Streatham Action



Southbank and Waterloo Neighbours Stockwell Forum SE5 Forum for Camberwell Brixton Neighbourhood Forum Loughborough Junction Action Group Clapham Park Neighbourhood Forum Herne Hill Forum Norwood Forum

Contents

- I Introduction by Cllr Donatus Anyanwu,
 Lambeth Council Cabinet Member for Communities, Leisure and Sport
- Who are we? Introduction to the Lambeth Forum Network
- 4 The Forums
- 14 The Network
- 16 Case studies
- 23 Shaping the Future of the Lambeth Forum Network
- 25 Map of LFN coverage



Introduction



by Cllr Donatus Anyanwu,

Lambeth Council Cabinet Member for Communities, Leisure and Sport

"All over Lambeth, volunteers come together in local forums with aspirations and plans for making their communities safer, healthier, more sustainable, and with fair opportunities for people who live and work there. The forums in the Lambeth Forum Network (LFN) campaign and lobby for change, and make sure that Lambeth Council and other providers acknowledge the power of community voices.

"We recognise and value the immense work forums do to represent their communities and their role in helping shape the future of Lambeth. Community energy, passion and voice are at the heart of the new borough plan - Lambeth 2030 and in 2022, Forum feedback was essential in identifying and prioritising the challenges communities and neighbourhoods face now, and those they see coming in the next few years.

"Lambeth 2030 sets out our shared vision for the future of our magnificent borough focused on equity and social justice, where people work together to make Lambeth 2030 healthier, safer, sustainable, and active in tearing down deep-rooted inequalities.

"The forums are already committed to making Lambeth the best place it can be, for everyone, and they continue to work with both local communities and each other to realise aims and take our shared priorities forward. By working together, we can deliver sustainable change and continue to build a stronger, equitable, future-fit Lambeth."

Who are we?

Introduction to the Lambeth Forum Network

The Lambeth Neighbourhood Forums each set their own priorities based on local needs and ambitions. They work to represent and increase the voice of local groups and residents in borough-wide decision-making and deliver community-building projects in their respective areas – and as you will see in this report, each forum has its own distinct character and aims. The Forum Network developed from 2011 when Lambeth Council decided to move from a model of District Housing Committees to consulting with neighbourhood forums, to better represent the whole community. Some forums also developed organically in response to citizens coming together to protect the unique characteristics of their area (Brixton Neighbourhood Forum), to prevent serious violence affecting young people in their community (Loughborough Junction Action Group) and to improve aspects of the built environment and create community cohesion (Herne Hill). However, the forums are constantly evolving and developing, influenced by the volunteers who run them and changing priorities of the communities they serve. This report aims to give an insight into individual forum activities and the collective work of the network.

Whilst the Lambeth Neighbourhood Forums act and operate independently, they come together through the Lambeth Forum Network (the LFN) which creates a space for active forums to help shape local development and services, in partnership with each other and with Lambeth Council, with the voice of communities at its heart.

Over the past year (2022-2023), nine neighbourhood forums across Lambeth were active participants of the LFN. They shared their local expertise with Lambeth officers to input into the Lambeth 2030 Borough Plan and were consulted by Lambeth officers about policies and services including Cost of Living support, the All-Age Autism Strategy, Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and elements of delivering Lambeth's Kerbside Strategy. Forums shared Lambeth consultations and news with their communities and built partnerships between grassroots organisations in their areas.





2022 was a year in which communities and forums were still emerging from the impact of Covid. During the height of pandemic restrictions in 2020 and 2021, many neighbourhood forums responded to needs by signposting people to local services, befriending isolated residents, distributing food and listening to the needs of their communities. The capacity of some forums, made up of volunteers, was challenged during this period and where there were twelve active neighbourhood forums in 2019, 2022 saw nine active forums. However, some forums were able to adapt and grow their services during and post-pandemic - some members developed their digital skills and continue to send out e-newsletters, and there has been a particular focus on health and wellbeing initiatives from several forums in a desire to 'build back better' after Covid.

