

HILLINGDON people

News from your council
March/April 2018

www.hillingdon.gov.uk

New leisure facilities

Budget approved
Council tax frozen
for 10th year

Heathrow expansion
Have your say

New visitor attraction
Easter opening for Bunker
exhibition centre



HILLINGDON
LONDON



APPLY NOW



NEW SCHOOL



2018 EVENTS

Refuse and Recycling

Easter 2018

Normal collection day	Revised collection day
Monday 26 March	Monday 26 March
Tuesday 27 March	Tuesday 27 March
Wednesday 28 March	Commencing Tuesday 27 and concluding on Wednesday 28 March
Thursday 29 March	Commencing Wednesday 28 and concluding Thursday 29 March
Friday 30 March (Good Friday)	Thursday 29 March
Monday 2 April (Easter Monday)	Tuesday 3 April
Tuesday 3 April	Wednesday 4 April
Wednesday 4 April	Thursday 5 April
Thursday 5 April	Friday 6 April
Friday 6 April	Saturday 7 April

Early May Bank Holiday 2018

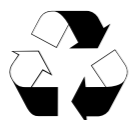
Normal collection day	Revised collection day
Monday 7 May	Tuesday 8 May
Tuesday 8 May	Wednesday 9 May
Wednesday 9 May	Thursday 10 May
Thursday 10 May	Friday 11 May
Friday 11 May	Saturday 12 May

Please leave your rubbish out for collection by 6am.

Please leave your rubbish near your front gate, but not on the pavement.

Separate arrangements are in place for flats and business premises.

If you have any queries, or would like to report a missed collection, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/recycling or call 01895 556000.



www.hillingdon.gov.uk/recycling

Rural Activities Garden Centre
HILLINGDON

Good value, great choice, friendly staff

- Bedding plants
- Shrubs
- Seasonal vegetables
- Craft gifts
- Tea room

Open every day from 9am to 4pm

The team

HILLINGDON LONDON
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/RAGC

FREE childcare for two-year-olds

You may qualify if you have a household income less than £16,190 and receive benefits or tax credits

Apply online
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/freechildcare

Enquiries 01895 556489

HILLINGDON LONDON
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/freechildcare

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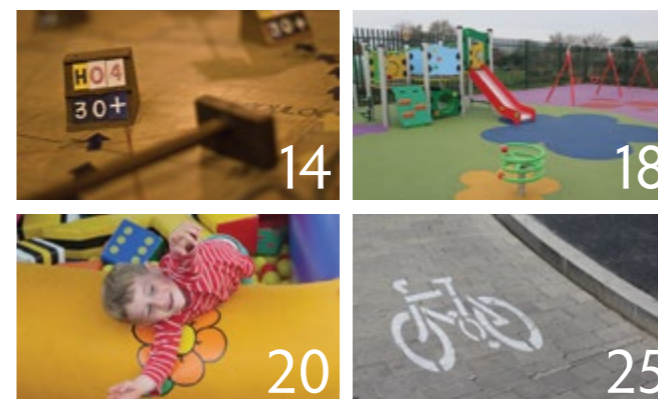
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COVER PHOTO: LOCAL CHILDREN ENJOYING THE NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT AT ABBOTTS CLOSE PLAYGROUND.



Advertising deadline for next edition: **Wednesday 29 March.**

Editorial and advertising enquiries

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Welcome



In February, Hillingdon Council, like all local authorities across the country, set its budget for 2018/19. While many councils were raising council tax and fees and charges, reducing services or closing facilities, in Hillingdon council tax was once again frozen for a 10th year for all residents and 12 years for the over-65s.

As you will read on page 13, in terms of fees and charges, parking charges will remain frozen and the council has continued its policy of benchmarking its fees and charges against those of neighbouring authorities and other service providers, with charges being set at a maximum of 90 per cent of what those authorities are charging.

We also committed to maintaining frontline services and improving or delivering new facilities, and as you can read in this edition of *Hillingdon People*, we are providing a wide range of these across the borough.

Our new £6 million Battle of Britain Bunker Visitor and Exhibition Centre will open to the public at the end of this month and offer an interactive and informative experience. I would encourage residents to go along and see the displays and also go down to the bunker itself.

We are continuing to invest in our school building and expansion programme to create more places at the borough's schools, with work underway at Warrender Primary School, Hillside Infant and Junior Schools and Vyners School, and work planned for Ruislip High School. The new Oak Wood School (formerly Abbotsfield) was also officially opened last month.

Our ongoing resurfacing programme is maintaining the borough's roads and footpaths, with £10 million invested to ensure that transport is able to keep moving and residents are safe.

As you will be able to read on page 18, the council is investing in improving and building a range of leisure facilities, including skate parks, outdoor gyms and playgrounds. We are also offering a varied events programme for 2018, including some new additions.

Protecting the local environment also remains a priority and weekly free recycling and waste collections continue, with improvements being made to these and our free bulky waste collection service is being made available to all residents. A new waste and recycling centre is also planned for the south of the borough.

Whilst it is clear that there are still challenges ahead for local authorities, in Hillingdon our ability to deliver sound financial management and good business practice means that we are able to continue to put our residents first and deliver the services that they tell us are important to them.

Cllr Ray Puddifoot MBE
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL



Get growing for our annual horticultural competitions

Whether you're a novice or a keen gardener, our Hillingdon in Bloom and Autumn Show competitions will return once again this year for you to take part in.

Residents, businesses, schools and community groups will be able to apply to participate in Hillingdon in Bloom from Tuesday 20 March. There are a range of categories, including 'Best first time entrant', 'Best hanging basket', 'Best balcony' and 'Best residential garden'.

A new class, 'Best tree pit garden' encourages residents and local businesses to tackle some of the grey parts of their street or road by planting around the base of a pavement tree to give them a new lease



of life. Care should be taken though to ensure no damage is caused to the tree and that the planting does not encroach onto the footpath.

Judging for the Hillingdon in Bloom competition will take place in July and August and winners announced at our Autumn Show competition in September. Applications for the Autumn Show, which offers a range of homegrown fruit, vegetable, cooked produce, jam, pickle and cut flower classes will also be open from 20 March.

To enter and for more information visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/bloom.

Advertising vans cause nuisance by parking illegally

The council has warned that it will continue to take necessary enforcement measures against advertising vehicles being parked illegally and dangerously in Hillingdon.

The council seized two vehicles on Thursday 7 December 2017 that had been repeatedly parking illegally.

The first van (pictured), advertising Murphys Contractors Ltd, accumulated 19 parking fines in the Ruislip area between 13 May and 7 December 2017, which remain unpaid, leaving an outstanding total of £5,257 plus increasing debt collection fees. Parking offences included parking without a ticket in pay and display bays, parking on a yellow line, parking on a grass verge, parking on a footway and parking in resident only bays.

The second, advertising JNR Driveways and Landscaping Ltd, had received seven parking tickets for parking on and blocking a pavement on Uxbridge Road between 16 November and 7 December 2017. The



fines also remain unpaid, leaving an outstanding total of £770 plus mounting debt collection fees.

Both vehicles will only be returned to the owners with proof of ownership and after payment of their fines. If this is not done, the council will take appropriate steps to dispose of the vehicles.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, said: "The council is responsible for keeping roads and footways safe to use and making sure that residents can park on their own streets. We will continue to take a tough stance on nuisance vehicles that are flagrantly flouting parking regulations, damaging pavements and endangering our residents' safety."

Celebratory lunch to thank horticultural hard work

Employees from the council's green spaces team and volunteers, who helped the borough to win Gold and the Large City category in Britain in Bloom last year, were invited to a special lunch at the Great Barn, Ruislip on Friday 12 January.

Hillingdon MPs Boris Johnson and Nick Hurd, joined Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot; Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Business Services, Cllr Jonathan Bianco and the Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr Carol Melvin at the lunch to congratulate the team for their hard work.

Cllr Bianco said: "This is a cracking achievement. A huge amount of work is involved to get there and the recognition is very much deserved. The council certainly couldn't have achieved it without the many volunteers and residents who also supported us in the endeavour. It isn't luck, it is your hard work, application and dedication that got us there."



Use your vote - don't miss out!

The election of councillors for Hillingdon will take place on **Thursday 3 May 2018** and you must be on the electoral register to be able to vote and have your voice heard.

Every elector is responsible for their own registration and the deadline for making sure you are on the register is **Tuesday 17 April**. If you are unsure if you're on it, or you've recently moved into Hillingdon or have just turned 18, visit www.gov.uk/register-to-vote to register online. Alternatively, call 01895 250251 for assistance.

On 3 May, you can vote in person at a polling station between 7am and 10pm. You can also register to vote by post and the deadline for this is **Wednesday 18 April**. The ballot papers will be sent out from **Thursday 19 April** and you have until 10pm on the day of the election to return it to us. If you would like someone to vote on your behalf, you have until 5pm on 25 April to apply to vote by proxy.

Your elected councillors play a crucial role. They have regular contact with constituents, representing you at a local level and deciding how the council carries out its various activities. The council is responsible for providing a host of local services and facilities, including planning, waste and recycling, roads, social services, adult social care, libraries, parks, leisure, environmental health, council tax, registration, benefits, council housing and town improvements.

This year also marks a significant anniversary in voting history. One hundred years ago, women were given the right to vote for the first time, following sustained suffrage movement campaigning. The Representation of the People Act 1918 enabled all men and some women aged over 30 to vote before women were given full voting rights in 1928.

Make sure to use your vote in May and make it count. For further assistance or information call 01895 250251 or visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/vote.



Oak Wood School opened

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot and Boris Johnson, MP for Uxbridge and South Ruislip officially opened Oak Wood School on Friday 2 February.

The school, formerly Abbotsfield School, has been completely rebuilt and expanded to provide 1,350 secondary school places.

The new building includes state-of-the-art classrooms, modern learning spaces and ICT suites, a large library, purpose built drama and music areas, a four court sports hall, dance studio and external sports courts. There is new furniture and IT equipment throughout.

The co-educational school will offer specialist provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities, and the council has also invested an additional £2.5 million to provide a vocational

training centre on-site.

The school expansion was funded by the council and the government's Priority Schools Programme fund.

Cllr Puddifoot, a former pupil of Abbotsfield School, said:

"It was clear some years ago that the Abbotsfield School building was in need of replacement, and as Leader of the Council I was able to be part of the team that ensured that sufficient funding was made available to completely rebuild the school to a high standard.

"This investment will in part repay the debt that I and generations of local boys owed to Abbotsfield School, but more importantly ensure that many future generations of local boys and girls can benefit from the Oak Wood experience in years to come."



Plan now for your royal wedding street party

Residents wanting to organise a street party to celebrate the royal wedding on Saturday 19 May can now apply to the council for free public liability insurance, road closures, public notices and traffic management services.

Cul-de-sacs, quiet roads that are not 'through roads' and roads not on bus routes are likely to be the

easiest to get permission for but don't despair if you happen to live on a more major road, as the council may still be able to suggest alternative locations, such as nearby parks or open spaces.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, said: "Street parties are a great way to bring local communities together. We offered this service to

residents who wanted to celebrate the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, the Queen's 90th birthday and the Diamond Jubilee. I hope the free service we are offering will encourage everyone who enjoyed them previously to get involved again and that it will also motivate others to join in and celebrate this very special occasion."

Online application forms and guides are available on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/royalwedding. The deadline for applications is Friday 6 April. If you would like to discuss any details before applying, contact Lyn Summers in the project and events team by emailing streetparties@hillingdon.gov.uk or calling 01895 556640.

Fountains introduced to reduce plastic pollution

The council is investing £56,000 in installing 15 drinking fountains at 14 of the borough's parks to help reduce the number of single-use plastic bottles and cups being thrown away.

The bottle filling station will allow people using the parks for recreation to stay hydrated. Each fountain includes a main bottle filler and two mixed-level bubbler taps dispense water to fill bottles or catch in the mouth. One of the taps is at an accessible height for people with disabilities and young people, and the other is at ground level for pets.

All of the water stations are easy to operate with the simple push of a button. A self-closing feature and quick draining basins prevent wasted water and spillages.

Fountains are being installed at: Ruislip Lido (two), Barra Hall Park, Fasnidge Park, Little Harlington Playing Fields,



Bessingby Park, New Pond Playing Fields, Pole Hill Recreation Ground, Churchfield Gardens, Cowley Recreation Ground, Northwood Recreation Ground, Cavendish Park,

Connaught Recreation Ground, Hillingdon Court Park and Swakeleys Park.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot,

said: "We hope that by introducing these new free-to-use water fountains, more residents will be encouraged to use reusable drinks bottles, which will in turn have a positive effect on our natural environment. The water stations will provide those using the park for recreation, such as walkers, joggers, footballers and playground-goers, with an easy way to stay hydrated, with less plastic waste ending up in landfill or polluting waterways."



