

TELEGRAPH HILL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – March 2017

Cllrs Paul Bell, Joan Millbank & Luke Sorba

Reports

Cllr Paul Bell

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I've been away for a few weeks, out of the country. As I only got back last week, a smaller summary than normal as follows:

- Marched for our NHS in central London
- Participated in a review of the delivery of Lewisham health and wellbeing priorities
- Commented on health and social care integration
- Scrutinised the leisure contracts and raised issues over cleanliness
- Looked at issues around the King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
- Joan and I are working on a solution for the proposed closure of New Cross Gate Crown Post Office and the Catford Job Centre
- Attended my monthly surgery
- Wrote to Lord Kennedy on supporting the right of EU citizens to remain with full rights post-Brexit
- Proposed David Margolies motion on CETA to Full Council – it passed unanimously

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Cllr Joan Millbank

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In the last 28 days since my return from holiday I have:

- Participated in the usual range of required key Council meetings including: Full Council where, following extensive consultation and scrutiny, councillors unanimously approved recommendations for the 2017-18 budget including a 4.99% increase in Council Tax.
- 4 meetings of Mayor and Cabinet which considered amongst others reports on Capacity in the Voluntary Sector, Air Pollution and Children Centre 3 year funding. Corporate Parent training to meeting OFSTED requirements.
- Actively contributed to Labour Group discussion held regularly on Monday evenings.
- Attended my monthly councillor surgery and actively pursued casework which has included the usual benefits and housing queries, and Lewisham's response to the plight of refugees.
- As Cabinet Lead for Equalities oversaw Council arrangements for LGBT month including welcoming Angela Eagle MP to address Council on the 50th anniversary of decriminalisation of homosexuality.
- Joined Lewisham Citizens, the Mayor and councillors to welcome a second Syrian family into our borough as part of Lewisham's on-going support to refugees.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Viewed 'Blue Skies', a local art project giving voice to women survivors of domestic abuse facilitated by Spare Tyre leading participatory art charity and delivered by Refuge, commissioned provider of our VAWG service in Lewisham.• Community-based activity included attending local tenants and residents' meetings, visiting local Afghanistan Association and other local VCS groups.• Being part of the massive March on Saturday 4th March to call on this Tory government to give the NHS the funding it needs and what people want.
<p>Cllr Luke Sorba</p> <p>Email: clrluke.sorba@lewisham.gov.uk Tel: 020 8314 9984 Web: http://lukesorba.com Twitter: @lukesorbalabour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attended Labour Group meetings, Children and Young People's Committee, Licensing Committee and full Council Meeting. Attended CLP GC, Branch Officers Meeting and Branch Meeting.• Also went canvassing in the ward.• Attended the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust Strategy and Planning Committee.• Took part in Save NHS March and in three demonstrations in Lewisham organized by Fair Funding for All Schools.• Met our Greater London Assembly rep with Drakefell Road Action Group reps.

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- Attended Telegraph Hill Community Network.
- This month I have concentrated on: (i) campaigning against the government's cutting of national funding for schools which will have egregious effects in Lewisham; (ii) challenging the reforms taking place in health services in South East London; (iii) offering ideas regarding the set-up of an Independent Inquiry into matters around the Compulsory Purchase Order and the New Bermondsey Development Scheme; (iv) I tried but failed to freeze charges for local street markets experiencing decline; (v) supporting the Healthy Streets initiative locally.
- I also took part in Council activity promoting LGBT rights and welcoming Syrian refugees.
- Casework includes housing, refuse etc.
- The 2017/18 Council budget was passed