

Overview of Deptford, London

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Lewisham

Overview

Lewisham is an inner London Borough covering an area of 34.7 square kilometres (or 14 square miles) of south east London. It stretches from the River Thames at Deptford and Convoys Wharf in the north to the suburban centres of Sydenham, Downham and Grove Park in the south. It occupies a key strategic position in south-east London on the ancient routes between London and the ports on the Kent and Sussex coast. Lewisham is primarily a residential borough, ranging from low density suburbs to high density neighbourhoods. The borough has large areas of green spaces, with local centres following the pattern of earlier settlements and old village centres. It has a rich ethnic and culturally diverse community but is also rated as the 30th most deprived local authority in the country as recorded in the 2004 Indices of Multiple Deprivation. The borough can be characterised as a residential place where people choose to live, but a significant number commute to work in other parts of London.

Lewisham looking on to the Isle of Dogs



(source: Lewisham Community Strategy 2008)

The Natural Environment

- Lewisham has more than 560 hectares of green space (about 14% of the area of the borough)
- 46 public parks covering about 370 hectares
- 60 sites designated as Sites of Nature Conservation Importance including 19 Local Nature Reserves. Approximately one fifth of the borough is considered to be deficient in open space

- The River Ravensbourne is recognised as one of the most engineered rivers in metropolitan London. There are areas along the rivers which fall under the category of low to medium risk of flooding. Areas also along the River Thames fall into various flood risk categories.

Population: Social and Cultural Characteristics

- 2005 Mid Year GLA Estimates project a growth to 257,180 by 2005 [and ~ 281,945 by 2016].
- In 2001, 21% of the borough's population was under the age of 16, (second largest in inner London).
- projected that the proportion of people aged 16 to 24 will rise by 21% by the year 2016.
- About 34% of the population are of Black and Minority Ethnic origin.
- The proportion of residents of black Caribbean origin is the highest in London.

Health

- compared with inner London boroughs, Lewisham has a low overall crime rate with 35 crimes per 1,000 population, with only Wandsworth having a lower crime rate.
- borough with areas of acute need as evidenced by the Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2004
- 57 out of 354 local authorities in England in terms of average deprivation (1 is most deprived)
- south west and north west of the Borough particularly lacking in facilities for children and young

Education

- 90% of resident primary school children attend school within the borough (this could be attributed to school catchment areas that cross the borough boundary).
- In secondary schools only 65% of resident's children attend school within the borough
- some pupils that travel into the borough but still a net shortfall in pupils.
- Lewisham is carrying out the most ambitious Building Schools for the Future programme in the country (between now and 2013).

Housing and the Built Environment

- Owner occupiers(either outright or with a mortgage) comprise (48.5%) of Lewisham households, which is significantly below the national average of 68%.
- 26.6% of households are in dwellings rented from Lewisham Council
- a further 9% are rented from a Housing Association or Registered Social Landlord.
- The proportion of households renting from the Council or a Registered Social Landlord (RSL) varies from over 70% in Evelyn Ward and 52.9% in New Cross Ward, to 13.1% in Catford South ward. The borough average is 35.6% of households.
- 45% of private housing sector housing is pre 1919
- 60% of privately rented dwellings are over 80 years old
- average Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) rating for private sector properties is estimated at 46 (out of 100)

- 19.6% of all households in the borough are living in unsuitable housing, of which 68.1% is Council or Housing Association accommodation.
- The two main reasons for unsuitability are health/mobility problems and overcrowding
- average house price in Lewisham for the period Jan - March 2006 was £206,953. Greater London average house price in the same period was considerably more expensive at £295,272

Economy and Retail

- Average weekly full time earnings in Lewisham in 2005 were £521.40 as compared to the London average of £555.80
- In the 2001 Competitiveness Audit Lewisham's economy ranked 30 out of 33 in terms of size of economy amongst the London boroughs and was the smallest when measured against its immediate inner London and South London neighbours.
- Significant growth occurred in the 1990s as measured by the increase in numbers of businesses, with many of the new additions coming in the business services sector.
- last twenty years has lost the majority of its major private sector companies.
- Retail chains, smaller retailers and a range of businesses in the business services sector have largely taken over as the source of private sector employment operating in the borough.
- public sector is playing an increasingly important part as the dominant employer.
- In 2004 the workforce in Lewisham numbered 64,700.
- The largest sector was public/education and health services (23,762), the second largest was banking and finance (12,822), followed by distribution/hotels and restaurants (13,679).
- growing cluster of creative sector enterprises mainly centres on the Deptford and New Cross area and Forest Hill.
- two main shopping areas in the borough are Lewisham and Catford town centres.
- Smaller local centres range in size from Deptford with 222 retail units, to Downham which has 67 units. Major centres located just beyond the boundaries of the Borough that are likely to impact on retail include Canary Wharf, London's West End, Canada Water/Surrey Quays, Croydon, Bromley, Bluewater Park (Kent) and the forthcoming developments in Stratford City.
- sufficient spending capacity within the borough to support the expansion of some of the retail centres and for Lewisham Town Centre to achieve Metropolitan status.
- only 31% of the resident employed population are employed within the borough. The remainder going elsewhere mainly to central London which accounts for 43% of those in employment. 9% work in Bromley or Croydon.
- highlights the need to create employment opportunities locally to achieve sustainable development, sustain the daytime economy and relieve pressure on the transport system – especially in the light of the projected population growth.

Transport

- Lewisham is crossed by the London Strategic Road network - A2, A20, A21 and the A205.

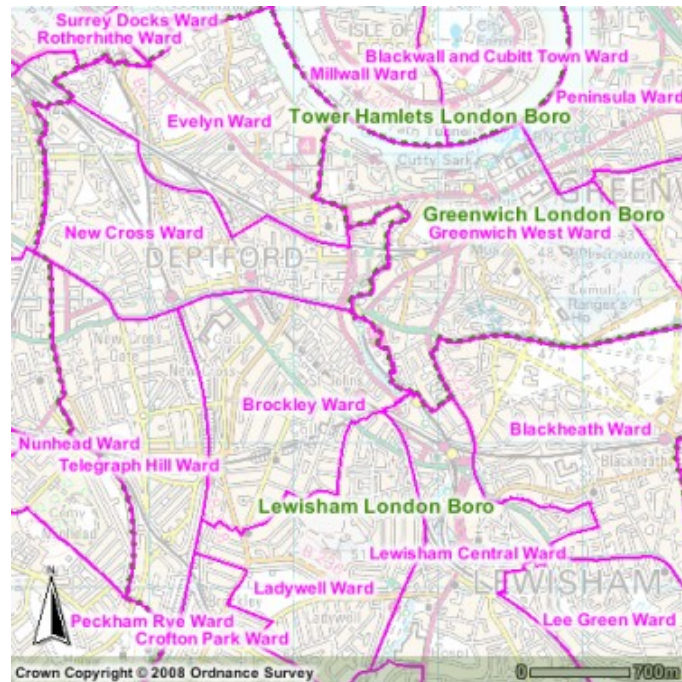
- 20 railway stations
- three DLR stations
- two London underground stations
- 42 bus routes
- Some parts of Lewisham enjoy good rail links to central London.
- southern extension of the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) to Lewisham has further enhanced the attractiveness and accessibility to other parts of London, in particular Canary Wharf.
- about 32% of people in employment travel to work by car, motorcycle or taxi
- about 51.2% use public transport
- 7% work from home
- just over 8% walk or cycle.
- 42.8% of Lewisham households do not own a car, while 57.2% own one car or more.
- Wards in the north of the borough (Brockley, Evelyn, New Cross, Lewisham Central and Telegraph Hill) show higher rates of non car ownership than the rest of the borough, and are therefore more dependent on public transport provision.
- A number of transport infrastructure schemes are proposed for Lewisham over the next five years or more. Some of the key proposals include:
 - • East London Underground Line extension (ELLX) (phase I)
 - • London Bus Priority Network
 - • Capacity improvements for passengers on rail lines
 - • Three car capacity for the Docklands Light Railway and
 - • Thameslink 2000.

Waste Management

- Lewisham is a unitary waste authority.
- Over 80% of Lewisham's waste is diverted away from landfill by incinerating it at the South East London Combined Heat and Power Station (SELCHP) which recovers power to supply to the National Grid.
- Approximately 10% of municipal waste is land-filled and Lewisham achieves nearly 12% household waste recycling. Lewisham is currently aiming to achieve a recycling rate of 20% by 2007/08

Lewisham in Context

Deptford (Evelyn and New Cross Wards)



(source: <http://www.election-maps.co.uk>)

Deptford and the area known as New Cross are inter-twined. For example, Deptford Town Hall (1905) is in the centre of the old metropolitan borough of Deptford, in the middle of New Cross Road. Similarly, Clifton Rise and 439 New Cross Road (the site of the 1981 New Cross Fire which killed 13 black youngsters; and resulted in protests over white indifference toward the black community of New Cross) are in both Deptford and New Cross¹. Clifton Rise and the old Deptford Town Hall (now part of Goldsmith's College) are both near the red circle in the map below.

¹ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/1981/may/14/race.world>



A Bird's Eye Tour of Deptford

Click on the following coloured links for online images

n.b. when the image appears you can expand the picture size by clicking the little white arrow at the side

1. [Stephen Lawrence Centre and Brookmill Park](#)
2. [Docklands Land Rail station, Deptford Broadway and southern part of the High Street](#)
3. [North up Deptford High Street, Wavelength Leisure Centre to the far right](#)
4. [Deptford Train Station, High Street and St. Paul's Church](#)
5. [Top of High Street, Charlotte Turner Gardens and St Nicholas Church \(top right\)](#)
6. [Paynes and Borthwick Wharves and the old News International site](#)
7. [Turn Right into Greenwich \(Millenium Quay Development\)](#)
8. [Down the Creek to the Laban Dance Centre \(bottom left\)](#)
9. [Further Down the Creek – an area now popular with Creative Industries](#)
10. [More of the Creekside Industrial Units \(and back to the DLR Station\)](#)

11. News International Site (and Master Shipwright's House to the Right)
12. Top of News International Site, Pepys Park and (part of) Pepys Estate
13. Top of the Pepys Estate and part of Aragon Tower
14. Leaving Lewisham (Top of Grove Street and Greenland Dock)
15. Top end of Pepys Estate and part of Eddystone Tower (also part of the Estate)
16. Top of the Pepys Estate, Daubeney Tower (right) and Eddystone Tower (left)
17. Pepys Park, Grove Street, Industrial Units, Evelyn Street
18. More of the Industrial Units and Blocks of Flats
19. More Flats, Sayes Court Park and part of Former News International Site
20. Along Evelyn Street and Top of High Street
21. South West of Evelyn Street and the High Street (towards New Cross)
22. Moving Parallel to (and South of) Evelyn Street
23. Deptford Park to the Left of Evelyn Street
24. Industrial Use, North of Deptford Park
25. Folkestone Park (between the railways, just south of Deptford Park)
26. South and then east into New Cross Road
27. Further East along New Cross Road towards bottom of Deptford High Street

The Area in Social Terms

Demographics

Population

Table 1: Evelyn Ward Population (2001)

All	14,512
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Males	7,051
Females	7,461

(source: neighbourhood statistics.gov.uk)

With nearly 80 inhabitants per hectare, Lewisham Deptford is one of the most densely populated constituencies in the UK. Out of the 659 constituencies, it is ranked 18th.

Age

Lewisham Deptford has a relatively youthful population with almost 75% aged between 16 and 74 (UK average: 72%) (UK rank: 48/659)

Table 2: Incomes of Evelyn Ward Residents

(Average Weekly Household) Income in pounds	Evelyn	London
Total Income Estimate (Households)	480	690
Total Income 95% Confidence Interval Lower Limit (Households)	410	..
Total Income 95% Confidence Interval Upper Limit (Households)	560	..
Net Income Estimate (Households)	410	550
Net Income 95% Confidence Interval Lower Limit (Households)	350	..
Net Income 95% Confidence Interval Upper Limit (Households)	470	..
Net Income Estimate (equivalised before housing costs) (Households)	370	510
Net Income ... before housing costs) 95% Confidence Interval Lower Limit (Households)	330	..
Net Income ... before housing costs) 95% Confidence Interval Upper Limit (Households)	420	..
Net Income Estimate (equivalised after housing costs) (Households)	260	440
Net Income ... after housing costs) 95% Confidence Interval Lower Limit (Households)	230	..
Net Income ... after housing costs) 95% Confidence Interval Upper Limit (Households)	300	..

(source: <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>)

Diversity

According to the 2001 census, Lewisham has a population of 248,922. Its population is 66% White, 12% Black Caribbean, and 9% Black African; 4% are South Asian and 1.4% are Chinese (source: neighbourhood statistics.gov.uk).

The Lewisham Ethnic Minority Partnership

This is an umbrella organisation which coordinates Lewisham Black & Minority Ethnic Groups and addresses the long-term Sustainability of the BME Sector. LEMP is a not-for-profit organisation which aims to be a strong voice representing black and ethnic minority (BME) organisations at strategic levels of decision making within Lewisham. LEMP hosts networking events where members come together to share skills, experiences and expertise. LEMP enters into dialogue with statutory agencies and independent bodies. LEMP represents BME issues and provides a voice for marginalised groups.

Intercultural City Project

In 2005 the London Borough of Lewisham joined the international *Intercultural City* project which was launched in 2004 by the UK think tank COMEDIA with core funding from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. The intercultural city concept is based on the premise that in the intercultural city we move one step beyond multiculturalism and focus on what we can do together as diverse cultures in shared space to create greater wellbeing and prosperity. With the Lewisham study the focus was placed on better

understanding the relationship between urban planning and diverse communities in a period of rapid demographic change. The research and consultation process was undertaken over a twelve month period commencing with a preliminary research and consultation phase in 2005. The more substantive consultation and analysis was undertaken during 2006. The project's community engagement process utilised a range of approaches including one on one interviews, small group meetings and community focus groups. The research approach was qualitative rather than quantitative and focused on peoples' perceptions and experiences. The team heard numerous tales of families with six or more children struggling to live in a two bedroom flat. The issue is not just that cramped residential conditions put a strain on family life; they also have wider and interconnected (negative) impacts across the socio-economic sectors. On the positive side there appears to be a strong commitment in Deptford to explore cross cultural and inter faith opportunities. Although, currently the ethnic communities appear to be leading predominantly parallel lives there is an awareness of the value of interculturalism and the value of interaction with others. There is important intercultural activity taking place in the schools that brings together students and their parents in a safe and supportive environment. Likewise the Council libraries were nominated by young people and parents as providing a critical meeting place and a wide range of culturally appropriate programmes. The intercultural city concept also relies on a shift in professional mindset towards a more flexible, interdisciplinary and community focused approach with the added requirement for a greater level of cultural literacy among those involved in planning and urban design. Recommended short term actions that relate to issues of: safety in public space; improving opportunities for community contact with the planning process, access to community facilities; and opportunities for cultural expression in public places. The long term recommendations focus on initiatives aimed at building cultural literacy within Council in order to create planning outcomes that are relevant to Lewisham's culturally diverse communities.

In Deptford there have been black people – from Africa and the Caribbean – for over four centuries. Cheap housing made it a settling destination for West Indian immigrants in the 1950s and 60s. In the 1961 London County Council elections the British National Party caught nearly 10% of the vote in Deptford. In a by-election two years later independent candidate Colin Atkins campaigned to stop all immigration and "repatriate all coloureds already here ... this can be done without hardship. Remember, this is our country, not theirs." Disorganised, low on funds and publicly denounced in a joint press statement by the Labour and Conservative candidates, he nevertheless polled 8.5%. In the late 1970s militant anti-fascists successfully ousted the National Front, especially through the Battle of Clifton Rise in the Deptford/New Cross area, while the mass response from the black community of Lewisham) towards the tragic New Cross Fire of 1981 (in which 13 black youngsters died and where the Metropolitan Police were accused of a cover-up) built stronger local allegiances and created awareness into so called white indifference.

