

# HILLINGDON people

News from your council  
July/August 2021

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk)

**£1 million boost  
for communities**

**Park restoration  
gathers pace**

**New adult learning  
courses for 2021**

**New homes for  
local people**



HILLINGDON  
LONDON



COULD YOU FOSTER?



FREE CHILDCARE



SIGN UP TO RECYCLE



## August Bank Holiday Refuse and Recycling

To minimise disruption to waste and recycling collections over the August Bank Holiday, we will be working on Saturday 4 September.

**DON'T FORGET!**

Normal collection day	Revised collection day
Monday 30 August <small>(Bank Holiday)</small>	Tuesday 31 August
Tuesday 31 August	Wednesday 1 September
Wednesday 1 September	Thursday 2 September
Thursday 2 September	Friday 3 September
Friday 3 September	Saturday 4 September

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.

**We're now collecting your food waste separately**

Our new food waste vehicles are in operation and food waste is now being collected separately from garden waste as part of our drive to increase recycling rates and protect the environment.

Garden waste will be collected and processed as normal, whereas food waste will be broken down into renewable energy to generate electricity, fuel for transport and fertiliser for farmers.

All you need to do is use your kitchen and outdoor caddy, and we'll do the rest via our free weekly collections. If you haven't already, sign up for our food waste service today at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/food-waste](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/food-waste).

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

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk)

## + KEEP HILLINGDON SAFE +

# PLEASE CONTINUE TO

Wash your hands

Cover your face

Keep a safe distance

Let fresh air in

Get tested regularly

Take the vaccine when eligible

Working together to Keep Hillingdon Safe

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/coronavirus)

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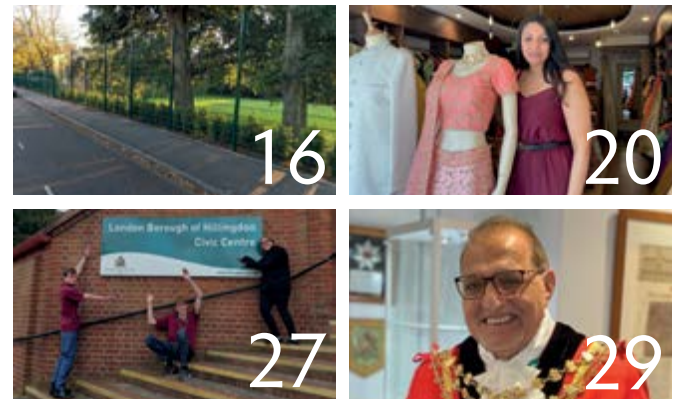
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COVER PHOTO: REHAN KHAN, AGED 12, TAKES HILLINGDON PEOPLE ON A TOUR OF HIS NEW HOME.



Advertising deadline for next edition: **Friday 6 August 2021**

### Editorial and advertising enquiries

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**For a copy in large print or as an audio version call 01895 556903**

# Welcome



Dear resident

As we move into summer, I'm pleased that Hillingdon's vaccination programme continues to move at pace and that a return to normality is on the horizon.

As we edge cautiously towards a brighter future, I'd like to remind residents that the fight against COVID-19 isn't over and I encourage you to continue to follow the guidelines and take the vaccine if you haven't already to protect yourself and others.

In this edition of *Hillingdon People* you can read about a variety of our current schemes to support residents, and I was pleased to be able to visit a range of sites in recent months to see first-hand the excellent work being carried out.

First up is housing on page 18, where we're delivering hundreds of new homes across the borough for local people. Helping all our residents to get the best from online services is also a priority. Post-pandemic, businesses and residents require the best possible network connections to thrive, and the council is working with Openreach to enhance the borough's digital connectivity. We also launched a new MyAccount service on the council's website to allow residents to easily contact us online and view the status of reports and requests in one place (page 6).

A variety of refurbishment works to improve and create new facilities for our residents are taking place across Hillingdon, including our ongoing £3 million library improvement programme (page 5), the modernisation of Yiewsley and West Drayton Community Centre (page 7), and a project to deliver a facility for young people at our Civic Centre (page 4).

Climate change and the environment is another key area, and as you'll read on pages 13 and 16, we're encouraging residents to recycle more by participating in our new food waste collection process, greening the borough by planting more trees and installing pollution screens at schools, and reviewing your responses from our recent climate change consultation to help us shape our plans and deliver a greener future.

I hope you all continue to stay safe and have a great summer.

*Ian Edwards*  
**Cllr Ian Edwards  
 LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**





**REFURB**

Cllr Jane Palmer and Leader of the Council, Cllr Ian Edwards review the plans



## New facility for families to open this summer

The council has invested more than £700,000 in the refurbishment of a large office space at its Civic Centre in Uxbridge, offering a new facility for children and young people in the borough.

The hub will offer a range of activities and services to children and their families, including child counselling and therapy, youth sexual health and support following substance misuse.

Building works include the installation of new partitions, ceilings, upgraded air-conditioning, LED lighting, heating and ventilation, flooring and redecoration.

The existing office area measures approximately 1,000 square metres and will be transformed into a multi-functional space with a modern reception and

waiting area, conference facilities, and a variety of contact rooms.

The reception area will offer an inviting space for families to engage with social workers and council staff, and other facilities include treatment rooms, a life-skills kitchen for supervised learning, toilets, and a baby changing area.

Services from the Abacus Centre in West Drayton will be relocated to the new facility to accommodate a new sports and leisure centre. Services at Fountains Mill Young People's Centre in Uxbridge will also move to the new hub, followed by the council's Youth Justice Service later in the year.

The refurbishment project will take around 12 weeks to complete and is due to open at the end of July.

## Making Hillingdon safer at night

The death of Sarah Everard has shone a spotlight on women's safety and feelings of safety on London's streets and public spaces.

The council is listening, recognising and responding to those concerns and has launched its evening and night-time economy strategy, Operation SafeNight, to make Hillingdon a safer place to live, work and visit.

Key elements of the strategy include supporting businesses to have robust policies in place to improve safety at night; encouraging residents to report abuse directly to the venue and/or the police; ensuring that businesses have the right training in place to respond effectively to challenging situations and identifying problem areas and putting in place strategies to help make them safer.

### Cllr Jane Palmer, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care,

said: "For the majority of residents, the reopening of Hillingdon's night-time economy is a chance to socialise and reconnect with friends and family.

"We want to ensure that women and men who work, visit or live in the borough have positive experiences and feel safe when they visit our bars, pubs and restaurants.

