

HILLINGDON people

News from your council
May/June 2024

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Investing in highways
Shape the borough's future



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CELEBRATE

Late May Bank Holiday 2024

WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

To minimise disruption to waste and recycling collections over the late May Bank Holiday, we will be working on Saturday 1 June.

Normal collection day	Revised collection day
Monday 27 May (Bank Holiday)	Tuesday 28 May
Tuesday 28 May	Wednesday 29 May
Wednesday 29 May	Thursday 30 May
Thursday 30 May	Friday 31 May
Friday 31 May	Saturday 1 June

Please leave your waste and recycling out by 6am on the day of collection. Leave your rubbish near your front gate, but not on the pavement. Separate arrangements are in place for flats and business premises.



www.hillingdon.gov.uk/recycling

TIME TO PLAY AND PARTY!

The 4-tier soft play at Botwell Green Sports & Leisure Centre is the perfect place for kids aged 11 and under to have fun and make friends. What's more, with 2 dedicated party rooms, you can help celebrate your child's next milestone in style!

Discover more by visiting better.org.uk/botwell-play





www.hillingdon.gov.uk/leisure

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COVER PHOTO: SEYI, OLUWADUNSIN AND MOJOLA SEKONI AT UXBRIDGE FAMILY HUB.

We've aligned stories in this magazine to our council strategy to keep you updated on our progress. Below is a key to explain the graphics.



Advertising deadline for next edition: **Friday 7 June.**

Editorial and advertising enquiries

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Welcome



Welcome to the May/June edition of *Hillingdon People*.

On page 12, you can read about the council's first stage of public consultation on Hillingdon's Local Plan Review which began at the end of April.

I urge residents, businesses and partners to have their say on what the borough's future should look like, so we can collectively establish a strategy that both influences and controls development.

A Local Plan is a vision for local authorities highlighting the borough's approach to guiding and managing development in an area in line with national and regional planning regulations.

The plan will set out policies and proposals for the use of land across the next 15 years, including where new homes, businesses and infrastructure should be located, how they should be designed and built, how heritage assets and the natural environment will be protected, and the approach to tackling climate change.

It is vital that we review and update our strategy to ensure that the council and local people have influence over how the borough will change in the future.

This is your opportunity to make your voice heard and shape the future of the borough. Two information sessions (one online and one in person) are also planned for May to explain what a Local Plan is and the process for creating one.

In this edition, you can also read about how the council is supporting and recognising the efforts of residents. We are pleased to launch an enhanced payment and benefits package for new and existing foster carers to reward their dedication. If you think you could provide a child in care with a loving and stable home, I encourage you to find out more on page 10 and register your interest today.

Last month, the valuable work of 18 residents and community groups was celebrated at this year's Hillingdon Community Awards. It was fantastic to meet the winners and hear how they make a difference to their local community. You can read more about this on pages 18 to 21.

On page 16 we also highlight the success of our family hubs service and how it's providing a range of support to children and parents in their communities. We now have two hubs in Uxbridge and Hayes, with more in the pipeline. Why not take a look at the sessions they're offering and watch our new video about the service?

Finally, a date for your diaries – following the success of last year's Picnic in the Park celebration for the Coronation, we're holding a free Mayor's Picnic in the Park event on Saturday 29 June between midday and 5pm at Barra Hall Park, Hayes. A range of activities will be on offer for all the family, so do come along with a picnic and a rug.

**Cllr Ian Edwards
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

Warm spaces for local communities

This winter, more than 7,100 residents, including over-60s and children and families, visited the council's warm welcome centres and participated in a free activity.

To support local people during the colder winter months, the council worked with more than 40 different venues across the borough, including community centres, interfaith organisations, leisure centres, churches and libraries, and NHS North West London and partner organisations such as H4All, Healthwatch and the Confederation, to offer a range of free activities, such as coffee mornings, film screenings, arts and crafts, family games and exercise sessions.

There were also opportunities to access health information, workshops and screenings, falls prevention advice and blood pressure testing.

Cllr Jane Palmer, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, said: "Thanks to the support of our partners and community organisations, our warm welcome centre initiative helped residents to keep active, healthy, stay cosy and connect with other people."

"It also provided an excellent opportunity for the council and our partners to provide vital support to residents in need, such as managing financial concerns, fuel poverty, health conditions or dealing with bereavement."



A warm welcome group at Hayes End Methodist Church

Counter fraud team regains homes

More than 100 properties were recovered in 2023/24 thanks to investigations by the council's award-winning counter fraud team.

In total, 103 homes, collectively valued at £5,712,000, were recovered.

In addition, the team also cancelled 42 accommodation placements due to non-occupation and false homelessness applications for the council's emergency accommodation since April 2023, saving the council approximately £353,000.

The team is responsible for investigating many types of tenancy fraud, including sub-letting, non-occupation, wrongful successions, and submitting false information on applications for homelessness and right to buy properties.

Tenancy fraud and other housing-related frauds deprives genuinely eligible families of a much-needed home. In November, the team's achievements were recognised at the

Public Finance Awards when they took home several trophies for their ingenuity, creative initiatives and success in tackling fraud.

Cllr Martin Goddard, Cabinet Member for Finance, said: "At a time where people are relying on our services more than ever, it is vital that we continue to protect our funds against fraud, so we have the resources to support our most vulnerable residents."

"It is thought that this year the council has the highest recovery rate across London, which is testament to the team's expertise and hard work."

If you suspect tenancy fraud is taking place, report it at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/report-fraud or by calling 0800 389 8313 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm), by emailing fraud@hillingdon.gov.uk or sending a letter to the Counter Fraud Manager, 2N, Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1UW.

Petition leads to new roundabout

A residents' petition submitted to the council has resulted in the installation of a new mini-roundabout at a potentially dangerous junction in Uxbridge.

In November 2022, Cllr Jonathan Bianco, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport, heard from residents of Hillingdon West who had petitioned the council asking for it to address dangers posed by the junction of Churchill Road and St Andrew's Road on the St Andrew's Park development, site of the former RAF Uxbridge base.

Fifty-one residents signed a petition raising concerns that due to the 90-degree bend in St Andrew's Road at the point of this junction, the road layout may confuse some drivers.

At the hearing, Cllr Bianco heard first-hand residents' accounts of the potential dangers at the junction and instructed officers to look into what measures could be introduced.

With more homes yet to be completed on the site, and so more vehicles movements across the junction in future, the council agreed with the petitioners' concerns, and following a feasibility study, used funding from Transport for London's Local Implementation Plan budget to install a new mini-roundabout.

At the time of *Hillingdon People* going to print, the mini-roundabout was denoted by road markings only, however the three-dimensional 'dome' element is scheduled to be added.

To create and submit your own petition, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/petitions.



The new mini-roundabout in St Andrew's Road, Uxbridge

Leisure centre upgrade programme completes in Hayes

In March, the council marked the completion of a £550,000 renovation of facilities at Botwell Green Sports and Leisure Centre.

Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Residents' Services visited the centre on Tuesday 19 March to see the new amenities, which included the introduction of new workout zones and high specification equipment to the ground floor health and fitness area, a revamped reception area, upgraded changing rooms and resurfaced 3G pitches.

To further enhance the centre for families, GLL, the council's leisure centre provider, invested £140,000 to create a new four-floor soft play village for younger children. It offers a space for climbing, sliding, crawling, and a dedicated play zone for children under three.

Bikramjit Sarai, aged 55, from Hayes, said of the revamped



Cllr Lavery tours the new facilities

spaces: "The new gym looks great. The improvements are fantastic. I really like it!"

The upgrades were part of a two-year £2.25 million council investment programme delivered in

partnership with GLL to refurbish and enhance amenities at each of the borough's leisure centres, with a raft of improvements also carried out at Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Complex in Uxbridge, Highgrove Pool and Fitness Centre in Ruislip, and Queensmead Sports Centre in South Ruislip.

Cllr Lavery said: "It's fantastic to see all the upgraded facilities delivered across our leisure centres as part of this investment programme."

"Hillingdon offers some of the best amenities in London for residents of all ages to get active and improve their health and wellbeing, which is one of our key commitments."

"If you haven't tried one of our centres, I'd encourage you to pay a visit and experience all they have to offer."

For more information visit www.better.org.uk/hillingdon.

Construction work formally begins on Hayes estates



Cllr Bianco, Cllr Goddard and Cllr Lavery break ground at the site

The council broke ground on its flagship regeneration scheme in Hayes which will deliver hundreds of new homes at Avondale Drive and Hayes Town Centre estates.

Cllr Jonathan Bianco, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport; Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Residents' Services; and Cllr Martin Goddard, Cabinet Member for Finance were joined by representatives from the contractor Higgins Partnerships for a special ceremony on Thursday 28 March.

The major scheme will deliver 740 new properties, consisting of a

diverse mixture of homes, including those for council rent, returning leaseholders, shared ownership and private sale, along with high quality neighbourhood improvements, such as new open spaces, improved pedestrian and cycle routes, secure car parking, children's play areas and a new community centre.

The construction will be phased to deliver the affordable housing for the council earlier in the overall programme, and phase one of construction will create 110 new homes, 30 at Avondale and 80 at Hayes Town Centre, with residents expected to move in around summer 2025.

Design of the two developments followed extensive consultation on the plans with residents of both estates to ensure they had a say in how the regeneration would look and what it should include.

Cllr Lavery said: "We're committed to building safe and strong communities to ensure residents have access to good quality affordable housing."

"I'm delighted to see these works progress. Once complete, they will deliver fantastic new homes for our residents alongside significant neighbourhood improvements which will help transform the area for generations to come."



New Scout huts in the pipeline for Ickenham and Cowley +

Scouts in Ickenham and Cowley will soon be enjoying brand new state-of-the-art Scout hut facilities.

