

## LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

### Minutes

MINUTES of that part of the meeting of the OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BUSINESS PANEL, which was open to the press and public, held on TUESDAY, 29 MAY 2007 at LEWISHAM TOWN HALL, CATFORD, SE6 4RU at 7.30p.m.

### Present

Councillor Peake (Chair), Councillors, Stockbridge, Feakes, Fletcher, Hall, Luxton, Parmar, Scott and Stamirowski

<u>Minute No.</u>	<u>Action</u>
1.	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</u> (page</p> <p>Councillors Fletcher and Luxton declared their interest as Members of the Ladywell Pool Campaign Group.</p>
2.	<p><u>DECISIONS MADE BY THE MAYOR AND CABINET ON 18 MAY 2007</u> (page</p> <p>1. <u>Matters referred by the Blackheath, Lea Green &amp; Lewisham Central Area Forum – Loampit Vale Development</u></p> <p>The Chair commented that there were eight recommendations from the Area Forum and asked why the Mayor had agreed only 1. The Head of Transport stated that he was at the Mayor and Cabinet meeting where these issues were considered, and the Mayor considered all the points put forward before agreeing to one of the recommendations. He stated that the Mayor was unable to address the final point directly as it depended on certain assumptions that had been made and requested that a detailed response be sent back to the Area Forum by officers.</p> <p>The Chair stated the report to Mayor and Cabinet mostly contained legal issues and very little or no officer advice or information, and he asked what information the Mayor had considered before reaching his decisions. The Head of Transport stated that the Mayor was aware of all the issues that had been raised in the past at various meetings and in the report, adding that no new evidence had been brought forward. He stated that the Mayor had considered all the issues before making an informed decision. The Acting Head of Cultural Services added that the 3 areas that were claimed to be new did not alter the findings of the analysis in terms of</p>

Minute No.

Action

the square metres of water that would be used and the distance to be covered.

The Chair invited Max Calo to present his objections to the Mayor's Decision.

Mr Calo stated that the revised leisure needs analysis did not take account of the population in the Greenwich area nor the transport interchange. He added that the figures used were that of 2001 which did not take into account future developments which would transform the whole area and increase users into the thousands. He stated that the Mayor had said he disagreed with some of the issues raised in their proposal but did not state why.

The Chair said that as far as he was aware the Mayor had not addressed most of the points raised by the Area Forum. The Head of Transport reminded Members that the Mayor had requested a detailed response to be sent to the Area Forum as part of his decision. Councillor Hall moved that if the Business Panel thought the Mayor had considered the issues referred to him by the Area Forum the Business Panel should then move onto the next business on the agenda. This was seconded by Councillor Stamirowski. Councillor Luxton requested that any reply sent to the Area Forum should be copied to the Business Panel.

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RESOLVED that

i. any correspondence addressing the issues raised by the Area Forum be copied to the Business Panel for information.

ii. the decisions of the Mayor and Cabinet be noted.

2. Leisure Provision: Loampit Vale & Ladywell

Following the introduction of the report the Chair asked why the Mayor felt it important to state his preferred option before the consultation starts. It was noted that the Mayor wanted to emphasise continuity and accessibility which he thought was very important to the decision making process.

Mr Calo asked Members to consider a paper he had circulated which compared the provisions of the current pool

Minute No.

Action

in relation to that of the proposed new pool. He added that as far as he was aware the pool did not need refurbishment as all the reasons for its improvement could be met by the current pool. Officers advised that the new pool would be larger, with easy access, efficient energy usage and would be sustainable. The Chair asked Mr Calo what he was seeking from the Business Panel. Mr Calo stated that he would like to be assured that all the analysis had been taken into consideration before a decision was reached. Councillor Stamirowski asked if there was any documented evidence that Loampit Vale would be smaller than Ladywell. Officers assured her that on the contrary Loampit Vale would have an additional 40 Square metres of water and would have a 25 meters of additional water surface. Councillor Luxton stated that the gym would be bigger with better facilities, she asked whether there would be diving provision and was told that it would be possible to dive in 1.8 meters of water but the diving facility would not be of national standard. Members were informed that Crystal Palace Sports Centre would be refurbished in the near future and available for national standard diving and so would Stratford Leisure Centre.

Councillor Feakes commented that according to statistics if the pool opens in 2010, by 2021 it would have reached its capacity; asking what the plans were to ensure there was additional provision in future. The Head of Transport said that Lewisham had been investing in pools for some time now and would continue to do so. Assessment would be made to determine whether more smaller pools would be made available as opposed to few larger pools, but this would depend on the needs of residents. He added that there was enough site and capacity to build pools when necessary. Councillor Stockbridge asked if in the interim the Ladywell Pool would be maintained in the same standard as other Lewisham pools and was told this would be done.

**RESOLVED** that the decisions of the Mayor and Cabinet be noted.

Meeting ended: 8.30pm

Chair