After the New Cross Fire



(source: http://www.ligali.org/images/newcross_protest.jpg)

Ethnic minorities make up 43% of the population in the Lewisham Deptford Parliamentary constituency. The UK average is 8%. 30% of the population in the constituency is black, second only to the neighbouring constituency of Camberwell and Peckham with 39%. Deptford is, for example, the proud home of the Sunshine Grannies (a reminiscence theatre group of Caribbean women aged 50 plus).

Lewisham Deptford also has a significant Chinese Community, which is 2.2% of the population. Only 4 other parliamentary constituencies have a greater proportion of their population made up from the Chinese community. Other significant ethnic minorities in the constituency are mixed race (22.4%), Asian and Asian British (16.8%).

Lewisham Indo-Chinese and Chinese community school [Clyde Street, Deptford]

Chinese and Vietnamese; Advises on Welfare, Housing, Education, form filling; Home Care, Day Centre for elderly; training and employment; Chinese Mandarin Teaching and Cultural studies.

Federation of Refugees from Vietnam in Lewisham, FORVIL

This is based in the Evelyn Community Centre in Deptford and commits to do its best to provide emotional and practical support, through a range of services, to those Vietnamese community members in

this London Borough, who are in needs, to help relieve their hardship and distress, There is also a Vietnamese Community Supplementary School in the Albany arts centre.

South London Refugee Partnership

This was set up in May 2001. It is a 'cross borough' refugee partnership which helps local refugee organizations and communities groups in some South London Boroughs. The aim of SLRP is to increase opportunities for local refugees' organisations and community groups in the boroughs of Southwark, Lambeth, Lewisham and Greenwich. SLRP provides a wide range of capacity building and support for projects and initiatives by refugee organisations as well as support to individual refugees.

Faith

Christianity is the dominant faith – see Table 3. Some streets have several churches. Deptford High Street has the Christ Life World Outreach Centre, Christian Resource Centre Ltd and The Bear. It also has the area's two Catholic churches: St. Paul's (overseen by Father Paul Butler) and Our Lady of the Assumption. Evelyn Street has the Victory Bible Church International, Hope of Glory International Ministries and the Redeemed Christian Church of God Overcomers Assembly. There do not appear, from the BURA research, to be any mosques (Islam), mandirs (Hinduism) or gurdwaras (Sikhism) in the area.

Table 3: Religion in Deptford

	Evelyn	Lewisham (London Borough)	London	England
People stating religion as: Christian (Persons)	58.38	61.25	58.23	71.74
People stating religion as: No religion (Persons)	17.05	20.40	15.76	14.59
People stating religion as: Religion not stated (Persons)	10.91	10.05	8.66	7.69
People stating religion as: Muslim (Persons)	7.31	4.62	8.46	3.10
People stating religion as: Buddhist (Persons)	4.42	1.09	0.76	0.28
People stating religion as: Hindu (Persons)	1.21	1.69	4.07	1.11
People stating religion as: Other religions (Persons)	0.45	0.46	0.51	0.29
People stating religion as: Jewish (Persons)	0.18	0.28	2.09	0.52
People stating religion as: Sikh (Persons)	0.10	0.17	1.45	0.67

(source: <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>)

Lewisham Council's pioneering approach has been recognised nationally and is cited in the Local Government Association's good practice guide for local authorities working with faith groups. Faith in Lewisham Network, launched in 2003, aims to promote the role of faith groups, development of new faith-based community initiatives and encourage networking among the more than 200 faith groups in Lewisham.

Lewisham Street Pastors

The Lewisham branch began in February 2005. A Street Pastor is a Church leader/minister or member with a concern for society - in particular young people who feel themselves to be excluded and marginalised - and who is willing to engage people where they are, in terms of their thinking (i.e. their perspective of life) and location (i.e. where they hang out - be it on the streets, in the pubs and clubs or at parties etc). Street Pastors will also be willing to work with fellow activists, church and community leaders, and with agencies and projects, both statutory and voluntary, to look at collaborative ways of working on

issues affecting youth, and initiatives that will build trust between them and the Street Pastors (see www.streetpastor.co.uk).

When the pioneers of modern nursery education, Margaret and Rachel McMillan, set up their night camp for slum children² in the churchyard of St Nicholas Church in Deptford in the early twentieth century, they were continuing a long tradition of faith groups as a focus of community care. Historically, faith groups were the key providers of social care, education and health. Today, the Council also has a dedicated Community Sector Officer for Faith and Social Action.

Deptford Churches Centre (Day Centre)

The Centre was founded by local churches in 1979 when a local hostel closed. Today, it has full-time staff, volunteers and hundreds of homeless, vulnerable and marginalised adults visit every month. The list of services that DCC provides is impressive. A few examples include nutritious lunches, advice on a wide range of topics, access to doctors and dentists, a laundry, a number of classes and a place to socialise. This chance to socialise with other people, as well as to have a warm, safe place to go, a TV to watch, newspapers to read and cheap hot drinks and meals is highly valued by members. Most days after lunch there is bingo or a quiz at DCC, which are popular with members. However, there is a lot more on offer. For example the laundry, clothes store and shower facilities are vital facilities for people without a permanent home. Upstairs at DCC there is a large art room and an ICT suite. The art classes are highly valued by participants and the walls are covered in colourful paintings. DCC's garden provides invaluable work experience for members as well as home grown produce for the centre's kitchens. The Archbishop of Canterbury is the Patron. <http://www.deptfordcc.co.uk>

Deptford Methodist Mission

The Methodist Central Hall (see photo) was built on slum clearance land in 1903. It was deliberately designed so that it didn't look too church like to attract people into the building who might be put off by a traditional church. The mission always had a deep concern for the poverty in the neighbourhood which arose from the intermittent employment opportunities at the local docks. The mission sought to meet the needs of families through soup kitchens, breakfasts for children, distributions of used clothing and even a fund to enable children to go to the seaside. From the 1920's the Mission had a concern for disabled and elderly people, reflected in what was then called "The Cripples Guild" and the "Cosy Corner" drop in, and what is now called the Disabled Peoples' Contact. The Mission has always been concerned with the local community, especial its most vulnerable members and this concern is still seen today. The DPC is still going strong, with growing numbers on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday club days and the Monday club, and lots of opportunities for volunteers. The church no longer boasts thousands of members, as it did in

² The McMillan sisters Margaret and Rachel, born to a Scottish family, did much for the health and education of Deptford people. They established night camps, the girls' at 353 Evelyn Street and the boys' at 24 Albury Street providing washing facilities and clean clothes. The boys also slept outdoors among the graves of St Nicholas Churchyard! The sisters believed that early years' education could counter some of the effects of poverty and established a nursery school which remains. Although

the early 1900s, but now has a primarily West African congregation of around 50 people each week and numbers are steadily growing. Although no longer able to offer the extensive community services that the Mission offered in its heyday, the Mission still sees itself as primarily looking out to the needs of Deptford, and as such rent out a lot of the space in the building to community groups. These groups all operate with the welfare of local people as their primary concern.

Deptford Methodist Mission (top of Deptford High Street)



(source: <http://deptfordmethodistchurch.org.uk>)

Family

Lewisham has a relatively large percentage of lone-parent households (15.4% compared to a UK average of 9.6%).

Education

Table 4: Education Levels

	Evelyn	Lewisham	London	England
	(London Borough)			
People aged 16-74 with: No qualifications (Persons, Apr01)	29.43	24.19	23.73	28.85
People aged 16-74 with: Highest qualification attained level 1 (Persons, Apr01)	12.96	14.21	13.00	16.63
People aged 16-74 with: Highest qualification attained level 2 (Persons, Apr01)	17.48	17.42	17.06	19.36
People aged 16-74 with: Highest qualification attained level 3 (Persons, Apr01)	8.85	9.09	9.78	8.34
People aged 16-74 with: Highest qualification attained level 4 / 5 (Persons, Apr01)	25.51	29.42	30.99	19.90
People aged 16-74 with: Other qualifications / level unknown (Persons, Apr01)	5.77	5.66	5.43	6.92

(source: <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>)

The Elderly

Deptford Action Group for the Elderly (DAGE)

action group for the elderly in the north of the Lewisham. started back in the late 60's and registered as a charity in 1971. Chairman, Harry Haward, and one of its volunteers, known as Wee Wee, both featured heavily in The Tower TV series about the area. it is a place that aims to offer advice and information and friendship over tea and cakes. Dage got the Lottery funding to buy its centre and staff it. additional support came from the Church Urban Fund and the Local Lewisham council, and a host of small awards from trusts and foundations. Since then, DAGE opened its refurbished premises in 2001 and has continued to open five days a week ever since. DAGE hosts monthly sessions by the Pension Service and from time to time by Age Concern, in addition to weekly NHS opticians providing free sight testing and local police hosting monthly crime prevention surgeries. On a quarterly basis the Fire Brigade and NHS health promotion specialists give advice. The result is that many local pensioners are applying for the benefits that are rightly their's. In addition, the DAGE pop-in centre helps older people to combat social isolation, through its opening five days a week, and to enjoy the two big cabaret parties and on average, three outings a year. DAGE also runs its own pensioners radio show across greater London, reaching out to the more physically isolated and connecting to younger people who also listen in, on Resonance 104.4 fm on Sundays at 2pm. They organise day-trips – to places such as Southend. With support from voluntary action Lewisham DAGE was able to build on getting the Legal Services Commission's Quality Mark Level Two assisted information, this will help to match fund DAGE's own self-generated income from its furniture re-use project. This is where DAGE will collect all re-usable furniture locally for free so that people on low incomes can access good quality furniture to help furnish their homes.

Consulting with the Elderly: Mobilising Knowledge

UrbanBuzz funded project, which Dr Alison Rooke and Gesche Wuerfel (CUCR) carried out in Deptford, developing creative ways of consulting with 'older people'. Mobilising Knowledge - Solving the interaction gap between older people, planners, experts and general citizens within the Thames Gateway (May 2007-October 2008). Our cities must deal with an increasingly ageing population but are ill equipped to tackle the needs of older people. Older people are often excluded from urban development processes and disadvantaged in their interactions with the urban environment while their valuable knowledge and experiences remain untapped by planners. Therefore, a summer school critically exploring future developments from the perspective of local older people is being planned. The summer school aims to equip twenty senior citizens of mixed ethnic and class backgrounds with knowledge and skills in art, geography and citizenship, by means of photography, mapping and an exploration of the plans for the Thames Gateway. This will allow older people to interact with urban change, reflect on their needs, and propose concrete solutions for how development can be more inclusive of the entire population in a workshop with council officers, councillors and other important representatives. The results will be compiled in good-practice guidelines that can be used in future planning processes. The results will be disseminated to diverse public and private actors in a variety of formats, making the broader public as well as policy-makers aware of seniors' particular requirements in the urban environment. This project is supported by the UCL-led UrbanBuzz Programme.

Youth

The area has several youth clubs – such as Exodus, Leander and Riverside.

Riverside Youth Club

This delivers a variety of homework clubs, arts based groups, and a holiday scheme. CACAO offers a service to young people in media and photography, producing a tri-annual magazine, *confusion* - produced by young people themselves.

There are several Council-run programmes to support youth. The Young Citizens' Panel is a group of people that the Council, health service, police, colleges and others contact to get their views on important decisions that need to be made. At the moment there are over 300 young people from all around Lewisham who are members, and the aim is to boost this number to 3000. Txt-bk is Lewisham's own directory of services and way young people can be involved in their area <http://www.binvolved.org.uk/txt-bk.pdf>. There is the Young Mayor who has £25k a year to spend on project s/he feels will improve the lives of youth in Lewisham. Most of the groups and projects below have representatives on the Young Advisers Group that supports the Young Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

No Lingerin in Lewisham!

This was a collaborative project that explored 'play' spaces in Lewisham – spaces that are provided, adopted, imagined, special and future – and the pedestrian journeys between them. Working with young teenagers at a secondary school in the north end of the borough, an innovative consultative process was devised, to inform stakeholders on what makes a great 'play' space. Teenagers 'hanging about' are often viewed as a negative leisure activity (for example, in shopping centres groups are often moved on for lingering). The project sought to provoke a creative response to this issue that involves young people mapping alternatives that invited debate with the local council and residents. The workshops were designed to stimulate creative responses to local urban planning of 'play' spaces (from walkways to fields) with those who wouldn't usually be invited or concern themselves with this kind of intervention. They included auditing and mapping of routes and lingering places, stakeholder role play, modelling of desired places and routes, face-to-face and on-line conversations with policy planners, and presentations made by young people. The key objective was to involve local users in gathering information and having ideas on what makes a successful and sustainable play space for the city/locality. Target user groups included local councillors, policy planners, local residents, young people and teachers. In particular, the project aimed to impact on future access to and planning of public/private space in the built environment and how young people are invited into these decision-making processes. Project collaborators included the Design school at Goldsmith's College of Art & Design (University of London), the Inter-Cultural Cities Project, officers and councillors from Lewisham Borough Council, including the Young mayor, and students and teachers at Deptford Green School.

The Midi Music Company

Established in January 1995, this is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. It provides a place for all children and young people, aged five to thirty, to be inspired to get into music and the creative industries. Founder grew up in Deptford in the 1960s. had free music lessons, great opportunities to do arts and sports and acknowledges that the Albany theatre was a constant source of inspiration. In the 80s, the Albany was a reputable music venue. One of my her knew Chaka Khan, and she's now involved. Shovell, the percussionist from M People, is a patron and he has always come in and done sessions and Jazzie B has DJ'd there. Wozzy used to teach vocals but now spends a lot of her time speaking at events, making applications for funding and generally inspiring people about what can be done in youth arts. The company work locally - in Lewisham, Bexley, Croydon and Southwark - but also operate work London-wide. 10 staff - four of whom work full-time. In addition to vocal and instrumental tuition, Midi has multi-media computers, a CD duplicator and recording and performance studios. Budding musicians can get careers advice and help with demo tapes and designing CD covers. www.themidimusiccompany.co.uk

Early Years/Pre-Teens

There are several nurseries – for example, Grace Day, Rainbow and the Bunny Hop Day Nursery at the Evelyn Community Centre. Particularly interesting in the context of regeneration is the Barnardo's Akwaaba Centre.

Barnardo's Akwaaba Centre

This supports children and families from diverse cultural, religious, economic and minority ethnic groups. The children who attend the centre are supported through the High/Scope curriculum in developing their full potential through a planned programme of daily play activities. Parents and carers are supported in further developing their skills and knowledge in parenting and personal development via group work and individual support. General interests are also promoted on a needs-led basis, for example via access to computer equipment for their use which gives them access to on line training, advice and information. Parents and carers can also attend various training courses that are available at the centre. For the full time day-care for children aged 2 – 5 years old there are 23 priority placements made through Lewisham Early Years after initial referral from a health visitor or social worker. All referrals need to meet the criteria of 'being in need' as defined by the Children Act 1989. Sure Start placements are offered to parent/carers who live within Evelyn ward in specific postcodes. The Vietnamese parent/carers are supported by our Vietnamese family support worker who provides advice on various issues for example housing and benefits. She also provides a translation service during progress report meetings. The Vietnamese family support worker facilitates regular parents groups on issues identified by our service users. <http://www.barnardos.org.uk/akwaaba.htm>

Housing

Table 5 : Housing Ownership in Evelyn Ward, Deptford

	Evelyn	Lewisham	London	England
Rented from: Council (local authority) (Households, Apr01)	58.90	26.57	17.12	13.21
Owner occupied: Owns with a mortgage or loan (Households, Apr01)	12.89	33.14	33.51	38.88

Rented from: Housing Association / Registered Social Landlord (Households, Apr01)	11.33	8.99	9.09	6.05
Rented from: Private landlord or letting agency (Households, Apr01)	7.55	12.24	14.34	8.80
Owner occupied: Owns outright (Households, Apr01)	4.63	15.38	22.05	29.19
Rented from: Other (Households, Apr01)	2.58	2.09	2.93	3.22
Owner occupied: Shared ownership (Households, Apr01)	2.11	1.59	0.96	0.65

(source: <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>)

The Pepys Estate

The Pepys Estate, opened in Summer 1966, was dreamt up by the Greater London Council³ Architects Department as a super-modern self-contained town. The architects prided themselves on how much of the historic site they managed to keep and incorporate into the new estate. The old rum stores became the blocks looking over the river at Deptford Strand. The estate, on the banks of the River Thames, is set in an open park setting, with pathways criss-crossing the estate, it consists of three 24-story tower blocks (Aragon, Eddystone and Daubeney) and ten 8-story blocks, plus several other 4-story blocks. Apart from the tower blocks, the other blocks are red brick, and very reminiscent of 1920s red-brick apartments found in up-market parts of London. The quality of the build was high. The Pepys estate occupies a major part of the only element of river frontage in Lewisham. When completed the Pepys estate was seen as a prestigious move forward in social housing provision and was a very popular place to move in to. The legacy of this is that many tenants have subsequently remained on the estate, and it is not at all uncommon to find that people have lived on the estate for 20-30 years or more. An unusual feature of Pepys, is that it utilises waste heat from power stations. The Pepys estate won a Civic Trust design award. The view from the river walk is stunning - upstream central London, on the opposite bank Canary Wharf, and down river Greenwich. Parts of the old Colonnade and Terrace were preserved. Pepys was the first of the major post-war estates to be built in Deptford, and in the first few years, places tended to be offered to people who had lived in Deptford for many years, so some of the old feeling of the area was kept. However, despite the planners' dreams that tower blocks would be like vertical streets, by the mid-1980s the designer and arts commentator Molly Parkin observed: "the hell-hole, high-rise Pepys estate ominously empty with no crumb of human comfort in the concrete jungle, a travesty of what had been before".