The council is using HS2 amenity funding of £1.1 million to design and build two new huts for use by the local community.

Ground-breaking events to mark the start of the building works took place on Wednesday 13 March, attended by Cllr Jonathan Bianco, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport and Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Residents' Services.

The existing hut in Ickenham, situated on Community Close in the heart of the village and used by 2nd Ickenham Scouts Group, was in a poor condition beyond repair. Plans were approved to replace it with a new, modern building designed to enhance the local neighbourhood and conservation area.

It is due to open in autumn and will be larger than the existing building with a big hall space to accommodate the needs of current and future Scout



Breaking ground at the Ickenham site

members. It will also be fully accessible, with level access into the main entrance of the building and to the side.

A foyer will also be installed in the main entrance to protect children from the weather, and amenities will include accessible toilets and an accessible kitchen, a utility room and four bike stands for cyclists.

Work is also underway on a new community Scout hut on Moorfield Road in Cowley, which is used by the Endeavour Sea Scout Group. The building will have similar amenities to the Ickenham hut, such as a large hall space, accessible toilets, foyer, kitchen

and utility room, and it is planned to be ready for use in autumn.

Both huts will be used by Scouts for a wide range of activities, including soft ball games, arts and crafts, skipping, and indoor team games and sports.

Cllr Bianco said: "These fantastic new facilities will support our local young people to have fun, work together as a team and take on new challenges. Sympathetically designed to be in keeping with the local area, the two new scout huts will be a great asset to the local community."



Cllr Bianco and Cllr Lavery visit the Cowley site

Revitalising Hillingdon's play spaces +

Ruislip Lido is the latest site to receive playground upgrades as part of the council's ambitious four-year £1.6 million refurbishment programme.

The revamped play area features innovative play structures crafted from recycled plastics and textiles which cater for a range of abilities and sensory needs. Highlights include an inclusive multi-play ramp, a sensory dome made from tactile materials, wheelchair roundabout, see-saw, turtle springer and a drawing wall.

Adjacent amenities include wheelchair accessible picnic tables and designated picnic areas for parents and groups.

The initiative, which will benefit 26 locations across the borough, is providing the latest play equipment at communal housing estates and parks and open spaces to make them more modern, accessible and inclusive.

On Tuesday 12 March, the renewed playground was officially opened by Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Residents' Services and the then Deputy Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr Colleen O'Sullivan.

A further two playgrounds also completed in March in housing estates located on Gilbert Road (Harefield Village ward) and Coteford Close (Eastcote ward).



Cllr O'Sullivan and Cllr Lavery officially open the new-look play facilities

Free Easter fun +

The council's Easter Holidays Activities and Food (HAF) programme was once again a resounding success, with children enjoying 7,392 sessions between Monday 1 and Friday 12 April.

Funded by the Department for Education, the initiative was set up in response to research which showed that school holidays can be financial and social pressure points for some families. The scheme provides healthy food and fun activities to children and young people who receive benefits-related free school meals during the holidays.

School-aged children, from Reception up to Year 11, took part in a range of activities, including multi-sports, cookery, coding and dance.

The next Summer HAF programme takes place from 29 July to 30 August. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/haf-programme.



Children enjoying one of the multi-sports sessions

Second phase of Uxbridge school expansion underway +

In March, the council marked another key milestone in creating more school places for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) as work began on Meadow High School's new teaching building and satellite school in Harefield.

Cllr Jonathan Bianco, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport and Cllr Susan O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education visited the Northwood Road site on Wednesday 13 March for a ground-breaking ceremony, which marks the start of the second phase of the school's expansion, which will replace an existing unused residential block and deliver 90 additional school places.

The satellite school will have six classrooms, including science, food technology, art, independent living, speech and language rooms, a library/common room, a space for physiotherapy, fitness room, hygiene rooms, medical space, kitchen and dining space, conference room, staff area, breakout areas, storage, administration facilities and toilets.

Other features include an eco-roof and solar panels to provide



Cllr O'Brien and Cllr Bianco attend the school's ground-breaking ceremony

renewable energy, a new multi-use games area, car parking and cycle parking spaces and revised vehicle access. Where possible, materials from the existing site will be re-used or recycled as part of the council's commitment to being carbon neutral by 2030.

This part of the project is expected to complete by summer 2025.

Headteacher, Jenny Rigby, said: "Our school team is delighted to see both of our development expansion projects coming together. We are pleased to be able to support the council in their plans to meet the needs of additional Hillingdon children with SEND, and whilst we have always said that a building does

not make a school, these new facilities will certainly support us in providing high quality education for our pupils."

Cllr O'Brien said: "It's key that we ensure that every child in Hillingdon has access to a school place and receives the very best education possible as part of our commitment to creating thriving, healthy households."

"Our school improvement and expansion programme is making real strides in providing high quality and inclusive school facilities and delivering much-needed additional school places in the borough for children with SEND."

Find out more about the council's support for families, children and young people with SEND at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/send-local-offer.

Construction continues on West Drayton leisure centre +



Cllr Bianco, Cllr Edwards and Cllr Goddard visit the site

Work is progressing at pace on the council's new Platinum Jubilee Leisure Centre despite the original contractor filing for administration in 2023.

Since then, the council has continued work on the project directly to prevent delays, completing the external brickwork and making the building weather-tight.

It is currently expected that the centre will be completed next summer.

The project will now be moving on to the mechanical and electrical fitout stage alongside internal completions and finishes. Meanwhile, the external works and landscaping will be undertaken along with the car park.

Cllr Ian Edwards, Leader of the Council, was joined by Cllr Jonathan Bianco, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport and Cllr Martin Goddard,

Cabinet Member for Finance, as they attended a progress tour of the site on Tuesday 23 April.

The first-class leisure facilities will include a 25-metre swimming pool, training pool, splash-zone, gym and health suite, soft play, youth and community hub, café, terrace and rooftop 3G turf football pitch.

The new leisure centre will be a high quality community facility serving residents of both West Drayton and Yiewsley and affirms the council's commitment to creating thriving, healthy households.

Cllr Bianco said: "We are continuing to make significant progress on site, and we are working hard to complete the centre as quickly as possible."

"The new leisure centre is a manifesto commitment and a statement of our promise to ensure residents have access to first class health and leisure services that enable them to live active, fulfilling lifestyles, and I have no doubt the community will really enjoy this fantastic facility once it opens."

Find out more about our leisure centres at www.better.org.uk/hillingdon.

Enter our two growing competitions

It's that time of year again when we encourage residents to dust off their gardening gloves and prep their pruners for our annual horticultural competitions, Hillingdon in Bloom and the Autumn Show.

A launch event for both took place at the Great Barn at Manor Farm, Ruislip, on Friday 19 April attended by Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Residents' Services and many of last year's participants, and you can now apply to take part.

The two competitions showcase the horticultural excellence and general passion for growing plants and other produce shared by so many talented residents across the borough. For Hillingdon in Bloom, there's the bonus that everyone's entries help brighten up the area with lovely floral displays.

All the regular Hillingdon in Bloom categories return for 2024, including 'best hanging basket', 'best balcony', 'best window box' and the popular 'park and bloom' section. This means you don't need a large garden or lots of space to be able to enter. Applications are open until Wednesday 31 July.

If your forte lies more with growing goliath gourds than perfect petunias,

then the Autumn Show is for you. The broad range of categories includes vegetables, fruit, jams, chutneys, flowers, and arts and crafts.

Applications for this competition will close on Friday 30 August, and the final show where the entries will be judged will take place in the Great Barn on Saturday 14 September.

Cllr Lavery said: "Every year we're wowed by the entries on display across both competitions.

"This year, we'd love to see more first-time entries taking on the challenge so the baton of friendly competitive growing can be enjoyed by some new residents.

"The range of categories means there's something suitable for most people to take part and there are great benefits, beyond the chance of winning some prizes, as it encourages getting outside, keeping healthy and active, as well the opportunity to learn and hone some new skills."

Both competitions are free to enter, and winners will receive garden centre gift vouchers, rosettes and certificates.

For more information and to enter, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/bloom and www.hillingdon.gov.uk/autumnshow.



Horticultural competitions launch at the Great Barn in Ruislip

Pupils offered their top choice school places

In April, Hillingdon was ranked the top London local authority on Primary National Offer Day, with 95.68 per cent of children being awarded their first choice primary school place.

Figures released by the PAN London Admissions Board show that the council has once again exceeded the London average of 89.1 per cent to give 3,212 pupils their first choice of primary school.

Hillingdon also achieved best in west London for applicants being offered one of their top three preference schools at 99.31 per cent, compared to PAN London at 97.2 per cent.

The council received 3,357 primary school applications, with 99.49 per cent allocated a school of their preference, which is also higher than the London average of 98.2 per cent.

In addition, this year the council received 3,576 secondary school applications. From those, 95 per cent were offered one of their top schools, with 70.27 per cent of pupils receiving their first choice and 89.79 per cent offered one of their top three schools.

Cllr Susan O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education, said: "Choosing a school is a big decision for any parent, so I'm really pleased we have been able to give so many their first choice."

Applications open on Monday 17 June until Monday 1 July at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/tashan-daniel-award.



Previous bursary recipient Casey Jones

Apply now for bursary support to fulfil your future dreams

The council is encouraging young residents to apply for its Tashan Daniel Award bursary to support them to achieve their ambitions in sport, theatre, dance, literature, arts, music and education.

The award scheme was created four years ago to commemorate the remarkable young Hillingdon sportsman, Tashan Daniel, who was tragically killed aged 20 in an unprovoked attack and continue his legacy while inspiring young people to follow their dreams. It has supported 23 young people since it began in 2020.

It is open to residents up to the age of 21 and provides funding of

up to £2,000 per successful applicant. It is designed for those who have already demonstrated excellence in their field and can be put towards training opportunities, equipment, qualifications and courses.