"That's why we are working alongside the Safer Hillingdon Partnership and local businesses and venues to ensure that they are better equipped to help tackle any instances of abuse and violence."

For more information on how we can all play our part in keeping Hillingdon safe, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/safety](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/safety).



## Summer Reading Challenge returns with nature theme

Children aged from four to 11 are being encouraged to 'go wild' for this year's annual Summer Reading Challenge.

The ever-popular initiative, run by Hillingdon libraries in conjunction with the Reading Agency,



launched on Saturday 10 July and will run until September.

Children are being invited to visit their local library at least three times during the school summer holidays and borrow books in return for a series of rewards.

This year's theme, Wild World Heroes, is aimed at inspiring young readers to think about how they can make a difference to the environment. Visit the council's website or pop into your local branch to find out more about the activities planned.

Youngsters are also being encouraged to put their creative skills to the test as part of a nature-themed photography competition.

### Cllr Susan O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Families, Education and Wellbeing,

said: "Our Summer Reading Challenge always proves popular with local families and this year promises to be no different.

"This year's environmental theme will give children lots of ideas about how they can stand up for the planet and take care of it for themselves and future



generations, so, I encourage families to visit their local library and get involved."

For more information on how to sign up and prize details, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/summer-reading](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/summer-reading).

ILLUSTRATIONS © HEATH MCKENZIE 2021



## New councillor elected for Charville ward

Cllr Darran Davies has been elected to represent Charville ward following a by-election on Thursday 6 May.

Cllr Davies, of the Conservative Party, received 2,098 votes during the poll, which saw 46.71 per cent of eligible voters turn out to have their say.

The election of the Mayor of London and 25 London Assembly members took place on the same day. In Hillingdon, voters were able to cast two votes for the Mayor (expressing a first and second choice), one vote for the assembly member for the Ealing and

Hillingdon constituency, and one vote for a London-wide assembly member. Sadiq Khan was re-elected as Mayor of London, while Onkar Singh Sahota was chosen to remain as assembly member for Ealing and Hillingdon.

See the full results at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/elections](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/elections).

## Review for Master Brewer site

On Monday 10 May, the council asked the High Court for a Judicial Review of the Mayor of London's decision to approve plans for 514 new homes on the former Master Brewer site in Ickenham.

The council originally refused the planning application from Inland Homes in March 2020 due to concerns about the inappropriate scale of the development, which includes buildings up to 12 storeys, and its impact on the surrounding area.

However, the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, exercised his right to call in the planning application and determine it himself. During a virtual hearing in September 2020, he conditionally approved the plans, pending legal agreements. He gave final approval on 29 March 2021.

The council is seeking a Judicial Review of the Mayor's decision on the grounds that the scale of the planned development is not appropriate for the area, and because the council does not think full and proper consideration has been given to the air quality impacts at the site, which is next to the A40. The council believes the Mayor has acted unlawfully by not publicly reconsidering the application after he was directed to update the tall buildings policy in the London Plan

by the Secretary of State in December 2020. The Mayor also failed to act in accordance with the strict requirements of the London Plan, which now contains a clear policy against tall buildings in areas that councils deem inappropriate and emphasises the key role of boroughs in determining where tall buildings should be located.

### Leader of the Council, Cllr Ian Edwards,

said: "The Master Brewer site, which is characterised by low-rise suburban buildings and green belt land, is simply not suitable for excessively high tower blocks. The London Plan only permits new high-rise buildings in areas that the council has identified as suitable and Hillingdon Circus is not one of those areas. With more than 200 objections to the plans and scores of letters since the final decision was made, it's clear that residents agree with us.

"We refuse to stand by and let Ickenham's and North Hillingdon's skyline be permanently blighted by this development, and so we have been left with no choice but to fight the flawed decision through the courts.

"We will continue to put our residents first, and will continue to oppose inappropriate development."



ENHANCED  
Cllr Ian Edwards, Leader of the Council and Cllr Susan O'Brien visit Manor Farm Library

## Libraries upgrade continues

Our West Drayton and Eastcote branches reopened in May and June, following extensive refurbishments that are part of the council's £3 million investment programme, which will see many of Hillingdon's libraries renovated.

The scheme aims to follow the same design principles to ensure a consistent look and feel at each branch. But as each library's interior is unique, some features have also been adapted, and this will help to maintain each site's individuality.

Improvements at West Drayton and Eastcote included an automatic safety door in the children's areas; new-look open plan interiors with distinct zones to highlight each area's different use; freshly painted walls and ceilings; refurbished floors, furnishings and toilets, and additional staff offices.

There are also new study areas with plug-in points for visitors to use their own devices and space for other items, such as books. While the desktop PCs have been equipped with new screens, keyboards and computer mice.

Manor Farm, Oak Farm and Hayes End libraries were reopened in January and February following refurbishments, and Ickenham Library reopened in April.

Improvements to these branches included light stowaway seating in the children's areas, reupholstering to the libraries' existing seats and modified bookshelves to create more space.

So far, 10 libraries have been refurbished. For more information about Hillingdon's libraries, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries).



## Multi-million pound Openreach investment brings enhanced digital connectivity to local communities

Residents and businesses in Hayes and Uxbridge are the first in the borough set to benefit from ultrafast, ultra-reliable internet connections following a multi-million pound investment in 'Full Fibre' broadband by Openreach.

The digital network company is currently building new infrastructure across the borough. A mammoth project, it's been made possible after Openreach invested in major upgrades at its exchanges in Hayes and Uxbridge.

This new network delivers fibre optic cables from the local exchange to residents' and businesses' front doors, also known as Fibre-to-the-Premises technology (FTTP) or 'Full Fibre'.

Hundreds of borough businesses and tens of thousands of homes can already order the faster, more reliable connections from a range of competing service providers that use Openreach's network.

Full Fibre can deliver speeds of up to one Gigabit and beyond – that's 15 times faster than average speeds today. The government

estimates that digital traffic is set to increase by 25 per cent to 40 per cent in the near future, so those better connections will help local businesses and town centres recover more quickly post-pandemic and help attract vital footfall to the borough's commercial centres.

Additionally, the fibre optic cables aren't affected by bad weather and are far less likely to slow down, or 'drop out' like existing broadband connections might.

The growing relationship between the council and Openreach was marked by a symbolic 'splicing' of a fibre optic cable at the Hayes exchange by Leader of the Council, Cllr Ian Edwards on Wednesday 26 May.