New audio guide created

A brand new free audio guide for the Manor Farm site will be launched this Easter to improve visitor experience.

Members of the public of all ages are invited to trial the informative guide at a special launch event between 12pm and 4pm on Monday 2 April.

The 40-minute audio tour allows visitors to experience the highlights of Manor Farm, which has been at the heart of Ruislip for more than 1,000 years, and learn about the history of eight of the site's historic locations, including the duck pond, the Norman motte and bailey, the Great Barn, the Little Barn (now Manor Farm Library) and Manor Farm House.

The narrative covers the history and settlement of Manor Farm from Saxon times, with an emphasis on the period under the control of the Norman Abbey of Bec, taking the listener through 10 centuries of settlement to the present day. The tour includes 21 stops and is narrated by different character voices.

The launch afternoon will also offer additional family events, including a treasure hunt, crafts and Morris dancing.

Cllr Richard Lewis, Cabinet Member for Central Services, Culture and Heritage, said: "This new, free and informative audio guide will really bring history alive for visitors and enhance their experience of this unique collection of historic buildings and landscape so close to Ruislip High Street. I'd really encourage residents to go along and try it out."

The free guide and map of the stops is available for visitors to download on their mobile devices on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/mfaudio. Remember to also bring your headphones.



Protecting green belt land

The council's planning enforcement team has taken court action in two cases where green belt land was under threat in Harefield.

Countess Goda Estates Limited was prosecuted after failing to comply with an enforcement notice that required it to remove commercial containers and hardstanding materials from its land at Grove Farm, Rickmansworth Road, Harefield.

Appearing at Uxbridge Magistrates' Court on Wednesday 6 December 2017, the company pleaded guilty to one planning offence and was fined £15,000. It was also ordered to pay £834 costs and a £170 victim surcharge.

In a separate case, heard at the same court on the same day, Sam

Smith was fined £8,000 after pleading guilty to failing to comply with an enforcement notice that required him to remove residential caravans from his land at Barn Farm, off Moorhall Road, Harefield (pictured). He was also ordered to pay £720 costs and a £170 victim surcharge.

In both instances the use of the land was unauthorised and considered harmful to the green belt. **Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot,** said: "These cases demonstrate how fiercely we protect our green belt. The land was being used illegally and inappropriately and we had a duty to step in and protect it. We will continue to take a tough stance against anyone who flouts planning laws."

Baker fined for poor hygiene

A baker from west London has been ordered to pay more than £10,000 after admitting five food hygiene offences.

Santhru Srikandakannanathan, trading as Santhru Bakery, of West End Road, Ruislip was prosecuted by the council after environmental health officers witnessed numerous food safety breaches during routine checks between November 2016 and February 2017.

The premises was poorly maintained and dirty, equipment was badly looked after, and there was inadequate pest-proofing, food safety management, staff supervision and training. There were a variety of other problems, such as dirty tiles, mouldy grouting and a dough machine with greasy parts exposed (pictured).

Despite repeated warnings and advice, progress to improve conditions was unsatisfactory.

Appearing at Uxbridge Magistrates' Court on Monday 4 December 2017, Srikandakannanathan, of Findhorn Avenue, Hayes pleaded guilty to five food hygiene offences and was fined a total of £8,750 (£1,750 per offence). He was also ordered to pay £1,456 in costs and a victim surcharge of £170.

Santhru Bakery voluntarily closed earlier in the year.

Cllr Philip Corthorne, Cabinet Member for Social Services, Housing, Health and Wellbeing, said: "Although the bakery is no longer open, conditions were so poor in the kitchen, and the risk of food contamination so high, that we had a duty to follow the prosecution through. I hope other businesses in a similar position get the message that closing down or selling up won't get them off the hook."



Planting ceremony held for new Gospel Oak tree

A ceremony was held in Ickenham on Tuesday 23 January to celebrate the planting of a new symbolic Gospel Oak tree.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot planted the oak at the junction of Swakeleys Road and Woodstock Drive and was joined by local residents to commemorate this event. St Mary's Church, Harefield reverend, Martin Davies led a prayer for the new tree and the local community.

The Gospel Oak tradition in Britain, which dates back to medieval times, brought local farming communities together once a year under the tree on the boundary of the parish to pray for a good harvest.

Ickenham's original Gospel Oak died in 1995, with acorns gathered from its last living branch unfortunately providing empty shells. The council planted new trees in 2003 and 2004, adopted an existing oak in 2008 as the Gospel Oak, and planted another new tree in 2013 but each of these died.

The council removed all of the debris from the previous tree, which died from honey fungus, including the contaminated soil, and hopes that the new tree will thrive, maintaining Ickenham's Gospel Oak heritage.

Court success for anti-social behaviour team

Our anti-social behaviour investigations team secured two successful prosecutions at Uxbridge Magistrates' Court on Saturday 4 November 2017.

Kevin Small, of Badgers Close, Hayes was fined £1,700 and ordered to pay £900 costs after admitting four offence/s of advertising vehicles for sale in Badgers Close in August. Selling vehicles on a public

highway is prohibited.

Coopers Lettings, of Hillingdon Hill, Uxbridge was fined £1,700 and ordered to pay £471 in costs for displaying a 'for sale' board on railings owned by the council in Clarkes Drive, Hillingdon in August (pictured). The company admitted one breach of advertising regulations.

Cllr Douglas Mills, Cabinet Member for

Community, Commerce and Regeneration,

said: "In both of these cases the council took action following reports from residents.

"If you think someone is unlawfully advertising vehicles for sale or advertising goods or services on the council's land, please report it on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/asb or call 01895 556000."



Brand new workshop for Ruislip Lido Railway Society

The workshop at Ruislip Lido Railway is currently being replaced to enable the Ruislip Lido Railway Society (RLRS) to continue to run and maintain this popular local tourist attraction.

The council is constructing this building, investing £400,000 in demolishing the existing 40-year-old facility on the south-eastern side of the reservoir by the Woody Bay station, which is no longer fit for purpose, and replacing it with a brand new workshop.

The RLRS, a group of volunteers who run the miniature railway, use the building to carry out important maintenance work to its carriages and locomotives.

The new steel frame timber clad building will be slightly larger than the previous workshop, at 35 square meters. It will provide additional storage space and improved work facilities, including two main maintenance tracks with a pit underneath, so the society can inspect the underside of carriages. The new facility, which is due to be completed by

April, will be in keeping with the character and appearance of the existing railway and Lido buildings and surrounding area.

Vice-Chairman, Matthew Byatt, said: "The new building will be a much needed improvement for the railway and the volunteers working within it. We are very grateful for the support given to us by the council and this will set the society up to keep operating the trains for visitors to the Lido for many years to come."

The railway, which is Britain's longest 12 inch gauge railway, provides visitors with a pleasant two-mile round journey along the Lido, weaving its way through the ancient Ruislip Woods. For more information, including timetables and fares visit www.ruislipidorailway.org.

There are also miniature railways at Harlington village and Ickenham, which have a number of public open days between April and December. For more information visit www.harlingtonlocomotive.society.org.uk and www.idsme.co.uk/imr/IMRWelcome.shtml.



BID's five-year plan to invest £2.5 million in Uxbridge

Representatives from 40 businesses gathered in Uxbridge on Friday 19 January for the official launch of the town's new Business Improvement District (BID), which will see the office, retail and leisure sectors working together for the first time to deliver major improvements.

Funded and run by local businesses, with strategic support from the BID Board, which includes representation from the council, the BID plans to invest more than £2.5 million in Uxbridge town centre over the next five years. It has already employed two street rangers to act as on-street liaison officers, and it has aspirations to hold more family-friendly events, create more parking spaces, increase CCTV, provide a new taxi rank and improve cleanliness.

The BID also aims to achieve Purple Flag status - national accreditation that will allow residents and visitors to identify Uxbridge as a town centre that offers an entertaining, diverse, safe and enjoyable night out.

As well as making improvements for residents, visitors and workers, the BID will also operate as a powerful voice for the business community, helping to promote the town, create opportunities and support the local economy.

For more information visit www.loveuxbridge.co.uk.

Apply for an allotment

Residents who want to try their hand at growing fresh produce are being encouraged to apply for an allotment at one of three undersubscribed sites in the borough.

Although many allotment sites are currently full, some plots are still available in Stafford Road, South Ruislip; Grosvenor Avenue, Charville; and Bourne Farm, Pinkwell. The sites were cleared and cultivated last year to increase capacity and reduce waiting lists on popular sites.

Plot holders aged 65 or over are granted free rent and there are concessionary rates for residents who are registered disabled, unemployed or medically retired. Standard rates are very reasonable, with no price increases for 2018/19.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, said: "We remain committed to providing allotments and helping residents reap the many benefits of allotment gardening. As well as creating new plots, we continue to invest in better facilities, such as fencing, car parking and toilets, and we offer lots of useful help and advice for getting started. There's never been a better time to 'grow your own' in Hillingdon."

For more information or to apply, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/allotments.

Library-goers give a hearty welcome to health events

Hillingdon libraries hosted a range of free events and activities throughout February in support of national Heart Month.

The annual initiative, which encourages people to make small, positive changes towards a healthier lifestyle, began with a health fair at Uxbridge Library on Friday 2 February. Around 80 residents visited to receive advice from the local health providers, including Healthwatch Hillingdon, Prostate Awareness, Macular Support, Hillingdon Brain Tumour and Injury, Hillingdon Mind, Parkinson's UK and Dental Health.

A second health fair was also held at Botwell Green Sports and Leisure Centre, Hayes on Saturday 24 February.

Throughout February, residents were encouraged to join in with activities, including walks, chairyoga, cycle rides, Zumba and yoga. 85 residents aged between 17 and 24 and 40 and 74 had a free health check during the first week, and interactive workshops, storytime and games sessions proved popular with children.

Cllr Richard Lewis, Cabinet Member for Central Services,



Culture and Heritage, said: "I'm pleased that Heart Month at our libraries was well received by residents again this year, with so many people participating

in the activities and receiving the information on offer. The initiative is an important reminder that even small changes can have a significant impact on our health."



The council has launched a new Desi dance at Botwell Green Sports and Leisure Centre on the last Wednesday of every month from 12.30pm to 2.30pm.

Desi dances are fun, enthusiastic and involve a mixture of dance styles and musical genres, including Bollywood and Bhangra. The dances are suitable for both beginners and advanced participants.

Davira Namooa, 72, from Hayes, said: "I love music and dancing, so I dragged a friend along to give it a try. We loved it! The music is really lively, it makes you forget your age. It's good physical exercise but also good for your mental health to come along and relax, and the teacher is great."

Regular dancing can help to maintain strong bones, improve posture and muscle strength, combat stress and increase balance and co-ordination. The council offers free monthly tea dances at various locations to all residents aged over 65.

Leader of the Council and Older People's Champion, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, said: "Tea dances are a great way for older residents to keep active and socialise and we are delighted to introduce this new form of Desi dancing in Hayes. Come along to one of our free events across the borough to learn new moves, have fun and meet new people in the community."

For more information and to book visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/dances.

New clubhouse enables bowling fundraising events

Deane Park Bowls Club presented a cheque for more than £1,000 in January to Ruislip-based children's charity ORCHYD following a year of fundraising.

The club raised the money at a range of social functions in 2017, including holidays with Hazells Bowls Club in Aylesbury and events at their new clubhouse in Bessingby Park.

The new clubhouse, which was built by the council and opened in

2015, has enabled the club to hold many more social functions, particularly during the winter months.

Deane Park Bowls Club is proud to support local charity ORCHYD, which is entirely run by volunteers and has been providing day trips and residential holidays for 20 children with disabilities in Ruislip since 1971. For more information visit www.orchyd.org.uk.

If you would like to join the bowls club visit www.deaneparkbowls.org.uk.



PRESENTATION
Corrie Irwin from ORCHYD receives the cheque from Sandra Keighly from the bowls club.



Opportunities to socialise and stay active

There are lots of activities and events in Hillingdon for over-65s, where you can learn something new, have fun, keep fit and make new friends.

Adult learning courses

Sign up to any number of courses, including gardening, floristry and languages, or volunteer at one of the centres to assist in a class or help with administration tasks. There are also specialist courses for over-65s in ICT and yoga. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/adultlearning, pick up a brochure at your local adult learning centre or call 01895 250766.