To help drive and deliver some of the LFN's work and projects, the network receives a funding pot of £50,000 per annum from Lambeth Council in a three-year funding agreement, from which forums can each bid for up to £5,000 from. The forums who bid for funding in 2022 used it for part-time administrative support, holding forums and community conversations, and to cover core running costs that support projects such as an employability programme in a community cafe, climate action workshops, a social group for elderly people, youth activities, holding a 6-week health & wellbeing festival, holding a nature and community arts festival, campaigning and engaging with the community and Lambeth Council around community safety and transport issues.

Using the £50,000 fund,

in 2022 the LFN member forums attracted £654,210 in external funding and recorded over £379,000 worth of volunteer hours in the year.

In the same year the forums saw 414,000

web page visits to their sites,

had 40,648 social media followers,

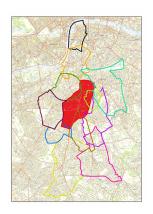
and sent out newsletters to nearly

10,000 local residents.



the Forums

"Brixton is a natural hub for many groups serving Lambeth as a whole, and our contact list continues to increase."



Brixton

- a hub for news and activism in central Lambeth

Brixton Neighbourhood Forum operates as a network of local organisations, individual residents and activists, focused on making Brixton a safer and more sustainable place to live and work.

The Forum formed in Summer 2011, developing out of earlier local groups including Brixton Area Forum, with citizens coming together in response to the Localism Act, which provided for community-based Neighbourhood Plans. Major building developments proposed in Brixton Town Centre have been a live issue in the past few years, notably the Hondo Towers proposals in the heart of the markets area.

The Forum works to challenge inequalities and has taken action to recruit new members to diversify the membership of the executive committee. They have benefited from co-operation with the Advocacy Academy, particularly in reaching younger age groups.

During Covid lockdowns, the Forum started to circulate a monthly e-mail bulletin to over 550 subscribers, highlighting upcoming local events, sharing information on potential sources of funding and other forms of support, and supporting digital inclusion.

http://www.brixtonneighbourhoodforum.org/



"The Forum has ensured that seven organisations, forming the Clapham Park Youth Initiative, now deliver vital services for young people in the area."



Clapham

- supporting residents, young and old

Clapham Park Neighbourhood Forum gives residents a platform to express views on neighbourhood issues and put forward ideas for local improvements.

The Forum has been involved in discussing proposals for new schools, consultation on a Controlled Parking Zone, and scrutiny of the Masterplan for regenerating Clapham Park Estate. They recently supported consultation on the Brixton Hill Low Traffic Neighbourhood.

The Forum acted on concerns about violence affecting young people by helping secure council funding for more youth activities and make the area safer. They support an Over 50's Social Club, an annual Community Fun Day and the Friends of Agnes Riley Gardens, fundraising for the community garden and paddling pool repairs.

In 2022 the Forum set up a 'warm hub' which supported residents to save money on energy bills while socialising and accessing support, if wanted, including increased digital literacy and exercise classes.

www.claphampark.org.uk/clapham-park-neighbourhood-forum



"Neighbourhoods become communities through identifying shared objectives, getting the community involved and improving the environment by piloting the project to completion."



Herne Hill

- building community through projects

Herne Hill Forum is a group of locals seeking to make their neighbourhood healthier, safer, sustainable, and active in challenging inequality through community-building projects. The vast majority of project-hours are contributed by volunteers and the Forum is administered by a member-appointed committee.

The Forum was established in 1999. Their first success came with their first project - the creation of a pedestrianised Station Square where the community comes together, and the introduction of the Sunday Market where people socialise in an environment of sustainable crafts and healthy food. Funding for large murals and lamppost banners gave the neighbourhood a stronger sense of community and cohesion.

Projects are the core of the Forum's work. There's nothing like shared endeavour to create bridges between different parts of the community, and the personal connections made along the way endure well beyond the project's completion. To achieve these projects, the Forum obtains funding from a wide range of grant- awarding bodies and has under contract an Administrator and Project Manager to guide its work.

https://www.hernehillforum.org.uk/



"Forum projects — including relaunched Craft Workshops —provide safe spaces for vulnerable adults, children and young people, women, and people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities to learn."



