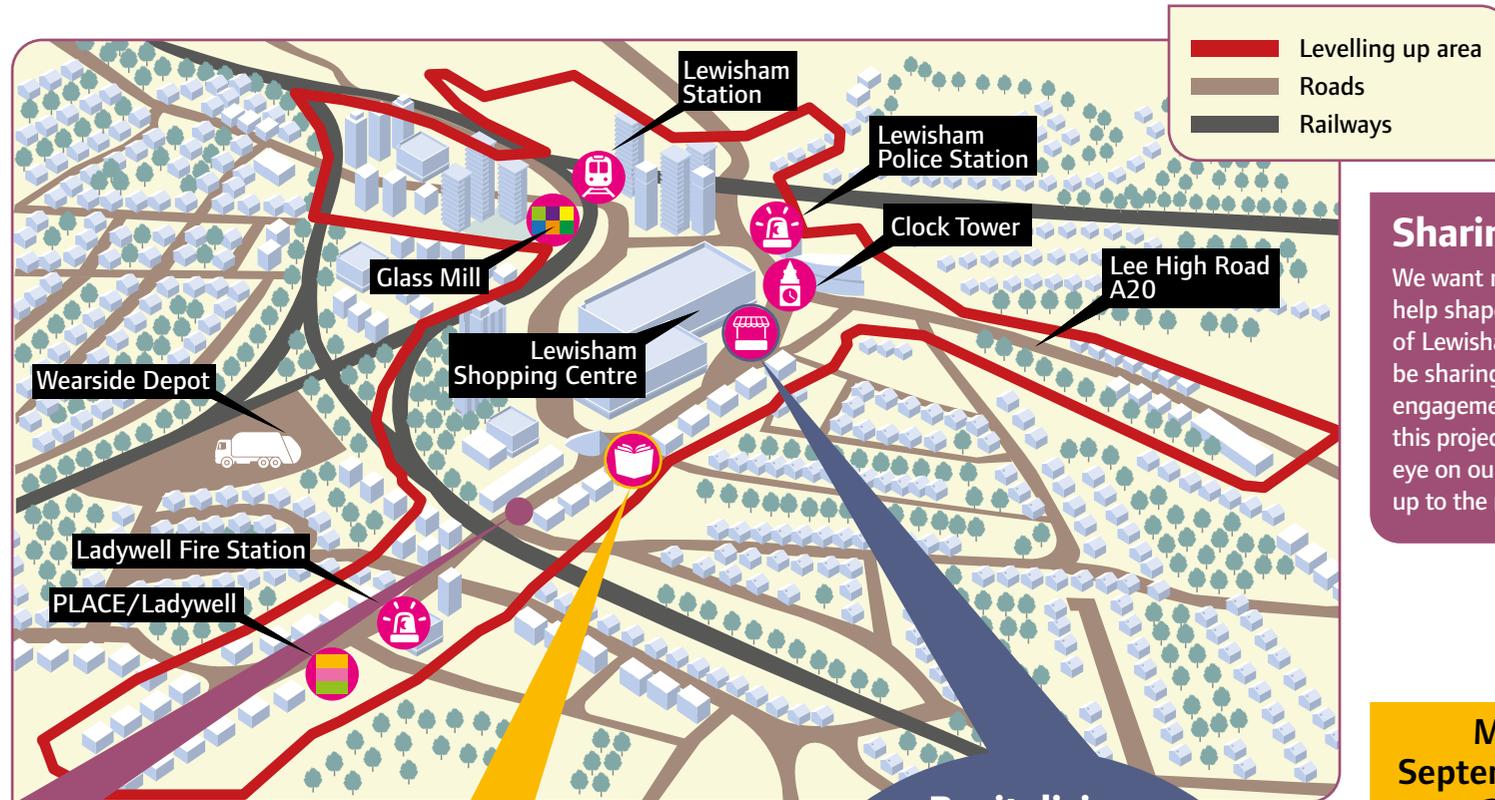
"With Grow Back Together, we will create greener, healthier spaces on people's doorsteps, giving Lewisham's community the chance to reconnect with the natural world as well as enhancing the urban landscape for future generations. Involving volunteer tree guardians in caring and watering the new trees, we are building an understanding that street trees are good for you and that when communities come together to care for trees, wonderful things can happen." Xanthe Mosley, Chair of Trustees, STfL.

Find out more and sign up to become a Tree Guardian at [growbacktogether.org/adoptpit](https://growbacktogether.org/adoptpit).

# Improving Lewisham Town Centre

Having secured £19m from the Government's Levelling Up fund, Lewisham Town Centre is set to benefit from a £24m investment. Find out more about the planned improvements.