Cllr Jane Palmer, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, said: "The Tashan Daniel Award is a wonderful opportunity for young people in Hillingdon to apply for financial support to further their achievements.

"In the past, successful applicants have also used the bursary to give back to the community, so please share with anyone you feel may be deserving of the award."

'An exemplary year and the time of my life'

In a reflective interview with *Hillingdon People*, the outgoing Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr Shehryar Ahmad-Wallana, shared his proudest moments and highlights.



Originally from Pakistan, the eldest son of a farming family, Cllr Ahmad-Wallana

has degrees in economics and political science and law. He has been deeply rooted in the Hayes community since 2007, serving as Yiewsley ward councillor between 2014 and 2022 and representing Colham and Cowley since 2022.

The outgoing Mayor expressed his deep gratitude for the honour of serving as the First Citizen of the Borough, saying: "It truly has been an exemplary year, and I can say without hesitation that I have had the time of my life."

Reflecting on his time in office, he emphasised his overarching goal of uniting communities, and as the first Muslim Mayor of Hillingdon, he championed diversity, stating: "My role has been to represent everyone and reach out to every corner of Hillingdon."

In December, he attended a Christmas service at St Paul's Church in Ruislip demonstrating his support for different cultural and religious traditions. Last month, he hosted an Interfaith Civic Service in the Mayor's Parlour, where representatives from various faiths (Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Sikhism and Hinduism) came together to promote greater understanding.

His dedication to supporting local businesses was evident through initiatives such as his 'Walk with the Mayor' events, designed to shine a spotlight on what they have on offer. "Local businesses are the

lifeblood of our communities, and it's important to support their growth and success," he emphasised.

Cllr Ahmad-Wallana also got involved in a range of community activities engaging with residents from all walks of life. He recounted many memorable visits to care homes, schools, art exhibitions, sports events, and musical services, noting, "meeting residents has been the highlight of my tenure and deeply rewarding."

One particularly impactful initiative involved hosting local schoolchildren from Ruislip Gardens Primary School in the Mayor's Parlour for a mock debate. "It was democracy in action, and we definitely have a few potential councillors in the making," he recalled fondly.

In addition to local engagements, he took pride in welcoming foreign delegations from Korea, Pakistan, India and China. "Hosting these delegations allowed us to exchange ideas, share experiences and showcase our borough on an international stage," he noted.

Philanthropy was also close to his heart during his Mayoralty, as Cllr Ahmad-Wallana prioritised supporting two small charities which have a big impact in the borough.

His chosen charities were the Halo Children's Foundation, which supports youngsters who are dealing with the trauma of losing a parent, and the Al-Falah Institute, an educational and

support centre for women, young children and refugees. Cllr Ahmad-Wallana explained, "these organisations showcase the compassion and unity which define our wonderful borough."

Expressing gratitude to his dedicated Mayoral team, his wife, Amtul Woud Wallana, and their daughter Tooba, he recognised their unwavering support. He said: "I couldn't have done it without them, and my daughter supported me at many events while juggling a full-time job as a biomedical engineer alongside her doctoral studies."

Looking ahead, Cllr Ahmad-Wallana plans to continue serving as a ward councillor, while also juggling his daughter's upcoming wedding, involvement in two newly-established businesses and pursuing a master's degree in criminal law.

On Thursday 9 May, Cllr Colleen Sullivan became the new Mayor of Hillingdon – read her interview in the July/August edition of *Hillingdon People*.





Jeanette Isaacs with council social worker Loretta Baffour-Awuah

Recognising and rewarding our dedicated foster carers

The council has launched an enhanced payment and benefits package for new and existing foster carers, including up to a 120 per cent increase in weekly payments.

Compassionate and dedicated foster carers opening their home to a Hillingdon child can now earn up to £1,500 a week, plus a generous benefits package which includes a 25 per cent council tax reduction, £1,000 off utility bills and a winter fuel allowance.

For the first time, foster carers will be recognised as council professionals, with access to more than 100 training courses and around-the-clock support.

There are currently 365 children in the council's care, with more vulnerable children and young people requiring support each year. New foster carers are needed now more than ever, to provide a loving and stable home.

We spoke to a local foster carer and her supervising social worker to find out why fostering is so rewarding, and how the new remuneration package will benefit both new and existing foster carers.

Jeanette Isaacs, aged 59 from Ruislip, has been fostering with the council since 2018. She currently provides respite care to give other foster carers a break from everyday duties.

What's it like to foster?

Jeanette said: "I became a foster carer to make a difference and enhance a child's life. I've got two grown up children and my divorce had a huge impact on us all. It was a traumatic experience, but we came through it stronger and I felt we had something special that we could offer someone. I also felt it was important to give back."

"I have my family and that foster child becomes part of my family. Sometimes, following conversations with the children in my care, I have to catch myself when I'm reminded that there are some children who have little to eat and haven't learnt basic life skills. The little one I am currently looking after has asked to learn to do the washing up, put his socks

on independently, and we've been developing his homework so he's now doing well at school. I set boundaries and provide a loving, stable environment so I know I'm enhancing his lifestyle and experiences. And I know he won't forget that."

How will the new benefits package help foster carers?

"It's great that the council has listened to feedback from foster carers to deliver more support and training to enhance the lives of children in care. The cost of living has gone up so much, so the new remuneration package will be a good incentive for many people to sign up. I foster because my heart is in it and I want to make a difference, but the benefits package shows further recognition for the valuable job we do."

Why do you provide short-term stays?

"I used to foster for long periods of time, but now I like to fit fostering around my career. It's more flexible for me to offer short-term stays for

children as well as respite for other foster carers. There are lots of different options you can choose from as a foster carer.

"The fostering team is always looking for more carers to provide short-term support. I've looked after children of all ages from all walks of life, including a few unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

"I originally fostered for an independent fostering agency, but I moved to the council as I wanted to be better matched with local children. With an agency, I felt like there were always so many hoops to jump through but at the council the process is more joined-up and direct. Hillingdon's fostering team assess each child and then accurately match us together, knowing that I can meet that individual child's needs.

"I would say to do it! It's very rewarding and you can be part of a child's life and really make a difference."

We also had a chat with **Loretta Baffour-Awuah**, Jeanette's supervising social worker, to find out more about the support on offer.

She said: "I supervise several foster carers from all different backgrounds, whether single carers, same-sex or heterosexual couples, long and short-term carers or carers who look after babies.

"The council's new payment and benefits package is by far the most generous I've ever come across. I moved here a few years ago after working at an independent fostering agency as there is a much bigger team

of social workers at the council and more support on offer. We offer foster carers a wider range of training and advice, as well as an out-of-hours service – and you will be treated like an extension of the council workforce.

"It's a much more collaborative way of working. We work closely with the child's social worker as we fall under the same umbrella, which doesn't happen in an agency. We also link in with other council teams and partners if foster carers or children need support with behaviour or health issues.

"If you do choose to foster with us, you'll be working for an Ofsted 'Outstanding' Children's Service and entitled to receive many benefits. You do not need to live in the borough, and anyone wishing to transfer to Hillingdon will be offered a seamless, fast-track assessment in as little as four to six weeks.

"Children often come from a difficult home life, and some have experienced trauma or neglect. When children leave a stressful environment and move into a loving home – you can see them blossom and that's what I love."

Full-time foster carers are also needed. **Daren Carrington, from Uxbridge**, (pictured below) has been fostering full-time for nearly 12 years.

Daren said: "It's great news that the council is further rewarding foster carers for the impactful work we do to help children and young people in need."



Benefits for foster carers looking after Hillingdon children

- Earn up to £1,500 a week.
- Receive 25 per cent off your council tax.
- £1,000 off utility bills and a winter fuel allowance.
- Free Platinum Merlin passes for the whole family to the UK's biggest and best attractions, including Alton Towers.
- Further your career with more than 100 training courses plus around-the-clock support.
- If you're already with an independent fostering agency – you can transfer swiftly with a seamless, fast-track assessment.
- Unlock savings with a Blue Light Card membership and a Hillingdon Leisure Link Card.
- Work flexibly around your career by offering short-term stays and respite care.

Cllr Susan O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education, said: "We are so proud to launch this incredible new package for our dedicated and hard-working foster carers.

"There are many reasons people choose to foster; it's rewarding and a great chance to give back to the community, but it is also an excellent career choice working in a role where you can directly change the life of a child or young person."

Find out more and register your interest at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/fostering





Shape the future of the borough

Residents can share their views on the future of the borough and help the council to produce a new Local Plan that reflects the needs and desires of local people and influences development. Also, find out how it's important in achieving the ambitions of the community and how it is used to guide planning and protect the environment and our heritage assets.

In April, the council launched the first phase of public consultation on the borough's new Local Plan.

A Local Plan is a key planning document which outlines the council's vision and policies for housing, businesses and infrastructure in the borough for the next 15 years as well as the

protection of heritage assets and the natural environment.

Residents, businesses, and other stakeholders have the opportunity to have their say on what Hillingdon's new Local Plan should include.

The Regulation 18 'Call for Views' Consultation is now live and runs until Monday 17 June.

Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Residents' Services, said: "We are committed to putting residents first and an up-to-date Local Plan will protect the borough and residents from unwanted development.

"It will ensure the community and the council have a greater say over how the borough tackles challenges, such as creating more homes, preserving heritage assets, protecting the environment and growing the economy.

"It's the first stage of consultation, and we are asking you what the Local Plan should contain. This is your opportunity to make your voice heard.

"I encourage residents and businesses to consider and share how they would like the borough to develop for years to come."

Get involved and have your say

You can share your views online using the simple survey at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/local-plan or as part of one of our information sessions.