Community

Voluntary and Community Activity

Deptford has a strong tradition of voluntary organisations and community work; from the old blanket clubs, through to the Deptford Fund/Albany Institute (voluntary theatre group), to the Youth and Community course at Goldsmiths College (part of the federal University of London)⁴, to the 1990s

³ The Greater London Council, 1965-1986, established to replace the London County Council (LCC) was responsible for emergency planning, fire services, waste and flood defences along with producing the Greater London Development Plan. The GLC also worked alongside local London Boroughs to improve roads, housing, and city planning and leisure services. Disbanded in 1986 by the Conservative government the GLC was replaced in 2000 by the Greater London Authority (GLA).

⁴ See the interactive map <http://www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/campus-map> to get a sense of the campus location.

Lewisham library squatters, to the web of organisations, networks and social enterprises that have sustained Deptford Community Forum since 1993.

Deptford Community Forum and Creekside Community Forum

Established as part of the Deptford City Challenge programme, the Deptford Community Forum, based at Deptford Green School, along with the Deptford Business Forum (now defunct) and the Deptford Tenants Forum (also defunct) was established to give local residents a chance to voice concerns regarding developments within the Deptford area. [right click for contact details for Deptford Community Forum](#)

Creekside Community Forum serves a similar purpose for the areas of north east Deptford and West Greenwich. Both organisations are very involved with urban development proposals and have become an authority in their own right on social and housing policy for Lewisham and Greenwich boroughs. <http://creeksideforum.wordpress.com>

Pepys Community Forum

This began in 1999 after a group of workers, local agencies and residents defined a community development bid to revitalise facilities, services and the local community infrastructure. At the same time, a capital development programme had been prepared to physically redevelop the Silwood Estate, half a mile up the road towards Surrey Quays. Government Office London decided to merge the two requirements together into the Silwood Single Regeneration Budget, but with the Pepys aspect of it with its own funds, identity, and constitution. Pepys Community Forum was formally launched in March 2000 and constituted in July that year. It became a company ltd by guarantee in 2004 and a registered charity in 2007. <http://www.pepyscommunityforum.org.uk>

Pepys Community Cafe

The community operated Pepys Community Cafe on Pepys Estate is open from 11am to 2 pm weekdays selling a range of hot drinks, sandwiches, cake & fruit. This is just a small beginning but as trade develops they hope to be able to offer more and more services. They are currently offering a special to all local community groups: the opportunity to purchase sandwiches for their meetings at cost if they take the lunch stock remaining after 3pm each day.

2000 Community Action Centre, Pepys Estate

A focus for activities on the Pepys estate this was funded in partnership between London Borough of Lewisham and Pepys Community Forum. Since 2006 it has built upon its own independent and grant funding sources. Community centre for local residents. Information on a range of subjects, including social welfare, benefits, money and debt, housing, education, employment and health issues. Community cafe and internet access. Childcare services, after school clubs, health and fitness clubs. Toy and book library for under 5s. Meeting venue for older people's groups, residents' associations and youth forums. The local community of Pepys Estate. Arabic, Chinese, French, Spanish, Vietnamese and Yoruba. Pepys Estate and surrounding areas in Lewisham, Southwark and Greenwich.

Tenants Action Group, Pepys

A Voluntary Group of tenants and residents on the Pepys Estate. Advice on rights, information and support Housing, planning and the environment Health and well being.

Tenants and Residents Associations in North Lewisham

Table 6: Tenants and Residents Associations (TARAs) in North Lewisham

Association	Location
Bembridge T&RA	Bembridge House, near Deptford Strand
Colonnade and Terrace T&RA	top of Grove Street
Daubeney T&RA	Pepys Estate
Crossfields Estate T&RA	between High Street and Church Street
Evelyn T&RA	South of Evelyn Street
Foreshore United Neighbours	Deptford Strand (North West of Evelyn ward by Aragon Tower)
Hughesfield T&RA	Just north of the top of the High Street but west of Watergate Street
Mary Ann Gardens and Albury Street TRA	top of Deptford High Street and top of Church Street
Princess Louise & Vaughan Williams T&RA	Area between lower part of High Street and Church Street
Sayes Court T&RA	North of Evelyn Street (south of News International site)
Tanners Hill T&RA	Street that runs south from near bottom of High Street
Trinity T&RA	North of Evelyn Street (south of News International site – and east of Grove Street)

There is now also a Millenium Quay Residents Association (which is in North West Greenwich near St Nicholas Church) and there appears to be the first signs that some form of residents group may be forming at Aragon Tower.

One anonymous but informative (and presumably local) person is the <http://deptforddame.blogspot.com>. 'Planet Pepys' opens a general discussion about life and times of Pepys Estate residents where all are invited to use their voice to describe experiences of living on Pepys. <http://coopepys.wordpress.com>.

Politics

Parliamentary Constituencies

All the boroughs three MPs are Labour. Lewisham-Deptford has been represented by Joan Ruddock since 1987. The Council however has no overall control since 2006 – having been Labour-controlled since 1971. The main non-Labour Councillors are the Liberal Democrats, followed by the Greens and, then, the Conservatives.

Local Politics

The London Assembly member (Greenwich and Lewisham constituency) is Len Duvall. All three Evelyn ward councillors are from the Labour Party and were elected in May 2006. They are:

- Heidi Alexander
- Crada Onuegbu

- Sam Owolabi-Oluyole

Table 7: 2006 Local Election Results

	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Green	Local Education Action by Parents	Socialist Alternative
Results 2006	3	26	17	6	0	2
Results 2002	2	45	4	1	1	1

(<http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/londonlocalgovernment/londonelections/2006elections.htm?showpage=2>)

Ward Councillor Profile: Heidi Alexander

(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Regeneration)

Her other commitments include sitting on:

- Greater London Enterprise
- Housing Joint Partnership Board
- Lewisham Education Partnership Board
- Lewisham Schools for the Future Holdings Ltd. and SPV Ltd.
- Local Government Association - General Assembly
- Local Strategic Partnership
- London Councils:
 - Leaders Committee (Deputy)
 - Culture & Tourism and 2012 Forum (Deputy)
 - Transport & Environment
 - Economic Development Forum
 - Housing Panel
- South East London Enterprises Ltd.
- South East London Transport
- Thames Gateway London Partnership Groundwork Trust

Local Assemblies

- Each ward in Lewisham
- anyone who lives, works or studies in the ward are encouraged to attend
 - friendly relaxed meetings will take place four times a year
 - open discussion and debate about what matters in that area
 - real action to solve the issues raised
 - community working together with the Council to make real change to your area
- meetings will be chaired by a councillor and supported by a coordinator employed by the Council.
 - From March to the end of July, all assemblies will meet for the first time.

Evelyn Ward Local Assembly: June 12 2008 Local Assembly

There were a number of issues which came out of the meeting. These issues will help to inform a priority plan for the Evelyn ward. The top seven issues in order are as follows:

- environment / housing
- crime and anti social behaviour
 - youth provision
 - traffic and transport
 - lack of community spirit
- economic development and enterprise
 - education and health.

Education Provision

Primary and Secondary Education

There are various LEA primary schools in Deptford (Deptford Park, Grinling Gibbons, Sir Francis Drake, St Joseph's (Catholic (in Rotherhithe), St Stephen's and Tidemill. There is also the Clyde Nursery School and the Addey and Stanhope Technology School. Deptford Green and Tidemill have had particularly impressive results in terms of improving students (see box).

Deptford Green Comprehensive School

Mixed comprehensive school with students from very diverse backgrounds, socially, economically and ethnically. progress students make during their time here (Contextual Value Added) puts it in the top 5% of schools in the country⁵. June 2007 had a very successful OFSTED inspection. It found the school to be 'good' overall and 'outstanding' in some areas. Comments included: 'teaching is overall good and much is outstanding,' 'students make outstanding progress in Years 10 and 11,' 'students enjoy coming to school,' 'students have well developed social skills and are courteous and well behaved.' Pioneers in Citizenship and restorative justice and growing reputation for our work in teacher training, inclusion, global partnerships, extended services and federations. <http://www.deptfordgreen.lewisham.sch.uk>

Tidemill School

This sits in the heart of Deptford, just off the High Street. It is a wonderful and vibrant school catering for an eclectic mix of over 300 children, coming from over 30 countries of the world and with 37 different languages spoken. This is a real strength of Tidemill, where children mix with others from different cultures, ethnicities, and religions. results placed the school top in Lewisham and 7th in the country for value-added - the measure of the progress children have made since they entered the school. Tidemill children not only achieve academically, they also get the chance to shine on all levels - singing gospel at the Royal Albert Hall, performing at the Royal Festival Hall, displaying their art at West-End galleries and abseiling in Devon. This year 96% of our parents responded and the results were overwhelming - 98% said their child enjoyed school, 99% felt the teaching was good, 99% said staff expected a lot of their child and helped them to achieve their goals, 99% felt their child was making good progress and 98% felt the school was well-led and managed. <http://www.tidemill.net>

⁵ http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/bsp/hi/education/07/school_tables/secondary_schools/html/209_4047.stm

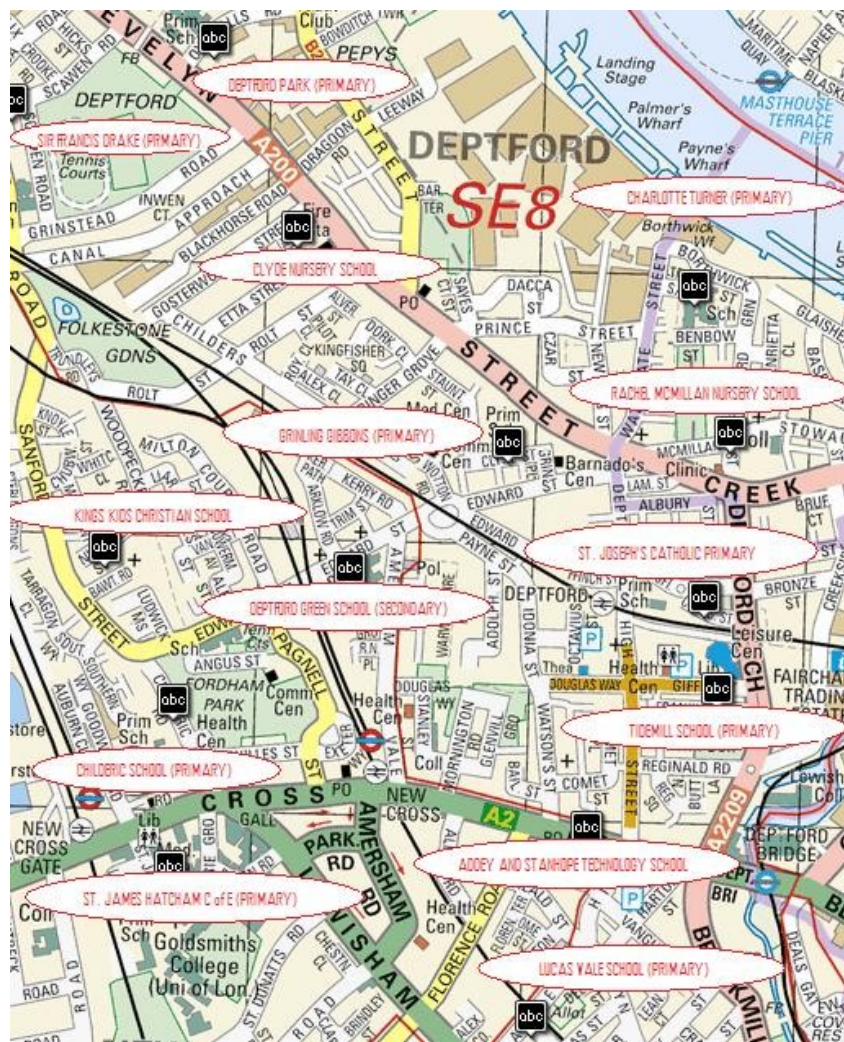
Clyde Early Childhood Centre

Clyde is an integrated Childrens Centre. Catchment area is North Lewisham. Children in the foundation stage, parents, carers and childminders. 3 months to 5 years. www.clyde.lewisham.sch.uk.

Charlotte Turner Supplementary School

This is a Saturday School for based at the Charlotte Turner Primary School. It offers additional curriculum support to all young people in the area, and specialises in language support for Arabic speakers.

Map of Schools in Deptford



(Source: Multi-map, with school names added by author)

Further and Higher Education

Trinity Laban: the UK's 1st Conservatoire of Music and Dance, Creekside

The Laban⁶ Centre for Contemporary Dance, opened in February 2003 brings together students, choreographers, designers, writers, researchers, artists, theatre practitioners and musicians from around the world. Laban and Trinity College of Music have merged to form Trinity Laban: the UK's 1st Conservatoire of Music and Dance. In the Guardian Higher Education/University League Tables for 2008 [Trinity Laban](http://www.trinitylaban.org) was ranked 1st in the UK in each of its specialist disciplines of music and dance. One of Europe's leading contemporary dance training institutions and new performance venue for dance, music and physical theatre. The centre has a 300-seat theatre, 13 dance studios, 100-seat studio theatre, specialist library and archive, dance health and Pilates facilities. There is also a theatre bar and public café. Designed by two leading Swiss architects, Herzog & de Meuron⁷ in collaboration with visual artist Michael Craig-Martin, Laban (a glass and coloured polycarbonate structure next to the tidal creek) the Centre occupies the site of a former Deptford Borough Council yard. Constructed in 1997-2002 it won the Stirling Prize for Building of the Year in 2003. The grounds have been landscaped into an amphitheatre which can be used for performances and the building has a 'brown' roof. The cafe and some shows are open to the public. www.laban.org.

Looking North to the Laban Centre from the River Ravensbourne



Lewisham College is a Further Education college made up of two campuses, one is located at Lewisham Way, New Cross and the second is located at Deptford Church Street. Lewisham College has 16,000 student enrolments and 36,000 course enrolments. The college has: 16,000 student enrolments – of which

⁶ Named after Rudolph Laban, the Hungarian dance thinker, dancer, choreographer and teacher.

⁷ The architectural team behind Tate Modern and TM2. Harry Guggen was a lead architect on the scheme.

