



Equalities Analysis Assessment

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Date	26/02/24	Service	Planning

1. The activity or decision that this assessment is being undertaken for

Mayor & Cabinet agree the following recommendations to the NCIL programme at its meeting on the XXX:

- Agree the use of NCIL receipts from April 2020 to March 2023 of £2,483,124 to deliver the NCIL 2 programme.
- Delegate authority to Executive Director of Place to top up this amount with NCIL receipts from financial year April 2023 to March 2024 when reconciled.
- Agree the proposed modifications to the existing NCIL strategy outlined in Section 6 of the accompanying Mayor & Cabinet report.
- Agree the proposed timetable and allocation outlined in Section 7 of the accompanying Mayor & Cabinet report with a programme launch in May 2024.

2. The protected characteristics or other equalities factors potentially impacted by this decision

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ethnicity/Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/> Language spoken	<input type="checkbox"/> Other, please define:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender/Sex	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender identity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Household type	
<input type="checkbox"/> Income	<input type="checkbox"/> Carer status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Socio Economic	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marriage and Civil Partnership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy and Maternity	<input type="checkbox"/> Refugee/Migrant/Asylum seeker	<input type="checkbox"/> Health & Social Care	
<input type="checkbox"/> Nationality	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> Veterans or reservists		

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a levy that local authorities can choose to charge on “chargeable” new development in their area. CIL is collected and monitored by the Council’s planning department. An element of CIL is to be spent at a local level and this is known as Neighbourhood CIL (NCIL)

Lewisham Council allocates 25% of its CIL receipts to its NCIL programme and allocates this money to local projects through two separate funds (Borough wide and Ward based). A detailed overview of how the allocations for the borough wide and ward fund are calculated can be found in the M&C paper from the 5th June 2019.

During the first round of NCIL the Council allocated a total of £3,928,364 with the Borough wide fund allocating £977,094 towards 25 projects and the Ward fund allocating £2,931,270 towards 150 projects across 18 wards. All projects awarded funding through both the borough wide and ward fund were required to meet certain criteria

which included the corporate priorities, the CIL regulations and specific ward and borough priorities that were ratified through an extensive public consultation exercise.

At the time of writing this report the delivery of projects allocated funding during the first round of NCIL is still ongoing. It is expected that a significant majority of projects will have been fully delivered by April 2024, although officers have been made aware of delays to certain projects due to unexpected resourcing issues.

Due to the success of the previous round of NCIL the Council wishes to allocate a further £2,483,124 to the NCIL programme while making some proposed amendments to the existing NCIL programme. These amendments and recommendations have been presented in the accompanying Mayor and Cabinet report.

3. The evidence to support the analysis.

All data presented below has been taken from the ward profiles created after the completion of the 2021 Census and published on the council's observatory website.

Age

According to the 2021 Census there are:

- 300,553 people living in the Borough.

Of this:

- 54,900 (18%) are 14 or under, 217,000 (72%) are between the ages of 15 and 64 and 28,7000 (10%) are over the age of 65.

Sex/Gender

According to the 2021 Census there are:

- 157,820 (53%) identify as female and 142,733 (48%) identify as male living in the Borough.

Disability

According to the 2021 Census:

- 7% of residents in the had a long-term health problem or a disability limiting their day-to-day activities.

Sexual Orientation

According to the 2021 Census, 18,332 (6.1%) people aged 16 and over identify as gay or lesbian, bisexual or other sexual orientation in Lewisham.

Ethnicity/race

According to the 2021 census the population by race in the Borough is:

- White – 154,749 (51.5%)
- Black – 80,473 (26.8%)
- Asian – 26,927 (9%)
- Mixed – 24,253 (8.1%)
- Other – 14,151 (4.7%)

Religion

According to the 2021 census in:

- Christian – 131,706 (43.8%)

- Buddhist – 3,270 (1.1%)
- Hindu – 6,459 (2.1%)
- Jewish – 826 (0.3%)
- Muslim – 22,264 (7.4%)
- Sikh – 720 (0.2%)
- Other – 2,269 (0.8%)

Socio-Economic

Lewisham is the 63rd most deprived local authority in England from a total of 333 local authorities according to the UK Government English Indices of Deprivation 2019.