Bowling greens

There are 13 bowling greens across the borough. Some have short-mat bowls for indoor play during winter, allowing club members to participate all year round. The outdoor lawn bowls season is April to September. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/bowls or call 01895 556000.

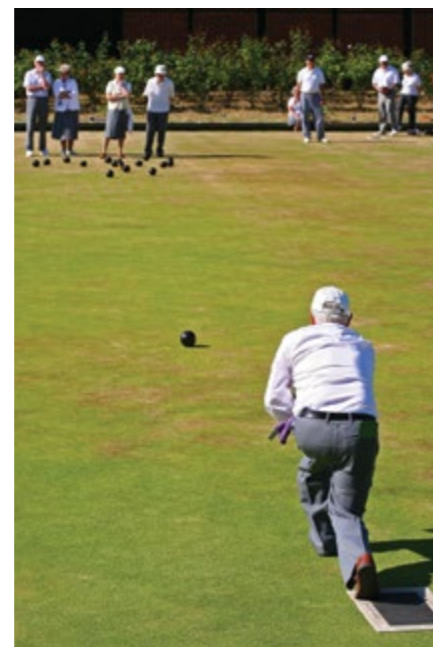
Dining centres

Enjoy a warm welcome and a meal at one of the borough's dining centres, including Elm Park Club (Ruislip Manor), Dovetail Community Centre (Hillingdon) and Bell Farm Christian Centre (West Drayton).

Plus, socialise with others and enjoy after-lunch activities. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/diningcentres or call 01895 556633.

Led healthy walks

Walking is a simple way to help stay healthy – whether it's part of your



daily routine or a way to explore. Hillingdon offers various free led walks, which take place throughout the week across the borough. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/ledwalks, pick up an *Explore Hillingdon* booklet at your local library or call 01895 277151.

Library activities

Across the borough's 17 libraries, take part in any number of activities and events, including chairrobics, coffee mornings, reading groups, adult colouring, and knitting and crochet. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraryevents or call 01895 250714.

Mobile library

If you're unable to get to your local library, you can still borrow a range of books in standard print, large print, and on CD from the council's mobile library, which has a lift for disabled people and the elderly to access the vehicle and stops at 23 roadside sites every week, as well as day centres and residential and sheltered homes. There is also a home library service,



where library staff call every four weeks and provide housebound residents with a wide range of library materials free of charge. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/mobilelibrary or call 01895 556446.

MOVES fitness programme

Choose from a variety of MOVES activities, including Zumba gold, Pilates, seated exercise and gentle aerobics, to suit your age and ability. Sessions cost £1 per person and take place at various locations, including Manor Farm Library, Yiewsley and West Drayton Community Centre, Harefield Library and Oak Farm Library. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/moves or call 01895 556633.

Dancing

Keep fit, socialise and have fun at one of Hillingdon's regular dances for older people. Tea dances take place at the Civic Centre (Uxbridge) and Winston Churchill Theatre (Ruislip), as well as Yiewsley and West Drayton Community Centre, which also holds line dances. Desi dances, which focus on Bollywood and Bhangra themed musical styles, are held on the last Wednesday of every month at Botwell Sports and Leisure Complex (Hayes). Book using your Hillingdon *First* card on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/dances or call 01895 556688.



Volunteering projects

If you'd like to combine meeting new people with helping your community, there are lots of volunteering opportunities, including projects to make our parks and green spaces greener, cleaner and safer (see page 24 for more details) and joining a resident association or community group to discuss local issues and organise local activities and events. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/volunteering.



Call in Time

Age UK offers a free weekly friendship call, where they match you with one of their volunteers who shares similar interests and hobbies. To protect everyone's safety, no personal telephone numbers are exchanged. Sign up by calling 0800 434 6105.



Leader of the Council and Older People's Champion, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, said:

"The council is committed to helping older residents to keep fit and healthy and stay safe. I would encourage everyone to share these details of activities and events for over-65s with family, friends and neighbours."



For more information about activities and services, plus support offered by Age UK Hillingdon and police advice about avoiding scams, pick up a free guide for over-65s at your local library, leisure centre, adult learning centre or the Civic Centre. All of the information provided in the booklet is also on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/over65s

Improving your roads



Each year the council's budget prioritises the maintenance of Hillingdon's roads to protect residents' safety and keep the transport network moving.

RESURFACING
Uxbridge Road, Hayes

Whilst many local authorities are reducing funding for their road resurfacing programmes, in 2017/18 Hillingdon invested more than £10 million in resurfacing roads and footpaths.

Roads across Hillingdon have benefitted, with 96 in total being resurfaced. Uxbridge South topped the list with 12 roads, followed by Brunel, Northwood and South Ruislip with eight.

Road resurfacing is of vital importance to residents and the council. It not only prevents accidents and ensures residents' safety but also improves the overall appearance of a road or street and extends their lifespan.

The council will continue its extensive road resurfacing programme and key areas, where repairs are necessary, have been identified for the next financial year.

Cllr Keith Burrows, Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling

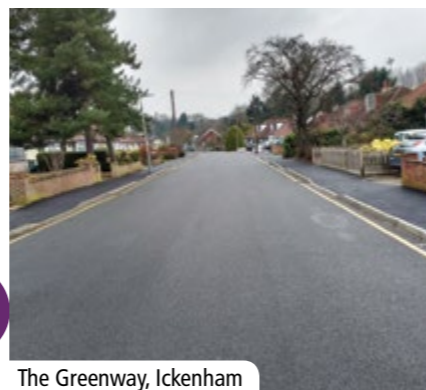
said: "Investing in Hillingdon's roads is a priority for the council. The council's resurfacing programme considers all roads and focuses on getting the best long-term value for money instead of carrying out short-term measures.

"Programmes are not simply prioritised based on what appears to be most pressing, instead we choose a package of works, within the available budget, to give us the best long-term results for the network."

For more information about our roads and how to report issues visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/roads



Snowdon Avenue, Hillingdon



The Greenway, Ickenham

Delivering the services you value

The council approved its budget for 2018/19 at its meeting on Thursday 22 February, confirming a council tax freeze for all residents for a 10th successive year.

Council tax will also be frozen for a 12th successive year for over-65s, and the council has, for the third year running, declined to raise tax through the social care precept.

The tax freeze was achieved whilst maintaining frontline services, including free weekly waste and recycling collections, free burglar alarms, allotments and swimming for over-65s, £1 million annual funding for local communities through the Chrysalis programme, providing additional school places, as well as delivering a comprehensive library service.

Parking charges will remain frozen and the council has continued its policy of benchmarking its fees and charges against those of neighbouring authorities and other service providers, with charges being set at a maximum of 90 per cent of what those authorities are charging.

The budget included:

- further investment in expanding primary and secondary schools to meet the needs of a growing population and provide additional places, with the programme of investment now totalling £260 million
- £30 million funding for a new swimming pool in the Yiewsley/West Drayton area
- £1 million for local communities through the Chrysalis fund
- additional investment in local highways, totalling £3 million for 2018/19
- continued funding for the council's bowls club refurbishment programme
- continued investment in replacing children's playgrounds
- £5 million for boroughwide library and leisure centre refurbishment programmes
- re-provision of Hillingdon Outdoor Activity Centre using £26.5 million funding secured from HS2 Ltd
- £576,000 each year for a new waste and recycling centre in the south of the borough
- the introduction of a free bulky item collection service available to all residents
- £3 million grant programme to support independent youth and uniformed groups (Scouts, Guides and Cadets)
- £320,000 funding to provide bursaries to support local young people with the cost of university fees
- £200,000 to finance new recycling initiatives, including reducing the use of plastic bottles and cups

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, said: "Although the council, like other local authorities, has once again received a cut in funding from central government, which makes for continued financially challenging times, it is very much business as usual in Hillingdon. As a result of our sound financial management and good business practice, we have managed to provide you with a 10th consecutive council tax freeze, deliver the services you value and improve or create new facilities."

For details on council tax and how to pay visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/counciltax



NEW EXHIBITION AND VISITOR CENTRE TO OPEN THIS EASTER

The new Battle of Britain Bunker Exhibition and Visitor Centre in Uxbridge is set to open its doors to the public on Friday 30 March (Good Friday).

Hillingdon Council acquired the historic site from the Ministry of Defence in 2016, making a commitment to maintain the national asset for future generations. The council has invested £6 million towards preserving the site and building the new museum.

The new visitor attraction on Wren Avenue will be officially opened on Friday 16 March by Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, alongside Boris Johnson MP for Uxbridge and South Ruislip and the Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr Carol Melvin.

An interactive exhibition for all ages



The interactive displays at the state-of-the-art visitor centre trace the development of the UK's innovative air defence system - considered revolutionary technology when it was invented 100 years ago - through to its finest hour during the Battle of Britain.

The story of the people behind the innovation is also told for the first time. The exhibition retells the story of the Battle of Britain Bunker and its vital role in directing RAF operations during World War Two when Fighter Command No.11 Group were headquartered at RAF Uxbridge and responsible for the air



defence of London and south-east England. For most of World War Two, 85 per cent of the operations room staff were from the Women's Auxiliary Air Force. They manned the plotting table, the switchboards and the map-tracing section.

Entering the new building from the east, visitors proceed down a funnelled corridor, walking alongside projected wartime footage and replicas of a Spitfire and Hurricane as if flying into combat. Historic artefacts are on display, including relics from Battle of Britain aircraft, plotting equipment from the underground bunker and personal effects of those who served. First-hand recollections from Battle of Britain pilots, plotters and controllers will help visitors to understand what it was really like to plan, co-ordinate and fight the world's first entirely aerial battle.

Audio-visual interactive displays, hands-on games, photographs and design combine to bring the story alive. Reconstructions of the Battle of Britain Bunker's corridors



and plotting rooms also recreate the enclosed feeling of the secret underground facility and the urgency of the work conducted there for those physically unable to descend the steps into the real bunker.

Visitors can also book onto guided tours to go underground into the bunker itself, which still retains many of its original features, including the original map on the operations room table and the viewing platform for the formal visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II in 1941.

Catherine Rockhold, Battle of Britain Bunker Exhibition and Visitor Centre Education Officer,

BUNKER AND VISITOR CENTRE FACTS...

The bunker was constructed between February and August

1939

Official code name for the bunker. **BBlock**

The bunker is 18 metres deep.

There are 76 steps from the top of the bunker to the bottom.

Two bomb blast doors 13 mm thick protect the bunker's entrances.

1.2 metres - thickness of the bunker's concrete walls.

The bunker contains 1,195 metres of cable. (THE SAME LENGTH AS 261 LONDON BUSES)

444 square metres size of the bunker (not including the stairs)

The iconic words "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed, by so many to so few..." were first uttered by Prime Minister Winston Churchill on 16 August 1940 when he emerged from observing the defence of the skies at the Battle of Britain Bunker.

Name given to the bunker by its staff. **'THE HOLE'**

will launch an extensive education programme, offering new school sessions and family activities.

In the opening months, students can learn about the Dowding System by working together in groups to solve problems and make decisions. Schools can book their free sessions (running Monday to Wednesday during term time) by emailing bunker@hillingdon.gov.uk.

There will also be a programme of free fun family events during the weekends and school holidays, so keep an eye on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/bunker for details.



Cllr Puddifoot, said: "The council is extremely proud of its close links with the RAF and to own the bunker, which played a crucial role in the defence of the United Kingdom. We wanted to ensure this national heritage site remains open and is visited for generations to come. I would encourage residents and visitors to come along and visit both the bunker and the new exhibition."



VISITOR INFORMATION

Open seven days a week, 10am to 4.30pm (last admission 3.30pm)
 Closed Christmas and Boxing Day and New Year's Day
 Bunker tours held at 10.15am, 11.30am, 12.45pm, 2pm, 3.15pm

Admission prices for the exhibition and visitor centre
 Under 16/UK serving and ex-military personnel/HillingdonFirst cardholders: FREE
 Adults: £4
 65+: £3

Guided tour of underground bunker (additional cost, bookable on-site)
 Under 16/UK serving and ex-military personnel/HillingdonFirst cardholders: FREE
 Adults: £3
 65+: £2

Have your say on how Heathrow expansion could affect you



There's still time to make your voice heard and respond to Heathrow Airport's consultation about possible expansion.

At the beginning of the year, Heathrow delivered more than two million leaflets to households in areas likely to be affected by expansion, including Hillingdon. The leaflets included information about their 10-week planning consultation, encouraging people to provide feedback on their proposals.

The consultation on www.heathrowconsultation.com is set to close on Wednesday 28 March

Jumping the gun

What the leaflet forgets to say is that expansion at Heathrow is not yet a done deal, far from it. The council believes that the airport's consultation is premature.