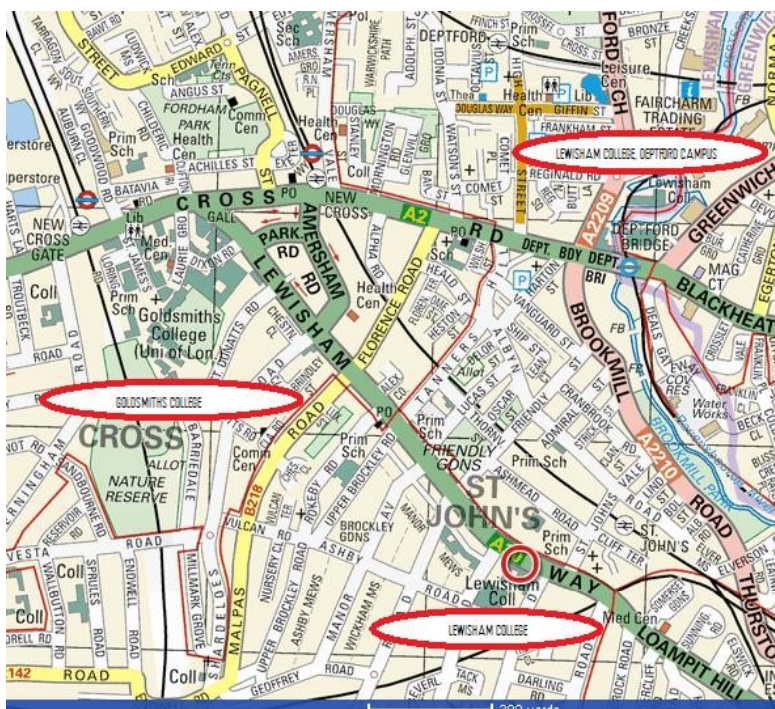
57% are from ethnic minorities, 41% live are based in Lewisham and 61% study part-time.

<http://www.lewisham.ac.uk>

Goldsmiths College, University of London

The college hosts a variety of events throughout the year that are open to the public and free of charge, including talks, workshops, music recitals, exhibitions. The main building was designed by John Shaw in 1843 in the English Renaissance style and originally occupied by the Royal Naval School. It is listed as Grade II. The college chapel is now used as a theatre. The college's new flagship, the Ben Pimlott Building (photo) was designed in 2005 by Alsop & Partners. <http://www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/>

Lewisham College and Goldsmith's College, University of London



(source: Collins Bartholomew 2007, from MultiMap) text boxes added by author

There is also the University of Greenwich located within a mile or so of the Deptford eastern boundary.

Other Education

Creekside Education Centre

Regular talks, low-tide walks in wellies on the Creek, bird walks, family events, children's educational activities, volunteer days, exhibitions and performances. The Creekside Centre is an environmental centre providing environmental education and leisure opportunities for all ages. Activities focus on helping to maintain and protect the local wildlife found in and around the creek, they include school visits, adult training and research programmes, guided 'low tide walks' and also involve local businesses in cleaning and maintaining the creek. Education is the main role at the centre - 2006 will be full of opportunities for people of all ages to visit the centre and explore the Creek. The centre has all year round interest and is

open to all ages. There are fun sessions available for those not yet big enough to wade in the Creek. Older students have seen where and how mud builds up or decided how old relics found in the Creek are. One very popular service the centre provides are walks and talks to local history groups, adult education groups, walking societies and other organisations aimed at more senior learners. Activities can be tailored to groups needs. The Creekside Centre can be used as a conference facility or for meetings. There are rooms available for general hire. www.creeksidecentre.org.uk

Creekside Centre



Mud-larking in Deptford

This was a re-imagining of the traditional guided tour which empowers young people to engage creatively with the built environment. It involves users as co-designers, producing a tour by making use of mobile technologies to both initiate and respond to a scattering of located nodes in and around (the tidal) Deptford Creek. Key Stage 3 students walk usually inaccessible and fenced-off areas of Deptford, making imaginative connections between large and small-scale relics that connect histories and stories embedded in the creek itself. Run by Juliet Sprake, of Goldsmith's College, University of London. Has online video http://www.futurelab.org.uk/projects/mudlarking_in_deptford.

The Stephen Lawrence Centre

The Centre, built to commemorate the teenager killed in a racially motivated attack in 1993, was officially opened in February 2008, providing young people with information, training, advice and guidance. It also acts as a hub where industry, community organisations and educational institutions can exchange information on the latest skills and needs in urban design and regeneration. It offers business development suites for young entrepreneurs, as well as a state-of-the art creative arts laboratory with multimedia, design and digital studio facilities. <http://stephenlawrence.org.uk>

Health and Welfare

Health

Table 8: General Health in Evelyn Ward (%)

	Evelyn	Lewisham	London	England
General health: Good (Persons)	70.06	69.18	70.82	68.76
General health: Fairly good (Persons)	21.74	22.35	20.90	22.21
General health: Not good (Persons)	8.20	8.47	8.28	9.03

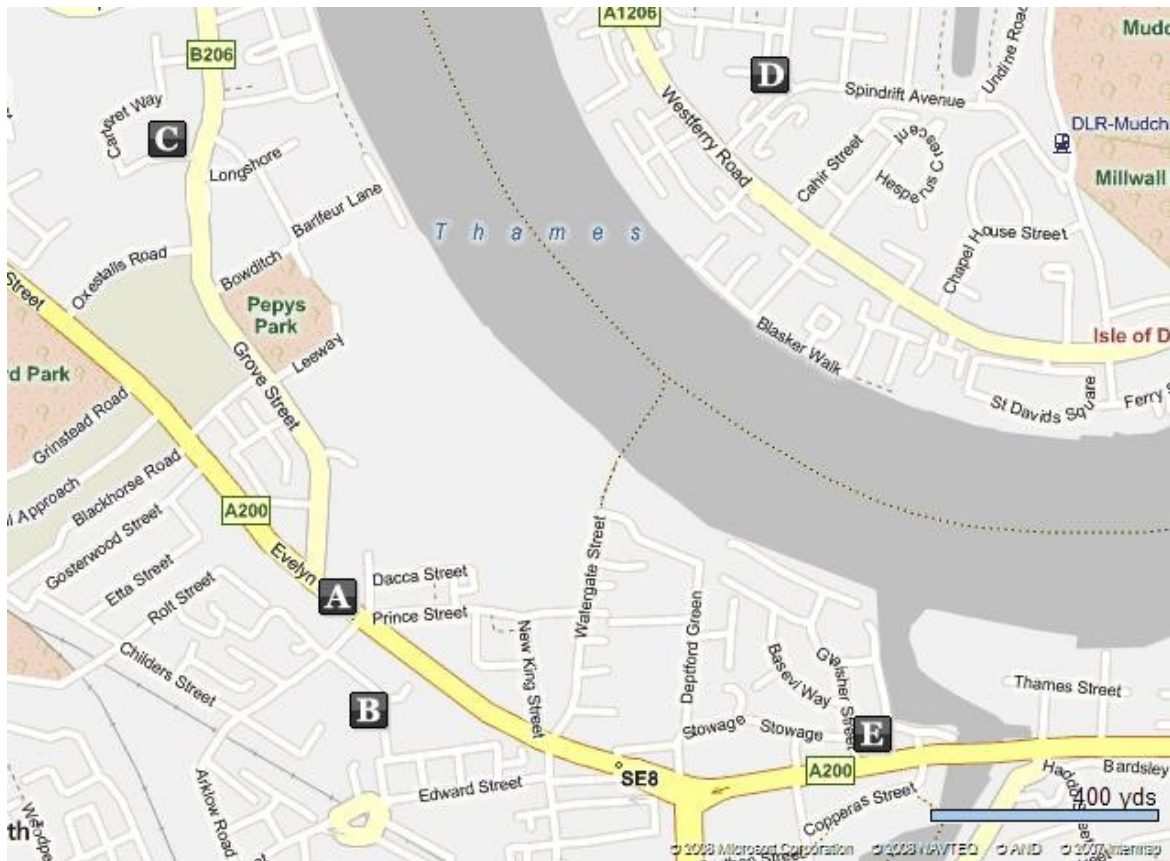
(source: <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>)

Table 9: Limiting Long-Term Illness in Evelyn Ward (%)

	Evelyn	Lewisham	London	England
People with a limiting long-term illness (Persons)	14.62	15.60	15.49	17.93
People of working age with a limiting long-term illness (Persons)	13.51	12.36	11.87	13.29

(source: <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>)

G.P. Surgeries in Evelyn Ward, Deptford



(source: <http://www.nhs.uk/service directories/Pages/ServiceSearch.aspx>)

Caring

Table 10: Provision of Care by Evelyn Ward Residents

	Evelyn %	Lewisham (London Borough)	London	England
All people who provide unpaid care: 1-19 hours a week (Persons)	57.83	66.27	68.53	68.64
All people who provide unpaid care: 20-49 hours a week	19.14	12.17	11.93	10.88

(Persons)				
All people who provide unpaid care: 50 or more hours a week	23.03	21.57	19.54	20.48
(Persons)				

(source: <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>)

Law and Order

Anti-Social Behaviour

Safer Neighbourhoods

This is the Metropolitan Police's approach to community policing. It's about police, the Council and our partners working with you, to identify and tackle issues of concern in your neighbourhood. Every one of Lewisham's 18 wards has had a safer neighbourhood team since April 2006. Each team will eventually be made up of six police and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs). Their aim is to listen and talk to you, and find out what affects your daily life and feelings of security. These might be issues such as anti-social behaviour, graffiti, noisy neighbourhoods, yobs or vandalism. Then, they work in partnership with you and other agencies to find a lasting solution. Safer Neighbourhoods teams are dedicated to your community and are additional to other policing teams and units in London. Lewisham Council is funding seven PCSOs and Safer neighbourhood teams work with the Council's Wardens Service and other council staff to jointly tackle local problems.

Safer Neighbourhoods in Evelyn Ward

In the July 2008 the Evelyn ward Safer Neighbourhoods team newsletter reported that Operation Blunt 2 The team are supporting borough colleagues in targeting serious youth violence, the number one priority of the Metropolitan Police Service at present. This has involved the increased use of stop and search/account, leafleting in the area plus targeted weapons sweeps across the ward. recent weapons sweep on the Evelyn Estate led to the discovery of two knives, a screwdriver, scissors and a variety of metal and wooden sticks and poles. continuing to receive numerous complaints about drug dealing and using in certain areas of the ward. In recent months the team have conducted search warrants at three addresses in the vicinity of Abinger Grove. We have also continued to monitor the areas around Fulcher House and Arlington House where previous crack-house closures have been obtained. an increase in incidents concerning dogs. The team recently seized a dog which was identified as being part pitbull.

Deptford Neighbourhood Wardens

Thanks to the recent expansion of Lewisham Council's Warden Service, we now have 7 Deptford Wardens. Wardens are a highly visible uniformed presence, committed to working with the community and the improvement of the physical environment in the areas where they work. With foot patrols covering Deptford Town Centre and many of the surrounding residential areas, the Wardens will seek to report in all forms of crime & anti-social behaviour & work with other service providers to help improve the local environment. Priorities include: deterring anti-social behaviour, reducing crime & fear of crime; supporting residents & visitors; improving the local environment; arranging for the removal of abandoned

vehicles/graffiti/fly-tipping; creating pride in the community; & working with other service providers on the community's behalf. what of pro-social behaviour?!

Culture

Heritage

Famous People With Deptford Links

- Samuel Pepys (1633-1703) the 17th century diarist often visited the Dockyard when he was Clerk to the Navy Board.
- Pepys fellow-diarist John Evelyn (1620-1706) lived in Deptford, in the manor house called Sayes Court.
- Grinling Gibbons (1648-1720) was a famous wood-carver first discovered by John Evelyn when he was working near Sayes Court. He worked on the royal palaces and St. Paul's Cathedral.
- Christopher Marlowe (1564-1593) the Elizabethan poet and playwright was murdered in a Deptford tavern in 1593. He was buried at St Nicholas Church, along with other well-known seafarers and shipbuilders.
- In 1698 Peter the Great, Tsar of Russia, spent several months studying shipbuilding in Deptford, where he stayed at Sayes Court which belonged to the Evelyn family.
- Many of the great voyages of Discovery began at Deptford. Drake, Frobisher, Raleigh and much later, in his ship the Endeavour, Captain James Cook sailed from here to Australia and New Zealand in 1768.

Cultural and Creative Events

It should be stressed that the cultural and the economic overlap considerably – from pubs to art galleries. The creative industries are returned to in the economy section.

Deptford Design Market Challenge

A collaboration between Raw Nerve (a Creekside-based creative consultancy), the Creative Lewisham Agency (now Creative Process) and the London Design Festival, the Challenge is bringing together an eclectic mix of 27 of the world's top designers for an inventive and provocative project. The designers, who include Conran and Partners, Stuart Haygarth, Martí Guixé, and Based Upon, have each been asked to pick a second-hand object – a paint box, a guitar, a basket of toy soldiers – bought from Deptford Market. Their task is to challenge preconceptions of usefulness and beauty, using their talents to re-work the item, creating something unique, desirable and functional. By re-interpreting the discarded, the aim of the Market Challenge is to inspire and encourage designers to think about re-using what is available before creating an entirely new product from scratch. The possibilities for regeneration are endless: compressing or manipulating the object; reengineering it; using it as an image for a website. The re-designed items, now transformed from humble bargains to design icons, were displayed at the Royal Festival Hall as part of the London Design Festival, run in mid-September 2007.

<http://www.deptforddesignchallenge.com/challenge.php>

Made In Deptford Festival

3 days of heritage, creation and cuisine. The event has three broad themes: Deptford Heritage, Creative Deptford and Foods of Deptford. In 2008 the Deptford Arms in the High Street was home to Deptford Art Space, the Music Tourist Board and a friendly cross section of the community. The venue hosted a series of live music and art events and was one of the after-show hang outs when the last chord has been played on the Made In Deptford stage. People were able to buy some of Deptford's exotic and traditional fares for just £1 at participating businesses. Also participating were some shops selling global fruit and veg, plants and flowers, vintage clothing, jewellery and household goods at unbelievable prices. The Blue Light District, a collective of Deptford artists and musicians, laid on an arts trail starting with their own installation at the Birds Nest and then taking festival goers on an inspiring journey through Deptford's thriving creative scene. The Bird's nest in Deptford Church Street, otherwise known as Deptford's alternative tourist office, offered an array of music, short film, poetry and plays brought to you by the super talented folks from 'The Lab Theatre Collective and 'Blue Light District'. Deptford based fashion illustrator Di Murphy showcases her recent work in a boutique-style exhibition; including her Spring/Summer 08 illustrated T-shirt Collection.

[Click here to see the Made in Deptford Food Trail](#)

[Click Here to Read a Blogger's Account of a Day at the 2008 Festival](#)

Deptford Design Weekend

This annual mid-September event presents the cream of Lewisham and Greenwich design with open studios, events, exhibitions and activities, showcasing cutting-edge design and Deptford's impressive portfolio of local talent. Based around the buzzing streets of Creekside, DD07 provided an exciting opportunity to see behind the scenes of a diverse mixture of established and new designers. Cockpit Arts will open the doors to 65 designer-makers' work spaces between 11am and 6pm revealing a treasure trove of jewellery, fashion and interior products. Visitors will be able to chat to the designer-makers about their work methods and inspirations and browse or buy goodies ranging from the Jonathan Wade's striking ceramics to Linda Florence's vibrant bespoke wall-paper or the bold textiles of Rebecca Oldfield. Downstairs The Deptford Project Café is the place to hang out, read the special edition DD07 newspaper and take advantage of refreshments and on-site exhibitions. In 2007 FivetoNine Design teamed up with Openshaw Design to produce temporary alternative street signs with a local slant. They were installed along Creekside, London SE8, during the festival. <http://www.deptforddesign.co.uk>

Music

The Deptford Scene

Deptford, along with neighbouring New Cross, has been touted as 'the new Shoreditch' by some newspapers and magazines, due to its supposedly developing arts and music scene. Sceptics, however, point

out that area has been an artistic and musical hotbed since at least the mid-70s (associated with the then-burgeoning squatter scene) and that the only new phenomenon is that of 'lifestyle' journalists venturing south of the river in search of cool. Among the famous musicians who started in the area are Jools Holland and the group Dire Straits. The latter shared a council flat in Farrer House on Deptford's Crossfield Estate in the early days of their career. The band Squeeze lived in Deptford in the late 1970s and recorded on a local label. More recently, the bands Athlete, Bloc Party and Art Brut originated from the so-called 'Deptford Scene'. In the past, New Cross has nurtured the music of Squeeze, Kate Bush and the not-much-missed Carter The Unstoppable Sex Machine, as well as the comedy of Vic Reeves, who cut his comedy teeth in the area's pubs. The Klaxons are also from New Cross.