**A**vital retail destination and the borough's busiest town centre, we want to ensure Lewisham Town Centre is a more attractive place for residents, shoppers and visitors to spend time, as well as boosting the local economy, support businesses and creating new jobs. Lewisham Library will remain in the same building, and will benefit from the £24million investment which will also rejuvenate Lewisham Market and improve the high street.



**Sharing your views**  
We want residents and businesses to help shape our vision for the future of Lewisham Town Centre. We will be sharing more details about the engagement and consultation process for this project in the near future – keep an eye on our social media channels or sign up to the resident newsletter for updates.

**Improvements to the high street**

The high street will be improved to make it easier to get around the town centre and create a more pleasant environment for residents and visitors. New trees and green pocket spaces will be installed, as well as more pedestrian crossings and improved cycle infrastructure. More lighting and CCTV will help ensure the high street is safer for residents.

**Refurbishing the library**

Lewisham Library will be renovated to create a new cultural and business hub and safeguard the future of this vital local service. The refurbished library will include a new community space, as well as flexible office space, meeting rooms and workspace for local businesses. A new café and wider hospitality offer will provide a social focus to the building.

**Revitalising Lewisham Market**

Our historic market will be transformed to support local traders, encourage visitors and create a welcoming space for the community to enjoy. Traders and shoppers will benefit from a new market layout with improved stalls and a permanent canopy over the market, providing space for more traders and creating opportunities for events, pop-up stalls and an evening market. Funding will also be used to improve the area around the market with new lighting, better pavements, more trees and planting and a refurbishment of the iconic Grade II listed Clock Tower.



From al fresco dining to open water swimming to parties in the park – there are lots of reasons to Discover Lewisham this summer.

# DISCOVER summer in Lewisham

Last summer, thanks to your continued support of local businesses, an additional £360,000 was generated to help boost the local economy, helping to create and sustain local jobs for local people. With your help, we know we can do even better this year.

There's plenty happening in Lewisham all year round but summer is always a particularly special time in the borough. The good weather sees café-culture and festivals adding to an already vibrant local scene which is bursting with fantastic restaurants, bars, entertainment venues and award-winning parks. Here are some of our tips for making the most of the sunshine in Lewisham.

## Visit our local landmarks

Trafalgar Square's lions might have the edge in terms of tourist numbers but they're nowhere near as close to our hearts as local landmarks like the Catford Cat. Grab your walking shoes, a good dose of local pride and tick off the following as you stroll around some of Lewisham's most iconic sites.

- Catford Cat
- Lewisham Clock tower
- Horniman walrus
- Mountsfield Park bandstand
- Hilly Fields stone circle
- Mansion House at Beckenham Place Park
- All Saints Church Blackheath
- Aspinall Road Rainbow Bridge
- Maxi Priest mural on Brockley Rise



## Free festival fun

Whether you're looking for a fete, a family-friendly day out or fancy a dance to some free live music, there's plenty of outdoor entertainment to suit residents of all ages.

### Brockley Max ◆ Friday 2 – Saturday 10 June

Nine-day community arts festival celebrating local talent which takes place in different venues across Brockley, Ladywell, Crofton Park and Honor Oak.  
[brockleymax.co.uk](http://brockleymax.co.uk)

### Bellingham Festival ◆ Saturday 24 June

Bellingham marks its centenary with a celebration for residents of all ages on Bellingham Green. Live entertainment, arts and crafts, kids' activities, stalls and more.  
[bcp.uk.net](http://bcp.uk.net)

### Hilly Fields Midsummer Fayre ◆ Saturday 24 June, 12 noon–5pm

Music, dance, food, beer and a dog show are among the attractions at this much-loved annual event in Brockley.  
[brockleysociety.org.uk](http://brockleysociety.org.uk)

