



**YOUR VOTE ✕ YOUR COMMUNITY ✕ YOUR COUNCIL**

# Election of the Mayor of Lewisham

You now need to take valid photo ID  
when voting at a polling station.  
See inside for valid forms of ID.

**Thursday 7 March 2024**

## Election of the Mayor of Lewisham

On Thursday 7 March 2024 electors in Lewisham will have the opportunity to vote for the person they want to be the next Mayor of Lewisham.

The elected Mayor leads the Council. It is different to a ceremonial Mayor – in Lewisham this role is carried out by The Speaker of Lewisham.

This booklet must be sent to you by law. In it you will find information on how to vote and election statements from all of the mayoral candidates who chose to submit one.

The candidates are responsible for the information in their statements, provided they comply with legal requirements. The views expressed are their own.

Candidates' names and details appear in random order, which was decided by drawing lots.

Please remember that **you must now show a valid photo ID in order to vote in person at a polling station**. This is due to changes to election laws. You can find out what ID is acceptable in this booklet.

If you don't have a valid ID, you can apply for a special government-issued Voter Authority Certificate (VAC). You need to apply by 5pm on Wednesday 28 February. Applications can be made online: [gov.uk/applyforphotoidtovote](https://gov.uk/applyforphotoidtovote).

If you have any questions or need help please visit [lewisham.gov.uk/elections](https://lewisham.gov.uk/elections) or call 020 8314 6086.

**Jennifer Daothong, Returning Officer**

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## List of candidates



**Siama Qadar**  
Local Conservatives



**Chris Maines**  
Liberal Democrats



**John Nicholas Hamilton**  
Workers Party of Britain (WPB)



**Brenda Dacres**  
Labour and Co-operative Party



**Michael Herron**  
The Green Party

**Nick Long**  
Independent



**Maureen Maud Martin**  
Christian Peoples Alliance

## Sample ballot paper

Here is a picture of what the ballot paper will look like. Note the mayoral ballot paper will be white. This picture is a guide only and may be subject to change.

Election of the Mayor for London Borough of Lewisham		
Vote for <b>only one</b> candidate by putting a cross <input type="checkbox"/> in the box next to your choice		
<b>DACRES, Brenda</b> (address in London Borough of Lewisham) Labour and Co-operative Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>HAMILTON, John Nicholas</b> 2 Pendrell Road, Brockley, London SE4 2PB Workers Party of Britain (WPB)		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>HERRON, Michael</b> (address in London Borough of Lewisham) The Green Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>LONG, Nick</b> (address in London Borough of Lewisham) Independent		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MAINES, Chris</b> 9 Brandram Road, Blackheath, London SE13 5EA Liberal Democrats		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MARTIN, Maureen Maud</b> (address in London Borough of Lewisham) Christian Peoples Alliance		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>QADAR, Siama</b> (address in London Borough of Lewisham) Local Conservatives		<input type="checkbox"/>

## Election information

On Thursday 7 March you will be able to vote for the directly elected mayor of Lewisham.

On election day, you will be given one ballot paper at the polling station.

The Mayor is now elected using the first past the post system. This is due to changes in electoral law. **It means you will only have ONE vote for the candidate of your choice.**

Your polling station is shown on the front of your poll card. Some polling stations have changed, so check the map on your poll card.

You can also find where your polling station is by visiting [lewisham.gov.uk/elections](https://lewisham.gov.uk/elections) or calling 020 8314 6086.

### Voter information

Every registered elector receives a poll card which explains when, where and how to vote.

For details of your polling station, you can also visit [lewisham.gov.uk/elections](https://lewisham.gov.uk/elections)

### Who can vote

You can vote in this election if you:

- are registered to vote in Lewisham
- are a British, Commonwealth, Irish or European Union citizen
- turned 18 on or before Thursday 7 March 2024

British overseas electors cannot vote in this election.

## Postal voters

If you have registered for a postal vote, a pack will be posted to the address you requested arriving around 21 February. If you have not received it by Friday 1 March please email [electoral.services@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.services@lewisham.gov.uk) or call 020 8314 6086.