Loughborough Junction

- building resilient communities

Loughborough Junction Action Group (LJAG) is a volunteer-led social action charity working to make the local environment safer, healthier and more sustainable for people living and working there. When the Forum formed in 2008, their priority was neighbourhood safety following a local murder. This year, LJAG worked on sustainable projects and building resilient communities.

- Grove Adventure Playground hosted 65-70 children every day in summer and October half-term. A new treehouse was built in the playground with charity Build Up. A carnival workshop ran in conjunction with Sunshine International Arts.
- Loughborough Farm ran a successful food growing project where volunteers came together to grow vegetables and socialise. The farm's outreach project on two council estates delivered tomato plants and herbs for residents to grow on their balconies.
- The refurbished Platform Café reopened and now runs a programme providing young people with pathways to work in hospitality.

The Forum also worked on community agendas for planning and transport, including campaigning for a lift at Loughborough Junction station and Loughborough Road cycle-route. An informal social prescribing project helps build a healthier neighbourhood.

www.loughboroughjunction.org



"Forum volunteers are dedicated to a sustainable, vibrant, and creative community and making a positive difference to quality of life for people living, studying, and working in Norwood."



Norwood

- towards a greener, more sustainable community

Norwood Forum covers Lambeth's south-east: West Norwood, Gipsy Hill and Tulse Hill. This year's projects to make the neighbourhood safer, healthier, and more sustainable, and to challenge inequalities include:

- A unique community-led project working towards safer streets and a healthier environment. Streetworks – originally funded by Transport for London and supported by Lambeth Council – originated in 2013 to improve the streetscape of Norwood and Tulse Hill.
- With Forum support, the community got **Site 19** removed from Lambeth's Site Allocations Development Plan and the boundaries of **Site 18** redrawn.
- The Forum has instigated many sustainable 'green' initiatives including their annual Wild Norwood festival, #15minNorwood, and #COPNorwood public meetings.
- Norwood Forum helped the community move on after Covid-19. With Council support, the Forum is managing a Health and Wellbeing Small Grants Fund, giving support to VCFSE grass roots projects to improve the communities physical and mental health. With 66 applications over 2 rounds, and 13 projects funded in round 1, the 23 funded projects in round 2 are currently under way.

www.norwoodforum.org



"Camberwell has tremendous resilience and creativity. Working together, we not only survive but thrive. The SE5 Forum welcomes everyone working on behalf of our diverse community for a better Camberwell."



SE5 for Camberwell

- helping Lambeth feel good

The SE5 Forum for Camberwell campaigns on issues the local community wants to prioritise - like graffiti and transport - for a healthier and more sustainable neighbourhood.

This year, the Forum worked to overcome inequalities by recruiting to make the Board better reflect the community's age and multi-ethnicity. New board members brought new activities, partners and participants - including a Six to Fix street-cleaning campaign. SE5 Forum developed new partnerships for Community Kitchens with Spring Community Hub and Healthy Living Platform. One local parent who joined the Forum's Board this year brought a fresh focus on a healthier neighbourhood. The Forum launched a successful Feel Good Festival bringing the community together on the Green in June and July, with over 20 local health practitioners as partners.

The Forum also partnered with Herne Hill Society and Friends of Ruskin Park on environmental projects and with young people through Camberwell Identity Group and the schools who worked on Denmark Hill station's artwork, with architects on Camberwell Station Road, and on Wyndham Road's mural.

www.se5forum.org.uk



"This amazing area includes Britain's busiest railway station -100 million passengers a year - Europe's biggest concentration of arts and culture, businesses including tourist attractions visited by millions, and a diverse residential community of over 12,000."



South Bank & Waterloo

- working for net zero

South Bank & Waterloo Neighbours is a voluntary organisation bringing together residents, community groups, local workers, small and large businesses including hotels and restau rants, charities working to challenge inequality, educational institutions, and one of the UK's largest hospitals.

The Forum's earliest focus was on a sustainable neighbourhood when community members came together to write the 2020 Neighbourhood Plan - supported by 92% of residents and businesses as a route to the future.

Quarterly public forums chaired by local MPs and attended by local councillors focus on a safer, healthier, and more sustainable neighbourhood. Invited council officers, developers and others present proposals for the area, and community members come together to meet neighbours new and old, ask questions and express their views on the plans.