### Manor House Gardens Festival ◆ Saturday 24 June

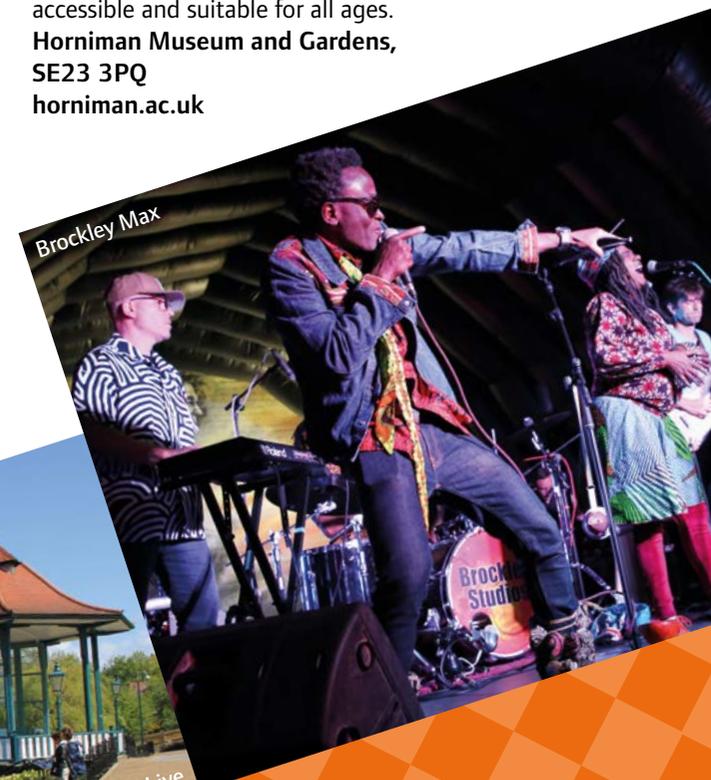
Live music, arts and crafts and a funfair in this community celebration to highlight the range of talent in the area and promote the tireless work of community groups.  
[friendsofmanorhousegardens.com/festival](http://friendsofmanorhousegardens.com/festival)

### Blythe Hill Fields Festival ◆ Sunday 2 July

Enjoy live music and entertainment, local ales and street food on a hilltop with fantastic views across Canary Wharf and the City.  
[blythehillfields.org.uk/festival-2023](http://blythehillfields.org.uk/festival-2023)

### Bandstand Live ◆ Saturday 5 and Saturday 19 August

Head to the Horniman Museum's iconic bandstand for two outdoor performances this summer. Celebrate South London's vibrant cultural heritage through music, dance and beyond at these free events which are accessible and suitable for all ages.  
**Horniman Museum and Gardens, SE23 3PQ**  
[horniman.ac.uk](http://horniman.ac.uk)



# Al fresco dining

Fresh air, fine food and sunshine in Lewisham is an unbeatable combination. Whether you fancy pancakes, pasta or paella, our eateries have you covered.

## Babur ♦ Honor Oak Park

Gourmet Indian dishes in a smart, contemporary dining room with exposed bricks and modern art.

119 Brockley Rise, SE23 1JP  
♦ [babur.info](http://babur.info)

## Parlez Local ♦ Brockley

Casual Brockley eatery with patio dining serving all-day breakfast and Indian dinners, plus cocktails and wine.

16 Coulgate Street, SE4 2RW  
♦ [parlezlocal.com](http://parlezlocal.com)

## Sharkbait'N'Swim ♦ Deptford

Based in the heart of Deptford Sharkbait'N'Swim is an independent seafood focussed restaurant.

Arch 11, 4 Deptford Market Yard, SE8 4BX

## Sapore Vero ♦ Hither Green

Traditional Italian restaurant and pizzeria offering a varied menu of food and drink indoors and on their terrace.

19 Staplehurst Road, SE13 5ND  
♦ [saporevero.com/hither-green](http://saporevero.com/hither-green)

## Wanderlust Eatery ♦ Catford

Unique local cafe with courtyard featuring an all-day menu of global eats, plus vegan options, drinks and desserts.

88 Verdant Lane, SE6 1LF

# Sunny beer gardens

What better way to while away a lazy sunny (or not-so-sunny) afternoon in Lewisham than in a beer garden. Whether you want a relaxed setting for your drinks and food, a day party vibe, or something in between, the borough's pubs and bars cater for all. Please drink responsibly.

## The Dolphin ♦ Sydenham

A welcoming pub offering a great menu, well-stocked bar and a large tranquil landscaped garden.

121 Sydenham Road, SE26 5HB  
♦ [thedolphinsydenham.com](http://thedolphinsydenham.com)

## Fox and Firkin ♦ Lewisham

Vibrant pub with great live music and fresh pizzas made on site plus a large partially-covered beer garden featuring a train carriage and lots of cosy corners.

316 Lewisham High Steet, SE13 6JZ

## The Honor Oak ♦ Honor Oak/Forest Hill

Airy pub with skylit dining area and outdoor deck. Enjoy their cask ales and seasonal British menu.

1 St German's Road, SE23 1JG  
♦ [honor oak.pub](http://honor oak.pub)

## Perry Hill Pub ♦ Catford

Family friendly pub serving Sunday roasts, classic plates, BBQ and wine in its wood-panelled space and extensive garden.