Please ensure your completed ballot is received by the Returning Officer before 10pm on Thursday 7 March. If you forget to post it, you can take it to any polling station on the day of the election.

## Proxy voters

You can appoint someone else to cast your vote on your behalf if you wish. Proxy voter applications must be received by the Council by 5pm on Wednesday 28 February.

## Emergency proxy voters

If you are unexpectedly taken ill or are suddenly called away for work purposes after 5pm on Wednesday 28 February and cannot go to vote in person you can appoint an emergency proxy to vote for you. You will have to give a reason why you cannot vote in person and your application must be supported by a doctor or your employer. To apply for a proxy vote visit [lewisham.gov.uk/elections](https://lewisham.gov.uk/elections) or call 020 8314 6086.

## Poll cards

Don't worry if you lose your poll card. If you are on the register, you don't need a poll card to vote. You can attend the polling station and staff there will help you. The poll card is just to inform you that there is an election and explain where your polling station is. To find your polling station visit [lewisham.gov.uk/elections](https://lewisham.gov.uk/elections)

## You must bring photo ID with you to vote

You will not be able to vote unless you show photographic identification to the polling station staff.

### Accepted forms of photographic identification

You must present one of the following forms of photographic identification in order to vote in person at a polling station:

- A passport issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a British Overseas Territory, an EEA state or a Commonwealth country
- A driving licence issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or an EEA state
- A biometric immigration document
- An identity card bearing the Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram (a PASS card)
- Ministry of Defence Form 90 (Defence Identity Card)
- A Blue Badge
- A national identity card issued by an EEA state
- An Older Person's Bus Pass
- A Disabled Person's Bus Pass
- An Oyster 60+ Card
- A Freedom Pass
- A Scottish National Entitlement Card issued in Scotland
- A 60 and Over Welsh Concessionary Travel Card issued in Wales
- A Disabled Person's Welsh Concessionary Travel Card issued in Wales
- A Senior SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- A Registered Blind SmartPass or Blind Person's SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- A War Disablement SmartPass or War Disabled SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- A 60+ SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- A Half Fare SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- An Electoral Identity Card issued in Northern Ireland
- A Voter Authority Certificate or a temporary Voter Authority Certificate

If you do not possess any of the accepted forms of photographic identification, you can apply to your local Electoral Registration Officer for a free Voter Authority Certificate. Completed applications must reach us by 5pm on Wednesday 28 February.

Apply online [voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk](https://voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk)

If your photographic identification document has expired it will still be accepted so long as the photograph is still a good likeness of you, unless it is a temporary Voter Authority Certificate which is not valid for use on the date of poll.

You may be required to provide further proof of identity if there is any discrepancy between your name as shown on your form of photographic identification and the name of the elector that you claim to be.

### Candidate statements

The following pages contain election statements prepared by the election agents of the candidates for the Mayor of Lewisham. The candidates and election agents have full responsibility for the content of their statements. Lewisham Council and the Returning Officer have no legal powers to edit, amend or fact-check these statements.



VOTE CONSERVATIVE



# Siana Qadar

Success with Siana, Lewisham People's Mayor

## Siana's six pledges:

### Combatting crime head-on:

Implementing a comprehensive strategy involving working closely with the police, more neighbourhood watch programmes and cultivating strong community bonds.

### Fairer transport solutions:

Reviewing LTNs and the effectiveness of universal 20mph roads to alleviate traffic congestion. Oppose schemes like ULEZ.

### Empower our youth:

Working with schools and government to prioritise investment in infrastructure, special needs support, mental health services and programmes aimed at preventing crime.

### More affordable and social housing:

Dedication to increasing the availability of affordable homes through partnerships with local developers and support for first-time buyers.

### Facilitating job creation:

Establishing a resilient local network involving businesses, schools and residents to generate job opportunities, including apprenticeships, to promote economic growth in Lewisham.

### Promoting sustainability:

Taking steps to create a cleaner, greener and more sustainable Lewisham. Enhancing recycling programmes, advocating for energy efficiency and greener local planning.



you deserve a  
**better**  
**Lewisham**

## Dear Lewisham residents,

I am deeply honoured to seek your trust and support in my candidacy for Mayor of Lewisham. Born in Lewisham Hospital and raised in Deptford by hardworking immigrant parents, my life has been intrinsically woven into the very fabric of our vibrant community.