The ShortWave Set

This London indie band has worked with Danger Mouse, John Cale and Van Dyke Parks for their new album. The English members of the Shortwave Set grew up in Deptford - which they say is like an "outsider community" in south London because of its poor transport links - and met after "tutting at the same bands". They found that Deptford had an uncanny way of cropping up during the recording of Replica Sun Machine. John Cale told them he had studied teacher training there. Danger Mouse told them that he, too, had lived in Deptford a few years back, before he was famous [source: Guardian 2008].

The Deptford X Festival

This is an independent film festival. As well as film projections, there are bands playing and art upon the walls, and people are drinking and having a good time. This is the hub of the new New Cross underground, a melting pot of ideas that takes in music, film, theatre, comedy, visual art, performance art and art for art's sake. The loose adopted term for this movement, centred on New Cross and the surrounding boroughs of Brockley, Lewisham and Deptford, is Rocklands. In the last couple of years, an enclave of arty types has set up a self-sustaining network of parties, venues, spaces and events that isn't dependent on record-company money or media attention. Your diary and agenda are assembled almost at random – locals might head to record/clothing boutique Rubbish & Nasty to score the new sounds, but there they'll pick up a flier that directs them to, say, the Fox and Firkin in Lewisham for a film night, where they'll be given a fanzine by someone who's in a band. <http://www.deptfordx.org>

[Click here to read one blogger's views on the 2006 Festival](#)



Artful Festival

Terry Butchery, from local band Sharing Sheaths, is also one of the founders of the Artful festival, an annual celebration of Rocklands life that has been running for the past three years, commandeering an archipelago of venues around the region and filling them with bands, projections, performances and punters. Artful is still the highest-profile event in the SE8 calendar.

The Fox and Firkin, previously a bog-standard boozer on Lewisham High Street, now plays host to a number of intriguing events, including the Film Night at The Fox (held on the first Monday of every month), set up by local promoters The Blue Light District. There's also Toy Pirate, which is the brainchild of promoters, DJs and multi-fanzine producers Greenwich Pirate. Rocklands even has its own semi-official podcasting radio station, Earwax, which performs all the rabble-rousing, word-spreading, tune-disseminating duties you'd have wanted from pirate radio once upon a time.

Some claim that the concentration is due to having Goldsmiths University and others to gentrification elsewhere in the capital forcing artists, musicians and other poor people to move in to bolster the area's dwindling population. Shay, lead singer with incendiary Elastica-meets-Girlschool rocker The Veez, thinks there's a more basic reason that Rocklands has formed its own identity. 'A lot of it is to do with the tubes I think. We've got nothing like the Northern Line, and that's beyond our control,' she says. 'But it's good to be part of the south-east London movement. It brings people together in a really productive way. It's more exciting than Camden or somewhere else further afield – I feel more of a sense of belonging, and less a sense of trying to prove yourself, or a pretence. We love playing everywhere, all across London, but I hope that this is going to create more recognition' [from Time Out feature 2007].

Pubs

There are a range of pubs in the area. These include several in the High Street: the Deptford Arms which is also a live music venue <http://www.myspace.com/deptfordarms>; the Last Lick and the White Swan. There are a couple in Evelyn Street: the Black Horse and the John Evelyn and a couple in New King Street: the Harp of Erin and the Osborne Arms and a couple in Creek Road: the Duke and the Hoy Inn. One particularly well marketed pub is the Dog and Bell in Prince Street <http://www.thedogandbell.com> (source: www.beerinthevening.com). There is also the odd wine bar – such as the Last Lick.

Restaurants and Cafes

Deptford and New Cross town centres have a wide range of tasty eateries, including Vietnamese, Nigerian, Chinese, Ugandan, Indian, Malaysian, Thai, Mexican and Continental European restaurants, along with traditional 19th century pie and mash shops and a trendy wine bar bistro. Also have a wide assortment of traditional cafes and take-aways, plus Noodle bars, Caribbean and English bakeries, sandwich and coffee bars. Deptford also has a growing number of Fair Trade-registered café eateries with vegetarian options. Eateries include: Kaya House for Malaysian cuisine and Cuisine a la Leke for West African cuisine.

Leisure and Recreation

The leisure opportunities are not overly apparent. The literature review did however reveal two.

Wavelengths Leisure Centre & Library

Wave pool, gym, café, library with children's activities, book clubs & free IT access.

Ahoy Sailing Centre

Based on the river Thames on Greenwich Reach at Deptford, the Centre offers easy access to the surrounding communities in Lewisham and Greenwich. The Ahoy Centre offers sailing, power boating and rowing opportunities for all on London's River Thames. Borthwick Street, www.ahoy.org.uk

The Area in Economic Terms

The Maritime Economy

In 1513 Deptford's riverside became the site for King Henry VIII's royal naval dockyard and remained the cradle of the English navy for over 300 years. It was the base for the most famous English expeditions, including those led by Francis Drake, Sir Walter Raleigh and Captain Cook. It was also an important base for the great diarist Samuel Pepys, first and only Secretary to the Admiralty, who built up the English navy to world-ruling proportions. The dockyard remained in operation until its closure in 1869. By that time the river was silting up and the new, much larger iron ships were practically impossible to launch from the site.

The Buckingham on the Stocks at Deptford (Circa 1750)



(source: National Maritime Museum)

The Yard's biscuit-bakery (the Royal Victoria Victualling Yard) introduced the first factory assembly line in the world and the world's first monorail opened in 1826 to transport stores around the site. This was adjacent to, but managed separately from, the Royal Dockyard.

The old dockyard became a cattle market in 1871 where foreign cattle were brought to slaughter. The site was also the location of the notorious "gutting sheds" in which girls and women worked in squalor gutting animals until 1913 when it closed to become a War Department storage depot. A special branch railway line had served the old dockyard and the cattle market and trains continued to run down Grove Street carrying big rum jars to the supply reserve depot. It remained the most important domestic naval victualling yard until its closure in 1960.

Arrival and Departure of News International

In 1923 a director of the News of the World bought the site and began to import newsprint. Eventually the site, as with the newspaper came into the ownership of News International. Although significant investment was made on the site in the mid 1990s restrictions on heavy lorries in Greenwich town centre made it uneconomic to continue using the site as a freight wharf. In 2002 News International applied to the London Borough of Lewisham for outline planning permission to erect 3,500 residential units on the site. Lewisham councillors resolved to approve the application in May 2005. The Master Shipwright's House to the east of the site was purchased by a local couple in the late 1990s.

Current Economic Activity

Local Economic Development

Deptford Economic Development Partnership

This arose from the Pepys Community Forum SRB Evaluation⁸. The Partnership was formed in 2004 to bring together all of the agencies working to support businesses, jobs and investment locally. The key purpose is to make sure economic development is “locked” in to the local area – rather than displacing or marginalising local residents. The Partnership operates on the principle that gaps and overlaps in provision must be avoided and that supply and demand are matched. The initiative brings together organisations in lots of sectors – voluntary and community organisations, the local council, not-for-profit companies and educational institutions. The first piece of work, *Mapping the Economy of Deptford*, sought to start to identify the needs and priorities of the local economy. From this, an action plan was developed, with plans under a number of headings:

- Access to premises
- Meeting the Need for Skills
- Business Support
- Access to Finance
- The Knowledge Economy
- Marketing Deptford
- There were also sector strategies, such as for the food sector.

The Partnership have started applying for funds to develop this work. The aim is to build on the strengths of the area. For example, it is particularly interested in smaller businesses, including those currently the informal sector – “home biz” – helping people into the formal sector and find wider publics for their skills. There is also strong interest in the “creative and cultural industries” - defined broadly, to include things like catering and hair and beauty. Similarly, one of Deptford's strengths is a rich sense of community and responsibility, so we are particularly interested in enterprise that is ecologically and socially sustainable.

Partners include:

- Cockpit Arts
- Creekside Forum
- Creative Lewisham Agency
- Deptford and New Cross Credit Union
- Goldsmiths College
- Head for Business
- London Borough of Lewisham Economic Development Unit
- London Borough of Lewisham Town Centre Management Project
- London Small Business Growth Initiative
- Pepys Community Forum
- REETA: the Refugee Employment, Education, Training and Advice Partnership

⁸ <http://www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/cucr/research/pepys-community-dev.php>

- South East London Economic Development Agency
- TrinityLABAN

Making Money from Waste

Deptford's biggest private employer with over 100 staff, is a clothing recycling company called Chris Carey's Collections which works closely with local schools and governing bodies to educate and raise awareness of recycling issues. Chris started as a small trader on the local second hand market.

Recycling: Chris Carey's Collections

This family run business, now in its fourth generation, has developed over the last 100 years into an extensive recycling company based in Beckenham, Kent and Deptford, South East London. The company has established contracts with many organisations, local authorities and charities for the collection of recyclable goods. The company understands the responsibilities of our clients to achieve a more sustainable waste management system. We work alongside our clients constantly to ensure that we are meeting all requirements. We are members of The Textile Recycling Association and Recyclatex the UK's bonded textile scheme, which gives a national identity to textile reclamation at national and European levels. We are also registered waste carriers. Chris Careys Collections is a company that cares about environment we live in. We are passionate about the cause and that is why we believe Chris Carey's Collections offers such a worthwhile service.

[Click here to listen to Chris Carey on her business and local regeneration](#)

Community Food Waste Composting

Independent local charity working to improve the living conditions on the Pepys Estate. Recycling and composting food waste since September 2006. Initially funded by the Big Lottery CRED programme, the Esmee Fairbairn foundation, Hyde Housing and Berkeley Homes. Lewisham council has so far supported us in-kind with donations of dry recycling bags and a Big Hanna composter. January 2008 update: Because the CRED programme has come an end we have had to stop collecting dry recyclables and decided to focus solely on food waste composting because no-one would be doing this work if we weren't. <http://home.btconnect.com/recycling>

Pepys Community Recycling

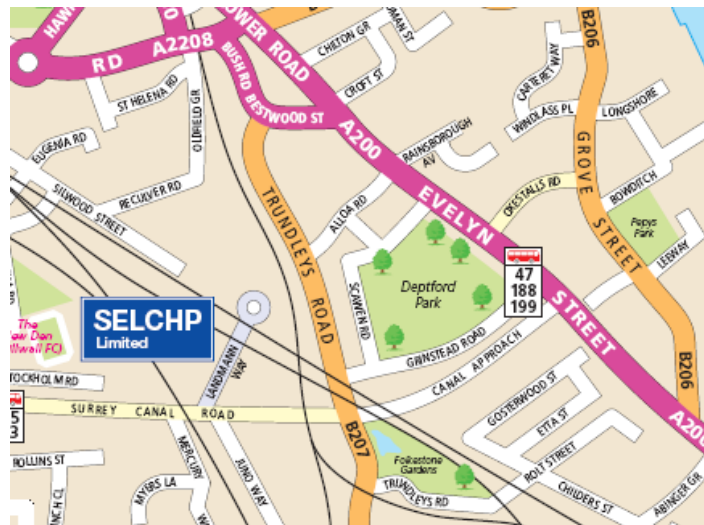


(source: UrbanBuzz workshop 2007)

South East London Combined Heat and Power (SELCHP) Energy Recovery Facility

On average, every household produces one tonne of waste a year. SELCHP, (pronounced Sell-Chip!), can take up to 420,000 tonnes of household waste per annum, directly from residents of Lewisham, Greenwich, Westminster and Bromley. SELCHP manages the waste in a sustainable way, achieving a number of key environmental objectives. Energy is recovered from the waste, supplying enough power for 48,000 homes. One tonne of municipal solid waste is equivalent to 1/3 tonne of coal, so the facility has a significant role to play in reducing dependence on fossil fuels. Waste is diverted from landfill, helping the residents of the London boroughs to meet government and European Directive targets. The facility was built to serve the community where it is located; taking into consideration the public's needs, not only in terms of waste disposal, but also through strict control of noise, traffic and odour. Throughout the working life of the facility, SELCHP has maintained a close relationship with the community through the Incinerator Monitoring Group, made up of local residents who meet with SELCHP's management on a regular basis to ensure local issues remain high on the agenda and are dealt with promptly. An in-house magazine is published twice a year and distributed to around 6,000 homes and schools locally, keeping residents up to date with developments at the facility.

Map of SELCHP



(source: <http://www.selchp.com>)

Work

The Local Population and Formal Work

Table 11: Economic Activity of Evelyn Ward Residents

	%	Lewisham (London Borough)	London England	
People aged 16-74: Economically active: Employees Full-time (Persons, Apr01)	36.97	43.50	42.64	40.81
People aged 16-74: Economically active: Employees Part-time (Persons, Apr01)	8.07	8.62	8.62	11.81
People aged 16-74: Economically active: Self-employed (Persons, Apr01)	5.00	7.76	8.97	8.32
People aged 16-74: Economically active: Unemployed (Persons, Apr01)	8.14	5.62	4.36	3.35
People aged 16-74: Economically active: Full-time student (Persons, Apr01)	4.84	3.43	2.96	2.58
People aged 16-74: Economically inactive: Retired (Persons, Apr01)	6.11	8.69	9.81	13.54
People aged 16-74: Economically inactive: Student (Persons, Apr01)	9.89	6.52	6.57	4.67
People aged 16-74: Economically inactive: Looking after home / family (Persons, Apr01)	8.77	6.54	7.17	6.52
People aged 16-74: Economically inactive: Permanently sick / disabled (Persons, Apr01)	5.36	4.83	4.57	5.30
People aged 16-74: Economically inactive: Other (Persons, Apr01)	6.86	4.50	4.34	3.10

(source: <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>)

Support for the Unemployed

Pepys Resource Centre

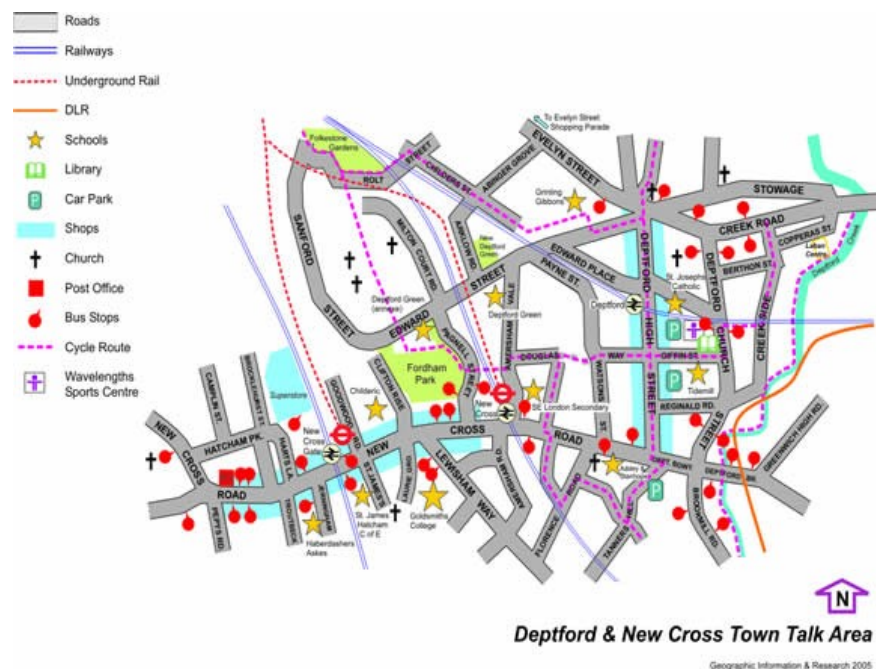
In 1991, the Pepys Resource Centre was established with the view to smashing barriers to employment. Since then, working in partnership with the Lewisham CV Service, the Centre has registered approximately 20,000 clients, and offers a wide range of employment and educational services, such as careers' advice, Internet facilities, and qualifications in varied Information Technology courses.

Town Centre Activity

Deptford Town Centre Activity

The historic core of Deptford town centre still survives largely intact and is protected by conservation area designation.