78-80 Perry Hill, SE6 4EY  
♦ [perryhillpub.co.uk](http://perryhillpub.co.uk)

## Blythe Hill Tavern ♦ Forest Hill

The Blythe Hill Tavern is an award-winning, traditional Victorian corner pub where you will always find a warm welcome and a great selection of real ales on tap.

319 Stanstead Road, SE23 1JB  
♦ [blythehilltavern.org.uk](http://blythehilltavern.org.uk)

## Skehans ♦ Telegraph Hill

Time Out recently voted Skehans the best pub in London. Head down for live music, great Thai food and its beautiful hidden garden – or just for the craic.

1 Kitto Road, SE14 5SN  
♦ [skehans.com](http://skehans.com)



# Explore the great outdoors

Lewisham is home to 47 award-winning parks and green spaces offering lots of opportunities to get out and about, whether you're looking for a refreshing dip, pristine picnic patch or a riverside bike ride.

## Climb the three peaks

This five mile 'green-chain' walking route connects the hilly open spaces around Brockley – namely Blythe Hill Fields, Hilly Fields, Ladywell Fields and One Tree Hill – with plenty of opportunities to grab food or drinks from local businesses along the way. [fullcircle-design.co.uk/maps](http://fullcircle-design.co.uk/maps)

## Mudlarking in Deptford Creek

Book in for a free guided walk at low tide to find out the history of this fantastic local space and see what treasures you can uncover. **14 Creekside, Deptford, SE8 4SA**  
◆ [creeksidecentre.org.uk](http://creeksidecentre.org.uk)

## Get to know Beckenham Place Park

Covering almost 100 hectares, Lewisham's largest green space is home to ancient woodland, diverse wildlife and a swimming lake. Whether you fancy a walk, swim, cycle or to find a quiet space to admire nature – there's something for all. Homestead Café does great coffee and pizza if you need some fuel for all that exploring. **Beckenham, BR3 1SY**  
◆ [beckenhamplacepark.com](http://beckenhamplacepark.com)

## Cycle the Waterlink Way

Get on your bike and follow the river south from Deptford Creek to Lower Sydenham, along the leafy Waterlink Way for a peaceful and mainly traffic-free cycle. [lewisham.gov.uk/waterlink](http://lewisham.gov.uk/waterlink)

## Find the perfect picnic spot

A picnic is a great way to enjoy the outdoors with friends or family. Head to your local park with a packed lunch or, if available, grab a takeaway from an on-site café to enjoy a mouth-watering view. [lewisham.gov.uk/parks](http://lewisham.gov.uk/parks)



# Fabulous market finds

Explore our outdoor markets as the weather warms up! There is lots on offer across the borough from fresh affordable produce, vintage homeware and hearty lunchtime snacks.

## Blackheath Farmer's Market

Takes place every Sunday from 10am to 2pm in Blackheath Station car park. A smorgasbord of seasonal, locally-sourced produce. **Blackheath station car park, SE3 9LA**  
◆ [lfm.org.uk](http://lfm.org.uk)

## Brockley Market

Bustling weekly Saturday market for local fresh produce, artisan breads and pastries, plants and flowers. **Lewisham College car park, SE4 1UT**  
◆ [brockleymarket.com](http://brockleymarket.com)

## Catford Food Market

An award-winning food market which takes place on the last Sunday of each month. The emphasis is on local traders and produce. **Adenmore Road, SE6 4FD**  
◆ [catfordfoodmarket.com](http://catfordfoodmarket.com)

## Deptford High Street and Douglas Way Markets

Spanning Deptford High Street, Douglas Way and the junction with Giffin Way. Find fresh produce, multi-cultural foods and fabrics on the

high street while Douglas Way is a treasure trove of bric-à-brac. Open Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

**Deptford High Street and Douglas Way, SE8 3PQ**  
◆ [lewisham.gov.uk/markets](http://lewisham.gov.uk/markets)

## Horniman Food market

Located on the Bandstand Terrace every Sunday. Find stalls selling everything from seasonal fruit and veg, to delicious coffee and street food, to clothing and jewellery. **100 London Road, SE23 3PQ**  
◆ [horniman.ac.uk](http://horniman.ac.uk)

## Lewisham Market

This busy market is open seven days a week offering a wide range of fresh fruit and veg, with great deals to be had. **Lewisham High Street, SE13 6AT**  
◆ [lewisham.gov.uk/markets](http://lewisham.gov.uk/markets)



# Warm welcomes

Our Warm Welcomes opened up in libraries and community spaces across the borough, to provide a space for residents needing support with the cost of living.

Even though the cold weather may be behind us, we are still working hard to ensure our warm spaces are open and available with support and guidance for people who might need help with the cost of living, or just want a space to read a book or chat to a volunteer.