In 2022 the Forum again focused on sustainability by creating a partnership to set out an ambitious collective action plan to achieve net zero carbon emissions across Waterloo and South Bank by 2030.

www.sowneighbours.org



the Network

Stockwell
Park Community Trust
Lambeth Portuguese Wellbeing
Partnership © Centric © Oval Learning
Cluster © Slade Gardens Adventure
Playground © LEAP © Studley Estate
TRA © Stockwell Community Centre
(Morley College) © Young People
Matter © Healthy Living Platform ©
Stockwellbeing Primary Care
Network © St Stephen's
Children's Centre © Stockwell
Children's Centre

Streatham
Common Co-operative
Streatham Space Project
Streatham BID (In Streatham)
Lambeth Together Friends
of Streatham Theatre Streatham
Safer Neighbourhood Panels
Streatham Youth & Community
Trust Friends of
Streatham Common
Streatham
Festival

Streatham Action

Stockwell Forum

Bankside

Open Spaces © Coin Street
Community Builders © Friends of
Archbishops Park © Friends of Jubilee
Gardens © Local Residents and
Tenant Associations © Morley College ©
Oasis © South Bank BID © South Bank
Cultural Organisation © St John's
Waterloo © Waterloo Action Centre ©
Waterloo Community Development
Group © WeAreWaterloo
BID © Union Jack
Club

South Bank and Waterloo Neighbours

> Norwood Forum

SE5 For for Cambe

L<u>a</u>mt

Station to
Station BID • West
Norwood Feast • West Norwood
Library & Picturehouse • West Norwood
Cemetery NLHF • West Norwood Health
& Leisure Centre • Thriving Lambeth •
Local schools and businesses • West
Norwood Repair Café • South London
Theatre • The Norwood Society • Lambeth
Horticultural Society • Southside
Rehabilitation Association •
Centre 70 • Norwood & Brixton
Foodbank • Rathbone
Society

KCH/SL
Camberwell
Camberwell
Network •Friends
Green • Camberwell
Herne Hill Society •F
Park • The Cambe
Camberwell Identity C
School • Sacred Hea
Academy • Highs
Spring Common

Platfor



community forums that support residents and businesses to network with each other and engage with Lambeth Council to shape local development, Advocacy Academy regeneration and services. The number of active forums can vary from year Black Cultural Archives to year, depending on the capacity of volunteers and community workers Brixton BID • Brixton Rec. User who generously give their time to sit on committees and deliver forum Group ● Brixton Society ● 81 Acts of activities. In 2022 there were nine active forums. Exuberant Defiance Brockwell Park Community Greenhouses Friends of Windmill Gardens Friends of Windrush Square Repowering London ● Stockwell Maytree Park Community Trust Nursery • Weir Estate TRA • St. Vincent's Roupell Park Estate TRA ●Friends Centre of Agnes Riley Gardens Clapham Park Over 50s Social Club Metropolitan Housing ● Knights Youth Centre ● Weir Link ● The Hebe Foundation ● Autism **Brixton** Voice ● Tutors Unites ● Ascension Trust, Neighbourhood CEF Lyncx ● GoldStars Vision ● Oasis **Forum** Children's Venture ● Met Police ● Esports Youth Club ●Learning Unlimited ● Harris Academy ● Bonneville school ●
Mamas Kitchen ● Poynders Clapham Park Neighbourhood Gardens TRA Forum oeth Community um Southwark Councillors from Lambeth and Southwark Herne Hill ork/ CCFM Herne Hill Market

Brockwell Lido Users Carnegie Library Forum Herne Hill Traders ●Station Hall ClO • Herne Hill Society Dulwich Society Local primary schools ● 198 Gallery ● Herne Hill Free Film Festival ● Friends of Loughborough Brockwell Park●Friends of Ruskin Park **Junction Action** Meath House residents ● Poets Group Corner residents ●Safer um neighbourhood erwell Loughborough Farm The Platform Café **AM** Grove Adventure Playground ● Thriving Vassall & Coldharbour

Carnegie Library

Wyck Gardens

LJ Works

Friends of Loughborough Market • Business of Camberwell Park
Sunshine International Arts ell Arts Festival riends of Ruskin erwell Society

Group Lyndhurst

rt School Ark Lipton Community Enterprise ● 7 Bridges Project

shore School● unity Hub●

iving.

