London Borough of Lewisham

*Joined the #OneLess pioneer network in Nov 2018*

At a glance

The London Borough of Lewisham is one of 32 London boroughs, situated in South-East London. lewisham.gov.uk

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Fountain usage

Two fountains installed with #OneLess have dispensed the equivalent of nearly 23,000 (500ml) single-use plastic water bottles, on average of over 1,900 per month. The fountains are located in Beckenham Place Park (since November 2018) and Ladywell Fields (since October 2018). During summer 2019, the fountain at Ladywell Fields dispensed on average over 100 (500ml) bottles a day to passers-by, sports and user groups, local school children, and commuters.

17 drinking fountains installed within the borough

17 INSTALLED

Refilling 1,900 bottles a month – equivalent monthly usage from two fountains

1,900 BOTTLES

Refilling 100 bottles a day – equivalent daily usage from two fountains during summer 2019

100 BOTTLES

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Installing drinking fountains

Lewisham Council has installed seven drinking fountains over 2018-2019 and secured funding for 10 further fountains. This increases the total number of drinking fountains within the Borough to 17 as of summer 2019.

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Promoting refilling within the Borough

Lewisham council has worked with local businesses to encourage sign-up to the Refill London campaign and provide free tap water to tourists and Londoners. The council is also sharing its knowledge and experience with the NHS and other local authority representatives within London, as part of the Lewisham Obesity Alliance, who are interested in installing drinking fountains within their own local work community.

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Key challenges and opportunities

A key challenge to the Borough was finding the budget for fountain installation. The Borough had to factor in an initial upfront cost of around £3,500 and opted for a location close to existing water supply to reduce installation cost.

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What’s next

Lewisham Council is exploring possibilities and is currently working towards installing a public drinking fountain in most, if not all its parks and open spaces, wherever possible and practicable.

Join the #OneLess pioneer network onelessbottle.org/network @OneLessBTL