**CONNECTED**  
Cllr Ian Edwards, Leader of the Council and one of Openreach's engineers

**Cllr Edwards** said: "Residents and businesses need and deserve the best possible connections, so we're grateful for Openreach's investment and delighted to work with them to make Hillingdon a far better-connected borough."

"It's fascinating to see how these tiny glass wires can shape our daily lives. As we become increasingly reliant on internet connections, much like we rely on other household utilities, providing the best possible network ensures residents and businesses can thrive."

"We are developing a new digital strategy as we know there is further work to be done to help support those residents who are digitally excluded

and to enable borough businesses to innovate. This partnership with Openreach is a key step in enabling us to build better connected communities."

**Kieran Wines, Openreach's Partnership Director for London,** said: "Great connectivity has never been more important and Openreach is pleased to be investing in gold standard Ultrafast Full Fibre across Hillingdon."

"Our work to upgrade Hayes and Uxbridge is close to completion and we look forward to continuing the journey and close working relationship with Hillingdon Council."

Through Openreach's infrastructure residents will have the option to choose their internet connection from a great selection of retailers.

A map of Openreach's commercial plans in Hillingdon is available at [www.openreach.com/fibre-broadband/fibre-first](http://www.openreach.com/fibre-broadband/fibre-first). To find out whether Full Fibre is available at your home or business, check your postcode at [www.openreach.com](http://www.openreach.com).

## Access more online services - sign up to MyAccount today

The council has launched a brand-new online MyAccount that allows you to view and check the status of reports and requests in one place, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Registration is done via the council's website – [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/myaccount](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/myaccount) - and is quick and easy. Simply enter your email address and follow the instructions to verify your account and set up a password.

If you used the old 'do it online' system, which

has now been switched off, please register for a new MyAccount. If you log on to the old system, you will be redirected.

The way you can report issues and make requests, including applying or booking some of our services, has also changed. Use the search box on our website to find our services and complete one of our new-look online forms. While you don't need a MyAccount to report fly-tipping, request recycling bags, tell us about a problem

in a road, or something else entirely, reporting it via the new online portal provides you with real-time updates on your query.

The new online services are part of the council's long-term plan to maximise the use of digital platforms for the benefit of residents.

**Cllr Martin Goddard, Cabinet Member for Finance,** said: "In this increasingly digital world, we want to offer residents the flexibility of contacting us on whatever device they're using, at whatever

time is convenient to them, without having to queue on the phone."

"Over the past year or so, we've transformed our website and made it more modern and easier to use. The launch of the new MyAccount is the next phase of our digital transformation project, which will ultimately see more services provided online and a more personalised experience for residents when they log-in, as well as saving the council money to invest in frontline services."

## Inventor of stereo sound commemorated at Hayes underpass

Later this summer, a new permanent light and sound feature will be installed by the council at the Blyth Road underpass in Hayes to honour the work of Alan Dower Blumlein, an engineer who invented stereo sound.

In 1935, Blumlein shot the world's first stereo film, *Trains at Hayes Station* from a window in EMI's offices which overlooked what is now Hayes and Harlington station.

His frustration with the poor sound quality of the cinema of the 1930s led him to conceive the idea of what he described as "binaural stereo sound" so that the sound heard moved in the same direction as the pictures on the screen.

The new underpass will be constructed from steel,

aluminium and natural pigmented mineral panels, and architecture practice, The Decorators, will be using local suppliers, wherever possible, for the specialist rendering work and entrance signage. The tunnel installation will play with textures, sound and light and echo the stereo sound of local people passing through Hayes on their daily commute.

Works to the 'Sound of Hayes' underpass are due to start later this summer and are expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The underpass will also complement the council's wider streetscape improvements along Blyth Road, which include new paving, traffic calming



**SOUND OF HAYES**  
Artists' impression of the new Blyth Road underpass

and parking measures to help connect the route to the new Hayes and Harlington Crossrail station.

**Leader of the Council, Cllr Ian Edwards,** said: "There's no doubt Blumlein's audio breakthrough revolutionised the music and film industries."

"This new installation commemorates Blumlein and celebrates the

technological innovation that put EMI and Hayes at the centre of musical innovation for decades.

"The works will be fully funded by contributions from land and property developers to the council, otherwise known as section 106 agreements, and are part of the council's commitment to the wider regeneration of Hayes town centre."

## Community centre undergoes £2 million modernisation

Yiewsley and West Drayton Community Centre reopened in May following a refurbishment of almost £2 million to modernise the facilities and make the building more accessible and energy efficient.

Works started last September and this significant investment by the council has transformed the building into a welcoming community hub.

The upper bar area has been enlarged to accommodate more guests at functions and the bar counters to the Social Club, Oscar Frey Hall and Cyril Boatman Hall have been remodelled to provide a lower shelf for wheelchair users. A new spacious meeting room has also been created out of the former snooker room.

The centre's walls have been repainted throughout and the existing timber floors have been refurbished. New tables,

chairs and soft furnishings, including curtains and blinds, have transformed the interior giving it a more modern look and feel. Two platform lifts have been installed so that visitors with mobility issues can now access all floors.

New cavity wall insulation has been inserted into the external walls to help the building retain heat, and solar panels on the roof are also helping to reduce the centre's electricity costs. Additionally, the car park now includes two electric

vehicle charging points. Other highlights include new windows and exterior doors, repairs to the roof and new roof lights, a new boundary wall and railings and new step access from the car park to the main entrance.

**John Davies, Chair of the Yiewsley and West Drayton Community Association Trustees,** said: "The council's investment in the upgrading of the community centre has completely transformed it for the next generation. It is now light, bright and

accessible to all, with the new platform lifts giving step-free access to all areas.

"The trustees, staff, members, volunteers, regular users and local residents are absolutely delighted with the amazing transformation of their much-loved community centre."

**Cllr Jonathan Bianco, Cabinet Member for Property and Infrastructure,** said: "The centre has been at the heart of the community for decades and this substantial investment by the council has created new state-of-the-art facilities for the local community to enjoy for generations to come."

"As restrictions ease, residents will once again be able to enjoy the wide range of exercise classes on offer and attend celebration events such as weddings and birthdays."

Find out more about the community centre by visiting [www.ywdcc.org.uk](http://www.ywdcc.org.uk).



**REVAMP**  
Cllr Jonathan Bianco, Jackie Westbrook from the centre and Leader of the Council, Cllr Ian Edwards in Oscar Frey Hall



## Children warned about the dangers of cannabis sweets

The council has recently been offering support to local children, typically aged between 12 and 15, who have experienced detrimental effects from cannabis edibles such as jelly sweets, lollipops and cookies.