My educational journey within Lewisham, attending Grinling Gibbons Primary School, Catford Girls' School and Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham College for my Sixth Form years, has instilled in me a profound appreciation for the resilience that defines our borough.

This path, enriched further by my subsequent university studies in London and venture into financial services, has equipped me with a unique blend of experiences and perspectives, driving my commitment to serve and uplift every corner of our borough.

As an international author and the founder of a sustainable fashion start-up, I have learned to harness creativity and innovation for the benefit of our community.

I pledge a full-term Mayoral commitment, contrasting with the previous Labour leadership. My dedication to Lewisham is unwavering and I am here to serve the entire community with integrity and transparency.

Together, we can transform challenges into opportunities - creating safer streets, more affordable homes and a greener borough with improved transport connectivity, without penalising drivers.

Join me in this journey: vote for Siana Qadar for Mayor and let's embark on a path toward a brighter future for all of Lewisham.

Sincerely,

*Siana*



✉ [info@lewishamconservatives.org.uk](mailto:info@lewishamconservatives.org.uk)  
f [lewishamconservatives](https://www.facebook.com/lewishamconservatives)



Promoted by Alexander Gill on behalf of Siana Qadar, both of 77 Dartmouth Road, London SE23 3HT.

# LEWISHAM DESERVES BETTER

Labour's Mayor resigned and caused this by-election costing Lewisham's taxpayers £635,000.

Labour have failed our borough on everything from education to recycling. They even allow property developers to run riot.

54 out of 54 councillors on Lewisham Council are Labour. There's no real democracy and no checks or balances. Lewisham deserves better.

**Lewisham needs a Mayor who will listen to residents instead of taking them for granted...**

# Chris Maines

Liberal  
Democrats

Prepared by Maggie Clarke on behalf of Chris Maines, Liberal Democrats, all at 99 Bradgate Road, London, SE6 4TR.

## My priorities for Lewisham



- 1 BUILDING FAMILY HOMES**  
I will start a Council House building programme for our borough. I will ensure property developers include more affordable homes and local infrastructure such as GP surgeries.
- 2 IMPROVING STANDARDS IN EDUCATION**  
I will support Lewisham's secondary schools to get better results and improve provision for children with special educational needs. I will support the development of teacher training and ensure better mental health support.
- 3 GETTING THE BASICS RIGHT**  
Clearing up litter, removing graffiti, tackling fly-tipping and responding to residents' concerns are the simple tasks we expect Lewisham Council to deliver - it will if I am Mayor.
- 4 LOCAL ACTION ON THE CLIMATE CRISIS**  
I will put tackling the climate crisis at the centre of council activities. The council must provide leadership and support to residents and set a better example in all its activities.
- 5 A SAFER COMMUNITY**  
Everyone in Lewisham should feel safe in their homes and walking our streets. I will work with the local police to deliver real community policing, where officers are visible, trusted and known personally to local people.
- 6 A CULTURE CHANGE AT THE COUNCIL**  
Lewisham Council ignores residents, runs sham consultations and blocks proper scrutiny and challenge. I will open up the processes, listen to residents and strive to deliver excellent services for all.



Liberal  
Democrats

**CHRIS MAINES**  
for Mayor of Lewisham



# PALESTINIAN LIVES MATTER

Labour and Tories support Israeli genocide



On 24th November John Hamilton was arrested and held in a cell for 23 hours on a charge of incitement to cause racial or religious hatred for telling the truth with this placard. We need a mayor who isn't afraid to speak truth to power.

John has lived in Lewisham for decades and is well known as an activist. His bold approach has won campaigns to keep playclubs free in 1999, to Save Ladywell Pool, for a New Secondary School and to stop Lewisham Council selling off council houses by occupying them in 2012.