4. Impact Summary/analysis

Age

During the last round of NCIL 38 projects stated that their main beneficiaries would be determined by age. Of the 38 projects, 17 identified children and youth as their main priority with a further 9 projects identifying children and young people as their second priority. 22 projects focusing on health and wellbeing as a primary or secondary priority targeting older people. Projects ranges from revenue focused on youth and elderly support to capital projects that maintained or enhanced key infrastructure through out the borough which is primary used by younger/older residents in the borough.

A selection of age-related projects funded through the NCIL program is provided below:

Ward Fund:

Speech Bubbles: Speech Bubbles was a drama and communication intervention delivered in partnership with Primary Schools in the area.

Grove Park Youth Club: This project provided essential repairs and maintenance to the Grove Park Youth Club building.

Bring Sunshine, Fun and Wellbeing to Elders: This project supported older residents recover from the impact of Covid-19, especially those who were bereaved, isolated, lonely or living with long-term conditions and disabilities throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and had little to know contact with support networks.

Borough Fund:

Oaks and Acorns in Harmony C.I.C: The project aimed to introduce new skills, develop confidence and raise attainment by offering high quality mentoring services and provide a parent volunteer scheme. The project was aimed at young people aged 0 – 18.

Give a Song: The project provided up to 3 music workshops a week for older people to help improve mental health and quality of life and encourage positivity and inclusivity within the community.

Lewisham Youth Theatre: This project aimed at young people aged 18-25 provided a 2-year programme of Youth Facilitator Training with lived experience of mental health.

The NCIL fund at both a Borough and Ward level directly benefited residents across various different age ranges with projects being funded that through the Councils community partners that may not have received funding

elsewhere. A second round of NCIL funding would continue to fund projects that will benefit a varied range of age groups within the borough.

Sex/Gender

Many project proposals that received funding through the NCIL programme specifically identified gender inequality amongst women and young girls as the projects main beneficiaries. Projects in this area delivered on increasing accessibility for women and young girls to traditionally male spaces and activities such as sports. The projects also aimed to deliver safe spaces for young girls and women within Lewisham.

A selection of the sex/gender related projects funded through the NCIL program is provided below:

Ward Fund:

Girls-R-Us: This project was targeted at girls aged 8 to 13 and aimed to create a safe space to meet regularly away from home and school in order to help them with a smooth transition from primary to secondary school and to encourage ambition and boost their self-esteem.

Evelyn Young Women Changemakers: This project aimed to support young women to identify, plan and develop projects locally around improving community safety for all. This project also wanted to address a gap in the area for young community leaders in the area.

Borough Fund:

Second Wave Centre for Youth Arts: This project positively benefited a range of protected characteristics with an aspect of the project focusing on providing support for young women dealing with sexual harassment, intimidation and/or violence.

Lewisham Cyclists: This project delivered a number of outcomes which positively benefited a range of protected characteristics with an aspect of the project focusing on providing bicycle mechanic training for women.

A second round of funding through the NCIL programme for projects that aim to tackle gender/sex inequality and address public safety amongst young women and girls within the borough addresses a key corporate priority. Additional funding made available through the NCIL programme would aim to address a gap in provision that may exist through council funding shortfalls in this area.

Disability

The previous round of NCIL delivered projects whose principal beneficiaries were people with disabilities, including children and young people with SEND and support for their families during term time and school holidays.

An example of a project funded through the previous NCIL programme address residents with disabilities:

Ward Fund:

Brent Knoll and Watergate Co-operative Trust: This project was to provide support to the families of children with SEND and to provide those children with out of term activities that aim to relax and bring stimulation. It also allowed the parents of the children time to focus on themselves or any siblings or friends to ease the toll on the family's collective mental health.

Borough Fund:

Buddies for All: NCIL funding supported the creation of a new social enterprise and buddying service for disabled adults and those with mental health conditions aiming to provide online, telephone and face to face support.

Ignition Brewery: This project was run by an established brewing business based in Sydenham whose aim is to create meaningful jobs for people with learning difficulties. The project is an inclusive community enterprise

generator for people with learning difficulties and created training opportunities and supported educational attainment required for wider employment opportunities.