The Lambeth Forum Network is a partnership of neighbourhood-based

"Stockwell Forum is building a healthier community as co-founder of the Thriving Stockwell Programme, alongside Stockwellbeing Primary Care Network. Two 'Community Living Rooms' host free health and wellbeing activities designed and run by local people".



Stockwell

- bringing diverse communities together

Stockwell Forum has been including, supporting and bringing residents together with Lambeth Council and other local service providers for over 20 years.

The Forum's quarterly public meetings focus on key local issues to help realise the community's needs for health, a safer community, and moving towards a more sustainable neighbourhood with talks and workshops on key local issues - Vauxhall Night Time Economy Zone, Larkhall Park improvements, and relaunching the Old Laundry community centre. Lambeth Links introduced their new forum for Stockwell's LGBTQ+ community.

The Forum works with diverse partners taking action to end inequalities in society. Through the Forum's host community organisation Stockwell Partnership, bilingual welfare and employability services for Portuguese, Spanish and Italian speakers support over 500 people a year; the HUG group for older Portuguese speakers reduces isolation to improve wellbeing; and the Partnership delivered a celebration of Polish heritage.

Stockwell Partnership also ran over 100 family activities in partnership with LEAP, supporting over 1,000 parents and children, including new families.

www.stockwell.org.uk/projects/the-stockwell-forum



"The Forum gives the community a focus to urge local service providers to do what Streatham people want, not what the providers think we want."



Streatham

- campaigning on transport, listening to communities

Streatham Action local community forum exists to give a voice to residents, with health, safety and sustainability at its core.

The Forum is volunteer-led and was established to support and work with local groups. It provides opportunities to discuss issues affecting the local area. The Forum seeks to make Streatham a better place to live, work and play.

This year the Forum was commissioned by Lambeth Public Health to run a scheme to fund health and well-being projects using participatory budgeting. Grants were given to small organisations and a second round of funding will soon follow.

Streatham Action convenes public meetings on issues that are important to the community, such as election hustings and holds community conversations at events like Kite Day. In December 2022 we held a public meeting on the planned Streatham Wells LTN, which led to a petition on public consultation over road changes, which was signed by 1,371 residents,

Our Transport sub-group successfully campaigned with other local groups to ensure that Streatham Station will soon be accessible, by means of two lifts.

A Crime and Community Safety sub-group and a Planning sub-group are in the process of being established both to provide citizenship empowerment and to support engagement.

www.streathamaction.org.uk



Case studies

"The Friends of Agnes Riley Gardens are effervescent and enthusiastic volunteers" London In Bloom.

Clapham Park

Award-winning environmental work

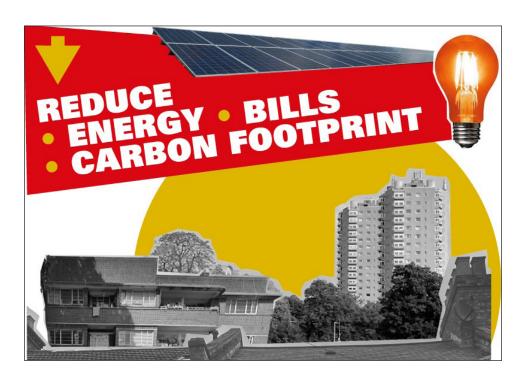
Working with the Friends of Agnes Riley Gardens is an integral part of Clapham Park Forum's approach to supporting local groups. During the year, funding was obtained to improve the community garden and to hold Summer Nature Clubs for children. The Forum supported the Friends with the organisation of pond clearing activities and of sessions on learning about amphibians and rainwater planting. Local children, families, schools and groups got involved and found out all about frogs, toads and newts. With the Friends, we were awarded Level 4 "Thriving" Neighbourhood Award from London in Bloom in the first year of entry.

The project helps boost a sustainable local environment, and working in nature has been proved to help volunteers' mental and physical health.