John helped start the Extinction Rebellion group in Lewisham. He conducts Strawberry Thieves Socialist Choir

**Workers Party of Britain – People Before Profit**

**Labour has ruined Lewisham over the past 30 years.** Labour is full of obedient careerists who do what Keir Starmer tells them. Don't waste the chance to make Lewisham better: **vote for John Hamilton – vote for real change.**

**We don't need more of the same old clique running Lewisham down.**

**If elected John will:**

- **Refuse the salary** of around £80,000 and do the job for the average Lewisham wage.
- **Re-open all the libraries, community centres,** youth clubs and under 5s playclubs which have been closed by Labour.
- **Set up a direct works team** to build the new council houses we need – stop letting developers build tower blocks with flats sold to foreign landlords.
- **Take school meals,** parks maintenance and road-works back “in-house” instead of letting private companies pay low wages to staff on short-term contracts.
- **Restore the speed limit to 30mph** on main roads. Remove humps and other traffic obstacles which are dangerous for cyclists. Ensure traffic can flow freely instead of causing more pollution.

**As Mayor, John will call a referendum** on abolishing the all-powerful executive Mayoral system and returning to the old committee structure where all councillors have a say.

If he is not elected, the Bring Back Democracy campaign will aim to collect 10,000 signatures from voters to force a referendum next year.

**John will finance the restoration of services by:**

- **Cancelling the disastrous, financially crippling PFI contracts** for schools, street-lighting and housing maintenance.
- **Ending the use of overpaid outside consultants.**

**We need someone bold enough to stand up to the senior council officers and their friends the developers and multinationals.**

A glance at the videos on the *People Before Profit* YouTube channel will show you that *John Hamilton has that courage and determination.*

**More information and to offer help go to:**

- [JohnHamilton.org.uk](http://JohnHamilton.org.uk)
- [WorkersPartyBritain.org](http://WorkersPartyBritain.org)
-  [JohnHamiltonLewisham](https://www.facebook.com/JohnHamiltonLewisham)
- [YouTube: tinyurl.com/PpB4Pr](https://www.youtube.com/PpB4Pr)

Vote for **John Hamilton** on March 7th



**WORKERS PARTY GB**





**Vote BRENDA DACRES**  
Labour's Candidate for Mayor of Lewisham

**I was made in Lewisham.** Our borough is my home of 40 years, and where I raised my son. My parents came here as part of the Windrush generation and instilled in me their ethics of community and hard work.

Over the past 10 years it's been an honour to serve as a councillor, cabinet member and as your Deputy Mayor. Now, I'm standing to be your Mayor. If you elect me, I'll be brave enough to campaign for change and honest enough to say where we need to do better.

Life under 13 years of Conservative Government has been far too hard for many people across our borough. **Our Labour council has fought back against cuts and closures** and the slashing of our budget, whilst also delivering services and **supporting residents through the cost of living crisis.**

A vote for me as your next Labour Mayor is **a signal to the Government that Lewisham wants a different path for our borough** and the country.

*Brenda Dacres*  
**Brenda Dacres**



**“I've spent a lifetime fighting against low expectations. I didn't accept them for me, and I'll never accept them for Lewisham.”**

## LABOUR'S RECORD

- **We've delivered 1,400 new social homes** in Lewisham over the past 8 years, giving thousands more Lewisham residents a secure and affordable place to call home.
- **A 40% reduction in Lewisham's air pollution.** Since 2017 nitrogen dioxide pollution has reduced by 40%, meaning Lewisham children breathe cleaner air.
- **99% of Lewisham schools now OFSTED Good or Outstanding,** giving our young people the best start in life.
- **Award-winning parks and green spaces across our borough,** giving residents space to relax, exercise and enjoy.
- **Secured additional landlord licensing,** giving thousands more private renters protection against bad landlords.
- **Lewisham is the UK's first Borough of Sanctuary,** resettling over 100 refugee families.
- **Supported residents through the cost of living crisis** with financial support and warm spaces across the borough.
- **Free School Meals delivered to every primary school child,** so they have the fuel to thrive and learn.