Deptford and New Cross Town Centres



(source: <http://www.deptford.towntalk.co.uk>) N.B. scale not provided

Deptford High Street Shops

The High Street retail offer ranges from Manze's a famous and very old pie-and-mash restaurant⁹, A J Kennedy's old-fashioned butchers, The Cod Father fishmonger for live eels and baby sharks through to Afro-Caribbean hair stylists and West African grocers. In February 2005, the High Street was described as "the capital's most diverse and vibrant high street" by Yellow Pages business directory based on a mathematical formula created by Yellow Pages based on variety, spending and availability. The Ha Noi Supermarket has specialty Vietnamese and Chinese products. Gospel-Light is London's leading gospel music specialist.

⁹ <http://www.manze.co.uk/aboutUs.html>

'His and Hers' Mural (Just Off Deptford High Street)



(source: <http://www.artmongers.com/mural02.html>)

Deptford Market

One of south London's busiest, the Deptford Market has been in the High Street for centuries. global fruit and veg, plants and flowers, vintage clothing, jewellery and household goods. bric-a-brac bargains from stalls in Douglas Way in the popular 2nd Hand Market. Liveliest on Sat. The market takes place every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, from around 8am until 4pm, in Deptford High Street, Douglas Way and Giffin Square. Stock up on global fruit and veg, plus clothes, jewellery, and household goods. Snap up bric-a-brac bargains from stalls in Giffin Street and Douglas Way. Liveliest on Sat. Also look out for A J Kennedy's old-fashioned butchers, fishmonger The Cod Father for live eels and baby sharks. www.lewisham.gov.uk/tourism/shopping.asp

Deptford High Street on a Market Day



(source: Lewisham Community Strategy 2008)

Deptford and New Cross Town Centre Management [based in Deptford]

This was launched in 2003. Its aim is to enhance and promote the economic viability of Deptford and New Cross town centres. The TCM initiative is a partnership between local businesses, the traders associations, Deptford Police, residents, town centre property owners and Lewisham Council. The initiative is funded by the London Development Agency (LDA) and Lewisham Council. It forms part of the London Borough of Lewisham Town Centre Management Programme, which also includes Lewisham, New Cross Gate, Sydenham and Forest Hill town centres.

Priorities of the Deptford and New Cross TCM initiative:

- To raise the profile of Deptford & New Cross town centres.
- To improve the appearance & overall tidiness of the town centres.
- To attract new businesses & retain existing businesses.
- To reduce crime & the fear of crime in the town centres.
- To identify and promote strategic development opportunities for the town centres & environs.
- To increase customer footfall within the town centres.

Social Economy

Support Agencies

South-East London Economic Development Agency (SELEDA), a non-profit making limited company, is an unusual development agency that runs a Community Time Bank, (The Deptford and New Cross Time Bank – see box), a Food Co-operative, community allotments and a young peoples programme Community Credit Union. It aims to:

- Combat social exclusion by stimulating economic development, local social economy, and the Community Credit Union
- Increase positive health outcomes through non-health intervention
- Maximise access of socially excluded to affordable financial service
- Enhance the employment and educational opportunities of local residents through up-skilling local communities and improving financial literacy
- Improve the quality of life in our area by building social cohesion and social capital

SELEDA began almost by accident out of the contacts made by the Deptford and Newcross Credit Union (see box). The Credit Union aimed to combat local poverty by providing low cost loans, and viable opportunities for residents to save in an area poorly served with banks and building societies. As word of the Union spread, people began approaching them with their own ideas for projects, and asking for help. Gradually the organisation grew and SELEDA was formed, with the same ideological basis as that of the Credit Union: a mutual organisation that works within the community for the community, assisting local people in helping themselves. An exciting new development at SELEDA is that they have recently been asked by the local community to take on children who were not accepted to decent Secondary Schools in the area. The only options available to these children is to be taught at home, or go to disadvantaged, local schools. SELEDA is trying to set up a two-day-a-week schooling facility, which it is hoped will improve self esteem, and forge friendships between the children: **making them realise that they are not the only ones to be rejected**. The Agency has been given the facility for free, and is now on the look out for teachers to offer their services. Anyone who partakes in the project will earn credits at the Deptford and Newcross Time Bank. (source: <http://www.london21.org>)

[Click here to listen to a 2005 Talk by Maria Drury outlining SELEDA's work](#)

Deptford and New Cross Credit Union

A Credit Union is an organisation where members save together providing a pool of money from which loans are drawn at very competitive rates. Benefits include:

- Low interest loans
- Regular and affordable savings
- Free life insurance

The CU has been successful in bidding for a Big Lottery Fund (£65,300 over three years) that can be used to match funds from the NDC giving a total of £123,600. This will ensure its status as an Independent Credit Union <http://www.deptfordandnewcrosscreditunion.co.uk>.

Deptford and New Cross Time Bank

This is also run from the same building as the Credit Union. Time banks are a new face of the voluntary sector. They are essentially banking infrastructures that deal in hours instead of pounds, and whose purpose is to help bring communities together. Participants 'deposit' time in the bank by spending a few hours helping somebody or doing community work. They are then able to withdraw time from the bank

when they need a service themselves. Each Time Bank is run independently by a 'time broker'. They are all part of the Time Bank UK network. The DNC Time Bank has, for example, run an allotment scheme that enables people with mental health problems to share their knowledge of gardening with young women from the Pepys Housing Estate in Deptford. The value of time banks is that they let people build reciprocal links with the community, whereas the relationship they have with public services can be one-sided. In Lewisham, people with mental health problems said that they did not want their time bank to be part of the South London and Maudsley NHS Trust. Instead, they wanted the mental health services to move out of the hospital and into their community. They want to see the real effect these discussions will have on their lives - people decide today what they will do tomorrow whereas, with the NHS, the decisions that are taken today are implemented next year. These local projects have made the South London and Maudsley NHS Trust aware of the benefits of time banking. It has appointed a project officer for a period of two years to support the development of time banks and build links with the local community.

Creative Industries

Economic Support Agencies

The 'Creative Lewisham' Agenda

The LB Lewisham Arts Service has played a key role in the Creative Lewisham agenda. Launched in 2001, the initiative was set up to provide a force for social and economic regeneration of the Borough. The Creative Lewisham Agency, now known as Creative Process, was created and a range of projects, with a strong emphasis on enhancing the urban realm, have been delivered. The Arts Service continues to support Creative Lewisham Agency to develop the creative sector in the borough. The Agency focuses on cultural development, economic regeneration, the urban realm and training and education. interactive map is filled with snapshots of people and places. It forms part of an ongoing project documenting the existing borough and its changes during the Creative Lewisham project. Location and service details of projects and businesses that can help you or your business "be more creative" in Lewisham. plus a useful contact address book. A comprehensive picture of the strategic frameworks that the Cultural and Creative industries operate in - from national frameworks to London and borough initiatives. There are over 300 creative businesses in Deptford and the area was designated a Creative Enterprise Zone by The London Borough of Lewisham in 2002. It is one of 3 areas in London selected to pilot The London Development Agency's Creative Industry Hubs Initiative. <http://www.creativelewishamagency.org.uk/>

Mapping Creative Industries: RSVP London

This new online directory, initially covering only Lewisham and Greenwich, is a fully functioning resource with features that include a searchable creative services directory, media galleries, a community blog to which every member can contribute, as well as a newsletter to keep everyone in the loop. The aim is to create a website whereby anyone interested in the creative scene can easily access information about exhibitions, events, services, as well as opening up communication and interconnectivity within your community. RSVP also organises quarterly networking events, which bring together a diverse range of creative industries in informal and relaxed settings. Supported by the Creative Lewisham Agency, RSVP

London is the most comprehensive directory for the creative industries in Lewisham and Greenwich. Find out more at <http://www.rsvplondon.co.uk>.

A Look at Some of the Key Players

Cockpit Arts

This is the UK's only creative business incubator for designer-makers. Renowned for being a 'hotbed of creative talent' our studios are brimming with cutting edge fashion, jewellery and interior products. As a registered charity it exists solely to nurture creative talent, from first beginnings through to international success. 165 designer-makers are housed at their incubators in Holborn WCI and Deptford SE8; all benefiting from affordable studio space, inclusive professional development support, one-to-one business mentoring and public selling opportunities. Home to workshops for over 70 designer-makers, including fashion, interiors, ceramics and glass. Open studios twice a year. Community Education classes. www.cockpitarts.com

Creekside has become a 'hotbed' of creative industries including numerous artists studios. Much of the activity is based around The Faircharm Trading Estate and Cockpit Arts in Creekside. There are 100-plus artists' studios in the Creekside area alone. <http://www.creeksideartists.co.uk>

Table 12: Notable Deptford Arts Venues

Studio/Gallery/Venue	Details	Web
Advanced Graphics London, Faircharm Trading Estate, Creekside	Public gallery. Limited edition original screenprints by established British artists produced in the studio and on sale at the gallery. Evenings by appointment.	www.advancedgraphics.co.uk
The Albany, Douglas Way	Busy arts and community venue. hosts comedy, music and Royal National. Theatre productions. Home to Irie Dance Theatre, Heart 'n Soul and many youth arts, education and film activities. New digital media centre. Café. multi-use performing and digital arts centre. home to Irie Dance Theatre, Heart 'n Soul and many youth arts, education and film activities. There is also a new digital media centre and public café. Home to Montage Theater, Drake Music Project	www.thealbany.org.uk
Hales Gallery	Pioneering art gallery established in 1992. One of the exhibitors, Tomoko Takahashi, went on to be short-listed for the Turner Prize in 2000. Regular international exhibitions and popular cafe at shop-front level.	www.halesgallery.com
Framework Gallery, Creekside	Public gallery with lively changing exhibition programme. Also large picture framing manufacturers and retailers including Eclectica range of overmantel frames and mirrors. Artists and other creative studios in building.	www.frameworkgallery.co.uk
Art in Perpetuity Trust, Creekside	Gallery with a changing programme of contemporary art exhibitions, plus workspaces for 37 artists. Open studio events. Opening hours vary. Contact for details on exhibitions and opening hours.	www.aptstudios.org
Bearspace & The Bear Cafe	An arts and community venue with gallery showcasing the work of young emerging artists and a popular café next door selling Fair Trade products. Café	www.thebear.tv/bearspace

Cor Blimey Arts	A working studio selling fine art direct to the public, plus a central gallery space with varied exhibitions, art courses and open studio events.	http://www.corblimeyarts.com
Creekside Artists	artist-led group of 22, working in various mediums from painting, photography, film and printmaking, to mixed media. Open studio events	www.creeksideartists.co.uk
Fresh Films / Café Crema	Lively coffee bar with cinema, live music and DJ events plus Children's Film Café. Outdoor garden.	www.freshfilmslondon.com
Lewisham Arthouse	This historic Grade II listed building now houses an art gallery with changing exhibitions, artist studios and wide array of art courses and workshops for adults and young people including ceramics, photography and life drawing. The 1914 building is in a modified Baroque style, designed by H Brumwell Thomas, the architect of many early 20 th century public buildings	www.lewishamarthouse.co.uk
temporarycontemporary	Hosts a variety of exhibitions and installations in this historic warehouse	www.tempcontemp.co.uk/
Vampire Music	Music store and equipment hire, recording studios and training. The building was the former Deptford Town Hall	www.vampiremusic.co.uk

The Area in Physical Terms

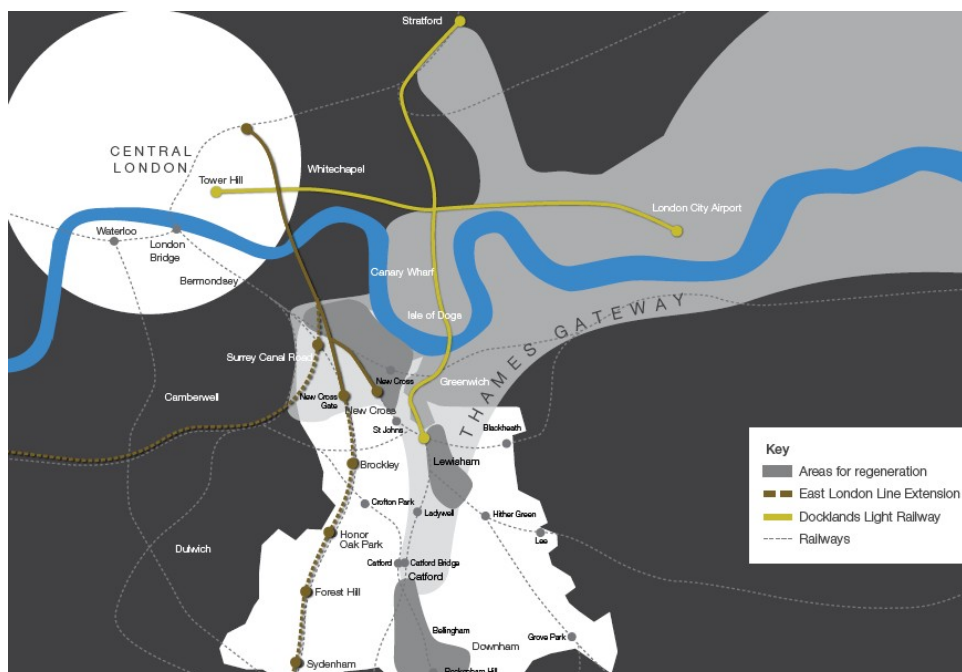
Transport Infrastructure

Deptford's railway station is one of the oldest suburban stations in the world, being built (c.1836-38) as part of the first suburban service (the London and Greenwich Railway), between London Bridge and Greenwich.

56.5 per cent of Lewisham Deptford's inhabitants travel to work by public transport (UK rank: 4/659). Of them, 25.4 per cent commute to work by train (UK rank: 7/659).

The East London line currently terminates at nearby New Cross and New Cross Gate. The Docklands Light Railway also now extends into the borough as far as Lewisham transport interchange (where bus, rail and DLR meet). In 1999 the Docklands Light Railway station opened at Deptford Broadway connecting to the Docklands and Lewisham.

Rail Links in Lewisham



The South Circular passes through the centre of the borough from the border with Dulwich in the west (Southwark) to Eltham in the east (Greenwich). Except for a short section in Lee as it approaches Eltham, it is purely comprised of a one-lane-each-way road. Lewisham also lies on the A20 road towards Dover and at the start of the A21 to Hastings.

The Lewisham Road Hierarchy

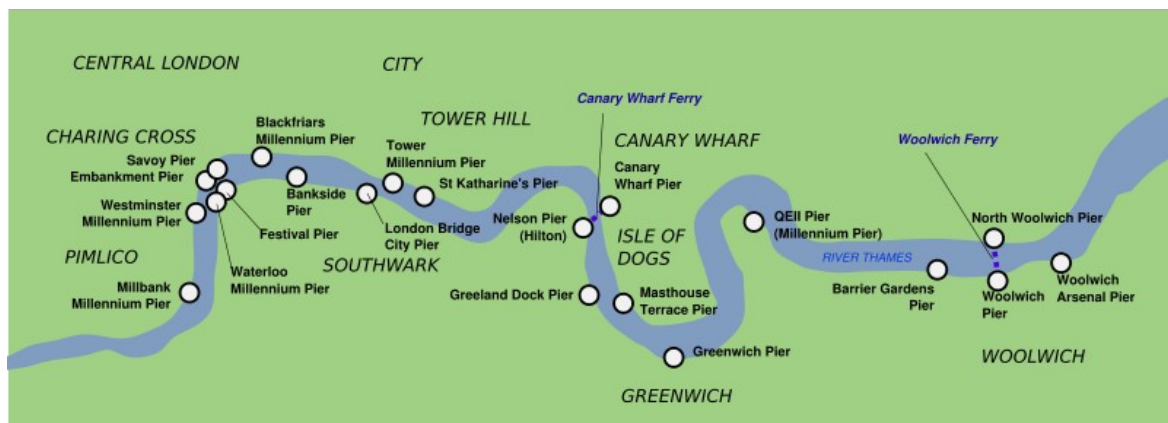
Strategic Routes (Transport for London Road Network)
A2 New Cross Road to Shooters Hill Road (including Kender Street)
A20 New Cross Road to Eltham Road
A202 Queens Road to New Cross Road
A21 Molesworth Street to Bromley Hill
A205 South Circular
London Distributor Routes (LBL Responsibility)
A212 Westwood Hill to Catford Hill
A213 Newlands Park
A200 Evelyn Street to Creek Road
A2015 Beckenham Hill Road
A2209 Deptford Church Street
A2210 Brookmill Road, to Baring Road
A2211 Lewisham Road
A2212 Burnt Ash Road, Baring Road
A2214 Lausanne Road
A2216 Dartmouth Road to Sydenham Road
A2218 Southend Lane and Stanton Way
Local Distributor Routes
B206 Plough Way to Grove Street
B207 Trundleys Road Pagnell Street
B220 Belmont Hill to Prince of Wales Road
B212 Lee Road
B218 Florence Road to Brockley Rise
B226 Chinbrook Road to Grove Park Road

B227 Perry Vale to Perry Rise
B236 Adelaide Avenue to Ladywell Road
B238 Forest Hill Road to Honor Oak Park
B2142 Gellatly Road to Brockley Cross
Hither Green Lane
Local Access Roads
All other roads not identified in the above list.