There has been a rise in cannabis sweets in the UK recently, with edibles being purchased online or through social media sites like Instagram and Snapchat.

Cannabis-infused sweets give the same psychoactive effects of smoking cannabis but may take longer to have an effect, which can lead to overdose and hospitalisation in some cases.

The illegal sweets look similar to branded products such as Haribo, Smarties and chocolate bars, but are often marked with 'THC' on the packaging to show that they contain a high concentration of cannabis.

**Ania Frejlich-Botha, Substance Misuse Programme Coordinator,** said: "We are currently working with a child who was permanently excluded from secondary school for buying cannabis sweets during their lunch break. Although they didn't consume the edibles, they shared them with friends and in the eyes of the law,

had illegally supplied Class B drugs to another student.

"The child was referred to our programme and we discussed the risks of substance misuse and the legal implications of supplying drugs. Completing the programme should support their application to return to another mainstream school."

Our Sorted team supports children affected by substance misuse, providing one-to-one educational sessions on the impact that drugs can have on physical and mental health, social skills, education, employment, and a criminal record.

**Cllr John Riley, Cabinet Member for Public Safety and Transport,**

said: "While incidents of this nature in Hillingdon have been rare, the rise in consumption of cannabis-infused sweets nationally is a concern for parents and it's important that children are aware of the effects of these seemingly harmless products."

If you are concerned your child has used edibles, phone 101 in non-emergencies, and 999 in emergency situations. You can contact the council's substance misuse team by emailing [sorted@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:sorted@hillingdon.gov.uk).

## Polish Air Force display opens

A special exhibition recognising the outstanding contribution the Polish Air Force made during the Second World War opened on Friday 21 May.

The Polish Air Force Exhibition was officially opened by HE Prof. Arkady Rzegocki, the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to the Court of St James's and the council's Armed Forces Champion, Cllr Sir Ray Puddifoot MBE in the presence of the Prime Minister and MP for Uxbridge and South Ruislip, the Rt Hon Boris Johnson.

The council worked closely with the Polish Air Force Memorial Committee, using their unique collection, to create

the permanent display which includes an array of artefacts never-before-seen by the public, alongside fascinating personal accounts from Polish pilots and historic film footage.

**Cllr Puddifoot** said: "We're delighted to open this fantastic exhibition which shines a spotlight on the invaluable efforts our Polish allies made during one of history's most notable conflicts.

"Their lesser-heard stories of bravery echo those of Britain's pilots, crews and officers whose collective heroism played a vital part in bringing the war to an end."

To find out more and pre-book, visit [www.battleofbritainbunker.co.uk](http://www.battleofbritainbunker.co.uk).



## Dementia Action Week 2021

A series of events and activities were held by the council across Hillingdon to mark Dementia Action Week (17 to 23 May) and raise awareness of how people can live well with the condition.

Highlights included sensory walks at Eastcote House Gardens, reminiscence Zoom sessions, outdoor sport sessions, a walking football session at Middlesex FA and a Dementia Friends information event.

Also, as part of the week, Cllr Jane Palmer, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care and Leader of

the Council, Cllr Ian Edwards (pictured above), visited Grassy Meadow Court on Wednesday 19 May to meet residents and staff and celebrate the development being featured on the front cover of *Architecture for Dementia*. The book features international architecture projects which have been awarded the 'Gold' award for excellence in dementia design.

For more information on the council's extra-care housing schemes and dementia support, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/extracarehousing](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/extracarehousing) and [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/dementia](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/dementia).



**COMMEMORATED**  
Cllr Sir Ray Puddifoot MBE, HE Prof. Arkady Rzegocki and the Rt Hon Boris Johnson

# Supporting older residents to keep active and stay well

There are a range of indoor and outdoor activities you can get involved in to help improve and maintain your fitness. Find out more about some of the groups and initiatives you could get involved in this summer and beyond.



### Work out at an outdoor gym near you

There are 27 outdoor gyms in parks and open spaces across Hillingdon designed to encourage residents to keep fit and active for free. The facilities, which reopened earlier this year, are suitable for all ages and fitness levels. The equipment varies from site to site, but can include a cross trainer, leg press, seated row and big shoulder wheels. While using these gyms, please adhere to the current social distancing guidelines and sanitise equipment before and after use. For a full list of sites, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/outdoorgyms](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/outdoorgyms).

### Play a discounted round of golf

Haste Hill and Uxbridge Public golf courses are open and welcome all golfing abilities.

Since reopening in March, a range of measures have been put in place to ensure the safety of visitors and staff.

The game is a great way to socialise safely outdoors, while enjoying some fresh air and working out your arms with each swing.

Discounted rates for the over-65s are available at Haste Hill between 7.30am to 10am Monday to Friday, excluding Bank Holidays. Proof of age will be required when booking. Find out more and book a session at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/golf](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/golf).

### Fancy a game of tennis?

Ten of the borough's tennis sites reopened in March. A hiring fee of £5 per hour, per court has been introduced at seven of these: Cavendish Recreation Ground (Eastcote); Court Park (Hillingdon); Fassnidge Park (Uxbridge); Churchfield Gardens (Ruislip); The Closes (West Drayton); Rosedale Park (Hayes), and Swakeleys Park (Ickenham).

Payment can be made when booking a court. Find out more and book a court at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/tennis](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/tennis).

### Free swimming for over-65s

The council offers free weekly swimming lessons, which cater for varying abilities, for residents aged 65 and over at three of its leisure centres. Over-65s can also book free swimming at the pools as a way to stay fit.

Classes and swimming sessions can be booked at Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Complex (indoor pool only), Botwell Green Sports and Leisure Centre (Hayes) or Highgrove Pool (Ruislip) by visiting [www.better.org.uk](http://www.better.org.uk) or downloading the Better UK phone app.



### Join a bowling club

There are 13 bowling clubs across the borough, and the season runs from April to September.

Some clubs have additional facilities, such as a clubhouse and a space for short mat bowls which can be played indoors all year round.

To find a club near you, details on memberships and more, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/bowlinggreens](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/bowlinggreens).

### Online seated exercise classes

The council runs weekly online seated exercise classes for over-65s so you can keep fit from the comfort of your own home.

The free sessions take place every Monday between 10.30am and 11.30am via Zoom.

Book your place by emailing [sportandphysicalactivity@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:sportandphysicalactivity@hillingdon.gov.uk) with your name and the date of the session that you would like to join. Joining details will be sent to you once you're registered.