## JOIN OUR CAMPAIGN

- ✉ [labour@lewisham.org.uk](mailto:labour@lewisham.org.uk)
- ☎ 020 8126 5224
- f /LewishamLabour
- X /LewishamLabour
- 📷 /LewishamLabour

## MY PRIORITIES

- **A home every resident can be proud of.** I'll hold developers to account for building quality, affordable homes, get existing social housing up to scratch and work with renters to drive out rogue landlords.
- **Exceptional opportunities for our children.** I'll keep our schools operating at the highest level. I'll also tackle the inequalities faced by black and ethnic minority children, and those with additional needs.
- **Urgent action on the climate crisis.** I'll protect our green spaces, and I'll protect the people of Lewisham by working to make ours the greenest council in London.
- **An open, prosperous Lewisham.** I'll fight for investment in our borough and make it easier for local people to find jobs closer to home. I'll also push for the Bakerloo line to extend to Lewisham, Catford and beyond.
- **The most accessible council in London.** I'll get the council out of the town hall and into every corner of our communities. I'll start by listening to residents, working to reinstate the face-to-face services so many have asked us for.



[Linktr.ee/LewishamLabour](https://linktr.ee/LewishamLabour)

# MIKE HERRON

Lewisham  
for South East London

In a world where the rich are plundering the planet we fight for us all. Electing Greens makes a real difference - in the London Assembly we are a vocal and effective group, and the One Party State in Lewisham needs a Green presence!

Mike was a university lecturer and is now setting up his own online hotel booking business. "Like many in the Green Party I am a disillusioned Labour supporter. But what Lewisham, London and the country needs now are the radical social and economic ideas of the Greens"

MIKE HERRON



## THE TRUE PARTY OF CHANGE



**Green Party**  
for the common good

## FOR A FAIRER, GREENER LEWISHAM



### THE GREEN PARTY PRIORITIES FOR LEWISHAM:

**HOUSING** — RENT CONTROLS, FAR MORE SOCIAL HOUSING, FAIR PROPERTY TAXES AND REINING IN THE BIG DEVELOPERS. GREENS WILL ENFORCE THE POWERS COUNCILS HAVE OVER ROGUE LANDLORDS. LEWISHAM HAS SEEN A 23% INCREASE IN HOMELESSNESS SINCE 2019 - DECENT HOUSING IS THE RIGHT OF EVERYONE!

**RECYCLING** — LEWISHAM IS ONE OF THE WORST IN LONDON, AT JUST 27% OF WASTE RECYCLED. THE NATIONAL AVERAGE IS 43%! WE WILL IMPROVE THIS AND CUT FLY TIPPING.

**TRANSPORT** — WE WILL INTRODUCE MEASURES TO GIVE RESIDENTS ALTERNATIVES TO THE CAR, MAKING STREETS SAFER AND HEALTHIER, AND LIFE EASIER FOR PEDESTRIANS, CYCLISTS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT USERS.

**CLIMATE CRISIS** — WE ARE THE ONLY PARTY TO TRULY RECOGNISE THE THREAT TO OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE AND BUILD REALISTIC POLICIES TO TACKLE THIS LOOMING CATASTROPHE.

**GAZA** - THE GREEN PARTY IS THE ONLY MAINSTREAM PARTY WHICH CALLED FOR A GAZA CEASEFIRE FROM THE VERY START OF THE WAR.

## GREENS ARE THE SECOND PARTY ACROSS LEWISHAM — NOW IS YOUR TIME TO VOTE GREEN!

Nick Long

# ABOLISH THE MAYOR

*"I will only accept the average salary of borough residents. The rest will go back to the local community."*



## Stand with Gaza - Liberation For Palestine Now!

If elected as Mayor I will be calling for the borough to twin with Gaza. I have joined residents marching in support of Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank, on some of the largest marches seen in the borough since the Save Lewisham Hospital campaign.



### Why abolish the Mayor?

Labour think they've got it in the bag. Lewisham is a one-party state, and having a directly elected Mayor is dangerous, especially where there is no opposition.

Already we have seen a number of cases around the country where questionable decisions have been made - Liverpool and Tower Hamlets, for example. I am keen to be a "one term Mayor", seeking to abolish the elected Mayor system and return to a powerful democratic committee system where councilors elect a leader each year.

### About me

My name is Nick Long and I am an independent candidate for Mayor standing with the support and endorsement of the newly-formed Transform party.