Watergate Sensory Garden: This project redesigned and refurbished Watergate School's sensory garden creating an outdoor space which stimulates outdoor learning for the Schools SEND cohort.

A second round of NCIL funding would provide opportunities for more projects focusing on disabilities and children with SEND to be delivered which will provide a positive impact on the direct beneficiaries and families of the beneficiaries.

Sexual Orientation

One project was funded prioritising sexual orientation through the last NCIL round, reflecting the small number of applications received that explicitly identified this area. However, many of the applications focused on delivering projects that would positively benefit under-represented communities including members of the LGBTQ+ community.

The project funded in this area:

Ward Fund:

Capture Arts: The project delivered a LGBTQ+ cultural centre at 32-34 Watson Street under a lease from Lewisham Council. The building was a combination of workspaces, education spaces, gallery and social club. All facilities are open to the general public.

Borough Fund:

Metro Centre Ltd's Risk and Resilience: This project was an outreach programme aimed at supporting young people who are exploring gender identity and sexual orientation focusing on specifically on young people who display harmful sexual behaviours. This was a wide-reaching project which positively impacted young people from a wide range of backgrounds.

A second round of NCIL would provide an opportunity for more funding to be made available for spaces that are primarily used by under-represented communities such as members of the LGBTQ+ community. NCIL funding across the board was provided to projects that help provide spaces for all of Lewisham's under-represented communities.

Ethnicity/race

The previous NCIL programme funded projects that highlighted their commitment to enabling access to a representative cohort of residents to services that would specifically target non-white and marginalised communities as part of their service. Projects ranged from renovations of community centres to helping young people who have experienced trauma through youth violence.

Projects funded in this area included:

Ward Fund:

Moonshot Community Centre: The project aimed to refresh and update the Moonshot Community Centre to provide its users with a safe, comfortable and updated facilities.

Collective Cultivation: Funding to support an Afro diaspora led food growing projects including workshops to tackle food insecurity and support social prescribing services.

Youth First (Street Based Project): The project aimed to deliver street focused preventive trauma counselling for young people who have been directly impacted by youth violence in the Evelyn area.

Borough Fund:

Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network: This project supported refugees and migrants in the borough who are impacted by mental health issues develop their employability skills to help them gain better employment opportunities.

Afghanistan and Central Asian Association: This project helped develop the skills base of refugee and other marginalised groups seeking to improve employment opportunities, encourage inclusiveness and increase confidence in seeking and applying for work.

Similarly, to the other protected characteristics, NCIL funding has provided a funding stream for projects that directly target under-represented communities within the borough and there is an expectation for this to continue during a second round of NCIL funding.

Socio – economic

The proposed allocation of NCIL funding includes an Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) top up which provides additional funding across all wards, with wards experiencing the highest levels of deprivation receiving the most additional funding. This directly benefits wards, particularly in the south of the borough that have not experienced significant levels of development and therefore would only receive limited funding through the NCIL programme. This approach has been taken to provide an equitable access to NCIL funding across the entire borough which is supported through the geographical spread of projects funded in the last round of NCIL.

A considerable number of projects funded through the Ward and Borough funds directly targeted underrepresented and marginalised communities in the borough. The range of projects included capital projects such as playground improvements and parks improvements providing safe outside spaces for communities with limited access to outdoor spaces, to providing after school clubs, food banks and training opportunities to families who may have limited access to similar resources.

A second NCIL round would have a significantly positive impact in funding projects that would continue to deliver positive outcomes for communities with socio-economic constraints.

5. Mitigation

The NCIL programme provides significant investment in amenities and locally based activities that positively impact many communities within Lewisham. The project proposals will be required to meet the corporate priorities and will therefore support in the delivery of the Council's corporate strategy. It is also expected that project proposals received through the NCIL programme may have potential to support any legacy activities from the London Borough of Culture which was awarded to Lewisham for 2022.

NCIL also supports the Council's wider programme of grant funding including S106 allocation, the Greening Fund and the Main Grants programme.

It can be considered at this stage that no immediate negative impacts requiring mitigation have been identified.

6. Service user journey that this decision or project impacts

The provision of the NCIL programme will be communicated to relevant service teams (Planning and Community Development) within the Council. In addition, any projects funded through this programme will be part of the borough's broader community development networks.

Signature of Director



