

MAYOR'S MAILBOX

Mayor Sir Steve Bullock answers some recent questions he's received from Lewisham residents



HAVE YOUR SAY!

If you have any comments about the services your Council provides, email yourfeedback@lewisham.gov.uk



It drives me to distraction seeing mattresses dumped on our streets. I know that Lewisham is good at prosecuting these flytippers, but is there anything the Council could do to make it easier for residents to dispose of unwanted mattresses responsibly?

The Mayor says...

I firmly believe that flytipping is irresponsible and anti-social and flytippers should be prosecuted. It beggars belief why anyone would want to pollute their, or anybody else's, neighbourhood – and it costs us all money. You might be shocked to learn that, between 4 August 2009 and 4 January 2010, 6,170 mattresses were dumped on our streets.

I am therefore pleased to be able to inform you that Lewisham Council is the first local authority to introduce a new

free mattress recycling service to help Lewisham residents dispose of their mattresses responsibly. This new initiative will reduce the number of mattresses that are dumped on our streets each year, and reduce the number being disposed of in landfill sites. Basically, 97 per cent of the metal, cotton, polyester and felt from these mattresses will be recycled for other uses rather than just being landfilled.

To use the free mattress recycling service, simply place a sticker on the

The Council now collects and recycles old mattresses for free



mattress and put it out by your refuse bin the evening before collection day. The mattress will then be collected at the same time as your normal refuse. Stickers are available from Lewisham Council offices in Catford and libraries.



Would you tell me what you propose to do about this year's Council Tax? Lots of families like mine are being a bit more careful with what we spend – it would be really helpful if the Council followed suit and our Council Tax didn't rise.

The Mayor says...

It seems to me only right that, during these times of uncertainty, when families are looking to make savings in their budgets, councils should be doing the same thing. My priority is that the Council

helps you all it can, and doesn't add to the pressures you are facing. I am therefore pleased to tell you that when we set our budget I will be proposing a freeze on Council Tax.

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