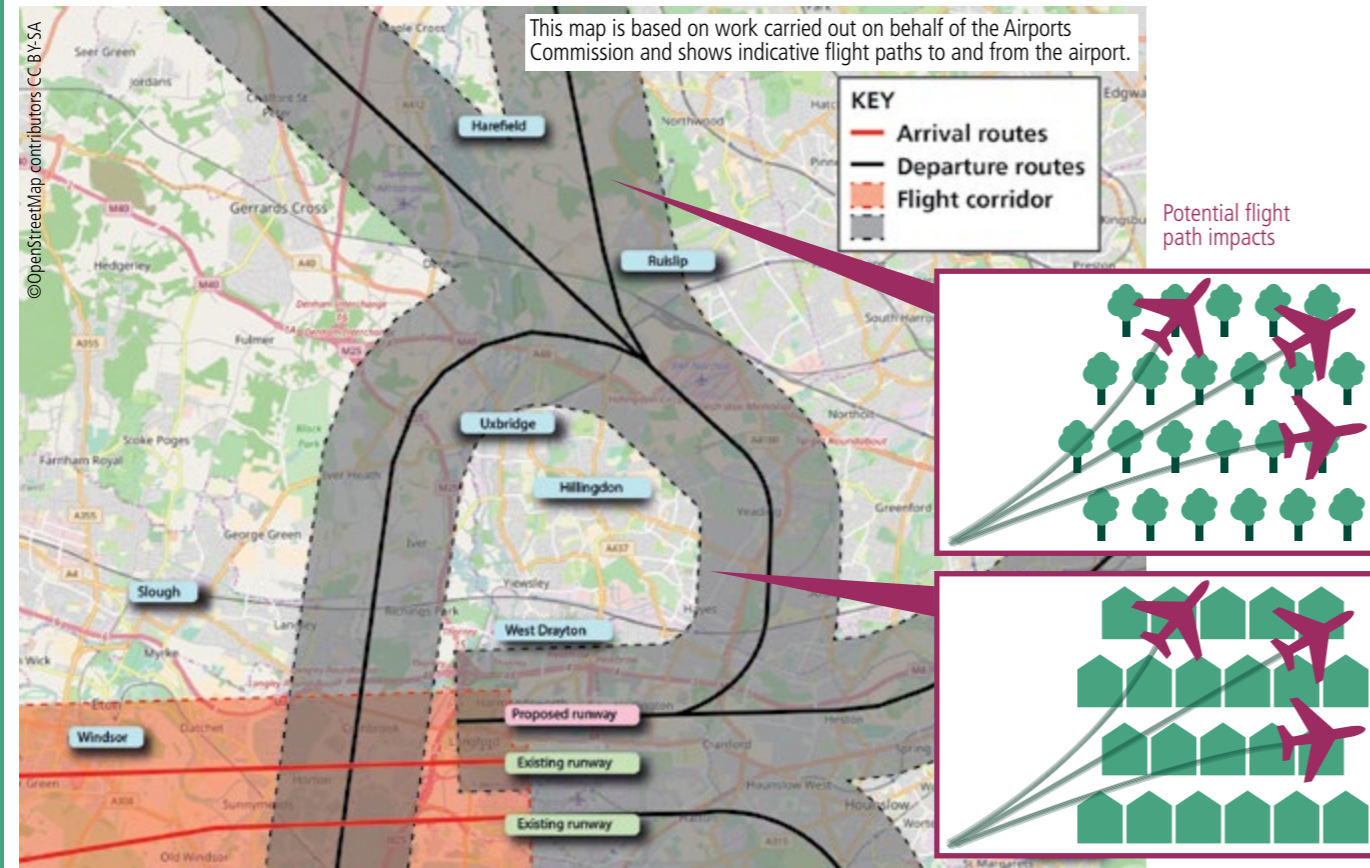
This Heathrow-led consultation is separate from the government's ongoing consideration of an Airports National Policy Statement (NPS), which includes the proposal for a

north-west runway at Heathrow. The government has yet to fully consider all of the responses submitted to their two recent consultations on this issue. In addition, the NPS process requires a parliamentary scrutiny process and this is still being undertaken by the Transport Select Committee, with their final report not expected until mid-March.

The council has submitted written responses and evidence, outlining its concerns, to all stages of the relevant government process. The Secretary of State has announced his intentions of submitting the Airports Policy Statement to a vote before parliament and it is only then, if it is in favour, that it will be formally adopted. This means that the Heathrow consultation is being undertaken without any formal government policy support and their leaflets fail to mention this important detail.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, said: "I would encourage residents to respond to this consultation to highlight its lack of detail and the damaging consequences expansion will have on Hillingdon. Residents lives will be blighted and the lack of information in key areas means that they don't know how they will be affected or be able to respond fully."

"In terms of noise alone, there are no actual flight paths and residents are being asked to choose between noise for lots of people for much of the time, noise for even more people a little less often or noise across our relatively quiet green spaces. Others are being asked what relief they would like from noise without having experienced this noise before. All of this further underlines that Heathrow is in the wrong place for expansion."



What is Heathrow consulting on and why you should respond

What is most evident from the Heathrow consultation is just how much more of a detrimental impact expansion would have across Hillingdon. None of these additional impacts have been properly assessed. This includes the impact of construction, such as where materials are stored and where workers live.

Confusingly, there are two separate consultation components. The first is on the options of the expansion proposal, in terms of physical changes on the ground. The second is asking for views on the principles Heathrow should apply when designing the airspace required for future airport operations, including an expanded airport.

Neither of these include any detail on actual flight paths. Flight paths will not be known for a number of years. The council believes that the lack of flight path information renders this consultation process meaningless.

Consultation on options for the expansion proposal Compensation

There is information on property compensation, although there is no evidence presented as to whether the amount offered will compensate for the loss of homes and the break-up of established communities. There is no detail on compensation for communities who will find themselves overflowed for the first time, be impacted by new road layouts, or have their communities impacted by the introduction of airport-related development, such as warehouses, hotels and car parks associated with the operation of an expanded airport.

Runway location

Despite the government stating that a minimum 3,500 metre-length runway is needed, the consultation is asking for comments on the implementation of a shorter 3,200 metre runway and where it should be located. What doesn't change with the options for a shorter runway is that they both impact on our communities. The shorter runway options being considered are:

- the runway is 3,200 metres, eastern and starts closer to Sipson meaning that properties in the

- village would be affected.
- the runway is 3,200 metres but starts further from Sipson in the east, so properties there would not be affected. However, more properties in Harmondsworth would be affected.

Additional land required outside of the airport boundary

The extent of additional land required goes far beyond the outline of the new airport boundary. This means communities may find themselves living next door to facilities like:

- warehouses and industrial buildings
- cargo and maintenance works
- offices and hotels
- new car parks on green belt land, potentially each holding 20,000 spaces
- the relocated Immigration Removal Centre
- a waste water treatment plant
- construction sites
- relocated roads, including the M25 and A4

Noise

The consultation refers to the importance of the provision of respite measures (periods of relief from aircraft noise) but fails to mention that expansion will actually cut the length of the half-day eight-hour respite periods experienced by those impacted by the current airport operation by half.

It also refers to the noise insulation package as 'world-class' but with no evidence to show that what is offered will be effective in terms of protecting against the health impacts caused by exposure to aircraft noise, especially when this occurs over communities not previously overflowed.

A promise of a night ban, which only extends to 5.30am is not a night ban and there is no flight path information for communities to understand how they will be impacted, whether

they will be newly overflowed, for how long they will be overflowed each day or by how many aircraft.

Transport

Promises are made on the provision of new rail lines, upgraded tube services and a more reliable surrounding road network in terms of congestion, yet there are no details as to what will actually be provided, the timescales it will be provided in, who will pay for it, and importantly, whether it will be sufficient in avoiding the local road gridlock and overcrowded transport that expansion will bring.

Airport access charge

Comments are requested on the use of road charges to manage vehicle access to the airport but there are no details on how much it will need to be set at to ensure it is effective, who will have to pay, how wide the area will need to be, who will enforce it and whether this will be effective in reducing traffic to ensure there is no further air quality deterioration.

Air quality

There is no evidence provided to demonstrate that there will be measures in place to ensure that illegal levels of pollution are reduced and air quality legal obligations will be met and maintained. Heathrow has said that the runway would not be used until these obligations have been met, however there is no information on how this will be done, therefore the runway could sit unused.

Consultation on the options for flight path principles

Heathrow is responsible for developing proposals for any changes to flight paths into and out of the airport. The principles included in this consultation include, whether flight paths should be concentrated over one distinct route, or dispersed, directed over parks and open spaces or over residential areas, or whether it is better to design flight paths to minimise noise or to save fuel.

The map on the left indicates some of the flight path impacts on Hillingdon residents that could occur as a result of some of the options being consulted upon.



New recreational facilities

Parks and green spaces across the borough are benefitting from continued council investment in leisure facilities, with a range of new and refurbished playgrounds, outdoor gyms, skate parks and other recreational amenities due to open this spring.

More than £1 million of improvements are being made in 19 sites across Hillingdon thanks to council funding, including the Chrysalis scheme. The council is committed to improving council-owned community facilities through the scheme, which encourages residents to submit proposals for enhancement works.

Playgrounds

Brookside Playing Fields, Hayes

OPENED

The playground at Brookside Playing Fields was refurbished through the Chrysalis scheme. Local residents applied for funding to install new equipment, including the borough's first double zip wire. Existing play equipment was also improved.

Abbotts Close, Cowley

The council has renovated this playground. New play facilities include swings, multi-play units with a slide, springers and play panels.

Carlyon Road, Yeading

Residents submitted an application for Chrysalis funding for a playground refurbishment. Following a consultation, the council provided more adventurous equipment for both younger and older children with new facilities including swings, a roundabout and play towers with climbing nets and slide.

Stonefield Park, South Ruislip

Two residents submitted separate applications for Chrysalis funding, asking the council to provide new play equipment for children up to the age of 12, plus additional seating. New play facilities include, swings, multi-play units with a slide and climbing wall, play panels, a roundabout

and seesaw. Safe surfacing and linked paths mean the playground can be used all year round.

Mount Pleasant, Harefield

Mount Pleasant playground was refurbished as the equipment on-site was old. The council retained some of the existing equipment but added a new multi-play unit with climbing areas and slides, new swings and fencing around the playground. New surfacing and pathways make the area more accessible.

Ash Grove, Harefield

ON THE WAY

The council is renovating Ash Grove Community Playground, Harefield. A new zip wire and ball court will be installed alongside the existing slides and climbing ropes.

Manor Way Recreation Ground, Uxbridge

The council received an application for Chrysalis funding from local parents to refurbish this playground. The application said: "The park is a very well used public area, but the playground is becoming run-down and does not reflect the quality of the rest of the park or surrounding area." New play equipment includes a zip wire, swings, roundabout, play towers with climbing nets and a slide.

Chestnut Avenue, Yiewsley

A Chrysalis application was submitted on behalf of local residents to refurbish the playground. Swings, a roundabout and play towers with a slide and seesaw will be installed.

Austins Lane, Ickenham

Six local residents submitted separate applications for Chrysalis funding to provide new wooden play equipment for children up to the

age of 12. The new play equipment will include swings, multi-play units with a slide and climbing wall, play panels, a roundabout and seesaw.

Outdoor gyms

Cowley Recreation Ground, Cowley

ON THE WAY

The addition of an outdoor gym was suggested by two local residents through the Chrysalis programme. They said: "Cowley Recreation Ground is popular ... It is always well maintained and all residents enjoy it as it brings our community together, but it lacks an outdoor gym." The council is installing a space walker, rowing machine and bike, which will provide residents of all ages with a free cardiovascular workout.

Swakeleys Park, Ickenham

A new outdoor gym at Swakeleys Park was suggested by a local resident following the installation of a new playground last year. The Chrysalis application said: "The adults are now feeling left out since the refurbished playground was completed." The council is installing a space walker, rowing machine and bike at the park.

Warren Park, Yeading

Warren Park Residents Association applied for Chrysalis funding for an outdoor gym. They said: "We have had a number of requests from adults and older residents for an outside gym facility to maintain and improve health." Gym equipment includes a space walker, rowing machine and bike.

Skate parks

Field End Recreation Ground, South Ruislip

ON THE WAY

A new skate park is under construction at Field End Recreation Ground, following a request from a local skate group. The concrete skate park will offer various circuits, ramps and jumps at different levels.