These sessions are taking place to introduce the Local Plan and the purpose of the consultation:

Online consultation event: Wednesday 22 May, from 2pm to 3.30pm (MS Teams), the online event will include a short introduction to the Local Plan.

To sign up, email, localplan@hillingdon.gov.uk.

In-person consultation event: Thursday 23 May, between 6pm to 8pm (Civic Centre: Committee Room 4), residents can drop-in and speak to officers about the Local Plan and consultation.

Paper copies of the consultation documents are also available at the Civic Centre by appointment. To book an appointment, email localplan@hillingdon.gov.uk.

What is a Local Plan?

A Local Plan is a strategy by local authorities which outlines their vision and strategy for development in a particular area. It sets out policies and proposals for the use of land, including where new homes, businesses, and infrastructure should be located, and how they should be designed and built.

It's a crucial tool for guiding and managing development at a local level.

At the heart of Hillingdon's Local Plan is establishing how the strategy can protect the interests of residents, local businesses and the environment for the long-term.

Why is it needed?

The Local Plan is the foundation for how planning will be controlled in Hillingdon. It is the main planning document which sets out our aspirations for development in the borough.

It contains policies that planning applications are assessed against. It covers everything from housing, open spaces, transport, design, digital connectivity and much more.

We can utilise the plan to allocate sites for housing or employment as well as to specify areas that are protected as open space or green belt. It also provides an opportunity to outline our approach to matters such as tackling climate change and protecting heritage assets.

What can a Local Plan control?

It can help determine how land is used, including whether it is used for housing, employment, open space or other leisure/community facilities. Some of the other issues that it can influence are:

- the level of affordable housing in a new development
- the type of housing and the housing mix
- cycle and car parking provision in new developments
- the protection of land for employment, retail, community or leisure uses
- the protection of parks and open space
- allocating land for residential or commercial development
- establishing policies for air quality, noise and contaminated land
- flooding and energy efficiency policies

- design and the protection of heritage assets.

Why is the Local Plan being updated?

All local authorities are required to create a Local Plan and update them when necessary to ensure they reflect national and regional policy changes.

We adopted our current Local Plan documents in 2012 and 2020. Without an up-to-date Local Plan, the council and local people would have less say over how the borough will change in the future.

With the government and Mayor of London setting challenging targets for the creation of new homes and jobs in Hillingdon, the Local Plan enables the local community to have a greater say over how these targets are achieved so that we get the right development in the right place.

It is important that Hillingdon keeps its Local Plan current and consistent with national and regional planning policy. This includes taking into account approaches, targets and restrictions already outlined within the National Planning Policy Framework and London Plan.

We are committed to developing a new plan to ensure that moving forward, we can better manage the planning process and deliver the development needed in the area in a sustainable way.

How can you get involved?

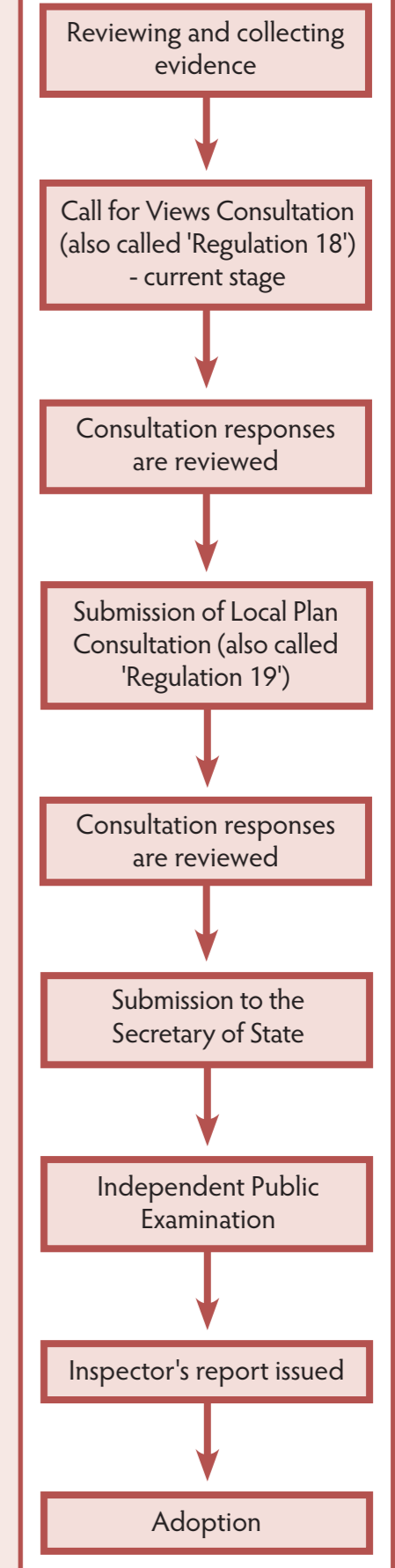
There a number of opportunities to share your views on the updated Local Plan.

We are currently consulting residents on what the draft should include - see page 12.

Timeline and steps

- Regulation 18 'call for views' consultation (**this stage**)
 - Regulation 19 'proposed submission' consultation – Early 2025.
 - Examination (including consultation on proposed modifications): 2026.
 - Adoption: 2026/27.
- To be notified of future consultations of the Local Plan and other planning policy matters, join the planning policy mail-out by emailing localplan@hillingdon.gov.uk.

The stages of a Local Plan



Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/local-plan



Cllr Jonathan Bianco, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport, said:

"We already use well-established industry practices to ensure that our highways network is managed and maintained to the highest possible standards within the resources available. However our ambition is to be at the forefront of best practice, adapting and innovating while ensuring that ultimately residents receive the best value for money.

"We're also constantly looking to innovate, using the latest technologies to enable us to make repairs as quickly and cost-effectively as possible, with the lowest carbon footprint and with the least possible burden on road users."

Improving our highways network

Hillingdon's highways are an invaluable asset, with more than 435 miles of roads and pavement that covers the length and breadth of the borough enabling ease of travel for residents, visitors and those just passing through, by whichever their chosen mode of transport.

However, over the past 10 years funding from central government and Transport for London for road maintenance has fallen by nearly 90 per cent, putting increasing pressures on local authorities to ensure they continue to provide safe, usable highways that allow traffic to flow.

Despite this, following a major review of its programme, the council is dedicating more money towards developing the delivery of maintenance and improvement of its network of roads and pavements during the next five years as part of its ongoing commitment to residents.

The improved programme will prioritise using the latest, most efficient and environmentally friendly technologies and techniques.

As a further boost, in November 2023 the Department for Transport

announced an additional £8.3 billion funding specifically for local road resurfacing work, and it was confirmed in February that Hillingdon's allocation would be £354,000.

This specific funding will be used to deliver two dedicated resurfacing projects:

- Long Lane (Hillingdon East) – from Ryefield Avenue to Windsor Avenue
- Rockingham Road (Uxbridge) – from Waterloo Road to Riverside Way.

While local authorities across the country face continuing financial pressures, the council remains fiscally sound and a key headline from its budget for 2024/25, announced in February, was the investment of £42 million on upkeep and improvements to roads and pavements over the next five years.



Maintenance of the council's highways network is achieved through a combination of proactive and reactive maintenance work. For scheduled works, the council uses established practices to determine where resources should be prioritised, to maximise lifespan, improve safety and efficiency and to help reduce impact on road users.

We prioritise which roads will receive planned repairs and maintenance based on a series of key factors.

These include:

- independent survey results
- network hierarchy
- reports and repair history
- accident claims records
- reports from elected members, residents, and petitions.

This ensures that the programme prioritises roads for repair in the most appropriate manner but also reflects any current issues that ward councillors, residents and other road users may have identified.



Highways in numbers



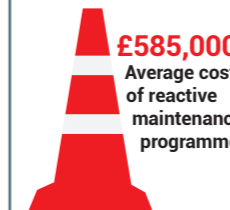
1.43 billion
Vehicle miles on borough roads in 2022



435 miles
Length of roads and pavements the council is responsible for maintaining



£9 million
Cost of planned maintenance programme



£585,000
Average cost of reactive maintenance programme



90 per cent
Fall in centralised funding levels for road maintenance over past decade



£354,000
Funding boost from Department for Transport for highway maintenance work



Safe and strong communities

Find out more and suggest improvements at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/highway-issues



Celebrating the success of our family hub programme

The council has launched a new video to showcase the wide range of services on offer at its family hubs in the heart of the community, encouraging more expectant parents, children and young people to visit.

You can now watch the video, which was produced to illustrate the huge range of work that goes on at these vibrant hubs.



More than 2,187 expectant parents and families with young children have been supported by services at our Uxbridge and Hayes family hubs during the past year, with an additional 3,574 sessions delivered to young people over the age of eight.

The council's family hubs offer state-of-the-art facilities and a wide range of activities in the heart of the community for children aged from birth to 19 (up to 25 with SEND).

Rox, aged 17 (pictured above right), attends Uxbridge Family Hub's mentoring programme. She said: "I'll sit there with my mentor and do Hama beads or we'd make pancakes together, you can do a bit of cooking or some arts and crafts whilst you chat."



Coming to the family hub also gives you a lot of life skills and there are lots of opportunities to be part of something or learn something new."

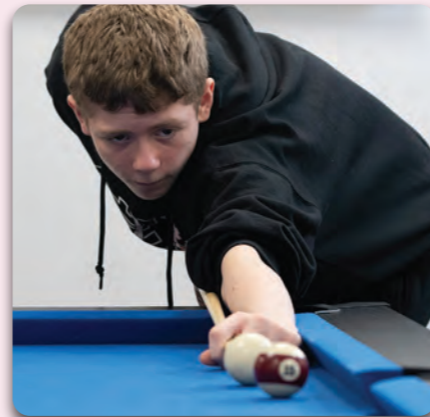
Family hub services include mentoring and counselling sessions for children, midwifery and health visiting services, programmes for teenagers and parent and toddler groups, and financial advice and support.