The paddling pool, the crown jewel at Agnes Riley Gardens, was refurbished in 2018 (closed for the previous 4 years). The Forum supported the Friends to get funding and a group of dedicated volunteers repair, open and close it every summer. 2023 will be the last season. It will be replaced by a Splash Pad, funded as a result of the Clapham Park regeneration programme.







Herne Hill

The Retrofit Revolution

With climate change, spiralling energy costs and a cost of living crisis in the news, winter 2022 was the perfect time to launch our Retrofit Revolution event series.

This series of free talks from experts was a chance for local people to be inspired and informed on heat pumps, insulation, carbon reduction, solar panels, retrofitting, planning regulations and more.

Four different, accessible venues around SE24 made it easy for people to attend. At each of the four events, guest speakers gave a half hour presentation followed by a Q&A for attendees to get to grips with some of the new technologies available. We tried to ensure that the information was useful to tenants as well as homeowners. At the end of each event we provided free drinks and nibbles to encourage informal questions and networking.

Each event was filmed to capture the information for future reference. We also set up a WhatsApp group for people to share tips, recommendations, and articles. We hope that this will encourage people to move towards a more carbon-neutral lifestyle.

Every event was sold out with a waiting list. Feedback was very positive with many people following through with retrofit projects big and small.

"British homes are some of the worst performing in Europe in terms of energy use and carbon footprint. The Forum's aim was to kickstart a retrofit revolution." "86% of people attending and stallholders rated the event 'very good' or 'excellent' at achieving its aim of helping people lead longer, healthier lives."

Loughborough Junction

- Youth Wellbeing Day

Loughborough Junction Action Group (LJAG) with Ecosystem Coldharbour ran a Youth Wellbeing Day at Marcus Lipton Centre a day before April 7 2022 - World Health Day. Young people - including some from Grove Adventure Playground - had sexual and mental health advice from Child Friendly Lambeth and the Well Centre, plus yoga, boxing and fitness sessions, Marcus Lipton staff ran art therapy sessions and encouraged people to write 'their go-to person if they're worried' and 'what made them get up each day'. Myatt's Field Park Community gardener Fabrice answered questions about gardening, and Brunch Brothers used making and sharing food as a way to get young people discussing issues.

Answers to a survey question asking if people agreed: "I have learnt something today to improve my wellbeing" included: "Thinking positive, being helpful," "Learning to acknowledge that everything I do for my wellbeing, however small, makes a positive difference," "Yes - what to eat to lower blood pressure and blood sugar, "Self-care, accepting help from others" and "We got to eat great food, got our blood pressure taken, chat and take home a huge bag of fruit and veg from the amazing Loughborough Farm."







"Not all the projects included in the wellbeing hub pilot scheme were explicitly badged as 'health' projects, but clearly did people good mentally and physically and helped combat health inequalities"

BOX ON THE HILL An Amazing New program has been made available for the residents of Gipsy Hill. Community Sparks Change is creating the opportunity to take part in the sport of boxing. The aim of the program is to develop skills and life long passion for physical activity in a friendly and fun environment STARTS: April 1st DATES: Wednesday & Friday TIME: 5:00pm - 7:00pm AGES: 10-16 COST: FREE The program in Winney Friday THE STARTS April 1st Lambeth CSC Reference in Winney Friday For the the Information contains to be supported. CSC Reference in March 1 and 1 a

Norwood

- Health & Wellbeing initiative

Norwood Forum was commissioned by Lambeth Public health to run a scheme to fund health and wellbeing projects in Gipsy Hill when the Covid-19 Pandemic revealed a high level of health inequalities.

The area experiences high rates of deprivation - respiratory disease at all ages; long-term hospital admissions; long-term illness and early death; with unemployment and income deprivation leading to poor mental health.

The Forum selected a mix of projects to include people of all ages in getting physically or mentally healthier. Projects ranged from boxing for young people through to chair exercise classes for older, less mobile residents; and also included school gardening, a men's cycling club, a 'zine project for teens, drama workshops, maternal health and digital support — and many other life-affirm—ing projects.

Round I of funding received 26 applications and made I3 awards, Round 2, now covering all of Norwood and with a name change to Thriving Norwood, received 39 applications and made 23 grant awards for projects beginning in autumn 2023. Norwood Forum co-chairs the Thriving Norwood stakeholder network group.