Fassnidge Park, Uxbridge

The skate park at Fassnidge Park is being refurbished through the Chrysalis programme, following a request from regular users. The application said: "The design and layout of additional ramps could really improve the facilities to a good standard, as the existing ramps are quickly deteriorating."

Other facilities

Ruislip Lido pirate ship

OPENED

The play area at Ruislip Lido has been extended with the addition of an 18 metre-long wooden children's pirate ship. The ship has climbing rails, play nets, balancing and agility areas, a climbing wall and slides to provide fun and imaginative play. The ship was opened with a treasure hunt on Saturday 10 March.

Dowding Park, Uxbridge

A new 40 acre park, set in the heart of the St Andrew's development at the former RAF Uxbridge site, will be opened on Saturday 17 March following its formal handover to the council from the developer. The park is named after Sir Hugh Dowding, the RAF commanding officer during the Battle of Britain. There is a play area for children on the western edge and in 2012, the council planted a Jubilee Wood (a copse of 100 specimen trees) assisted by schoolchildren from across the borough.

Coming soon

The council will also be refurbishing three large playgrounds later this year at Cranford Park, Minet Country Park and Lake Farm Country Park.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, said:

"We have so many wonderful parks and recreational facilities in Hillingdon, and we're committed to continuing to update and improve these for residents to enjoy. We welcome Chrysalis applications for projects that will enhance our community and improve the quality of life for everyone in the borough."

For more information about the Chrysalis programme or to make a suggestion visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/chrysalis or call 01895 277309. To find out more about your local park or open space and what's on offer there visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/greenspaces



BROOKSIDE PLAYING FIELDS



MANOR WAY RECREATION GROUND



ASH GROVE



CARLYON ROAD

CHESTNUT AVENUE



AUSTINS LANE



COWLEY REC

MOUNT PLEASANT



ABBOTTS CLOSE



RUISLIP LIDO PIRATE SHIP



SWAKELEYS PARK

WARREN PARK



STONEFIELD PARK



Big events of 2018

Throughout the year, the council organises a range of public events across the borough for residents of all ages to enjoy and there's something for everyone. Here's a preview of what's coming up...

YA Shot

Saturday 14 April, 10am to 7pm
Civic Centre, Uxbridge Library and Waterstones, Uxbridge

A one-day festival to promote a love of reading, careers in the arts and inspire a passion for creative writing. Enjoy panels, in-conversation events, workshops and signings, featuring 50 of the UK's top children's and young adult authors. Adult tickets cost £20 (concessions £15). Find out more and book tickets at www.yashot.co.uk.

Royal wedding street parties

Saturday 19 May

Across the borough

Residents are invited to organise street parties to celebrate the royal wedding. Apply to the council for free public liability insurance, road closures, public notices and traffic management services. Application forms and guides are available on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/royalwedding. The deadline for applications is Friday 6 April. See page 5 for more details.

Carers' Fair

Tuesday 12 June, 9am to 5pm
Pavilions Shopping Centre, Chequers Square, Uxbridge, UB8 1LN

A number of organisations and local services will be on hand to offer information, advice and support for unpaid carers in Hillingdon. Whether you care for a friend, family or neighbour (or know someone who does), come along and find out about the help that's available. Open to residents of all ages. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/carers.

RAF 100 parade

Thursday 14 June, 10.30am
Uxbridge town centre

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Royal Air Force, RAF Northolt will exercise their Freedom of the Borough. The parade will travel through Uxbridge town centre to the Civic Centre to be received and inspected by the Mayor of Hillingdon. This will be an opportunity for residents to show support and reflect on the history and achievements of the RAF.

Hayes Carnival Family Fun Day

Saturday 7 July, 11am to 4pm
Barra Hall Park, Freemans Lane, Hayes, UB3 2NH

This new event promises a day full of free family activities, including children's play, sports, music and entertainment. There will also be a cycle zone, a visit from the summer lion and a variety of community stalls. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/hayesfunday.

Family Fishing Fun Days

Sunday 29 July, 9.30am to 3.30pm
Sunday 12 August, 9.30am to 3.30pm
Little Britain Lake, Packet Boat Lane, Cowley, UB8 2JR

For the 10th year running, our Family Fishing Fun Days return with more enjoyable fishing activities, bird box making and face painting. Introduction to angling sessions will run every hour from 9.30am to 2.30pm. Registration will be open on the day only, with places offered on a first come, first served basis. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/fishing.

Summer Reading Challenge Hillingdon libraries

July and August
During the school holidays, let's encourage children to keep reading through the national Summer Reading Challenge. The theme is Mischief Makers – inspired by the much-loved iconic children's title Beano, which celebrates its 80th anniversary this year. Four to 11-year-olds will be invited to borrow books and pick up rewards for reading at all of our 17 libraries. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/summerreading.

Art in the Park

Various dates throughout the summer at various locations
Get creative with free painting and drawing taster sessions in some of Hillingdon's parks and open spaces. All equipment and tutor advice included free of charge. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/artinthepark.

Autumn Show

15 September, 1.30pm to 4pm
Great Barn, Manor Farm, Bury Street, Ruislip, HA4 7SU

This year's Autumn Show boasts more than 40 categories for adults and children, such as fruit and vegetables, children's photography and home produce (including baked items). Show off your homegrown produce or take a peek at what others have been growing and making. Plus, the winners of this year's Hillingdon in Bloom competition will also be announced. Find out more and apply online from Tuesday 20 March at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/autumnshow. The deadline for Autumn Show entries is Friday 7 September.

Living History Weekend

Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 September

Various locations in Hillingdon
As part of this year's Heritage Open Days, Hillingdon will be celebrating and showcasing its heritage with exclusive and free behind-the-scenes access to some of the borough's historic sites. Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/history.

Culture Bite

September and October
Various locations across the borough

Our popular festival of literature, arts and culture returns for its fourth year. There will be a host of events, including crafts, poetry, drama, writing and talks with bestselling authors. Visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/culturebite for more details.

End of World War One 100 year anniversary

Sunday 11 November

Maroons will be fired at 11 sites across the borough at 11am on Remembrance Sunday to acknowledge the national two minute silence for Armistice Day. There will also be events organised to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One.

For more events in Hillingdon throughout the year, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/whatson



Helping you to manage your waste and recycling

The council offers a range of easy to use, free and weekly waste and recycling collections, with improvements and additional services being introduced this year to make these tasks even simpler.



Free bulky waste collection service launched
 A free bulky waste collection service is now available for all residents to use. The new service will give you the opportunity to dispose of unused or unwanted large household items, including fridges, freezers, sofas, chairs, wardrobes, washing machines and mattresses. All you need to do is visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/specialcollections and the council will provide you with a collection date. If you require collection prior to the supplied date, there will be a charge at our current rate. If you do not have internet access call 01895 556000. Remember if you're purchasing a new large item to ask a store if they offer a 'take back scheme' as often companies take old items away free of charge at the same time as delivery.

Fly-tipping crackdown
 The council is continuing to take firm action where waste has been illegally dumped within the borough. With fly-tipping increasing nationally, blighting open spaces, the street scene and people's lives, the council takes action in reported cases to identify those responsible and prosecute them. Council prosecutions have increased, with 281 fines issued since November. We are also introducing stickers to place on fly-tipped bags or items to inform you that we already know about the incident, so you know that you do not need to contact us to report it and can be reassured that the council is already taking action.



To report fly-tipping that doesn't have a sticker visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/asb

Help to maintain our high recycling rates
 Hillingdon is proud to be one of the top performing boroughs for recycling in London and we would like to thank you for all of your hard work as we continue to improve on these high rates. In November last year, thanks to your concerted efforts, the council saw an increase in recycling (dry, textiles, garden and food) of 300 tonnes, with a decrease of 200 tonnes of general waste being sent to landfill. The council is now putting stickers on clear dry recycling bags, where residents have included items that cannot be recycled, in a bid to further reduce contamination. The stickers say that recycling crews have been unable to take the clear bag and provide the explanation that this was because non-recyclables have been included. The labels advise residents to take out the non-recyclables and put the bag out for collection the following week. We want to make sure that your efforts don't go to waste and ensure that the correct items are being recycled. Take care when putting items into the clear plastic bag and remember to look at the handy list on your clear bag to remind yourself of what you can and can't recycle.



For a full list of what you can recycle and further information on recycling in Hillingdon visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/rubbishandrecycling

Cllr Keith Burrows, Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling, said: "Our special household collection service, which offers free collections for over-65s, has proved extremely popular, seeing a 63 per cent increase in demand in the last four years. The council decided to build on this success by making a new free bulky waste collection service available to all residents and we hope that this expanded service will help you to correctly, efficiently and easily dispose of any unwanted items. "Our new informative stickers will also help the council to work with residents to tackle both recycling contamination and fly-tipping to give you an environment you can feel proud of."

Secondary school expansion programme continues

The council's secondary school expansion programme is set to progress this year, following the approval of plans to increase the number of places at two Hillingdon schools.



Vyners School
 The school will be expanded to offer 300 additional places, taking the number of pupils from 1,151 to 1,451. The existing sports hall will be extended to create a new two-storey teaching block of 12 classrooms, dining room, library and special educational needs suite, replacement sports hall storage and administration facilities. A new main school entrance will also be created. Outside, the existing parking on-site will be reconfigured and the one-way entrance/exit route will be reversed to allow vehicles and visitors to access the site along the tree lined approach off Warren Road. Additional cycling spaces will also be installed. The extension means that the existing multi-use games area needs to be replaced and an all weather pitch will be constructed on a section of the school playing field. Work started in February and the new building is expected to be fully completed for the start of the new academic year in September 2019.



Ruislip High School
 A three-storey extension to the school will provide a new main school hall, sixth form centre, eight classrooms, media room, art studio with outside decking and facilities for pupils with physical disabilities. Solar panels will be installed on the roof. The existing changing rooms will be extended to include new shower facilities. A covered external recreation courtyard area will also be created, which will include new trees and seating. The existing school building will be remodelled to provide a new activity studio and science laboratory. New cycling spaces will also be installed. The expansion will create 174 additional places and allow pupils to move around more easily within the school. Work will start on this site in June and is also expected to be fully completed by September 2019.



Cllr David Simmonds, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services, said: "Following our extensive primary school expansion programme, the council also recognises the need to ensure every child is offered a secondary school place as close to their home as possible. Our secondary school expansion programme will continue to create new places and high quality facilities so our young people can receive the best education."

Partnership restoration project to revitalise Yeading Brook

The council and London Wildlife Trust have been working in partnership to revive Yeading Brook at Stafford Road Open Space, South Ruislip to its former glory and improve the area for wildlife and local people.

The £47,000 project, funded by the council and the Environment Agency, will have a significant positive impact on the river, which is home to a large variety of plants, insects and fish. This is the last phase of London Wildlife Trust's wider three-year project to improve the whole of Yeading Brook, which includes Brookside Open Space, Yeading Brook Meadows and Gutteridge Wood.

As part of the programme of works, London Wildlife Trust identified that modifications were needed to change the shape of the river in order to create better habitats for wildlife. Before the work began, Yeading Brook's straight form meant that when there was intense rainfall it would be prone to short-duration flooding, and vegetation, fish and other aquatic wildlife would be swept further down the channel without areas of sanctuary.

In January and February, contractors Aquamaintain Ltd restored the river's former meanders (bends) and created two backwaters (parts of a river where there is little or no current) to provide still water areas where wildlife can shelter from pollution and young fish can thrive in the warmer months. The backwaters will also increase the capacity of the river, meaning that it is less likely to flood during times of heavy rainfall.

In March, local volunteers from the council's Woodlarks and Waders group and London Wildlife Trust will cut back overgrown woodland and vegetation, which will open up the views of the river and let more light into the area. New water plants, such as purple loosestrife and marsh marigolds, will then be planted along the brook to enhance the area's wildlife and reconnect the river with the green space it flows through.



HARD AT WORK
Contractors restoring the river's former meanders

Volunteer to help with future projects

From vegetation clearance and litter picking to pond clearing and tree planting, the council, local organisations and community groups hold practical volunteering sessions throughout the year and work together to improve our parks and green spaces.

By volunteering, you'll get the chance to put your skills and strengths to good use, broaden your knowledge, learn new skills and make friends.

Everyone wanting to help out is welcome and no experience is needed. So if you have the time and are willing to volunteer, get in touch and roll up your sleeves!

Cllr Jonathan Bianco, Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Business Services, said:

"The council is pleased to be able to work in partnership with local organisations and volunteers to bring lost sections of river back to life. As we have seen from similar projects, such as Long Meadow in Eastcote, this work can have such a positive impact on Hillingdon's green spaces, allowing wildlife to flourish and residents and visitors to enjoy the natural environment."