Zamira from Uxbridge, (pictured below) has a 15-month-old daughter Alisha. She said: "I enjoy coming to the family hub because we have a fantastic time and it's good for my daughter's development. She likes music, singing and dancing and she's made friends. It's also good for me to chat to mums to help with my communication and we get advice from one another."



More than 80 local authorities in England have introduced family hubs, but most have a focus on younger children with plans to gradually expand to older ages. The council has incorporated services for all ages at its two fully integrated hubs.

Jaydon, aged 14, (pictured below) was referred to a mentoring support group at the hub by his teachers. He said: "When I was in primary school I was not very sociable, so the Saturday group has helped me to gain confidence and make friends. I've learnt how to cook and how to be more social with people. My communication skills have really improved since I've been going and now life is a lot easier."



Following its opening in January, Hayes Family Hub is now fully operational.

At the end of February, Uxbridge Family Hub also welcomed Dame Andrea Leadsom MP, Minister for Public Health, Start for Life and Primary Care, who met local families on a tour of the facilities to see how Hillingdon's hubs are supporting local communities.



Anita, from Ickenham, (pictured above) has an 18-month-old son Theodore, and enjoys the social aspects of the hubs. She said: "I don't have many friends, so being out and taking him somewhere helps me and him to become more independent with ourselves."

The council plans to deliver a total of six integrated family hubs, in addition to continuing to support families online and at a range of flexible locations, including children's centres, libraries and community spaces.



What's on offer at the family hubs?

- financial advice and benefits support
- mentoring and counselling sessions for young people
- speech and language therapy
- maternity and health visiting services
- fun activities for parents and babies
- support groups for issues facing girls and young women
- infant feeding support
- parental addiction support groups
- Project Nite cooking school
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award session
- Young Enterprise Company Programme (children aged 13+)
- children's centre services.

Cllr Susan O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education, said:

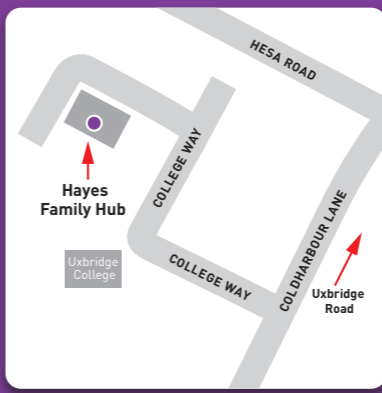
"We're proud of our successful and innovative family hubs programme which allows us to work more closely with our partners, including the NHS, to support expectant parents and children of all ages in the heart of their communities.

"We've created a benchmark for outstanding family hubs, and by remodelling existing buildings and offering flexible support where it's needed most, we're able to deliver a wide range of multi-disciplinary services to inspire local families to live thriving, healthy lives.

"If you're expecting a baby, or have a child aged up to 19, why not come and see for yourself?"

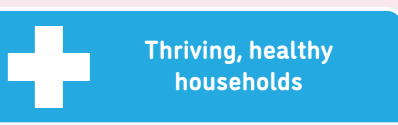


Uxbridge Family Hub, Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1UW



Hayes Family Hub, College Way, Hayes, UB3 3BB

For the latest information, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/family-hubs





LOCAL HEROES were presented with their awards

Honouring Hillingdon's heroes

In April, the council presented local people with awards for their volunteering and community work. We attended the Hillingdon Community Awards ceremony to find out more about their remarkable contributions to local communities across the borough.

Launched in November 2021, the awards are an opportunity for the council to shine a spotlight on the people whose selflessness makes Hillingdon an even better place to live, work and visit.

From the 137 nominations received, 18 winners emerged across three categories and they were invited to the ceremony on Tuesday 23 April in the Council Chamber at the Civic Centre, Uxbridge, where they were presented with their awards by the then Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr Shehryar Ahmad-Wallana; Leader of the Council, Cllr Ian Edwards; and Chief Executive, Tony Zaman.

Cllr Edwards said: "The awards are a celebration of the very valuable work that these residents and community groups do across the borough."

"I want to express my heartfelt thanks for their unwavering dedication and commitment to their communities which has enriched the lives of so many."

Helping young people gain new skills and confidence



Christine Bennett at a District Cub activity day

An active part of the community, **Christine Bennett** is involved with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme and also oversees 13 local Scout groups as District Commissioner. She said: "I became a leader to complete the volunteering section of my Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award many years ago and have stayed ever since as I enjoy helping others develop their skills through Scouting."

"From teaching Cubs how to tie a simple knot, learn basic compass directions and know simple map symbols, to supporting Explorer Scouts who have developed these skills so that they can use pioneering techniques to build a platform to sleep on or navigation skills to complete their Duke of Edinburgh's and Scouting Awards; I enjoy seeing them all succeed and flourish."



Sharon Pink and Lord Finkelstein, OBE of Pinner and David Simmonds, MP for Ruislip, Northwood and Pinner

Supporting businesses, the arts and interfaith events

Since coming to live in Hillingdon 20 years ago, **Sharon Pink** has supported many cultural, social, arts and interfaith events and organisations. She said: "Volunteering is a terrific way to get to know a community and meet people!"

"While also running my own small business, I have helped and mentored local start-up companies especially those led by women and ethnic

minorities, and I am now a director of the Hillingdon Chamber of Commerce.

"Hopefully in all these volunteer activities I'm also playing a small part in encouraging other local people to come and join the volunteer teams, so we are truly inspiring the next generation of community volunteers."

Championing Ruislip Manor's local businesses

In 2006, **Les Drussel** set up the Ruislip Manor Chamber of Commerce and has been its chair ever since. He said: "Over the past 28 years we have championed local businesses through our summer and Christmas fundays to improve Ruislip Manor high street's profile and trade, raised money for the Christmas lights and donations to many local charities."

"I'm passionate about supporting local businesses, both big and small, looking at initiatives which can help support them to thrive."

"As Chair of the Police Safer Neighbourhoods Team, I also work hard to address any community safety issues to help keep local people safe."

"I'm delighted to win this award on behalf of everyone who works for the benefit of the Ruislip Manor community."



Les Drussel at Ruislip Manor's Christmas funday



John Cook

Teaching business skills to the next generation

John Cook has been a longstanding volunteer at Pield Heath House School working with teaching staff to deliver business and enterprise skills to students with special educational needs. He said: "I wanted to give the knowledge and skills associated with business and enterprise to young people within a school setting."

"To be nominated for this award means that someone has seen value in what I have achieved."

"My volunteering role involves working under supervision one-to-one with students on money skills and craft work."

"My reward has been seeing young vulnerable people achieve things they have never done before."



Mike Rees

Protecting the interests of the South Ruislip community

Mike Rees has played a prominent role in his area by liaising with HS2 to help mitigate its impact on local people. He said: "To receive official recognition for the work that I do helping my local community deal with the impact of HS2 construction work means a lot to me."

"As does the thanks I receive from local residents who stop me to say 'well done' when I'm out litter picking in and around South Ruislip. I, like many who help out in the community, do not look for thanks for what we do, hence receiving an award was very unexpected, but much appreciated."

Supporting children with special educational needs

Hayes-based charity SEND Family Support has been supporting local children with special educational needs since 2015. **Sarah Francis**, Trustee for the charity, said: "We are very shocked to have won this award and feel honoured and privileged we have been nominated. We love to be able to offer support and advice to families who have children with special educational needs.

"Having my own child with special needs and volunteering for SEND Family Support has helped me to use my own knowledge and experience to guide others in need of help, as I never had such support when my own children were growing up, so it's a very special feeling for our charity to have been awarded this honour."



Sarah Francis with her son Mason

Longstanding theatre volunteer takes centre stage

Alistair McEwan has been awarded for his contribution to the Compass Theatre, its puppet club and wardrobe department. He said: "I've always had a connection with the Compass Theatre. I did my work experience there as a child many years ago.

"I became a carer 11 years ago after my dad passed away and

needed something for myself, so I popped into the theatre, offered my help and landed a role in wardrobe.

"After COVID-19, the wardrobe department needed to be sorted out and myself and a team of volunteers took on the task of revamping it. My daughter Riley comes in with me and I enjoy the time we spend together."



Alistair McEwan with his daughter Riley

Conserving and protecting local open space for residents

Ben Rawson-Jones set up the Friends of Northwood Recreation Ground in early 2021 as a way of bringing the community together after the isolation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. He said: "The lockdown periods were crucial in highlighting just how important public green spaces are for our mental and physical wellbeing. However, conditions in the rec were proving to be an obstacle to many, with challenges, including blocked drainage ditches, overgrown walking routes, frequent fly-tipping and water leaks.

"Through regular working parties and planning sessions in conjunction with the council, the group has empowered the local community to bring about the positive change needed to improve these problem areas and help to improve the accessibility, functionality and biodiversity within the park.

"I'd like to thank all of our kind volunteers for their selfless and tireless work over the past three years, from litter picking to ditch digging – and also give a special thanks to the council's wonderful conservation officer, Dragana Knezevic for all her help and support."



Ben Rawson-Jones (pictured far right) with fellow volunteers

Inspirational mentor to teaching staff and pupils

For the past 29 years, **Kath Powell** has supported staff and children at Whiteheath Junior School in Ruislip. She said: "I volunteer as a teaching assistant to support teachers in keeping the children focused.

"I get immense satisfaction in providing tailored support

to children who find some lessons hard.

"I've had the privilege of working with some exceptional individuals, both past and present, within the school community, so I'd like to thank them for their support."



Kath Powell

Supporting veterans and Armed Forces personnel

Formed in 2016, Uxbridge Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Club, supports people, either serving, or who have served, in the armed forces.