"Almost a thousand local people visited free sessions on body, health, art, music, food, mind and exercise."

SE5 for Camberwell

- Feel Good Festival

Moved by the impact of COVID - the loneliness of elderly neighbours, the isolation of our children, the difficulty of accessing health care - the Camberwell Forum organised a six-week festival of health and wellbeing on the Green in June and July.

Most heard of the festival by word of mouth or through posters, some were just passing. Nearly half of visitors were female, almost a third were under ten.

The free food from Community Kitchen with 300 people fed in one day and Lyndhurst choir were the most popular events. Shake da Brass exercise and music events were also a draw.

Almost everyone gave their time, skills, and dedication for free, including parent Pete Lewis from Lyndhurst School who designed all the marketing. Partners including Healthy Living Platform and NHS South London and Maudsley Trust voluntarily gave hundreds of hours. Twenty independent health and wellbeing enterprises owned by women and people from the Black and Multi-Ethnic community ran free sessions. We are keen to build on this successful initiative by running the festival annually.



"The action plan sets out the collective ambition and businesses, organisations and residents to achieve Net Zero carbon dioxide emissions by 2030."





South Bank and Waterloo

- Planning in Partnership for net zero

South Bank & Waterloo Neighbours joined forces with Lambeth Council, South Bank BID and WeAreWaterloo BID to produce the Net Zero for Waterloo and South Bank: A fairer, greener Future Neighbourhood by 2030 strategy and action plan.

- Retrofitting of homes, commercial and public buildings Improve the energy efficiency of homes, reduce demand in commercial buildings, and explore the reuse of buildings in development, reducing emissions.
- Creating a decarbonised, smart and integrated energy system Increase the use of renewable electricity by creating the infrastructure needed and concurrently shift from gas heating through increased electrification.
- Improving air quality and creating zero emission zones Shift to more sustainable modes of travel including walking and cycling and reduce emissions from freight by encouraging a 15 minute city concept in the neighbourhood where residents should be able to access all they need within a 15 minute walk or cycle.
- Climate adapted, resilient and green neighbourhoods Improve access to green space which is safe, biodiverse and resilient to climate change, especially for those most vulnerable to climate risks.
- Zero waste circular economy Residents, businesses and visitors increase their reuse and recycling of goods whilst simultaneously reducing the amount of waste produced.

"As well as health and wellbeing, Thriving Stockwell also focuses on social inequalities by celebrating community events for Black History Month, LGBTQ+ History Month, Eid, Diwali and Christmas."

Stockwell

Action on health inequalities

The Thriving Stockwell programme aims to reduce health inequalities and improve wellbeing through better connecting services and people, and supporting residents to develop healthy lifestyles. Core partners include the Forum, the Stockwell Primary Care Network ('Stockwellbeing'), Art4Space, Stockwell Park Community Trust, LEAP, and Lambeth Together. Our wider network includes over 30 groups and organisation

This year, £69k from the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy and £90k Lambeth Together funded a two-year programme with a Community Builder to develop Community Living Rooms and other spaces, as well as to roll out the new Thriving Lambeth website.

Eight regular groups in the Community Living Rooms include a chronic pain support group, a multi-ethnic women's group, an LGBTQ+ sewing group, an Italian speaking group, tai chi / yoga classes. A Horn of Africa group in partnership with Novartis and King's Health Partners was part of a project to reduce cardio-vascular disease. User feedback includes "I have some me time," an hour for myself to meet other people, gain skills, thinking of other things than daily stuff."





Shaping the Future of the Lambeth Forum Network

Towards the end of the LFN funding year of 2022-23, in February 2023, the LFN met for an away day. The day had three objectives: 1) for forums to reflect on some of the challenges and opportunities they experienced coming out of the pandemic; 2) for the LFN to review its aims and priorities; and 3) to discuss and identify ways of increasing diversity in forum committees.

Twenty-three people attended the away day - seventeen forum committee members, four Lambeth Council officers, a community activator who led the session on increasing diversity, and Councillor Donatus Anyanwu - the Lambeth Cabinet Member for Communities, Leisure and Sport.