Find out more online at www.wildlondon.org.uk/crane-valley-projects, www.hillingdon.gov.uk/greenvolunteer or pick up the *Green spaces events and activities* booklet, which is available in Hillingdon libraries

A town centre to be proud of

Work is drawing to an end on a £6 million regeneration project to revitalise Hayes town centre and boost the local economy.

The scheme, which is the largest of its kind ever undertaken by the council, has brought major upgrades to roads and shopping areas.

Station Road, Coldharbour Lane and Crown Close have seen the biggest overhaul, with improvements to the road layout, as well as new pavements and new street lighting. Station Road, one of the town's main routes, now has two-way traffic, a new roundabout configuration and safer pedestrian crossings at the junction with Botwell Lane. As well as easing traffic flow and making the area more accessible, the changes have allowed buses to go through Station Road directly. This means the town centre is now served by nine bus routes, all stopping directly near the shops and services.

Other improvements to the road network include dedicated cycle lanes, countdown timers on pedestrian crossings, new bus stops and better signage.

Safety has also been bolstered, with an extensive upgrade of the CCTV system and the installation of more than 200 new LED street lights, which make the area feel brighter and more inviting at night.

The council has also installed new single seat street chairs with armrests, which are designed to be more user-friendly for older residents and deter rough sleeping.

Much of the area has been repaved and re-landscaped, with more than 60 new trees that not only make the area look better, but help clean the air and make the town centre a healthier place to be in.

The council has also replaced the old bandstand with a gold disc-shaped canopy that acts as a recreational area.



With its modern seating and uplighting, the canopy provides residents and visitors with an ideal space to relax and socialise. Its decorative design also pays fitting tribute to Hayes' rich musical heritage as the former home of EMI's vinyl record plant, making it a landmark feature for current and future generations to be proud of.

Still to come

A further £3 million is being invested in the vicinity of Hayes and Harlington Station to prepare it for the arrival of the full Elizabeth line (Crossrail) services in December 2019. As well as receiving new lighting, signage and street furniture, improvements will be made to pedestrian and transport access, and the subway that connects the station to Blyth Road will be renovated.

Design work has also begun on a new boardwalk extension to Botwell Bridge, which aims to create an attractive walkway and cycle lane with open views of the Grand Union Canal to the east. The bridge has already benefitted from a jet wash, and the EMI heritage railings outside the station were refurbished in 2016.

The project was launched in February 2015 and funded by the council and Transport for London.

Cllr Douglas Mills, Cabinet Member for Community, Commerce and Regeneration, said:

"Hayes is by far the single largest regeneration project we have ever undertaken and we're delighted with the results. The town centre is now a much more useful, attractive and contemporary environment for everyone. I know the shopkeepers are looking forward to residents visiting the town centre and enjoying the choice of goods on sale."

Hayes regeneration in numbers

- £9 million total new investment
- 63 new trees
- 218 new street lights
- 851 metres of new cycle lanes
- 8,500 square metres of new paving
- 3,100 square metres of new road surfaces
- six new pedestrian crossings

For more information on the council's town improvement works visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/towncentres

Updates from the Borough Commander

Every day police officers and staff in Hillingdon do many things, ranging from the courageous to the routine in order to keep you safe. Officers often go above and beyond, showing compassion and humanity to people who need our help.

Just one example of many comes from one of my officers, who was telling me how he supported an elderly victim of a distraction burglary. During the Christmas period he even visited on Christmas Day to check up on him. A couple of months later, the elderly victim was able to give evidence in court and the offender was convicted and sentenced to more than five years in prison.

Officers and staff continue to work hard to make communities feel safer. Operation Starbrook in Yeading involved officers, staff and partners, including the council and London Fire Brigade in driving out crime and improving the area. This type of partnership work makes the

most of collective resources and tactics, for the biggest impact and visible presence, in areas where crime has increased. We listened and responded to the concerns of local residents and businesses, and it has been well-received, and activity will keep going to reduce drug-related crime, robbery and violence.

Reducing knife crime is one of our top priorities, and one in which everyone has a part to play. Our teams have been carrying out more intelligence-led stop and searches, been more visible, and are taking a zero tolerance approach to those found possessing weapons. You may also have seen officers conducting weapon sweeps in parks and other public places, some with local community members. This is part of our plan with partners to reduce knife crime that has risen in London and Hillingdon. Our schools officers and partners also work with schools, young people and other groups to educate as

well as send a strong message to deter people from carrying knives.

Lastly, during the next few months the way in which The Met police is structured will change. Hillingdon will be joined with Ealing and Hounslow boroughs in the new West Area BCU (Basic Command Unit) with Paul Martin as the BCU Commander. We have been working towards the changes already, for example having two Dedicated Ward Officers in every ward which people are pleased to see, and officers are more mobile with their new tablets and laptops. Whilst our structure may change, our commitment to keeping you safe and secure, preventing crime, protecting the vulnerable and catching criminals will remain as strong as ever.



Colin Wingrove

Hillingdon Hospital supports recovery at home for older people

Hillingdon Hospital has recently established a Frailty Unit to help older people remain independent for longer.

The unit is staffed by specialist frailty nurses and consultant geriatricians to provide older frail patients with a fully comprehensive assessment, taking into account both their health and social care needs.

The aim of the unit is to assess older frail patients early on in their hospital visit to identify those who are able to safely return home, but may need some additional support. This could include patients who have had a fall or contracted a urinary infection.

Dr Ian Goodman, Chair of Hillingdon Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "Our new Frailty Unit at Hillingdon Hospital minimises the need for frail patients to wait in A&E and avoids unnecessary admissions to hospital wards.

"The unit allows frail patients to return home sooner following treatment, and provides peace of mind that the additional services needed



to stay safe at home are on hand."

Patients will be cared for in the new unit for up to 72 hours before being discharged home, and those in need of a higher level of care will be transferred to an older patients' ward.

Frailty Unit staff work hand-in-hand with a dedicated Discharge to Assess Team, who ensure that patients are given a full needs assessment in their own homes within two hours of arriving home.

Assessments are carried out jointly by health and social services professionals, who can put in place immediate access to a wide range of support services. This could include a nurse to change dressings or someone to pick up shopping or prescriptions.

On average, patients supported by the Discharge to Assess Team are discharged two days earlier, meaning valuable bed space is available for those that need it most.

Be the one... to support them

We met up with Jayne and Ernie Verity who have been fostering for more than 16 years. They told *Hillingdon People* why they love looking after newborn babies, and why it's so rewarding preparing children for their forever home.

Jayne, 49 and Ernie, 48 from Hayes had been thinking about fostering for a while, and felt the time was right to start fostering when their older two children had grown up.

Ernie said: "When we first started fostering, we looked after children of all ages, but now we mostly look after babies and young children. We did initially really enjoy looking after teenagers, but when we had our younger children we decided that babies would fit in better with our family lifestyle."

The couple foster newborn babies for a period of time until a final decision is made about the child's future. Jayne said: "People think it's easy looking after babies, but it can be really challenging. We fostered a baby from birth when the mother was misusing drugs during pregnancy. I would visit the baby girl in hospital every single day whilst she was gradually being withdrawn from the drugs, and I had to give her medication for the first few months in our care."

"We had another baby whose mother was a victim of domestic abuse and had alcohol dependence. The baby was born with foetal alcohol syndrome, a dangerous condition that occurs when a baby is exposed to excessive alcohol in the womb, and that was challenging. You have to be strong to deal with that kind of situation."

Foster carers receive plenty of



support from the council, as well as ongoing training opportunities. Ernie said: "As a carer, you have to be mindful and look out for signs of any problems or issues. We were caring for a six-month-old baby and he didn't cry at all, and I knew something wasn't right. We put in a lot of effort and started taking him to sensory rooms and made sure we played with him all the time. You have to pick behaviours up really quickly and it takes time and a lot of hard work. But the effort you put in, you will get back and it's so worth it."

After spending so much time with a young baby in your care, is it difficult when they leave you? Jayne said: "The biggest challenge is always when the children move on and we all have a good cry when they leave, but they're tears of happiness. It's always hard, but we know that they are going on to their forever home and will be so loved, it makes us all happy. Our job is to look after them whilst they are in our care and make sure we pass on as much information as possible to their new family."

"Each baby that we look after - we give our time and our love to, and that's all they need. We give them the best start in life that we can, and it's so amazing to watch them progress in a short time. People are amazed by how happy the baby is after just a few weeks with us, sleeping well

Find out about fostering

and playing. There's a huge gap when a child leaves the house, but we can't imagine not fostering now!"


So after 16 years and with four children of their own, why do Jayne and Ernie still foster children? Jayne said: "Our younger children are now 10 and eight so we have a busy household, but we love it! Each time we have a new newborn baby, we prepare ourselves for the sleepless nights and the hard work, but we like the challenge and I'm always confident that I can get the baby into a routine. It's so rewarding when you make a difference and you see the children just blossom."

"Fostering is hard work, but if you love kids and can offer a child a home in a loving environment - just try it. Even after 16 years, I'm always telling people to go along to an open evening and find out more."

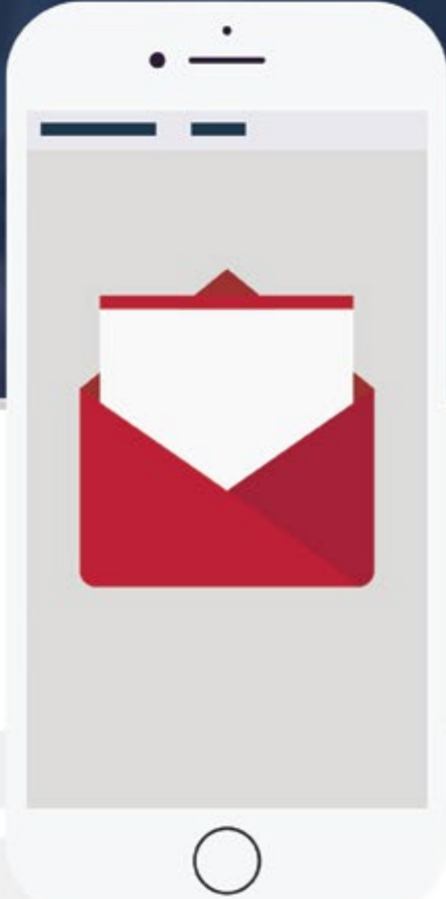
Cllr David Simmonds, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services, said: "We are

looking for foster carers to look after children of all ages and backgrounds, including newborn babies. Foster carers are given training and support throughout, plus a generous allowance of up to £419.88 a week."

For more information on fostering visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/betheone



Your local university













What's on Guide

This new community newsletter, produced by Brunel University London, brings together all the very best of the many dazzling events, bright schemes and community activities that are open to the public – most of which are free!

[Register at www.brunel.ac.uk/whatson](http://www.brunel.ac.uk/whatson)

Be the first to hear about events, such as:

 An Evening with Sir Mark Rylance	 Brunel Bonfire and Fireworks Night	 Funny Side of Social Work with Jo Brand	 Hillingdon Business Expo	 TEDx event at Brunel University London
 Hillingdon Literary Festival	 Brexit - Knowing our Rights	 Arts@Artaud Student Showcase	 Brunel Public Lecture Series	 Invites to classes in music, art and sport!

Kingston Lane, Uxbridge, UB8 3PH

  / engagebrunel

 BRUNEL ENGAGE

Working together to support residents' wellbeing

More than 60 community and voluntary sector organisations came together at the end of last year for a one-day conference at the Civic Centre, Uxbridge to discuss and plan the future delivery of health and wellbeing services for residents.

The event was hosted by the council and organised by H4All – a group of five larger local charities (Age UK Hillingdon, Disablement Association of Hillingdon, Hillingdon Carers, Harlington Hospice and Hillingdon Mind) that co-ordinates and connects health and wellbeing services.

Speakers from the council's Adult Social Care Services, the NHS Hillingdon Clinical Commissioning Group, the GP Confederation and Hillingdon Health and Care Partnership talked about the significant changes taking place in health and social care, and the role of the voluntary sector.

H4All briefed sector colleagues on the work they are doing to bring the sector closer together, save money and improve residents' experiences of services, which includes a Wellbeing Service to help over-65s manage long-term health conditions. They have developed a shared finance service, combined three counselling services, and are taking the lead to extend and centralise their activities and increase support for the whole sector.