Paul Forryan, one of the club's volunteers, said: "Our purpose is to facilitate veterans and serving Armed Forces personnel to meet face-to-face in a relaxed, safe, social environment to enjoy breakfast, banter and combat loneliness.

"Free to attend, free to join. There are no fees, subs or commitments, just turn up, pay for your breakfast and

enjoy the company of other Armed Forces veterans. There are over 500 clubs in 15 countries with more than 150,000 members worldwide.

"It is an honour to be recognised alongside so many other organisations who do such fantastic work in the community. The main highlight of winning the award is that it will promote and highlight the existence of our club to other veterans who may not be aware, so they can come and join us in the future."



Volunteers from the Uxbridge Armed Forces Veterans Breakfast Club

Congratulations to all our award winners...

Helping Communities Award

Gold

Christine Bennett: For her work with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme and as District Commissioner overseeing 13 local scout groups – see page 18.

Kath Powell: For supporting staff and children at Whiteheath Junior School, Ruislip for the past 29 years – see page 20.

Silver

Helen Hutchings: For her commitment to local Girlguiding groups across the borough, including managing Willow Tree Centre campsite.

Andrew Terry: For his work running 3rd Hayes Scouts, Cubs and Beavers and supporting 3rd Hayes Guides and Rangers for 35 years.

Samantha Hood: For supporting local Girlguiding groups for more than 30 years, including organising weekly meetings and trips.

Steven Castle: For his community work with St Edmund's Church in Northwood, local scouting groups and the Arrow Players amateur dramatic group.

Sharon Pink: For her involvement with the Hillingdon Chamber of Commerce, Friends of the Battle of

Britain Monument, Heath Robinson Museum and various remembrance events – see page 19.

Uxbridge Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Club: For their outreach work in supporting people, either serving, or who have served, in the Armed Forces – featured above.

Les Drussel: For his contribution to the Chamber of Commerce and commitment to local businesses, charities and organisations – see page 19.

Bronze

Michelle Saunders: For devoting her free time to Girlguiding for the past 19 years in the Hayes community.

Friends of Northwood Recreation Ground: For their conservation work and maintenance of the open space for the benefit of the local community – see page 20.

Mike Rees: For engaging with HS2 on behalf of the South Ruislip community to minimise the disruption during construction – see page 19.

Asad Karim: For liaising with the South Ruislip Safer Neighbourhoods Team to promote crime prevention awareness across the community.

Alistair McEwan: For his contribution over the last 24 years to the Compass Theatre, its puppet club

and wardrobe department – see page 20.

Helping Vulnerable People Award

Silver

John Cook: For his work supporting students with special educational needs at Pield Heath House School in Uxbridge – see page 19.

SEND Family Support: For organising events and youth groups for children with special educational needs so they can socialise in a safe environment – see page 20.

Bronze

Samantha Cummings: For her work with the Halo Children's Foundation in supporting grieving families.

Promoting Health and Wellbeing Award

Bronze

Divya Patel: For her work in leading a group of volunteer yoga instructors to deliver free classes to the Hayes community.

For more details on the awards, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/community-awards



NATURAL BARRIER An area of Pinn Meadows near Elma's Ditch following an earlier stage of the council's natural flood management works in 2021



Protecting our waterways and improving biodiversity

As the council continues in its commitment to creating a greener future for generations to come, *Hillingdon People* takes a look at recent and current projects based around two of the borough's waterways to improve flood resilience and increase biodiversity.

In February, the council received £250,000 following a bid for funding from DEFRA for its National Flood Management programme, which will be used for a flood resilience project at Pinn Meadows in Ruislip.

The council was one of just 40 projects to successfully bid from the £25 million government programme and one of only two in London.

The Pinn Meadows Natural Flood Management programme will focus on carefully adapting areas along the River Pinn that are susceptible to flooding following heavy rainfalls.

As *Hillingdon People* went to print the council was in the conceptual stages of the project and liaising with the Environment Agency, residents and local organisations which work in the area on how it could best be delivered, with the plans expected to be finalised in the autumn.

The scheme will use natural processes to hold water back and help prevent run off into nearby urban areas. This will include the creation of flood storage areas and 'swales', slight depressions that are dry most of the time, but following a flood will retain excess water and allow it to drain away more slowly. This will help to protect nearby residential properties from flash flooding and reduce run-off rates and peak flows along Elma's Ditch and the River Pinn.

Swales and other areas will be planted with a diverse range of species to help increase biodiversity, including wildflowers and water-based species. Combined with the above measures, this will help slow the overall flow of the water. This in turn allows sediment to settle, which helps the river's natural ability to filter out pollutants.

As the area is considered to currently have limited biodiversity, these improvements will bring with them an

overall enhancement visually as well as an upturn in species that visit the site or choose to make it their home.

River re-profiling project to encourage wildlife

In South Ruislip, the council has recently dedicated £159,000 of funding towards a wetland enhancement scheme in Spider Park (Bridgwater Open Space) to improve hydromorphology, biodiversity, flood resilience and water quality.

The 12-hectare park is a Site of Nature Conservation Importance, which lies in part of the floodplain for Yeading Brook and provides a range of habitats supporting a variety of wildlife species.

Despite this, most of the site is closely-mown grassland with patches of scrub and willows along the brook.

The council has already completed the first phases of the work, which included delivery of a 'wildlife corridor' enabling species to navigate

the park more easily, but the council can now move onto the next phase of the works with the new funding and further monies received from the HS2 fund and Crane Valley Grant.

The final phase of works will result in the river channel being 'reprofiled' to include new meanders and various channel features to enhance the ecological appeal, such as vegetation planting in the margins, woody debris and a reduction of vegetation in over-shaded areas. The creation of new habitats in the adjacent fields will increase the wildlife value of the site.

The works will increase the ability of the river to adapt and cope with the likely impact of increased intense storms resulting from climate change.

It will also create a more varied and positive use of the land, increasing the site's overall biodiversity and ecological resilience, whilst retaining a peaceful place for people to relax and enjoy.

Detailed designs for the scheme are expected to be finalised this summer, with work scheduled to begin in September.

Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Residents' Services

said: "We're committed to creating a green and sustainable borough and future-proofing it for generations to come.

"Adapting Hillingdon to be more resilient in future – particularly in light of the increasing frequency of extreme weather events – is central to this and we've already made good strides in delivering a variety of natural flood management schemes across the borough.

"These not only provide great benefits in mitigating flood risk, but usually involve planting and other measures that increase local biodiversity and so in turn support the recovery of nature."

Discover the bats of Cranford Park

If you're looking for something intriguing to do while getting out in nature, why not discover the variety of bats that call Cranford Park home during a special 'bat walk' on Friday 24 May, from 8.30pm to 10pm?

There are eight different species of bat that can be found on the site, from the humble pipistrelle to

Street tree sponsorship scheme reaches milestone



More than 200 trees have now been sponsored through the council's partnership with the charity Trees for Streets.

The scheme launched in the borough in 2021 and enables residents to sponsor a tree to be planted outside their home, or in a local park or green space.

For those who can't afford to sponsor a tree on their own, Trees

for Streets offers a crowd-funding feature which enables residents to pool resources to plant one, or multiple trees.

Bharati Patel (pictured left) sponsored a tree outside her home in Northwood in memory of her nature-loving late husband.

If you don't have space to get a tree outside your home, residents can also sponsor a 'celebration' tree, to mark a special happy occasion, which can be planted in one of the borough's parks or green spaces.

Trees bring immense benefits besides just being pleasant to look at. They're natural air filters, absorbing pollution and putting out clean oxygen into the air and provide homes and food for many species of animals.

Trees are also a source of shade, which cools tree-lined streets, countering the 'urban heat island effect' caused by concrete reflecting sunlight and raising temperatures locally.

Sponsor a tree at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/sponsor-a-tree.

Don't forget to remove your batteries

We now have recycling facilities for small electricals in all of the borough's libraries and they're being well used, thank you.

You can take your unwanted small electrical items, such as hairdryers, mobile phones, electrical cables, toasters and radios and put them in the bright pink wheelie bins which you'll find in each branch.

However, it is vital that you remove any internal batteries before dropping them off and please don't put loose batteries

in either. Batteries can be recycled at separate drop-off points in our libraries.

Any batteries that go into the recycling process pose a fire risk in our facilities.

Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/small-electricals-recycling.



A green and sustainable borough



DRIVING GROWTH The council held an event in February to launch a new business support programme

Fund helps drive business growth

A government funded project is helping boost Hillingdon's prosperity by enabling the council to further support local businesses to thrive, improve green spaces, provide job opportunities across the borough and invest in local communities to help raise quality of life.

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) has already begun to have an impact in local communities through the delivery of high quality refurbishments to some of the borough's play areas, and two very different business support programmes aiming to give a welcome boost to the local economy are also underway.

Several strands of work in Hillingdon are funded by the scheme, with local businesses among the first to benefit from the initial projects. In February, representatives from more than 60 small medium enterprises (SMEs) attended the Civic Centre in Uxbridge for the

launch event of a new business support programme aimed at giving expert advice on how to secure new or bigger contracts that would enable their businesses to grow.

The 'Supplier Ready' programme will be delivered by the council in partnership with experts Branduin Business Support Ltd and was the launch event as part of a programme to enable local SMEs to engage with the procurement process more effectively.

At the event (pictured above), guests were able to hear from expert business speakers from HS2, Heathrow Airport, Brunel University and the council. They covered

a range of topics focused on procuring new contracts, covering business strategy, social value, having a procurement schedule, gaining access to opportunities to tender for work and more.

The second part of the event was delivered by Branduin and covered what would be delivered through the Supplier Ready 'fit to bid' programme, including one-to-one sessions and workshops all tailored to helping small businesses bid successfully.

