

Labour Blackheath NEWS

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BLACKHEATH GETS NEW LIBRARY

Lewisham's Labour Mayor, Sir Steve Bullock, has approved plans for a new community library to be managed by local charity Age Exchange, following the closure of Blackheath Village Library in May.

The Tory-Lib Dem government has cut millions from boroughs like Lewisham and library budgets have been hit hard. Despite this, Lewisham's Labour councillors are working hard with local community groups to retain library services.

Kevin Bonavia, Labour Councillor for Blackheath says, "With so much bad news for our public services right now, I am

really pleased that we will keep a public library service in the heart of Blackheath.

It is vital for our community to keep a library, not only to have free access to books, but even more importantly to have a public space for local residents, both young and old, to study and share information.

The new library would not have come about without the efforts of local residents and the hard work that has gone into making the new library viable. I will continue to give my full support into making it work."

The new community library will fully open at Age Exchange's



Reminiscence Centre in the autumn of next year. Until then a temporary library will be operating in the Bake House in Bennett Park.

LEWISHAM TOGETHER

Labour in Lewisham is launching a borough wide petition against the depth and speed of the Tory Lib Dem governments cuts.

The Lewisham Together petition calls upon David Cameron and Nick Clegg to reverse their policy of

Government cuts are targeted on the poorest areas



directing the brunt of the cuts on the poorest parts of our country.

Lewisham has lost millions of pounds of funding following cuts made by Tory and Lib Dem ministers. While it's accepted that some cuts need to be made Labour argues that cuts need to be delivered more fairly with greater consideration to the most vulnerable.



Mayor Steve says "There are real concerns that a cabinet of millionaires can never really appreciate the effect their cuts are having on places like Lewisham"

Time for Clarity on Blackheath

Cllr Kevin Bonavia welcomes the Mayor's plan to set up a list of criteria for holding events on the Heath to bring clarity over what events can and can't take place.

Kevin says, "This is a sensible way of deciding how to use the Heath. I want to see a variety of events on the Heath, but I voted against the recent application for a 25,000 capacity concert because it would have been too close to many homes and a permanent fixture. An event on this big a scale ought to



be tried on a one-off basis to see if it can be a success all round."

60 seconds with...



Jos Bell

Lewisham SOS NHS

At our public meeting in March, Lewisham's Labour MPs Joan Ruddock, Heidi Alexander and Jim Dowd spoke against the Lansley Health & Social Care Bill

What is being proposed?

The government is trying to break the NHS to let in a private takeover similar to the US by giving money to new management structures called Consortia. They will control GP budgets and have shareholders with profiteering interests.

What's wrong with these proposals?

Doctors will be forced to take into account profit that can be made from patients, not just how they cure and prevent illness with the best treatment. Worryingly, this government does not want the responsibility for safeguarding services. There is a very real worry that some NHS hospitals and surgeries will not survive.

What do Doctors and Nurses think?

The vast majority are against the proposals and know that the Bill puts services and the patients they care about at great risk.

How can I get involved or get more information?

You can contact jos@soslewisham.co.uk or find us on Facebook or @LewSOSNHS
Please sign our petition!

Contact Kevin

cllr_kevin.bonavia@lewisham.gov.uk

Tel: 020 8314 3721

Advice surgeries:

11 am - 12 pm, 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at
Age Exchange Reminiscence Centre,
11 Blackheath Village,
Blackheath, SE3 9LA



✉ write to us at FREEPOST Lewisham Labour
@ E-mail lewisham.labour@live.co.uk

www.lewishamtogether.co.uk

Send the government a message.
Sign our petition or visit the website.

SIGN THE PETITION

We call upon David Cameron and Nick Clegg to reverse their policy of focussing deep cuts on the most deprived areas in the country. We call upon the government to implement cuts with greater consideration of the effect on vulnerable people.

Name	House no.	Postcode	Email

Fill in the petition & return it to FREEPOST Lewisham Labour

**WRONG CUTS
WRONG TIME**