Colleagues from organisations across Hillingdon participated in table discussions about key issues they face, such as attracting or bidding for resources and finding opportunities to grow. They explored ways of working more closely together and sharing resources, such as training and meeting spaces, to ensure the future of all health and wellbeing voluntary services in Hillingdon.

The conference also enabled H4All to establish the voluntary sector's needs, which include: ensuring correct policies and procedures are in place; creating regular networking opportunities to ensure joint working; attracting more volunteers, and keeping up to date with changes in health and social care.



Cllr Philip Corthorne, Cabinet Member for Social Services, Housing, Health and Wellbeing, said: "We have a diverse voluntary sector that offers essential services to Hillingdon residents. It's great to see so many local organisations and groups supporting each other to ensure that residents continue to access the health and wellbeing help they need."

H4All is using information and insight collected at the event as part of a bid for support and resources to provide the help that participants identified they needed.

Sally Chandler, Chief Executive at Hillingdon Carers, said: "The day proved extremely valuable. H4All partners have already seen significant benefits from groups working more closely together. We want to extend this opportunity to other community organisations, particularly smaller groups, who would benefit from some of the resources that larger charities have."

For more information or to get involved, contact Sally Chandler at sallychandler@hillingdoncarers.org.uk or on 01895 811206

Volunteers needed

Hillingdon Food Bank, a registered charity, distributes donated long-life food via a voucher system to people in food poverty and is looking for volunteers to help to carry out this work.

They have collection/distribution centres across Hillingdon, a warehouse in Uxbridge and frequently distribute 5,000kg in a month.

They are looking for volunteer drivers, delivery/collection assistants and warehouse assistants. Shifts are approximately three hours long and you can volunteer as much or as little time as you want.

For more information visit hillingdon.foodbank.org.uk

WEDNESDAY 11 APRIL - SUNDAY 15 APRIL 2018

London Borough of Hillingdon & proDukTions

Present

AN EASTER PANTO!

Beauty and The Beast

MILLIE JONES
AS BEAUTY

CLIFFORD HUME
AS DAME NELLIE

TICKETS ON
SALE NOW
COMPASS THEATRE

GLEBE AVENUE, ICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX, UB10 8PD

Tickets £16 / £12 under 16s / Family of 4* £48

Compass Club Members can get £1 off a maximum of 2 full price tickets

* 2 adults and 2 under 16s or 1 adult and 3 under 16s

NO BOOKING FEES

BOX OFFICE: 01895 250615 | www.hillingdontheatres.uk



The Easter holidays are nearly here and there are lots of events and activities on offer across the borough for families.



THEATRE

Priscilla, Queen of the Desert
Wednesday 21 to Saturday 24 March, 7.30pm
(Saturday 2.30pm also)
Encore Theatre Company presents this entertaining show, which is based on the 1994 film and features outrageous drag queens along with pop classics such as *I Will Survive*, *Boogie Wonderland* and *It's Raining Men*.
Cost: £15 for Wednesday and Thursday. £16.50 for Friday and Saturday, with concessions available on the Friday and Saturday.
Book by calling 07748 490936, by emailing info@encoretheatre.org.uk or visiting www.encoretheatre.org.uk
Winston Churchill Theatre

Brendan Cole: All Night Long
Saturday 24 March, 7.30pm
Brendan Cole, formerly of *Strictly Come Dancing*, takes to the stage to wow audiences with his latest spectacular production. He is joined by a sensational cast of guest dancers, a captivating leading lady and talented 14-piece band and singers, all ready to whip up an extravagant mix of Latin fever and ballroom magic.
Cost: £40.50. Groups of eight plus £2 off.

Book online at www.becktheatre.org.uk or call the Box Office on 020 8561 8371.
Beck Theatre

Swan Lake
Thursday 12 April, 7.30pm
This love story from the Vienna Festival Ballet includes lavish costumes, stunning scenery, international stars and the glorious music from Tchaikovsky to make this a night not to be missed. One of the most popular ballets in the world, Swan Lake spectacularly captures a full range of human emotions in one show, from hope to despair and terror to tenderness.
Cost: £20.50. Under-16s £16. Family offer (four tickets) £70.
Book online at www.becktheatre.org.uk or call the Box Office on 020 8561 8371.
Beck Theatre

Perfect Wedding
Wednesday 16 to Saturday 19 May, 7.45pm
When a bridegroom wakes on his wedding day to find a strange girl in bed beside him in the bridal suite, his best man must help him avoid disaster. But when the bride arrives, her parents and finally the hotel staff, the chaos reaches nuclear proportions in this riotous comedy from Ruislip Dramatic Society by Robin Hawdon, filled with hilarious confusions, confessions and nightmares for the best man!

HILLINGDON WHAT'S ON?

For more Hillingdon events or to advertise your own, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/whatson

Cost: £12 (Concessions £11 available Wednesday and Thursday only).
Book online at www.hillingdontheatres.uk or call the Ruislip Dramatic Society Box Office on 07856 246517 or the theatre on 01895 250615.
Compass Theatre

Join Beauty and Dame Nellie as they attempt to reverse the Bad Fairy's spell on the Beast – in another fun-filled Easter holiday pantomime, packed with singing, dancing, jokes and cheer.
Cost: £16. Under-16s £12.
Book online at www.hillingdontheatres.uk or call 01895 250615.
Compass Theatre

FAMILIES

Milkshake! Live - The Magic Story Book
Tuesday 10 April, 11am and 2.30pm
Starring Milkshake! favourites; Bob the Builder, Little Princess, Noddy, Fireman Sam, Shimmer and Shine, Pip from Pip Ahoy, Winnie and Wilbur, Wissper, Milkshake's very own Milkshake! Monkey and two presenters, this all singing, all dancing, musical masterpiece, will take audiences on a journey through the world's favourite fairy tales.
Cost: £18. Under-16s £16. Family offer (four tickets) £64.
Book online at www.becktheatre.org.uk or call the Box Office on 020 8561 8371.
Beck Theatre

Alice In Wonderland
Friday 13 April, 3pm and 7pm
This Easter pantomime stars *Britain's Got Talent* winner Ashleigh Butler and her dog Sully, alongside children's TV legend Dave Benson Phillips. Come and join this laugh a minute all-singing, all-dancing panto ride through the magical Wonderland. Embark on this adventure with Duchess Dolly, the bonkers Mad Hatter, The Queen of Hearts and her henchmen Tweedle-Dee and Tweedle-Dum in the quest to help Alice find her way back.
Cost: £18.50. Family offer (four tickets) £67.
Book online at www.becktheatre.org.uk or call the Box Office on 020 8561 8371.
Beck Theatre

Beauty and the Beast: Easter Panto
Wednesday 11 to Sunday 15 April, various times

Family Open Day
Monday 7 May, 10am to 5pm
A great opportunity for all of the family (aged eight years and older) to try a range of activities. With land based activities,



including archery, climbing and high ropes (10+) and water based activities, including sailing, stand up paddleboarding and kayaking.
Cost: Members £20. Non-members £25. Special offer four for the price of three. Book online by visiting www.hoac.net or calling 01895 824171. Hillingdon Outdoor Activities Centre

COMEDY

Joel Dommett

Saturday 19 May, 8pm
One of the UK's most energetic and exciting comedians returns to the road with his solo show, Joel came onto the comedy scene in 2007 and has never looked back. After receiving great critical acclaim for his Edinburgh Fringe shows, he has gone on to appear in numerous television shows including; *Bring The Noise*, *Impractical Jokers*, *Reality Bites*, *Russell Howard's Good News*, *Drunk History* and has performed in acting roles for *Popatron* and *Skins*.
Cost: £20. Book online at www.becktheatre.org.uk or call the Box Office on 020 8561 8371. Beck Theatre

MUSIC

Brunel Arts Lunchtime Concerts

Fridays 2, 9 and 16 March, 1.10pm to 1.50pm
Enjoy free weekly concerts in the heart of Brunel University's campus. From virtuoso to ensemble, renowned performers present a delighting repertoire, ranging from classical to folk. From March, enjoy recitals from some of the most exciting musicians currently performing the concert circuit. Open to all, come along and enjoy a wonderful opportunity to enrich your Friday afternoons.
Cost: Free entry. For more information visit www.brunel.ac.uk/brunelarts. The Beldam, Eastern Gateway Building, Brunel University London

Sine Nomine Singers spring concert

Saturday 17 March, 7.30pm
Dvorak's Mass in D, *Pergolesi's Magnificat* and *Mozart's Spatzenmesse*.
Cost: £12. Tickets available on www.ticketsource.co.uk/ SNS, by calling 020 8933 7908 or on the door. All Saints Church

Hillingdon Choral Society spring concert
Saturday 24 March, 7.30pm



Handel's *Messiah Part 2* and Easter music. Conducted by Peter J Williams.
Cost: £12. Children £3. Tickets available on the door or from Pro Music International Ickenham. For more information email hillingdonchoralsociety@gmail.com or call 07941 601966. Ickenham United Reformed Church

Harrow Choral Society

Saturday 24 March, 7.30pm
Harrow Choral Society's (HCS) 100-strong choir will perform Mozart's *Requiem* and Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem* in the centenary year of the end of World War One. They will be conducted by Music Director Simon Williams and accompanied by the Aeolian Sinfonia with Julie Bale, leader of HCS's Singing for Starters training choir, as soprano soloist.



The Fureys

Cost: £18. Accompanied under-16s half price. Tickets can be purchased on www.harrowarts.com, by calling 020 3773 7161 or at Harrow Arts Centre. Elliott Hall, Harrow Arts Centre

The Fureys 40th anniversary tour

Monday 16 April, 7.30pm
As part of their 40th anniversary tour Irish Legends The Fureys return for another great night of music, songs and stories. Hear them sing their timeless classics including *I Will Love You*, *When You Were Sweet 16*, *The Green Fields of France*, *The Old Man*, *Red Rose Cafe* and *Steal Away*.
Cost: £22.50. Concessions £1 off. Premiere Card £18.90. Book online at www.becktheatre.org.uk or call the Box Office on 020 8561 8371. Beck Theatre

Spring concert

Saturday 12 May, 7.30pm
Uxbridge Choral Society will be singing Karl Jenkins *The Armed Man* and Handel's *Dixit Dominus* conducted by Tim Armstrong Taylor.
Cost: Ticket £14. Under-12s £7. Tickets available from choir members, on the door or www.uxbridgechoralsociety.org.uk. Bishopshalt School

EXERCISE

60+ exercise with Alice

Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10am to 11am
Fun dance fitness. A great laugh and an opportunity to make new friends. For all ability levels. Can participate seated or standing.
Cost: Drop-in £5. For more information call Alice on 07763 751614 or visit www.exercisewithalice.co.uk. Ickenham Guide Hut

Aqua movement for stroke sufferers

Wednesdays, 12.30pm to 1.30pm
Waking up in hospital following a stroke can be really scary. There are physical and mental impacts and this session can help with your rehabilitation. It is a self help group to help people living their life after a stroke. Improve your movement and work on what you want to do and achieve. The pool is away from other swimmers at waist height. There is a viewing area on the same level for carers or loved ones – they can even also get in the water.
Cost: £2. Free for over-65s with their HillingdonFirst card. For more information and to book call Debi on 07789 702881. Botwell Green Sports and Leisure Centre

Tru Dru Yoga

Mondays 3pm, Tuesdays 6.30pm, Thursdays 12pm and Saturdays 8.30am and 10am
Dru Yoga is a graceful and potent form of yoga, based on flowing movements, directed breathing and visualisation. Dru works on body, mind and spirit - improving strength and flexibility, creating core stability, building a heightened feeling of positivity, and deeply relaxing and rejuvenating your whole being.
Cost: £12 for drop-in and £60 for six classes. For more information and to book visit trudruyoga.co.uk, email sabina@trudruyoga.co.uk or call 07891 820805. Uxbridge Community Centre

Yoga classes in Hayes
Mondays 10.30am at Hayes Working Men's Club, Wednesdays 6.30pm at Lake Farm Park Academy and Fridays 10.30am at Hayes End Methodist Church

These classes are suitable for all. Beginners are welcome. Hatha yoga is the yoga of physical action and postures, breathing practice and relaxation. Everyone can practise yoga. It helps us to deal with stress, recovery from illness or injury.
Cost: Prices vary – reductions for block bookings. For more information and to book email lesleydoveton@hotmail.com, call 07789 621300 or visit www.lesleydovetonyoga.com. Hayes Working Men's Club, Lake Farm Park Academy and Hayes End Methodist Church

Dru Yoga

Fridays 1.15pm at Ickenham Village Hall and Mondays 10am at Charville Community Centre
Dru yoga is designed to be practised by people of all abilities, all fitness levels and all age groups.
Cost: £8. For more information visit www.lifestyle-dru.co.uk. Ickenham Village Hall and Charville Community Centre

Running Groups with Dash for Fitness

Mondays 7.30pm
Join this free group to make your running more social and fun whilst helping you get fitter, go faster and further. They accommodate beginners and runners of all levels (under-18s must be accompanied). 5K masterclasses (£50 for a 12-week programme) also available. UK Athletics approved coach in running fitness and CYQ Level 3 personal trainers.