### Join a walking group

Our Walk Hillingdon programme runs free guided walks through many of the borough's award-winning parks. These walks are a great way to meet people and are suitable for a variety of fitness levels.

Booking in advance is essential to ensure safe group sizes can be maintained.

To find out more and book onto a session near you, visit [discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/led-walks](http://discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/led-walks).

Alternatively, downloadable self-guided walking tours and easy-to-follow directions are available for a range of Hillingdon routes and trails. Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/walking](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/walking).

### Terry Loane, aged 71, from Ruislip,

is a Walk Hillingdon walk leader. He said: "Tuesday 25 May was a day to remember for me as it was the first time I had led a walk for more than

14 months! I had really missed taking part in the borough's programme, so it was wonderful to be out and about with a group of people to enjoy Ruislip Lido and Woods - one of the gems of Hillingdon's many green spaces. I am convinced that the Hillingdon programme of led walks is not just beneficial for physical health but also makes an important contribution to social wellbeing. I am looking forward to leading many more walks in the future."





# Free childcare for eligible families

There are several government schemes available to help Hillingdon parents and carers with the costs of childcare, including free childcare for two, three and four-year olds - find out if your family could be eligible.

The government offers its 30 hours free childcare scheme for three and four-year olds to eligible working families. Free childcare is also available to working families on a low income, or to families who are not working and receive benefits, for 15 hours a week for two-year-olds.

Parents who receive Disability Living Allowance for their two-year-old child, and families caring for a child who is fostered or adopted, may also be eligible for free childcare.

The council is now encouraging more local families to take up the free childcare scheme for two-year-olds.

**Naz Khan, aged 34 from Uxbridge,** has four children and was eligible for 15 hours of funding per week for her two-year-old daughters Miescha and Safa.

She said: "I hadn't planned on sending any of my children to nursery until they were three, but when my daughter Miescha turned two I realised that her speech was delayed and I was worried about her development. When I learnt that she was eligible for the government's free childcare scheme for two-year-olds, I decided to send her to nursery to help with her speech and her confidence as she was very shy.

"After having a look at various early years settings in the area, I chose

Uxbridge Early Years Centre because of the staff. They are all so nurturing, welcoming and knowledgeable, with years of experience looking after children. After just six months there, Miescha was talking in full sentences which I couldn't believe – it was such a relief for me as a parent."

Now Miescha is at school but her younger sister, Safa, attends for 15 hours a week through the same free childcare scheme. Naz continued: "After seeing the benefits of free childcare for my eldest daughter, I was keen to send Safa when she was eligible for two-year-old funding. She was very shy and clingy to mummy and not interested in socialising with other children, but since going to nursery she has really come out of her shell. She even comes home talking about her friends!"

In addition to improving development and increasing confidence, are there any other reasons for eligible parents to use the free childcare offer? Naz concluded: "I have a five-month-old baby and it's important that I get time to spend with him but also some time to myself. I really appreciate some quiet time while Safa is enjoying nursery and being able to get things done around the house. The two-year-old free childcare scheme has really benefited us as a family."

**Gemma Caplin, aged 35 from South Ruislip,** is a working mum and sends her son Charlie to South Ruislip Early Years Centre, where next year she will be entitled to the 30 hours free childcare scheme. She said: "Charlie had been on the waiting list for the early years centre and I moved him there as soon as a place became available. It has a really good reputation and was highly recommended. The centre has small class sizes which is great, but the biggest attraction to me is the staff. They are so kind and caring and you can tell that they do it all for the love of children.

"Charlie enjoys nursery and they're always doing fun activities and themes like fancy dress. One of the biggest differences I've noticed is his independence, as they teach him how to eat independently, how to put on his coat and shoes and wash his hands. It's a great thing for them to learn from an early age.

"Charlie will remain there until he starts school, and next year he will be entitled to 30 hours free childcare. There is great flexibility with the hours, the staff update you on how your child's day has gone, and it is such a high standard of care. As a working parent, it gives me peace of mind knowing that he is so well looked after."

## Free childcare schemes

Some Hillingdon families may be eligible for the government's free childcare scheme.

- Families with a two-year-old child must meet eligibility requirements to receive 15 hours of free childcare.
- Working families with three and four-year-old children may be entitled to 30 hours free childcare.
- All families in England with a three and four-year-old child are entitled to 15 hours free childcare.

For more information on the government's free childcare scheme and tax credits for childcare, visit [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)



Nursery worker Gill Ashton with Charlie at South Ruislip Early Years Centre



Nursery worker Carol Barber with Safa at Uxbridge Early Years Centre





# Communities benefit from the council's ward budget scheme

Since September 2011, wards across Hillingdon have benefited from more than £1.1 million giving residents the opportunity to have their say on how money is spent locally.

To date, the popular ward budget scheme has funded 693 proposals across the borough's 22 wards. The initiative can be used to fund a wide range of community

projects, including local Scout/Guide group activities; events such as summer or Christmas fêtes; repairs and renewals of community facilities and the purchasing of new street signs or furniture.



**COMMUNITY**  
Local people enjoying the Hayes Canal Festival in 2018

## Bringing the community together

Hillingdon Canals Partnership on behalf of the Canal and River Trust has been awarded a grant of £10,000 to support the development and delivery of the Hayes Canal Festival 2021. The festival is due to take place in the autumn (date TBC and COVID-19 dependent).

Each year, the festival attracts approximately 2,500 visitors and offers a range of free activities for local people to enjoy including boat trips, canoeing, paddle boarding, fishing, live music, children's entertainment, displays, stalls and much more.

**David Brough, Chair of Hillingdon Canals Partnership,** said: "The Hayes Canal Festival really does have something for

everyone and brings people of all ages and backgrounds together to have fun as a community.

"We're delighted to have been awarded this grant by the council. This funding makes this popular event possible and we hope to be able to welcome both new and familiar faces later this year.

"The theme of this year's event will be health and wellbeing and will include stalls from the NHS, H4All and other wellbeing organisations.

"Studies have shown that being beside the water can have a positive impact on mental and physical health, so I'd encourage local people to check out their nearest stretch of canal."

**Cllr Douglas Mills, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Transformation,** said: "Our ward budgets initiative puts residents in the driving seat of deciding where and how money is spent locally.

"Over the past decade, hundreds of groups and organisations have received funding and the scheme is intended to be flexible to ensure that money can be quickly released."

Ten other new proposals were also awarded funding in May. These included St Margaret's Church in Uxbridge, which received £2,500 towards the refurbishment of the church's small kitchen and to fund the purchase of a new camera to enable them to continue to livestream events and reach as many people as possible.

