

## Lewisham local development framework

# Planning newsletter

Issue 7 – December 2008



**Welcome** to the latest edition in a series of newsletters keeping you up-to-date with Lewisham's Local Development Framework (LDF).

The LDF consists of a collection of planning documents that sets out the borough's planning policies and proposals. This process follows the planning system introduced by the Government in 2004.

The London Borough of Lewisham is continuing the process of preparing a new planning framework to guide future growth, regeneration and development in the borough up to 2025.

### What's new?

We have prepared a series of new LDF documents and we want to know what you think. Public consultation will take place in February and March 2009 on the following documents:

- Core Strategy Options Report
- Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment
- Equalities Impact Assessment.

### 1. Core Strategy Options Report

The Core Strategy Options Report outlines options for the borough's regeneration and growth. Importantly the Core Strategy Options Report sets out the vision, objectives, strategy and policies that are proposed to guide regeneration and development over the next 15 years.

The government and the Mayor of London have plans to deliver hundreds of thousands of new homes over the next 20 years to meet the expected population growth. Lewisham is part of the Thames Gateway area where a substantial part of this house-building and growth will take place, and as such has been set targets of its own to provide almost 10,000 new homes by 2017.

The Council is keen to make the most of the opportunities that this brings with it. The focus being on Lewisham, Catford, Deptford and New Cross.

Once adopted, the Core Strategy will provide detailed policies on where and how development should take place. The policies agreed as a result of this consultation will be used to assess all future planning applications – big and small.

## 2. Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy

As part of the process of preparing the Core Strategy, a 'Sustainability Appraisal or SA has also been prepared. This incorporates a Strategic Environmental Assessment, as required by law and aims to ensure that the Core Strategy contributes and integrates the principles of sustainable development.

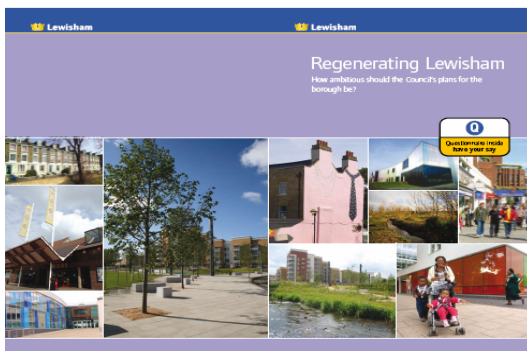
The SA highlights the key social, economic and environmental impacts of the proposals contained in the Core Strategy Options Report and identifies mitigation and avoidance measures to ensure effective implementation.

## 3. Equalities Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment of the Core Strategy Options Report has been carried out in line with good practice. This is the process of systematically analysing a proposed policy or strategy to identify what effect, or likely affect will follow from its implementation for different groups in the community. It seeks, as far as possible, to eliminate, minimise or counterbalance any negative consequences that may arise.

### Public consultation

A two month public consultation will be undertaken throughout February and March in 2009. Copies of a summary leaflet about the Core Strategy Options Report will be sent to interested people and available in the libraries and council enquiry points.



## Other news

### North Deptford consultation

The area north of Evelyn Street includes a number of major sites where private developers are now (or will be in the future) working on proposals for significant redevelopments of land which they own.

Although the developers will have to undertake public consultation ahead of seeking planning permission, in November and December 2008 the Council instigated a programme of activities to help ensure that local people were aware of, and had their say on, the 'big picture' – the combined impact of all these developments added together.

This programme of activity was designed to give as many people as possible - and as wide a variety of people as possible - a chance to explore what these proposed changes would mean for them. This included public workshops, meetings and focus groups with local businesses, representatives from the public and voluntary sector organisations, a four-day exhibition at the 2000 Community Action Centre on the Pepys Estate and various activities for local young people.

A report on the outcome of the consultation will be published by the Council in the New Year.

### Annual Monitoring Report 2007-08

Each year the Council is required to publish an Annual Monitoring Report or AMR setting out key information about the operation of the planning system in the borough. The Council's fourth AMR covers the period April 2007 to March 2008 is now publicly available.

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/Environment/Planning/PlanningPolicy/LocalDevelopmentFramework/AnnualMonitoringLDF.htm>

### Further information

For further information, including public consultation details, please stay tuned with us by the following means:

- URL: <http://consult.lewisham.gov.uk/portal>
- ✉ Email: [planning.policy@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@lewisham.gov.uk) with title: LDF Core Strategy as the subject

☎ Phone: 020 8314 7400

✉ Post: Planning Policy, London Borough of Lewisham, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Laurence House, 1 Catford Road, Catford, SE6 4SW