



Jeremy Chambers
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Deborah Clark,
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18th April 2023

Dear Ms Clark

Lewisham Council – Freedom of Information Enforcement Notice

I am writing further to your letter and Enforcement Notice dated 17th March 2023.

I am grateful to your officers Jonathan Slee, Alexander Ganotis and Terna Waya for making time for a conference call with Cllr Amanda de Ryk and I on Thursday 30th March 2023. The conversation was positive and the Council's actions since the service of the Enforcement Notice and Improvement Plan were welcomed by your colleagues. We have agreed to further calls at 2 months and 4 months from the date of the Enforcement Notice.

Please find attached the Council's Improvement Plan. The Improvement Plan will be published on the Council's website without delay, together with the following additional information.

The Freedom of Information team moved under the direction of the Council's Director of Law & Corporate Governance, Jeremy Chambers – who is also the Council's statutory Monitoring Officer with effect from 1st April 2023.

In advance of the team moving under him, the Director of Law & Governance set up a task group, including director-level representatives and senior officers from across the Council. Additional dedicated resources are to be made available in each department and will remain available until the backlog is cleared.

Regular updates will be provided to the Council's Chief Executive, councillors and the Information Commissioner's Office.

Please be assured that both I and the Council's Chief Executive, together with the wider Executive Management Team, are treating this matter as a priority and will have the backlog dealt with as rapidly as possible.



I have also been tasked by the Chief Executive with designing appropriate structures and processes, as well as identifying the resources required to ensure the Council is not in this position again.

Yours sincerely



Jeremy Chambers

Director of Law & Corporate Governance
Monitoring Officer