6th Eastcote Scout Group also received £2,500 towards the purchase of a gazebo to provide an outdoor shelter for parents at pick-ups/drop-offs. It will also be used to accommodate outdoor activities such as fire making, compass making and cooking for the group.

Grants can be paid to groups or organisations with a dedicated bank account but not to private individuals. Ward budgets can also be used for match funding.



Hillingdon Musketeers benefited from funding in the past for new equipment

To apply for ward budget funding, contact your local ward councillor with your proposal. For more information, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/wardbudgets](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/wardbudgets)



## New food waste collection process launched

In May, we introduced a new fleet of trucks which will collect food waste separately from garden waste each week as part of our ongoing efforts to improve the borough's recycling rates and protect the environment.

The council has invested £485,000 in the trucks, which started to carry out the separate collection rounds from Monday 10 May. Previously, food and garden waste were collected at the same time on a weekly basis by the same vehicle.

Approximately 44 per cent of general waste in Hillingdon is made up of food waste. This is bad for the environment and contributes to global warming due to harmful gases like methane and carbon dioxide being released into the atmosphere.

If each west London household recycled just two kilograms of food waste per week it would save 600,000 tonnes of harmful emissions a year (which, in context,

is enough to power the electricity of 372,473 homes for a year).

Disposing of food waste with general waste is also 12 times more expensive than when it is recycled separately.

### How you can get involved and do your bit to protect the environment

Recycling food waste is free and easy to do.

If you live in a house and are already recycling your food waste thank you!

If you aren't already using this service, all you need to do is:

- sign up on the council's website at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/food-waste](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/food-waste)
- you'll receive a free five-litre kitchen caddy, compostable food waste bags and an outdoor caddy

- you can also sign up to receive free automatic food waste bag deliveries, which is useful, so you don't need to remember to order these each time you run out
- all you need to do is put a compostable bag into your indoor kitchen caddy and start using it. When it's full of food waste, simply place the bag in your outdoor caddy
- remember to put your outdoor caddy at the edge of your property for collection before 6am on your usual collection day. Thanks to the outdoor caddy's click locking mechanism, it also prevents foxes and rodents from tearing open your black bags looking for food.

### The food waste recycling journey



Once collected, Hillingdon's food waste is transported in bulk to Surrey for recycling via a process called anaerobic digestion.



It's then broken down in a series of temperature-controlled tanks to speed up the digestion process.



The bio-methane gases produced are used to generate electricity which is fed back to the National Grid and helps supply homes and businesses with clean, renewable energy.



The leftover material is used as high-quality fertiliser for agricultural land. Your garden waste (which can include home composting) will continue to be composted locally in Harefield.

**Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Environment, Housing and Regeneration** (pictured right), said: "More than half of the borough's food waste ends up in general waste which is harmful for our planet. By making small changes to the way we all think about food waste and by using the council's easy-to-use recycling service residents can help us to make a real difference.

"I encourage those who haven't yet signed up for this service to request their free caddies today and play their part in helping to make our borough greener."



To find out what food items you can recycle and for more information, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/food-waste](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/food-waste)

\*Those living in flats aren't able to use this service just yet but this is something we are working hard to introduce in the future.



# Cranford Country Park restoration gathers pace

Works to restore Cranford Country Park's historic features, improve accessibility and transform it into a thriving visitor attraction continue to gain momentum. *Hillingdon People* takes a look at the multi-million pound restoration project and explores what the Green Flag award-winning park has to offer.

Steeped in history, the 144-acre (58 hectares) countryside park was the former seat of the Berkeley family for 300 years and is surrounded by expansive woodlands, wildflower meadows and wetlands.

In June 2020, the council was awarded £2.28 million by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and The National Lottery Community Fund. An overall £3.47 million budget was approved by the council in July 2020 for the restoration of the park's historic buildings, walls and courtyard; landscaping works; the introduction of new visitor facilities; a network of cycle/walking tracks; as well as creating a wealth of volunteering opportunities for the local community.

Works to the northern cycle path completed in April 2021 to link Watersplash Lane with St Dunstan's subway. Improvements included installing new fencing and creating wider, more accessible footpaths to open up the route. As part of the overall restoration project, a perimeter track will eventually circle



**FRUITFUL**  
Volunteers harvest apples in September 2020

the park providing an attractive trail for cyclists, runners and walkers.

In the autumn, other works will commence on site and are expected to last approximately 10 months. Highlights include opening up the 17th century vaulted brick cellars under the former house (demolished in 1945); building a new café within the footprint of the former house, with access to the cellars; repairing the historic stables to house a visitor centre, offices and a space to let for community groups; creating two new play areas and restoring the gardens and historic features such as the high garden walls, ice house and 'ha-ha' (a sunken trench which acted as a boundary to the park without interrupting the view).



**REVITALISED**  
Cranford Park's northern cycle path

**Leader of the Council, Cllr Ian Edwards**, said: "During the past year, we have all used our parks and open spaces more than ever and these much-needed restoration works will ensure that Cranford Park can be enjoyed by generations to come. "As well as preserving the park's historic features, increasing biodiversity and enhancing the natural environment, the new accessible facilities mean that schools, community groups and residents of all ages will be able to enjoy a wide range of educational and volunteering opportunities."

A raft of new volunteering opportunities and family events are also in the pipeline this summer and local people will be able to take part in an archaeological dig later this year to help uncover secrets of the park's past. Other opportunities include learning how to maintain an orchard or plant fruit bushes in the walled garden, helping to improve the river by clearing out leaves and other debris and creating a new wetland area to help wildlife thrive.

The restoration work is being supported by Cranford Park Friends who have played an important part in running events and helping with the maintenance of the park.

**Bob Barton, Secretary of the Cranford Park Friends**, said: "We are looking forward to assisting in bringing the plans to fruition, and introducing many more people to the natural and built treasures of Cranford Park.

"With its wide range of habitats and biodiversity, the park is well-loved and enjoyed by the local community. The COVID-19 crisis has brought this to a new level, with an even greater appreciation of this tremendous asset on the doorstep."

To find out how to get to Cranford Park and latest information on the works and events coming up, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/cranfordpark](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/cranfordpark)

# Help keep siblings together

The council endeavours to keep siblings together in care, but it's not always possible due to lack of space in many homes. We met a local couple to find out about the challenges and rewards of fostering brothers and sisters, and why more people should step forward to make a difference.