Among the strengths and challenges forum members identified were a strong appetite for forums during the Covid pandemic and the development of more online meetings and resources, balanced against recognition of the importance of face-to-face meetings and the conversations that result from bumping into people in the community. Some forums found challenges engaging young people, while others experienced more young people volunteering with them during the pandemic. Forums were able to provide events and activities for communities to re-engage with after periods of isolation but also needed to encourage some vulnerable people to come out to events and identified a need for wellbeing and mental health support.

The following cross-cutting priorities of the Network, going forward, were agreed:

- Access to funding to enable aims of supporting communities to thrive
- Peer-support and information-sharing
- Training and development
- Increasing volume and diversity of community representation and participation
- Access to Cllrs and council officers. Influence on strategies, policies and programmes
- Strength in partnering with other forums around joint issues

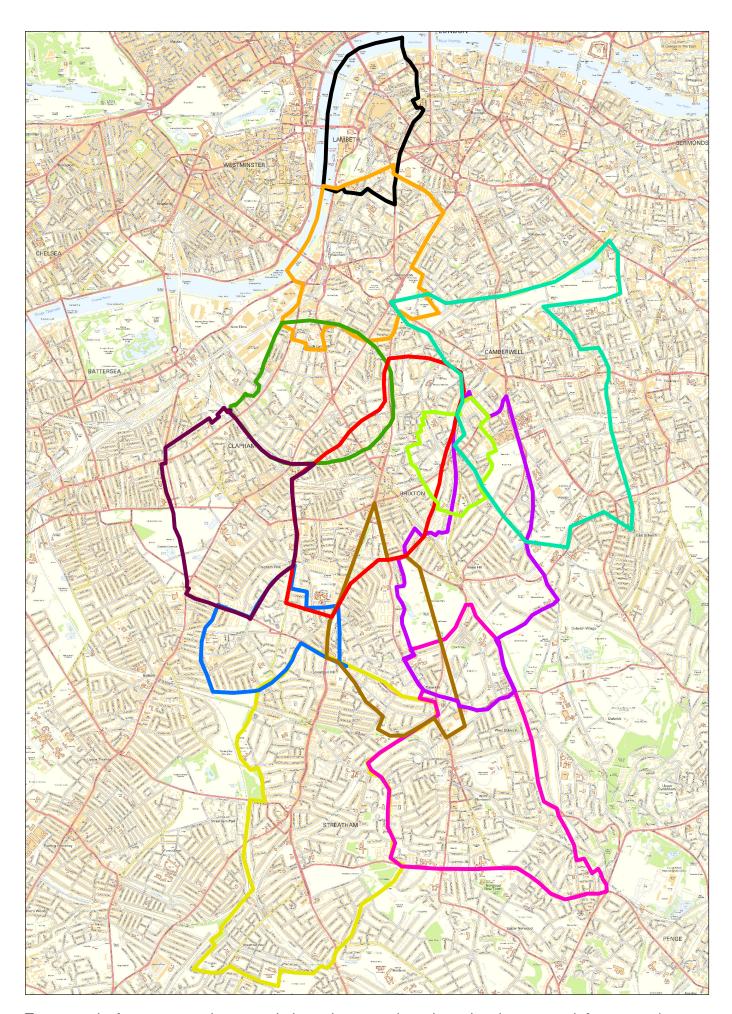
A facilitated discussion on diversity demonstrated ways of increasing and diversifying members by mapping existing knowledge of community groups. Forums committed to further workshops in autumn 2023 to create diversity action plans.

Councillor Anyanwu spoke of the importance of reaching and including all our diverse communities in our shared journey towards healthier, safer, more equitable and sustainable communities for all.

Attendees agreed that the away day made people think and was a good start to shaping the current priorities of the LFN and working in partnership with member forums and the Council to achieve them.

Since the away day, Lambeth Council has reiterated its commitment to working in partnership with the LFN and the LFN has coproduced a strategic document describing the outcomes and activities needed to achieve them.





To contact the forums or to volunteer with them, please visit the websites listed next to each forum introduction inside this report. For further information about the LFN please contact Catherine Walsh at Lambeth Council at: cwalsh@lambeth.gov.uk