At a recent workshop with Lewisham Local, hub staff and volunteers reflected on how the spaces have impacted on the community. Since the warm spaces opened, we have had over 20,000 visits, and while keeping warm was a key reason for visiting, the most common reason for visiting was talking to other people – nearly 80% said it helped them feel less isolated.

One local user said: “I am struggling a lot at the moment, I just needed somewhere to read and meet new people. The staff at Grove Park Library directed me towards a counselling and personal development course, which will take place in the library. I have not been to the library in years but was made to feel very safe and relaxed... I feel it is important that such spaces are made available, especially for the most vulnerable members of society such as the elderly and very young.”

The libraries and warm spaces are still available for people to pop in, take part in activities, or to meet other people. They also have a range of cost-of-living support, which is also available on our website at [lewisham.gov.uk/support](http://lewisham.gov.uk/support)



People at the reflections workshop – led by Lewisham Local



Volunteers at The Green Man



Children enjoying the library



Rathfern students collecting their new books

## Funding local projects

It's been a year since we announced over £3 million investment through our Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy Fund (NCIL) to fund 149 local projects in Lewisham.

NCIL is a sum of money that councils charge large private developers to improve the local area. Lewisham was the first council to give residents the chance to choose what small projects the money goes towards.

Over the next few issues we'll be sharing some of the wonderful community projects we've been able to support with the NCIL fund.

### New library books for schools

One of these projects is from Holbeach and Rathfern primary schools in Catford, where they each received £2,000 for new library books. There was a really happy atmosphere at Catford Library recently where the students gathered to collect their new books.

### Lewisham Irish Centre opens after refurbishment

It was a fantastic atmosphere at the Lewisham Irish Community Centre celebrating their extensive refurbishment. The Mayor of Lewisham, Damien Egan, officially reopened the centre with Rushey Green ward councillors Cllr James-J Walsh and Cllr Louise Krupski.

The brand new kitchen was funded by



The Mayor of Lewisham, Damien Egan, at the reopening of the Irish Centre

Lewisham Council via the innovative NCIL funding scheme using Section 106 money from new developments to invest in the community projects chosen by residents.

The dancing was amazing and the community spirit was wonderful!

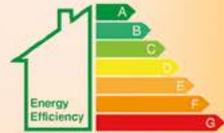
Other projects supported through this programme include upgrades to playgrounds across the borough, an inclusive hub for young people at the Grove Park Youth Club and repairs and renovations at Stanstead Lodge Senior Club – a real variety of projects! You can read more about them at [lewisham.gov.uk/ncil](http://lewisham.gov.uk/ncil)

**GRANT**  
**GRANT**  
**GRANT**

# FREE BOILER AND INSULATION



Are you using very old boiler?  
Are you using electric heaters?  
Living in a house with EPC rating E,F or G?



We have grant for you to do your heating and insulation also heat pumps for certain properties (under government ECO4 Grant)

**Criteria To Qualify**

If your household gross income is less than £31,000 per annum

**OR**

Anyone in a household needs to be in receipt of the following benefits

- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credits
- Universal Credit (UC)
- Housing Benefit (only for first-time central heating jobs)
- Pension Credit – guarantee or Savings Credit
- Child Benefit with certain income



External wall insulation Grant is also available (upto 75%)



**Greenland Energy Services Ltd**  
102 Brockley Rise, Lewisham SE23 1LN  
info@greenlandenergy.co.uk  
www.greenlandenergy.co.uk  
**020 3686 3512**



scan me for more info

Your council      Your ward councillors' contact details



Lewisham's directly elected Mayor, Damien Egan, represents the whole borough. Contact him at [damien.egan@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:damien.egan@lewisham.gov.uk)

Please check beforehand whether your Councillor is holding in person surgeries. Visit [lewisham.gov.uk/mayorandcouncil](http://lewisham.gov.uk/mayorandcouncil) or call 020 8314 6000 and ask for 'operator'.

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# LEWISHAM CLIMATE ACTION INVESTMENT

**We are aiming to raise £1m to invest in sustainable transport projects in the borough, reduce carbon emissions and help us reach net-zero by 2030.**

The funds raised will finance projects such as installing more cycle hangars, improving electric vehicle charging infrastructure and bringing more planting and greenery to local streets.



**You can invest from as little as £5 and can earn regular returns on your investment.**

To find out more, go to  
**[lewisham.gov.uk/ClimateActionInvestment](https://lewisham.gov.uk/ClimateActionInvestment)**

As with all investments your capital is at risk. Investments are long term and may not be readily realisable. This content has been approved as a financial promotion by Abundance Investment, who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (525432).



**Lewisham**