**Roy**, aged 60, and **Filomena**, aged 58, from Hillingdon (pictured right) first fostered a group of three young siblings 11 years ago. The children came from a household of severe neglect and abuse and were in desperate need of a loving family environment.

**Roy, a physiotherapy assistant at Hillingdon Hospital**, said: "We had been thinking about fostering since we were first married, but we had busy careers and twin girls of our own. We both come from large families and love being busy, but most importantly we wanted to make a difference to children's lives. We had spare bedrooms and felt we could give a child a safe and secure home where they would feel loved. It's something we felt passionate about when the time was right."

**Full-time foster mum Filomena** said: "Our first experience was fostering three siblings aged two, four and five. Of course it was daunting, but we already had twins and we just wanted to make them feel safe, so we took it in our stride.

"When we first met the children, I could feel myself welling up as they were so malnourished, their hair was dirty, and their clothes were old and far too small for them. We could see how neglected they were, and I cried so much. Our daughters both fell in love with them the moment they walked through the door.

"The first few weeks were wonderful, and the children began to relax more and settle in. It was incredible to watch them grow in confidence in a safe environment, and it was a great feeling when they started coming to us for cuddles. I remember the first time we gave them strawberries and their faces just lit up - they were



over the moon. They'd never even tasted strawberries before."

As the children grew to trust their foster carers, their behaviour became more challenging. Roy said: "Certain objects would trigger fearful behaviour such as the sight of a wine glass - because they immediately associated drinking alcohol with domestic violence. We soon learnt that their behaviours were all connected to the abuse they had been subjected to, and that they expected everyone to be violent.

"We had a supportive social worker to guide us through our foster care journey and we went on lots of training courses to help understand the reasons behind their behaviours and how to help them get through it. It's been a real learning curve, but it's been so rewarding to see the improvements over the years."

Filomena continued: "One of the best things about caring for siblings has been watching their self-esteem grow. When they arrived, we bought them brand new clothes with our fostering allowance and praised them for how well they looked. Our children now take so much care over their hygiene and appearance, and they are always well presented

because they want to be. They are all in education and are doing so well, their teachers even say to us that they can't believe they're children in care!"

So, what advice would the couple give to people who may be thinking about fostering siblings? Roy concluded: "One of the most important things you can do is to make sure you care for each child individually as they all have different needs. We never treated our foster children any differently to our twins and we gave them clear boundaries.

"It's imperative that you are committed and you must never let them down. They have been let down and rejected so many times before, so you have to keep your promises. Looking after more than one child may seem overwhelming at first, but if you put in the time, love and affection - you will really reap the rewards."

**Cllr Jane Palmer, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care**, said: "What Roy and Filomena have done is truly remarkable and we are so proud of their achievements. We are now appealing to more residents who have two or more spare rooms to look after siblings, so that they do not need to be separated. Caring for a sibling group may be complex and require more time, energy and commitment from foster carers, but you will be fully supported every step of the way and can make a real difference to the lives of local children."

If you would like to look after two or more siblings in care, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/fostering)



# Creating a cleaner and greener Hillingdon for future generations

In January 2020, the council declared a climate emergency and outlined its ambition for its day-to-day operations to be carbon neutral by 2030. Read about some of the initiatives already underway to help achieve this goal.

Climate-conscious residents and local community groups have been sharing their views on the council's draft Climate Action Plan through the council's public consultation which launched in April and ran until Sunday 20 June.

The plan sets out how the council intends to tackle climate change across seven key strands of work: community leadership; council operations; building better places; using clean/green energy; waste management; adaptation and mitigation, and carbon offsetting.

Thank you to the more than 100 residents who shared their views. Here's what some of them had to say:

All new developments should be easily accessible for public transport and should be net-zero

Please make sure that any planting involves local sources. We have the largest woodland in London to gather seeds from and schools could be involved in this

Communicate to residents how you intend to make changes to buildings to reduce the use of fossil fuels and if there are any economic benefits

Once collated, the council will review all the responses to see what concerns residents and businesses the most about the climate crisis. The council will then use this feedback to shape its future plans and activities to address both the climate challenge and the expectations of residents.

## Trees for Cities brings green to Hillingdon streets

More than 230 residents have already helped efforts to make the borough greener by joining tree-planting schemes organised through the council's partnership with the charity Trees for Cities.

Volunteers from Colham Manor Primary and Meadow High School in Uxbridge, and community group, Hillingdon Litter Pickers (pictured below and above right) have all worked in COVID-safe bubbles for tree-planting projects across the borough.

Now entering the second year of a three-year partnership, successes from the first year of work included the creation of a new urban woodland and orchard in Colham Green and the start of pilot 'mini woodland' street tree-planting schemes.

Fifty new fruit trees were planted in Colham Green, whose flowers and fruits will provide foraging opportunities for a variety of birds.

The partnership delivered the first of three special tree-planting projects,



creating 'mini woodlands' on soft street verges. Using native tree species, rather than the traditional standard trees, they are better for helping local biodiversity. The examples can be seen near Hillingdon Heath and along Long Lane, with similar schemes planned for Charville Lane and Sipson Road over the next two years.

The council has ambitious plans to work closely with Trees for Cities on delivering more trees across the borough's parks, streets and green spaces. These will help clean polluted air, provide a home for nature, and the pandemic has highlighted the benefits of such natural spaces for promoting mental health and general wellbeing.



**ENGINES OFF**  
The council's waste and recycling crew

## 25 schools benefit from pollution 'green screens'

The council recently finished a third phase of works in installing pollution-busting 'green screens' at schools across the borough.

Although schools in Hillingdon have not been identified as being above the recognised air pollution limit, the screens are an effective barrier to protect youngsters against any harmful particles in the air caused by passing traffic.

The screens are made of roadside trees, hedges, willow and green vegetation, and form a natural filtering barrier from the pollution emitted by vehicles on the road. Children are at higher risk of harm from air pollution as their lungs are still developing.

By absorbing the pollutants from the road and stopping them passing through, these screens help protect the health of the children playing on the other side.

To date, 25 schools have benefited from the hedging, which in many

cases will also grow large enough to provide privacy to children and staff in the school grounds.

They also have the added bonus of looking more pleasant than the usual chain-link fences surrounding schools and bringing further greenery to the borough's streets.

More than 100 hedge plants and various trees now line the boundaries of Whitehall School on Cowley Road, Uxbridge. Almost 40 trees have been planted in front of a willow screen at Cherry Lane School, West Drayton, protecting children on the school fields from traffic fumes on Cherry Lane. And at Hillside School in Northwood, a new hedgerow has been planted between the road and playgrounds.