Chartered surveying and architectural consultant, Mark Baldwin, attended the event to see how it could help his Uxbridge-based architecture and construction company, Plansdesigned. He said: "I found this to be a professional, informative, interesting and refreshing event.

"I hope this programme will help my business in the future by embracing a locally established business, which cares about Hillingdon borough."

Food businesses get a hygiene boost

The second project to go live under the UKSPF funding is a food safety programme enabling local food businesses with lower food hygiene ratings (scores on the doors) to get help to improve their score.

The initial tranche of 35 businesses has already been contacted by the council with an offer of taking part in the programme, with the first of those already enrolled and on board. This first band of work is targeting specifically those businesses with a rating of one and two (out of five).

The project also offers pre-inspection advice to new businesses, and the council is encouraging start-ups that have registered to also enrol on the programme.

Through the scheme, small businesses in the borough will be given help with:

- face-to-face coaching on food hygiene and safety
- marketing and sales management
- preventing money loss
- staff training
- preparing for inspection / re-rating visits
- legal requirements for hygiene and allergen information.

This programme is expected to complete this November and an evaluation will follow before further businesses are invited to take part.



Managing Director of 40-year-old family business, Acorn Engraving Company Ltd, Chet Pankhania, also attended to see how the event could help him. He said: "It was a very well-organised event from the council and underlined their determination for

local businesses to benefit from the Levelling Up programme in Hillingdon. "As a local business, opportunities are few and far between, we hope the council can introduce us to the decision-makers rather than filling in hundreds of procurement online forms."

Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Residents' Services, said: "We're committed to creating a prosperous, thriving borough where both residents and businesses can grow and succeed.

"This is a real funding boost for our business sectors to help our local economy and it's fantastic to see uptake is already high for our business supplier programme with SMEs.

"It's not just businesses, but residents too who will get a helping hand through projects to help them into work and a further element of the project is dedicated to improvements in our green spaces. Ultimately, it will enable the borough as a whole to prosper, with the UKSPF opening doors and providing us with great opportunities."

What is the UKSPF?

The UKSPF is a government local authority funding programme where the money is dedicated to helping the UK grow by investing in communities, places, businesses, people and skills as a central part of the government's Levelling Up agenda.

It provides £2.6 billion new funding for local investment by March 2025, with all areas of the UK receiving an allocation. The UKSPF aims to enhance local pride in communities and increase the quality of life for all residents.

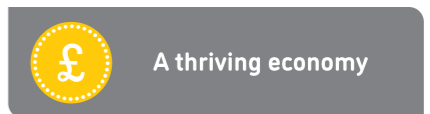
Through the scheme, Hillingdon has been awarded £2.4 million to use across three years, with a range of funded



projects planned or already underway across the borough being delivered across four strands of work:

- communities and place
- supporting local business
- people and skills
- supplier readiness.

To find out more, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/ukspf



COVID-19 spring booster vaccinations

The seasonal COVID-19 booster is now available, free, for those who are at greatest risk of becoming seriously ill from the virus.

You can get a booster if you are:

- aged 75 years and over
- a resident in a care home
- or have a weakened immune system.

If you are eligible and have not yet had your booster, you can use the national booking system to book an appointment at www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/covid-19-services/covid-19-vaccination-services.

Alternatively, you can find a pharmacy offering the vaccination in Hillingdon at nwlondonicb.nhs.uk/your-health-services/Covid-19/where-get-your-vaccine.

Individuals do not need to be registered with the NHS and do not need to bring any identification. Vaccinations are available until Sunday 30 June.



Spotlight on the RAF Association



In June 2012, the council was a proud signatory of the Armed Forces Covenant which recognises and brings together a range of support to the community.

For more than 90 years the RAF Association has been there for the RAF community, providing life-changing help and support to serving personnel, veterans and families.

Since World War Two, the RAF has been constantly deployed on global operations – and across the generations, the need for support is becoming ever more complex.

If you're a member of the RAF community and are facing financial difficulties, arising from unexpected emergencies, daily living costs, bills or debt, their casework team may

be able to help you source the funds you need and will be able to offer expert advice and guidance.

They also offer practical help for those facing other challenges, such as mobility and independent living adaptations, issues affecting their mental wellbeing, physical disabilities and isolation.

From mental wellbeing courses to affordable beachside holiday locations and befriending services, they are on hand to offer support.

If you would like to learn more, visit rafa.org.uk or call their dedicated team on 0800 018 2361.



Keeping consumers safe

The council's trading standards team works hard to keep residents safe, preventing illegal and dangerous products from being sold. Recently, one of their key roles has been preventing illegal vapes being imported into the country.

Illegal vapes are a nationwide problem. The council seized more than 1.3 million vapes in 2022 and more than 224,000 in 2023 which could have contained additional harmful substances. These illicit products often contained liquid above the legal limit of 2ml and in some cases, they contained more than 20 times the limit.



Council officers demonstrate the rigorous tests which are carried out on vaping cargo

To showcase the important steps being taken to tackle illicit vaping products, the council's trading standards team hosted a special ministerial behind-the-scenes visit to the cargo sheds at Heathrow Airport where some of this enforcement work takes place.

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Victoria Atkins MP was joined by Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Residents' Services and members of the trading standards team (pictured left) for a tour of the cargo sheds to learn more about how dangerous illegal vapes are prevented from reaching the streets.

The trading standards team gave the minister an insightful demonstration of the simple tests that are conducted on the vapes during cargo examination.

In addition to stopping vapes and other unsafe consumer products at the UK border, the team also conduct regular inspections of businesses in the borough suspected of selling illegal vapes and other illicit products. They also conduct age-restricted products operations to ensure vapes are not sold to persons under 18.

How you can help

If you suspect a business is selling illegal vapes, or other restricted products, you can report it by emailing tradingstandards@hillingdon.gov.uk or anonymously to London Trading Standards at www.londontradingstandards.org.uk

Clampdown on rogue traders

Amarjeet Singh, director of AG Food and Wine Limited trading as Master News, 5 Coldharbour Lane, Hayes, pleaded guilty at Uxbridge Magistrates' Court on 5 March to 31 offences and was ordered to pay more than £4,400 for selling unsafe cosmetics and electrical products at his shop Master News.

Following a referral from another local authority, the council conducted the investigation which found a range of non-compliant products, including black henna hair dye with inadequate labelling and insufficient instructions for safe use.

It was found that Singh had failed to follow previous instructions to destroy the goods.

The search of the business also found unsafe electrical products on sale with non-British standard plugs and faulty wiring with the potential to cause electric shocks or fires.



Find out more about the team's work at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/trading-standards



HILLINGDON WHAT'S ON?

Find out about more events happening locally at *discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/events*.



LEISURE

HAREFIELD HOSPITAL BOWLS CLUB

OPEN DAY

Saturday 25 May, 1pm to 4pm

Are you looking for a new sport? Come and try lawn bowls, it's not strenuous, good fun and a great way to make new friends. Equipment and training will be provided, just wear flat shoes. Suitable for ages 14 to 94.

Cost: £5 per person.

To book, visit www.harefieldbowls.weebly.com.



Harefield Hospital Bowls Club

EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDENS

SUMMER FÊTE AND PICNIC

Saturday 1 June, 11am to 4pm

Join the Friends of Eastcote House Gardens at their annual summer fête and picnic in the picturesque grounds of the house. Highlights include a dog show, tug-of-war competition, ferret racing, scouts climbing wall, refreshment stalls and many other attractions.

Cost: Free.

GUIDED HISTORICAL WALK

THE GRAND UNION CANAL AND YEADING BROOK

Saturday 1 June, 11am to 1pm

Join this guided walk from Yeading Library to Cranford Park and learn more about the waterways of Yeading and Hayes and their importance in the industrial history of the borough. Find out what a 'packet boat' is and why brickmakers were held in such low regard during this period of history. The walk is over rough terrain, so strong boots recommended. This event is weather dependent.

Cost: Free, but booking is essential.

To book, email archives@hillington.gov.uk or call 01895 250702.

BATTLE OF BRITAIN BUNKER

D-DAY 80: COMMEMORATIVE WEEKEND

Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 June, 10am to 4.30pm

To commemorate the 80th anniversary of Operation Overlord (D-Day), the bunker will be running a series of talks, concerts, special bunker guided tours and children's activities, including climbing walls and craft workshops.

Cost: Free to £15.

Concessions will apply.

To find out more, visit battleofbritainbunker.co.uk/whats-on, email bunker@hillington.gov.uk or call 01895 238154.



LAKE FARM COUNTRY PARK

GREEN SKILLS VOLUNTEER DAY

Thursday 11 June, 10.30am to 1pm

Do you want to learn more about nature and get some gardening practice? Come and join in with these green-fingered volunteer sessions.

Cost: Free.

To find out more, email jhedges@hillington.gov.uk.

RUISLIP MANOR

SUMMER FUN DAY

Saturday 15 June, 11am to 6pm

Bring the family along to Ruislip Manor's 28th annual fun day organised by the Ruislip Manor Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by Gibson Honey. A stage will be set up on Linden Avenue and visitors can enjoy entertainment from local singing and dance groups. Other highlights include fairground rides, facepainting and more than 60 stalls.

MINET AND COUNTRY PARK

BALSAM BASH

Tuesday 4 June, 10.30am to 1pm (Minet)

Tuesday 18 June, 10.30am to 1pm (Cranford)

Help protect green spaces and learn about invasive plants by

represented through public art. Find out who commissioned and designed the artwork, and what the challenges were in making murals, sculptures and graffiti. Along the way you'll see other elements of design, such as landscape architecture and innovative engineering in relation to the Boiler House and The Gramophone Building.

Cost: Free, but booking is essential.

To book, email archives@hillington.gov.uk or call 01895 250702.