For further information and to register visit groups.runtogether.co.uk/ DashForFitness, email dashforfitness@btinternet.com or call Gary and Suzy on 07710 105086. Various routes starting and finishing in Ruislip

Nordic walking

Sundays 9.30am at Stockley Park and Wednesdays 2pm at Ruislip Lido
Learn the basic nordic walking technique to make it a safe and beneficial outdoor exercise activity: mobilising joints; understanding how to move in correct alignment; strengthening and toning all major muscle groups; and incorporating cardiovascular fitness.
Cost: £28 for four classes, poles supplied. For more information visit www.learningmoves.co.uk. To book email learningmoves.uk@gmail.com or call Penny on 07771 872592. Stockley Park and Ruislip Lido

Zumba fitness

Wednesdays 6.30pm and Sundays 10.30am
Want to lose weight, improve your physical and mental health and learn to dance? Join Ickenham and Ruislip's only 62-year-old male Zumba instructor. The classes are medium paced and suitable for all abilities and ages.
Cost: Adults £6 and under-16s free. For more information call instructor Graham on 07985 470025 or visit www.gtarling.zumba.com. The Stables, Manor Farm

VENUES

All Saints Church
Ryefield Avenue, Hillingdon, UB10 9BT

Beck Theatre
Grange Road, Hayes, UB4 9LE

The Beldam
Eastern Gateway Building, Brunel University, Kingston Lane, Uxbridge, UB8 3PH

Bishopshalt School
Royal Lane, Uxbridge, UB8 3RF

Botwell Green Sports and Leisure Centre
East Avenue, Hayes, UB3 2HW

Charville Community Centre
Bury Avenue, Hayes, UB4 8LF

Compass Theatre
Glebe Avenue, Ickenham, UB10 8PD

Deane Park Hall
Long Drive, South Ruislip, HA4 0HS

Eastcote House Gardens
High Road, Eastcote, HA5 2FE

Harrow Arts Centre
171 Uxbridge Road, Hatch End, HA4 5EA

Haydon School
Wiltshire Lane, Pinner, HA5 2LX

Hayes End Methodist Church
Uxbridge Road, Hayes, UB4 8JW

Hayes Working Men's Club
Pump Lane, Hayes, UB3 3NB

LEISURE

Passionate about plants

Saturday 14 April, 8.30am to 4.15pm
A special day out for garden lovers, with TV gardening celebrity speakers organised by the Hardy Plants Society Middlesex Group. There will also be the opportunity to purchase hardy plants and other gardening goods from a range of specialist nurseries and a garden themed raffle.
Cost: Tickets £26 (available in advance). More information and an application form is available at www.hardy-plant-middlesex.org.uk or from Keith Hamilton, 82 Brunswick Road, Ealing, W5 1AE. Call 07956 246079 or email keith.hamilton82br@ntlworld.com. Haydon School

Hillingdon Bridge Club

Mondays and Wednesdays 7.15pm, Thursdays 1.15pm
This small friendly club is looking for new members.
Cost: Each session costs £1.50. For more information call Tony Pratt on 01895 233853. Long Lane Hall

Butterflies table top sale and community coffee morning

Saturday 10 March, 9.30am to 1pm
There will be crafts, homemade cakes, jewellery, flowers, books, raffle, tombola and refreshments. Come and meet friends for coffee and cake. The group is raising money for Halo Childrens Foundation.
Cost: Free.

Hillingdon Outdoor Activities Centre
Dews Lane, Harefield, UB9 6JN

Hillingdon Park Baptist Church
25 Hercies Road, Hillingdon, UB10 9LS

Ickenham Guide Hut
Community Close, Ickenham, UB10 8RE.

Ickenham United Reformed Church
Swakeleys Road, Ickenham, UB10 8BE

Ickenham Village Hall
33 Swakeleys Road, Ickenham, UB10 8DG

If you would like to hire a table from Butterflies to sell old and new items, please visit ButterfliesIckenham@yahoo.com or call Vera on 01895 635224. Ickenham Village Hall

LoadofHayMarket

Sunday 6 May, 12pm to 4pm
This craft market takes place whatever the weather and has room for 30+ tables. It has free parking and exhibitors fill this event with unique items for sale.
Cost: Free. For more information visit hayme.simplesite.com. Deane Park Hall

Eastcote House Gardens

Tuesdays 15 May, 19 June, 17 July, 21 August and 18 September, 1.30pm to 3.30pm
The 16th century dovecote, one of the few surviving examples in the country, has been renovated with the help of the Heritage Lottery Fund. Just turn up.
Cost: Free. Eastcote House Gardens

Phrase writers

Thursdays, 1.30pm
Why not start to write again, or if you have never tried why not try now? Join this group of friendly likeminded people. All types of writing are welcome. Support and advice available. Occasional outings and social events.
Cost: First two sessions are free, thereafter £3 per session. For more information call Sheila on 01895 475924 or 07732 483087. Hillingdon Park Baptist Church

Butterflies table top sale and community coffee morning
Saturday 10 March, 9.30am to 1pm

Lake Farm Park Academy
Botwell Common Road, Hayes, UB3 1JA

Long Lane Hall
304 Long Lane, Uxbridge, UB10 9PE

Ruislip Lido
Reservoir Road, Ruislip, HA4 7TY

The Stables
Manor Farm, Bury Street, Ruislip, HA4 7SU

Stockley Park
Uxbridge, UB11 1FW

Uxbridge Community Centre
32b The Greenway, Uxbridge, UB8 2PJ

Winston Churchill Theatre
Pinn Way, Ruislip, HA4 7QL

If you wish to publicise an event, please email details to hillingdonpeople@hillingdon.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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IF YOU suffer from low back pain and/or sciatica, you are one of over 20 million adults in the UK with this painful spinal condition... And it can really get you down.

Shooting, stabbing and burning pains from the low back, sometimes with additional pain and numbness and tingling through the buttock, leg all the way down to the tip of the toes are all some of the most common symptoms.

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Call them now and get a full and thorough examination to pinpoint the cause of your problem for just £49, the normal cost of such an exam is £195 so you will save £146! For obvious reasons they can't help everyone at this reduced price, so please call soon to secure your special opportunity.

Call 0208 848 8787 NOW and leave a message if it's the weekend or the line is busy - they promise they will get back to you as soon as they can. Quote this special discount code: TC43SCID

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 Please mention **Hillingdon People** when responding to adverts

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- Pointing
- Guttering
- Roof tiling
- Block paving
- Kitchens
- Cleaning

Call Matt on 07838 116459

Art and Craft Activity Club

St. Luke's Pinner Parish Hall
 Pinner (Term-time and holidays)

Tue 1.45pm - 2.45pm 3.45pm - 4.45pm	Wed 11.30am - 12.30pm 1.45pm - 2.45pm 3.45pm - 4.45pm	Thurs 11.30am - 12.30pm 1.45pm - 2.45pm 3.45pm - 4.45pm
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Mother toddler club
 Ages 1-4yrs

After-school club
 Ages 5-11 yrs

Northwood Methodist Church
 Northwood (Term-time and holidays)

Fri 10.30am - 11.30am 1.45pm - 2.45pm 3.45pm - 4.45pm	Sat 10am - 11am
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 keshma.artzania@gmail.com
 07419343105
 www.artzania.co.uk

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- Council Main Switchboard**
 01895 250111
 Mon to Fri, 8am to 6pm
- Council Tax and Benefits**
 0300 123 1384
 Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm
- Electoral Services and Registrars**
 01895 558250
 Mon to Fri, 8am to 6pm
- Environment and Anti-Social Behaviour**
 01895 556000
 Mon to Fri, 8am to 6pm
- Families' Information Service**
 01895 556489
 Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm
- Fraud Hotline**
 0800 389 8313
 Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm
- Hillingdon First Card**
 01895 556677
 Mon to Fri, 8am to 6pm
- Hillingdon Social Care Direct (adults and children)**
 01895 556633
 Mon to Fri, 8am to 6pm
- Housing Services**
 01895 556666
 Mon to Fri, 8am to 6pm
- Out of Hours (emergencies only)**
 01895 250111
- Pest Control**
 01895 556000
 Mon to Fri, 8am to 6pm
- Planning and Trees**
 01895 250230
 Mon to Fri, 8am to 6pm
- Roads and Pavements**
 01895 556000
 Mon to Fri, 8am to 6pm
- School Admissions**
 01895 556644
 Mon to Fri, 8am to 6pm
- Care services**
Adoption and fostering
 0800 783 1298
- Community Cancer Centre**
www.communitycancercentre.org.uk
 01895 461016
- Drugs or sexual health advice for young people up to 21 years**
 01895 257285

- Advice and support**
Addictions Recovery Community Hillingdon
 01895 207777
- Age UK Hillingdon**
 020 8756 3040
- Alzheimer's Society Hillingdon**
 01923 823999
www.alzheimers.org.uk
- Asphaleia Action**
 01895 272478
www.asphaleia.co.uk
- Centre for ADHD and Autism Support**
 020 8429 1552
www.adhdandautism.org
- Communicare Counselling Service**
 01895 256056
- Consumer helpline**
 03454 04 05 06
- Citizens' Advice Bureau**
 0344 848 7903
- Disablement Association Hillingdon (DASH)**
 020 8848 8319
- Hayes One Stop Shop**
 01895 556004
hayesonestop@hillingdon.gov.uk
- Healthwatch Hillingdon**
 01895 272997
- Hillingdon Autistic Care and Support**
 020 8606 6780
enquiries@hacs.org.uk
www.hacs.org.uk
- Hillingdon Carers**
 01895 811206
- Hillingdon Carers Trust**
 01895 258888
- Hillingdon DADS**
 07889 651016
hillingdondads@gmail.com
- Hillingdon Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service**
 020 8246 1745
- Hillingdon Mind**
 01895 271559
- Hillingdon Parent Carer Forum**
www.hillingdonpcf.com
- Hillingdon Women's Centre**
 01895 259578
- Home-Start Hillingdon**
 01895 252804
- P3 Navigator Advice Centre**
 01895 436114

HILLINGDON CONTACTS

- Samaritans**
 Freephone 116 123
- Victim Support Hillingdon**
 0208 965 1141 (office hours)
 0808 168 9111 (out of hours)
- Local democracy**
Councillors' names, addresses and advice surgeries
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/councillors
- Council meeting dates and agendas**
 01895 250636
- Conservative Group Office**
 01895 250316/250728
- Electoral registration**
 01895 250251
electoralservices@hillingdon.gov.uk
- Labour Group Office**
 01895 250780
- Mayor's Office**
 01895 250763
- Environment and street scene**
Affinity Water
 0345 357 2425
- Current and proposed roadworks in Hillingdon**
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/roadworks
- Environmental Protection**
 01895 250190
- Food, Health and Safety**
 01895 250190
- Animal welfare**
 01895 250190
- Trading Standards**
 01895 250164
- Learning**
Library information desk
 01895 250600
- Advice and guidance (young people)**
 01895 257855
- Enquiries about school transport**
 01895 250008
- Truancy Hotline**
 01895 250858
- Planning**
Building control enquiries, inspection requests and dangerous structures
 01895 558170
- Dangerous structures (out of hours)**
 01895 250111
- Local land charges enquiries**
 01895 250624/556115
- Leisure**
Botwell Green Sports and Leisure Centre
 020 8561 0956
- Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Complex, Uxbridge**
 0345 130 7324
- Highgrove Pool, Ruislip**
 01895 630753
- Queensmead Sports Centre, South Ruislip**
 020 8845 6010
- William Byrd Pool, Harlington**
 020 8897 9390
- Hospitals**
Harefield Hospital
 01895 823737
- Hillingdon Hospital**
 01895 238282
- Mount Vernon Hospital**
 01923 826111
- Northwick Park Hospital**
 020 8864 3232
- Watford General Hospital**
 01923 244366
- NHS: 111**
- Police**
Metropolitan Police non-emergency number
 101
 Textphone 18001 101
hillingdon.enquiries@met.police.uk
- Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch**
 020 8246 1869
all@hillingdonnhw.co.uk
- Fire**
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hillingdongroup@london-fire.gov.uk

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