(source: Unitary Development Plan and Local Improvement Plan)

The Thames Path, a walking, jogging and cycling trail, also runs along the Thames River and through historic North Deptford, Rotherhithe and Greenwich.

There are also waterways transport (such as the Thames Clipper) from Greenland Dock Pier – in north east Southwark just north of Aragon Tower (and slightly outside of Deptford).



Waterways

Deptford Creek is the tidal reach of the river Ravensbourne which has its source in Bromley, a South East borough in London. The tidal Creek has been the site for three corn mills. The power of the tide would drive the machinery to mill the corn, which would be brought into the Creek by barge. This footbridge, rebuilt in 2002, crosses Deptford Creek alongside the railway bridge. The modern lift bridge replaces the old wooden Ha'penny Hatch toll bridge, which closed in the 1920s. It cost a ha'penny - half an old penny - to cross. <http://www.portcities.org.uk>

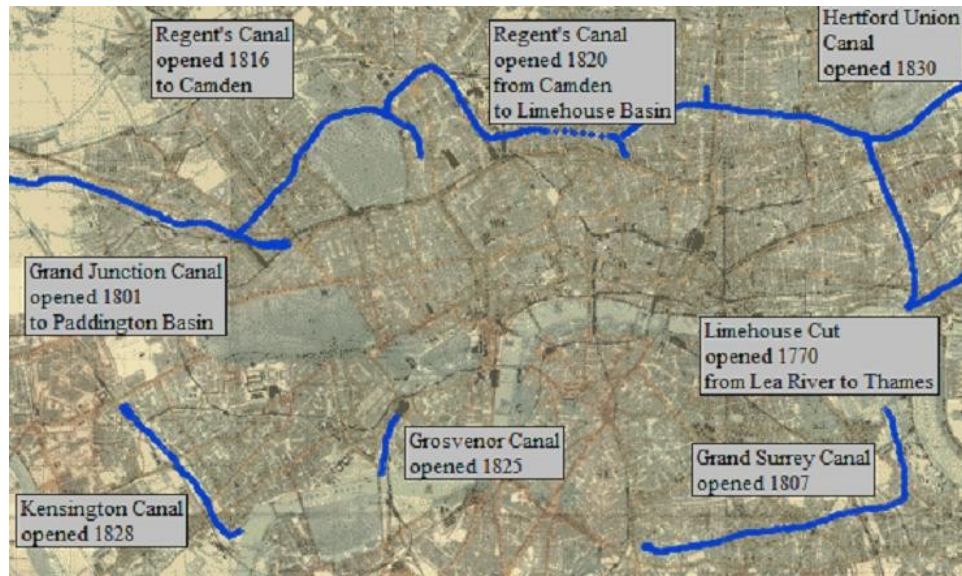
New Ha'penny Hatch Footbridge



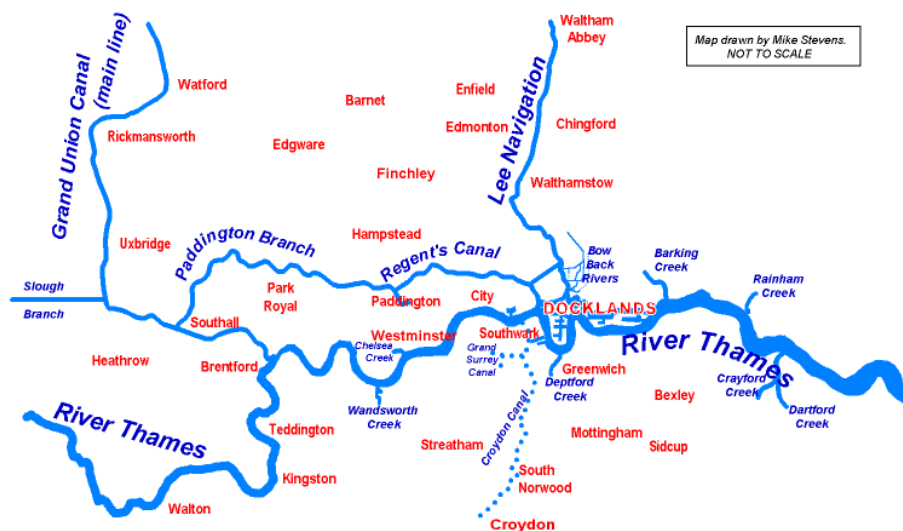
At one time, two major canals cut through the area – the Grand Surrey Canal (1807) and the Croydon Canal (1809). By the 1830s trouble with the banks of the Croydon Canal and developments in railway technology led to plans for a London & Croydon railway to replace the old canal which was almost moribund. The Grand Surrey Canal survived well into the 20th century but its end was predictable in the early 19th century when docks moved eastwards along the Thames (intensified further with containerisation). By 1945 the Camberwell section of the canal was disused and decayed. By 1955 it had been closed: too many people lived beside this dirty backwater and children had died. Although the rest of the canal continued, busy up to the end with the timber trade, the closure of Surrey Docks in 1970 was the final death-knell because it closed the last of the big old industries that had used the canals for freight transport. The closure of the Surrey Docks¹⁰ in Deptford rendered the canal obsolete in comparison to more favourable modes of transferring goods such as road, rail or air. Hopes to keep the canal as a leisure amenity were crushed with official arguments over expense, leakage and narrowness. Yet the commercial value of the land was never realised (nearly half ended up as grass), all canals leak, and most recreational canals are only half the width.

¹⁰ Now called Surrey Quays and site of the Canada Water tube station and a large TESCO store.

London's Historic Canals



(source: <http://www.victorianlondon.org/maps/interactivemap.htm>)



(source: <http://www.mike-stevens.co.uk/metrocuts/londonmap.htm>)

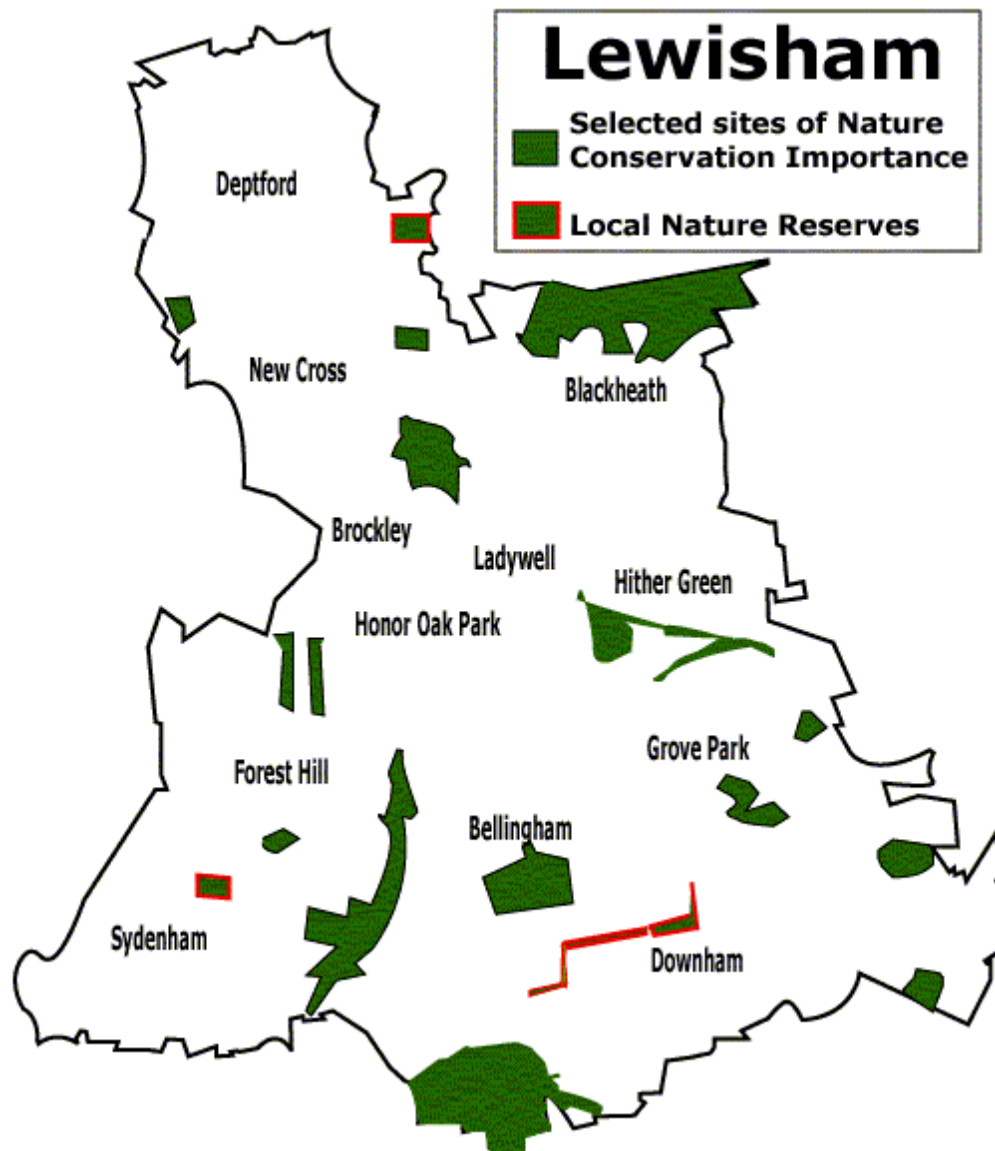
Open Space

Sue Godfrey Nature Reserve Park (and Ferranti Park)

In the 1970s, in common with most wasteland sites in the area, the perimeter of this wildspace was ringed by double defences against travellers and fly-tippers; the inner was a rubble bank, the outer a two metre high corrugated iron fence. It became a nature park in 1984 after lengthy campaigning by local residents. The nature park increased in size through the gradual incorporation of a former lorry park on its western end. Like most wasteland sites, the park contains clues to, and reminders of the uses it was put to in the past. A little gem of green space with children's play area and benches. Formally a wasteland site and lorry park, it became a nature park in 1984 after lengthy campaigning by local residents.

The children's play area was incorporated in 2003 and named Ferranti Park after the famous Ferranti Power Station, which used to operate in Deptford. Ferranti Park. This was a £0.5 million project funded by Lewisham Council and the LDA and has transformed a disused road salt depot into a new park. The name of the award winning park was chosen by a local resident in a competition. The (Ferranti) power station buildings were finally demolished in 1992 and the site is now occupied by Fairview Housing.

Key Nature Sites in Lewisham



(source: http://www2.lewisham.gov.uk/nature_conservation/intro.htm)

Figure 6. Area of District Park Deficiency

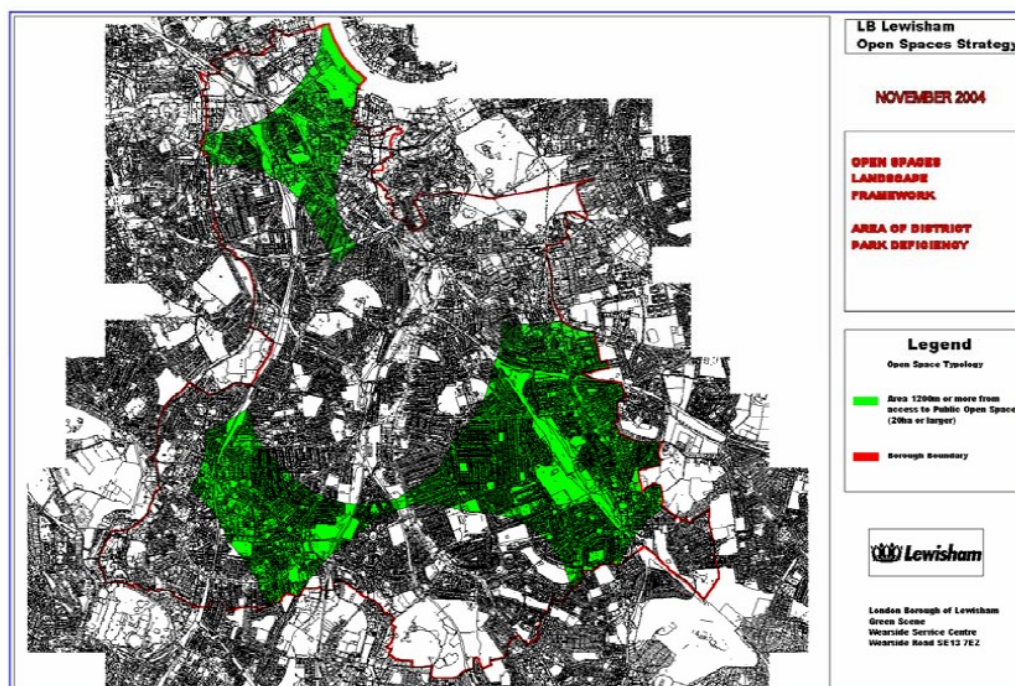
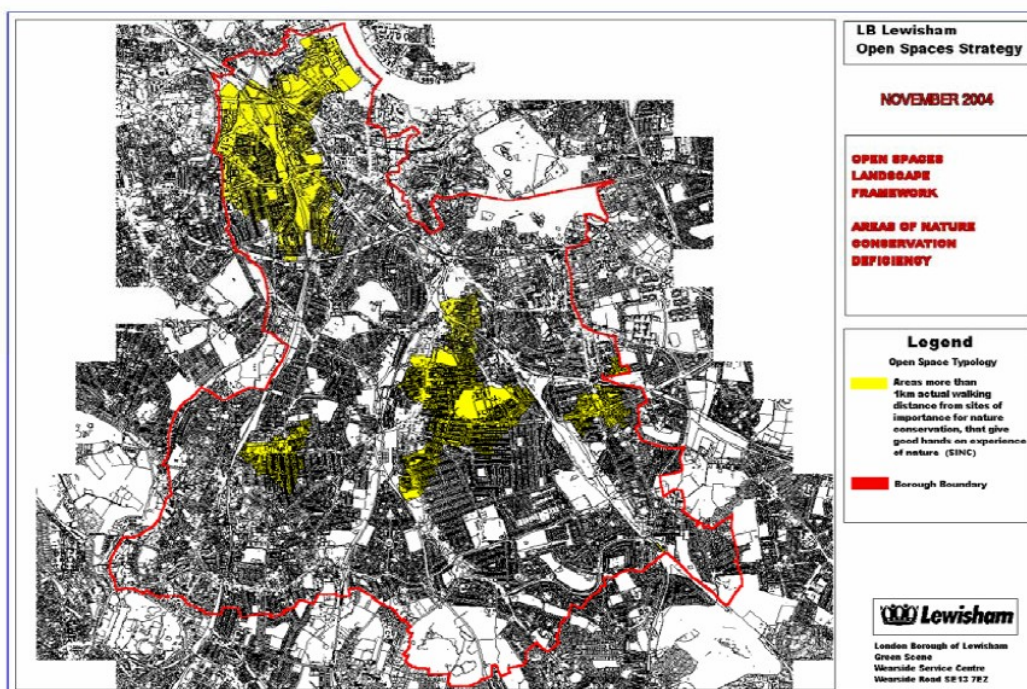