THEATRE AND CONCERTS

COMPASS THEATRE

SPEAKING IN TONGUES BY ANDREW BOVELL

Wednesday 5 to Saturday 8 June, 7.45pm

When a woman disappears, nine lives weave together in this tense, electrifying play about relationships between lovers, strangers, and the infinite ways people wound one another. Winner of the Australian Writers' Guild award for Best Play, Proscenium presents this compelling drama exploring love, marriage, infidelity, and betrayal.

Cost: £16 / over-60s £15 / students £15 / groups of 10+ £10 each. Ticket price includes a programme.

To book, visit www.hillingdontheatres.uk or call 01895 250615.

BARRA HALL PARK

Saturday 29 June, Midday to 5pm

Following the success of last year's Picnic in the Park celebration, which was held for the Coronation of King Charles III, the council has decided to make this family event an annual feature. Attendees are invited to bring along picnics, something to sit on and enjoy the occasion.

A range of activities will be on offer, including face painting, live music and entertainment, with many more to be confirmed closer to the date.

Cost: Free.

Find out more at discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/picnic-in-the-park.

COMPASS THEATRE

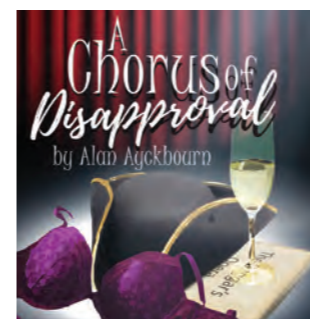
A CHORUS OF DISAPPROVAL BY ALAN AYCKBOURN

Wednesday 12 to Saturday 15 June, 7.45pm

A shy widower, Guy Jones, decides to join his local operatic society in a bid to beat his loneliness. But his inability to say no soon has him rising from a one-line part to the lead! The drama on stage is nothing compared to that behind the scenes in this riotous comedy presented by Ruislip Dramatic Society. Can Guy negotiate dodgy business deals, love interests plus a madcap director and survive to opening night?

Cost: £14 / over-60s (Wednesday and Thursday only) £13.

To book, visit www.hillingdontheatres.uk or call 01895 250615 / 01895 632300.



WINSTON CHURCHILL THEATRE

HPO SUMMER CONCERT FEATURING EMANUELE ADDIS

Saturday 22 June, 7.30pm

Hillingdon Philharmonic Orchestra (HPO) invites you to a summer concert of classical favourites to include Rodrigo's stunning *Concierto de Aranjuez* with soloist Emanuele Addis. The programme will also feature Debussy's *Prélude à l'Après-Midi d'un Faune*, Delius' *Walk to the Paradise Garden* and the Overture to Wagner's *The Flying Dutchman*.

Cost: £15 / under-18s free.

To book, visit www.hillingdontheatres.uk or call 01895 250615/01895 674223.

DOUAY MARTYRS SCHOOL

EASTCOTE & RUISLIP CHORAL SOCIETY'S SUMMER CONCERT

Saturday 29 June, 7.30pm

Listen to music from composers Will Todd (*Mass in Blue*) and Andrew Lloyd Webber (songs from *Cats*).

Cost: Tickets £12 on the door, or from a choir member. Under-12s go free.

Find out more at www.eastcote-ruislip-choral.org.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY

BATTLE OF BRITAIN BUNKER

DROP-IN HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Thursday 30 May to Sunday 2 June

Half-term holiday fun with trails, a crafty mess area and an under-5s area available from 10am to 4.30pm. Workshops will also be available from 11am to 3pm.

Cost: Free for under-16s.

To book, visit battleofbritainbunker.co.uk/whats-on, email bunker@hillington.gov.uk, or call 01895 238154.

CRANFORD PARK

YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGISTS' CLUB

Sundays 19 May and 30 June, 11am to 1pm

The Young Archaeologists' Club (YAC) is the only UK-wide club where eight to 16-year-olds can participate in real archaeology and discover why it matters. If you want to become a professional archaeologist in the future or just feel like taking up an amazing new hobby, YAC is the right place for you!

Cost: Free.

To book, email pmcgarrity@hillington.gov.uk.

HAYES

HAYES CANAL FESTIVAL

Sunday 16 June, midday to 5pm

The ever-popular Canal Festival will be returning this year. Organised by the Canal and River Trust, it brings a promise of fun for the whole family with a wide variety of free land and water-based activities aimed specially at children. These include boat rides, kayaking, paddle-boarding, face-painting and a climbing wall, plus a programme of musical entertainment and lots of stalls.

Cost: Free, no need to book.

Find out more by emailing hayestownpartnership@gmail.com.



Hayes Canal

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

UXBRIDGE CHORAL SOCIETY PRESENTS 'HIT SONGS FOR SUMMER!'

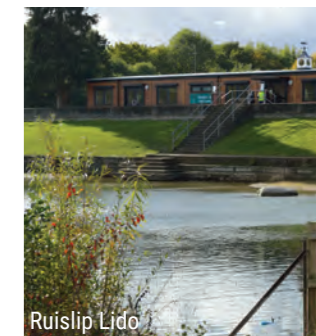
Saturday 29 June, 3.30pm

Uplifting choral arrangements of popular songs spanning the 20th and 21st centuries, including Queen, Madness, ELO, The Beach Boys, Bacharach, Simon & Garfunkel.

Cost: £15 (children under-16 free)

To book, visit www.uxbridgechoralsociety.org.uk (or buy on the door).

HEALTH AND FITNESS



Ruislip Lido

RUISLIP LIDO

VARIOUS ACTIVITIES ON DIFFERENT DATES AND TIMES

- Thursday 23 May, 10am to 11.30am, Reflections on Ruislip Lido: lido history walk
- Thursday 30 May, 11am to 12.30pm, fun games and activities in Ruislip Woods
- Thursday 30 May, 1pm to 3pm, fun craft making session
- Friday 31 May, 11am to 12.30pm, fun games and activities in Ruislip Woods
- Friday 31 May, 1pm to 3pm, fun craft making session
- Monday 3 June, 10am to 11.30am, dams, icebergs and spies walk
- Thursday 20 June, 10am to 11.30am, wildlife walk with Graeme Knights.

Cost: Free. Meeting point the Woodland Centre.

To find out more, call Diana on 07736 974497 or Lucy on 07961 157215.

UXBRIDGE LIBRARY

HI-VIS SIGHT LOSS FAIR

Thursday 6 June, 10am to 4pm

The council is bringing together local and national sight loss organisations to Uxbridge Library. The event will be an opportunity for residents to drop-in and get support and awareness around sight loss.

Cost: Free, no booking required.

VENUES

BARRA HALL PARK

36 Freemans Lane, Hayes, UB3 2NH

BATTLE OF BRITAIN BUNKER

Wren Avenue, Uxbridge, UB10 0BE

COMPASS THEATRE

Glebe Avenue, Ickenham, UB10 8PD

CRANFORD PARK

The Parkway, TW5 9RZ

DOUAY MARTYRS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Edinburgh Drive, Ickenham, UB10 8QY

EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDENS

High Road, Eastcote, HA5 2FE

HAREFIELD HOSPITAL BOWLS CLUB

Taylor's Meadow, Hill End Road, Harefield, UB9 6LD

LAKE FARM COUNTRY PARK

Dawley Road, Hayes, UB3 1EJ

MINET COUNTRY PARK

Springfield Road, Hayes, UB4 0LL

RUISLIP LIDO

Reservoir Road, Ruislip, HA4 7TT

RUISLIP MANOR

Ruislip Manor, Victoria Road, HA4 0AB

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Hillingdon Road, Uxbridge, UB10 0AE

UXBRIDGE LIBRARY

High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1HD

WINSTON CHURCHILL THEATRE

Pinn Way, Ruislip, HA4 7QL

If you wish to publicise an event, please email details to hillingtonpeople@hillington.gov.uk or send to Hillingdon People, 3S/05 Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1UW. Events are selected at the editor's discretion.

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- report fly-tipping or anti-social behaviour
- request recycling bags
- order a new HillingdonFirst card and much more...



USEFUL CONTACTS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>Adult education
 www.hillingdon.gov.uk/adultlearning</p> <p>Benefits
 www.hillingdon.gov.uk/benefits</p> <p>Births, deaths and ceremonies
 www.hillingdon.gov.uk/births-deaths-ceremonies</p> | <p>Businesses and licensing
 www.hillingdon.gov.uk/business</p> <p>Councillors, meetings and consultations
 www.hillingdon.gov.uk/council</p> <p>Council tax
 www.hillingdon.gov.uk/counciltax</p> |
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- Families' Information Service, fostering and adoption**
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/families
- Fraud Hotline**
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/report-fraud
 0800 389 8313
- Health and wellbeing**
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/health
- Housing Services**
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/housing
 01895 556666
- Hillingdon Social Care Direct (adults) (including TeleCareLine and Meals Service)**
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/socialcare
 01895 556633
- Leisure (including parks, leisure centres, theatres and events)**
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/leisure
- Libraries**
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries
- Planning and Building Control**
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/planning
- School admissions**
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions
- Stronger Families Hub**
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/stronger-families
- Transport, roads and parking**
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/transport

Mental health support

Hillingdon Mind
 01895 271559

Samaritans
 116 123 (freephone)

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www.hillingdon.gov.uk



New recycling bag delivery service

We've launched our improved automatic recycling bag delivery service.

Personalise your new subscription to match your household's usage and help reduce carbon emissions.

Current subscribers need to re-register and new subscribers can sign up at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/automatic-bag-deliveries




www.hillingdon.gov.uk





OPEN DAY



12 JUNE

WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE
UXBRIDGE CAMPUS
3-7PM

UXBRIDGE
COLLEGE



Uxbridge College is part of Harrow,
Richmond and Uxbridge Colleges (HRUC).