- I have lived in the borough since 1981.
- I worked for Lewisham Council for over 30 years.
- More recently I was the borough's Empty Homes Officer.
- I jointly manage an asylum seeker housing project and leasing scheme for homeless people.
- For years I've been active in the trade union, and was Branch Chair of Lewisham Unite.

Compulsory purchase of long term empty residential dwellings.

Greater use of empty dwelling management orders to tackle empty homes.

End disrepair in private rented homes where the tenants are at risk from Category 1 hazards.

Keep council services in house – keep public money out of private hands.

More breakfast clubs, free school meals, and summer play facilities at schools.

X @NickLon56112121

<https://gofund.me/233@57c8>

Promoted by Nick Long of 41 Medusa Road, Catford SE6 4JW nicklongbbp@hotmail.com

Learn more about Transform Politics



# Vote Maureen Martin

for Lewisham Borough Mayor

When Maureen spoke up for natural marriage in 2022, she was hated, condemned and then sacked...

A year later she won an out of court settlement

## MY STORY

In the 2022 Lewisham mayoral election, my leaflet said: 'I pledge to cut through political correctness and simply state the truth that natural marriage between a man and a woman is the fundamental building block for a successful society, and the safest environment for raising children'.

Pink News objected, calling my claims outrageous. In response I furnished 5 pieces of \*research in support of my statement (examples below).

However a complaint was made to my employer who was seeking the Stonewall 'LGBT friendly employer' affirmation, so they sacked me.

I took my case to a tribunal. Before the hearing I obtained an out-of-court settlement from my former employer.

I'm now free to work full time for you as Mayor of Lewisham. My priorities are overleaf. Please vote for me on 7th March.

Election Communication

Email me at [president@cpaparty.net](mailto:president@cpaparty.net) or call: 07890 392466

The CPA has a detailed manifesto at [www.cpaparty.net](http://www.cpaparty.net). Full details on our website under 'policies'.



Christian Peoples Alliance

\*Need for a father: <https://www.fatherly.com/health-science/science-benefits-of-fatherhood-dads-father-effect/> and Married couples are significantly better as parents than any other option: <https://www.ciasp.org/sites/default/files/public/resources-and-publications/states/0086.pdf>



Vote Maureen Martin for Lewisham Mayor



Election Communication

7TH MARCH  
LEWISHAM  
MAYORAL ELECTION

## SIX POINT PLAN



Provide visionary creative leadership. Lewisham has experienced the same lack lustre vision of the current majority council for decades it is time for someone and something new. Keep doing the same thing continually and you will get the same results! Lewisham residents deserve better, a mayor who will serve residents and put their needs first.



Fighting knife crime. My emphasis will be on reconciliation and kinship to help young offenders. Restore supervised youth centres, and enhance the reach of local youth charities with grants.



Cutting business tax rates aiming to eventually eliminate business rates, will rejuvenate the high street and attract investment. Support calling on the government to write off COVID loans.



Re-tendering waste disposal contracts to get better value for money employ creative up-cycling, particularly with electrical products, appliances and furniture.



Oppose ULEZ. Restore democracy - withdraw Lewisham from an elite funded anti-democratic organisation called UK100, which is being bank-rolled by green billionaires to finance local authority pledges to exceed the Government's own net zero targets - without consulting voters.



Spend money wisely. Review spending and reprioritise resources to issues that matter such as crime prevention. Defund disingenuous climate initiatives (greenwashing) Re-tender all major contracts for greater efficiency and better value for money.

[www.cpaparty.net](http://www.cpaparty.net)

Full details on our website under 'policies'

# Key dates

## **Voter registration deadline**

Tuesday 20 February at midnight

## **Postal vote application deadline**

Wednesday 21 February at 5pm

## **Proxy vote application deadline**

Wednesday 28 February at 5pm

## **Postal votes will arrive**

Around Wednesday 21 February

## **Election day**

Thursday 7 March polling stations open 7am–10pm

## **Counting the votes**

From 10pm on Thursday 7 March

## **Results announced on Lewisham Council's website**

Friday 8 March

# Have your say

Make sure you vote on  
Thursday 7 March 2024



**YOUR VOTE ✕ YOUR COMMUNITY ✕ YOUR COUNCIL**