Figure 7. Sites of Nature Conservation Deficiency



Deptford Park

This is a green space surrounded by high-value terraced housing in Alloa, Scawen and Crooke Roads – such green space is rare in Lewisham and the Park provides an oasis of greenery in a heavily urbanised area of the borough. Bordered by mature Plane trees, it makes a pleasant walk around the wide, perimeter pathway. In recent years the park has undergone two phases of improvement works financed by Deptford

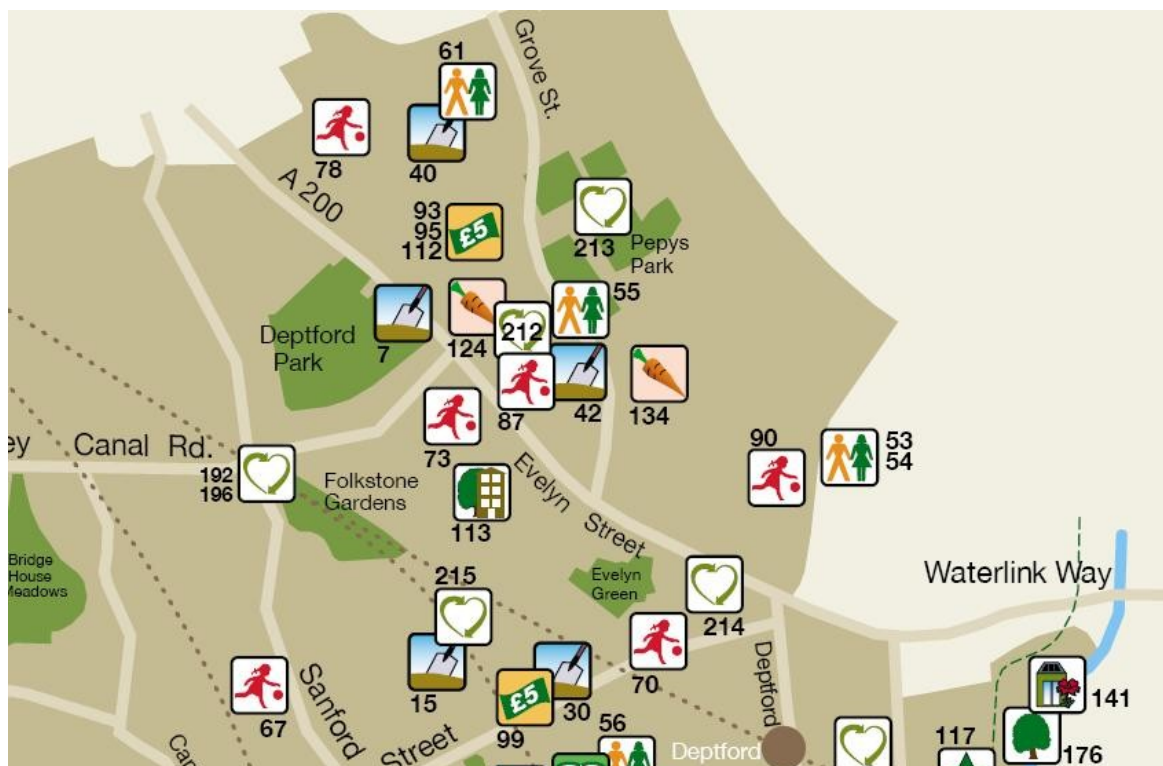
City Challenge. Phase one included the installation of new boundary railings, brick pillars and gates. Phase two comprised of the new children's playground, formal paved area and seating. There are a Friends of Deptford Park and a Deptford Park Ranger.

View of Deptford Park from Evelyn Street



(source: workshop I, UrbanBuzz Fresh Eyes project, 2007)

Section from Lewisham's Big Green Map



In the Greenwich corner of Deptford, Twinkle Park and Charlotte Turner Gardens, managed by the Twinkle Park Trust, have been awarded the Green Pennant award for 2008-2009. The award is made to high quality green spaces managed by community groups.

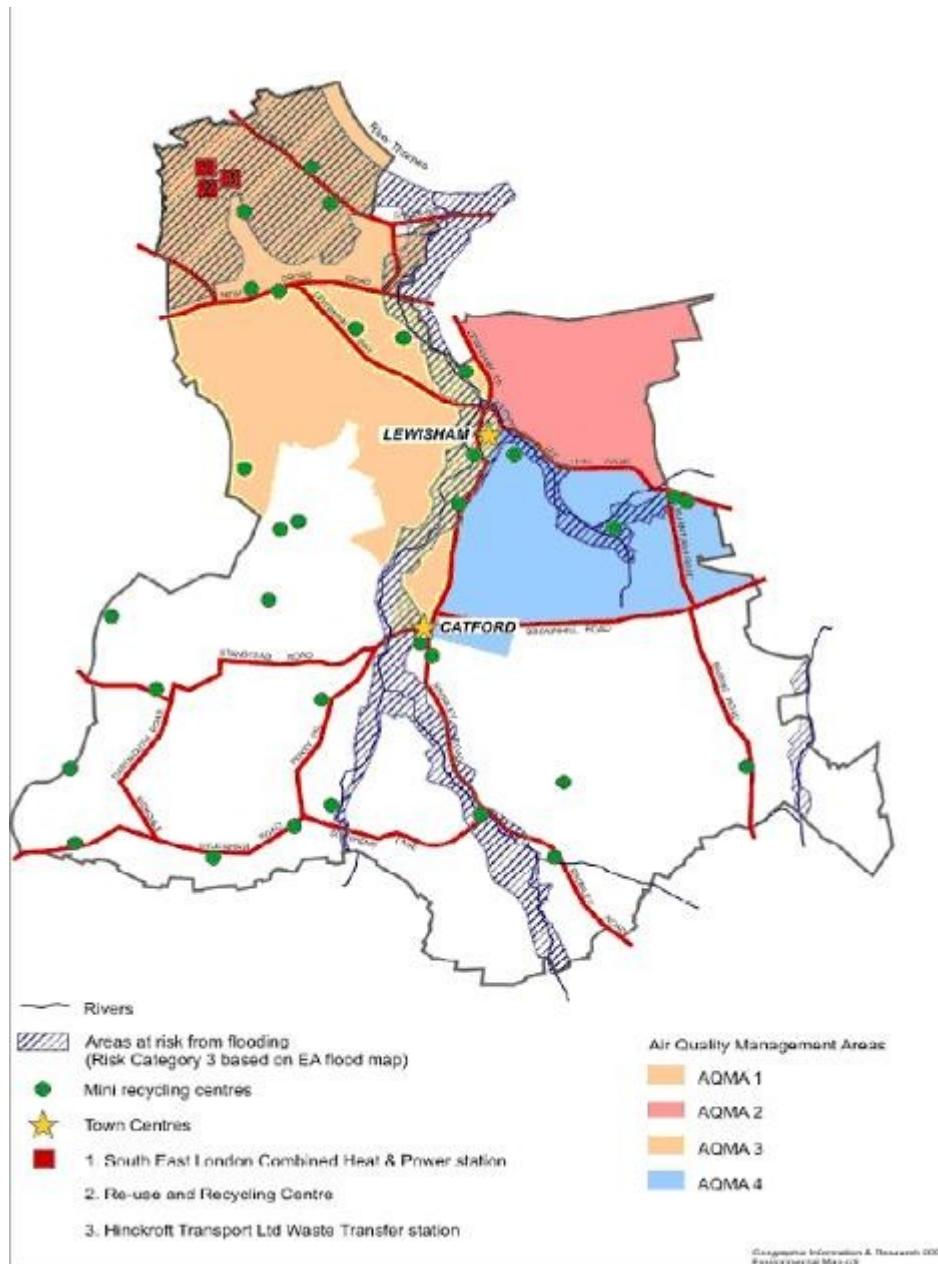
[Click to see photo of Charlotte Turner Gardens, North East Deptford/North West Greenwich](#)

Pocket Park: Twinkle Park

In the 1930s only one pub and a couple of houses remained on the corner plot which had included a recreation ground since at least 1914. This became derelict and neglected until in 1992 local residents from Rowley House working with Greenwich Mural Workshop began a campaign to restore the park. Other groups became involved including council architects in charge of expanding the nearby school. The space

now serves the community and the school with wildlife areas, a pond, floodlit ball game area, play boat and gazebo. Several large Plane trees have been retained. The park was formally opened in 1999.

Environmental Planning in Lewisham's Core Spatial Strategy



(source: Core Spatial Strategy of Lewisham Local Development Framework)

Heritage

Deptford had two centres of settlement - the riverfront and area around St. Nicholas church and at Deptford Bridge (where the Docklands Light Rail station is). These were linked by Church Street (now dual carriageway) and Butt Lane (now the High Street). The naval dockyard was established by Henry VIII in 1513 and brought people and prosperity to the town. In 1698 the population was 10-12,000 - only Norwich and Bristol were larger towns.

Although the dockyard and associated industries provided much employment farming and market gardening was also important with ready access to London markets. Even when the London to Greenwich railway was opened in 1836 much of its 4 mile route was across market gardens and meadow land.

After the dockyard closed in 1869 (to become a foreign cattle market) the character of the area changed. Heavy and unpleasant industries began to dominate leading to a largely poor population living in deprived conditions. A number of philanthropic initiatives were set up to help local people. Deptford suffered badly in WWII bombing. By 1944 almost everything had been damaged and 648 people killed. Deptford became part of the Borough of Lewisham in 1965.

St Nicholas' Church, the original parish church, dates back to the 12th century but the current building is 17th century. In the early 18th century St. Paul's Deptford was built, one of the finest Baroque churches in the country.

A survey by the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments in the mid 1990s uncovered several 17th century treasures under the grime of neglect and the architectural variety of what, in 1825, had become Deptford High Street. Hitherto the street (then called Butt Lane) had been residential or agricultural, but the large houses were better adapted to the expansion of Victorian retailing.

Local higher education has assisted in the preservation of the area's built heritage. The former Deptford Town Hall in New Cross Road, built in 1905, was purchased by Goldsmiths College (part of the federal University of London) in 2000. Crossfield Estate in Creekside was due for demolition when the GLC turned the narrow Church Street into a major dual carriageway but was eventually saved and handed to the now-disbanded Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) and Goldsmiths College to house young single teachers, social workers and artists.

Not all fine buildings have survived. The area suffered terribly from bombing during the Second World War and was the victim of Britain's worst V2 rocket incident in which 168 people died. The Goldsmiths College Rachel McMillan "Rac Mac" hall of residence in Creek Road was sold in 2001 and was subsequently demolished and replaced with the McMillan Student Village which opened in 2003 and provides accommodation for approximately 970 students of the University of Greenwich, Trinity College of Music, Bellerbys College and the Laban Centre for Contemporary Dance.

- St Paul's Church – Mary Ann Gardens, Deptford is a magnificent Queen Anne church completed in 1723 set in an oasis of green behind the High Street. The crypt is also worth a visit. Designed by Thomas Archer in a vigorous Baroque style and built between 1713 and 1730, St Paul's is the most important and prominent listed building (Grade I) in the borough.

- St Nicholas's Church – Deptford Green – Dates from 1697. See Ezekiel in the Valley of Dry Bones by Grinling Gibbons, famous for wood carvings in St Paul's Cathedral and memorial to Elizabethan dramatist Christopher Marlowe, killed in Deptford in 1593.
- Behind the Pepys Estate, the old naval buildings on Deptford Foreshore have panoramic views across the River Thames. There is an evocative atmosphere, which makes it easy to imagine the busy shores of the Thames when it was full of ships bringing exotic goods from around the world.
- Former Barclays Bank, Lewisham Way (Grade II) - This was designed by J and J S Edmeston in 1885 for the London and South West Bank Ltd and was built from red brick and buff terracotta in a baronial style. The strong vertical emphasis, bold detailing and corner site provided the building with a desirable prominence. Changing high street banking trends have seen the building converted to flats.
- Goldsmiths College, Lewisham Way, New Cross SE14 - Grade II, This college was designed by John Shaw in 1843 in the English Renaissance style and originally occupied by the Royal Naval School. The building has a restrained but imposing character and is built from red brick with stone dressings. The college chapel is by the same architect and is now used as a theatre.
- Railway Viaduct, Edward Place and Crossfield Street, Deptford - Grade II, Built between 1833 and 1836 for the London and Greenwich Railway, this viaduct carried the first passenger railway in London and is one of the first major achievements of railway engineering in Britain. The viaduct is over five kilometres long and is built from yellow-grey bricks. Each arch is 20 feet from centre to centre and 22 feet high.
- Five Bells Public House, New Cross Road, New Cross Gate - Grade II, This is a large public house in a heavy classical style, built c.1840. It features a large bracketed eaves-cornice with windows alternating with five bells in the frieze.
- Stone House, 281 Lewisham Way, Deptford --Grade II. This distinctive villa was built in 1771-3 by George Gibson the Younger for himself (the same architect who designed St. Mary's, Lewisham). It has a highly unconventional exterior (the architect had only to please himself and not a client), with projecting bow windows in the centre of three sides and on the fourth side a four column portico, two columns deep. It is built from Kentish ragstone which gives it a rustic appearance. It was known as the Comical House in the 19th century.
- Hamilton House, Convoys Wharf, Princes Street, Deptford --Grade II. This is a purpose built naval office building dating from c.1700 and central to the functioning of Deptford's Royal Naval Dockyard in the 18th and 19th centuries. It was used by the Master Shipwright and his assistants: Master Attendant, Clerk of Survey, Timber Masters and Foremen. The attic was added in 1805

and was probably used as a drawing office. The slightly later adjacent building was built as the Master Shipwright's apartment.

- Carrington House and Sylva Cottages, Brookmill Road, Deptford --Grade II and Locally Listed. The contrast in scale between these two buildings could hardly be greater but they shared the same purpose of providing much needed public housing. Carrington House, 1902-3, was built as a lodging house for single men by London County Council (LCC) while Sylva Cottages, 1903, were built for working class families by the Greenwich Board of Works. The arts and crafts styling of Carrington House with its deep-eaved end towers, twin-bayed off-centre entrance and use of stone, brick and render portrays the influence of the Scottish architect, Charles Rennie Mackintosh.
- Deptford Town Hall, New Cross Road, New Cross -- Grade II. This was the winning design for a competition organised by the newly formed Borough of Deptford. Built in the Edwardian Baroque style by Lanchester and Rickards, 1903-5, it is one of Lewisham's most enjoyable public buildings. The elaborate stone façade is very florid and features a central doorway with carvings of Tritons supporting an oriel bay window and statues of admirals between first floor windows. The grandeur is continued inside with marble columns, staircase and sculptures, which are lit by a domed lantern.
- Former Deptford Central Library, Lewisham Way, Deptford -- Grade II. The library was built in a modified Baroque style, with a large barrel-vaulted hall and massive staircase, 1914. The architect was H Brumwell Thomas who designed many public buildings in the early 20th century, including Woolwich Town Hall and Belfast City Hall. The library is now used as artists' studios and exhibition space.
- Laurie Grove Baths, Laurie Grove, New Cross --Grade II. These swimming baths, slipper baths and laundries were designed in 1895-98 by Thomas Dinwiddy, a local architect and commissioned by the Vestry Board of St Paul's Deptford (the precursor to the Borough of Deptford) under the Public Baths and Wash-houses Act 1846. The building is of Jacobean style with separate entrances for men and women. Many original internal features survive and the building has been converted to art studios for Goldsmiths College.
- 19-31 Tanners Hill, Deptford --Grade II. This is a late 17th century group of small timber framed houses and shops with some early 19th century alterations to the front. Several of the houses have clay pantile roofs and weather-boarding at the rear - typical materials before slate and brick became widespread in the 18th and 19th centuries.
- 13-45 and 34-40 Albury Street, Deptford Grade II*. These terraces of early 18th century houses on Albury Street are an excellent example of the early introduction of urban terrace housing in

what was then a town outside the city of London. The houses all have intricately carved doorcases, some with cherubs, others with grotesque masks, and flush framed timber sash-in-case windows. Some of the houses were originally the homes of sea captains who set out from Deptford on long voyages.

- 207-219 New Cross Road, New Cross Gate --Grade II. This is a quality terrace of seven townhouses dating from 1841 and originally called Hatcham Terrace. Cast iron railings and balustrading survive.