The work is paid for through environment and recreation initiatives funding, with a further 13 schools set to benefit in the next phase of works.



**GREEN SHIELD**  
Hawthorn and rowan trees with a willow screen provide a barrier between Cherry Lane Primary School's playing field and the busy road outside

## Pledge for cleaner air

On national Clean Air Day (Thursday 17 June) the council pledged to take more action to stop unnecessary vehicle emissions in the borough, by joining the London-wide 'Engines Off' campaign.

Through its pledge, on top of its proactive work enforcing against engine idling in the borough, the council has promised that drivers across its operations will not idle their engines wherever possible.

## AirTEXT

If you're concerned about air quality in Hillingdon, there's a free service you can sign up to which will send you alerts when pollution levels are high.

AirTEXT is available to anyone who lives or works in the borough. It uses forecasts generated by Cambridge Environmental Research Consultants. The service predicts when high pollution levels might occur and sends out an alert to subscribers along with some basic medical advice.

If you have an existing respiratory disease it may help you to know there is a free service you can sign up to which will send you alerts when pollution levels are high.

Alerts are available by SMS text message, email and voicemail along with three-day forecasts of air quality, pollen, UV and temperature across Greater London. To find out more and sign up, visit [www.airtext.info](http://www.airtext.info).

To learn more about the work being carried out to tackle air pollution in Hillingdon, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/airpollution](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/airpollution).

## Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Environment, Housing and Regeneration,

said: "We're determined to make Hillingdon a leading borough in the fight against climate change.

"We've set an ambitious target for the council's own operations to be carbon neutral by 2030. Our draft Climate Change Action Plan sets out our plan to achieve this goal to climate-proof the borough and make it a place where both nature and people thrive.

"It's vital that residents help us drive these plans and that's why we are working with businesses, community groups, schools and residents to deliver a greener borough for future generations."



# Building high-quality new homes for Hillingdon residents

Several housing schemes have completed this summer delivering new properties for local people and the residents of two Hayes estates have recently voted in favour of redevelopment which will deliver more than 700 new homes. *Hillingdon People* takes you on a tour of a few of the sites and talks to some of the residents who have recently moved in.

## New homes built by the council on former depot site Ditchfield Road, Yeading

The Ditchfield Road site was formerly known as the Willow Tree Depot and used to be occupied by the council's green spaces team. The team relocated to another site and it was demolished in 2019 to make way for 10 new homes (six three-bed and four four-bed) at affordable rent for families on lower incomes.

Construction started in early 2020 and completed in April 2021. All homes have their own front gardens and benefit from two off-street car parking spaces; these include electric vehicle charging points and private landscaped gardens to the rear.

The development is close to large areas of green space, including King George Fields and Willow Tree Open Space and the Grand Union Canal is also nearby.

**Kikey Khan, aged 37, from Hayes** and her husband **Tipu** and children, **Rehan aged 12 (pictured below), Anmbreen aged 12, and Samreen aged nine**, moved into a specially adapted three-bed house in Ditchfield Road in May. She said: "Our son Rehan lives with a rare genetic condition called Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy which affects the muscles. We moved out of an old Victorian property because it couldn't be adapted properly to accommodate Rehan's growing needs.



**AFFORDABLE**  
Cllr Eddie Lavery, Leader of the Council, Cllr Ian Edwards, and Cllr Jonathan Bianco tour the Ditchfield Road development

"Our new home is beautifully modern and so much thought has gone into adapting the rooms for Rehan. The long hallways and wide doorways can accommodate his motorised wheelchair and the property has three hoists so that he can be moved safely and comfortably out of his wheelchair. An internal lift means that Rehan can easily access upstairs and he has the freedom to go out into our front and back gardens to get some fresh air whenever he wants.

"Moving into our new home has transformed Rehan's life and because he can be more independent he's so much happier."

**Rehan, aged 12**, said: "I think the house is really cool and the space is really good too. I like the hoist in my bedroom and the lift means I can easily get around the house. I'm really happy that I can do more things for myself and that I don't need to rely on mummy and dad so much. We're really near to a lovely park and I'm enjoying exploring that with my sisters."

## Moorfield Road, Cowley

Five storage units/garages to the rear of 113-127 Moorfield Road (a two-storey block consisting of ground floor shops and first floor flats) were demolished to make way for five three-bed houses.

Work commenced in March 2021 and the new homes will benefit from modern kitchens, a downstairs toilet, two car parking spaces and a private rear garden. The properties are expected to be ready in early spring 2022 and will be available for local people to purchase from the council on a shared ownership basis.

The development is close to the Grand Union Canal, Yiewsley Recreation Ground and is within easy access of Uxbridge town centre.



Leader of the Council, Cllr Ian Edwards at Moorfield Road

## Hillingdon First

In April 2018, the council set up Hillingdon First Limited to enable the authority to build high-quality homes for sale or let creating a sustainable revenue stream to help fund future homes for local people, as well as council services.

## Victoria Road, South Ruislip

In January 2021, the first Hillingdon First development of 31 flats (15 one-bed, 14 two-bed and two three-bed) completed on a site adjacent to South Ruislip Library on Victoria Road.

The new homes boast ensuite bathrooms, high spec kitchens with quartz worktops and underfloor heating and are situated close to, Sainsburys supermarket, South Ruislip station and the nearby amenities at the Old Dairy development.

**Nush, from Hillingdon**, said: "I moved in just over a month ago. This is the first property that I've ever owned, and is the best decision I've made after having seen a number of Help to Buy properties. I've

always lived in Hillingdon, it's such a beautiful borough and I didn't want to move out of the area.

"The block is quiet and peaceful and I have a separate room for my office which helps me to have a good work-life balance. Everything is within walking distance, so the location couldn't be more perfect."

The last few remaining flats are being marketed by Coopers. For more information and to arrange a viewing, visit [www.coopersresidential.co.uk](http://www.coopersresidential.co.uk).

## St Helen's Close, Cowley

St Helen's Close in Cowley is the council's second Hillingdon First development and five new homes (four two-bed and one three-bed) are due to complete in summer 2022.

The close is located within easy reach of local shops, schools, Cowley Recreation Ground, Brunel University and has bus links to West Drayton train station, Hillingdon Hospital and Uxbridge town centre.

## Residents vote yes to Hayes Town Centre and Avondale Drive estates redevelopment

In May, tenants and leaseholders of the Hayes Town Centre and Avondale Drive estates voted overwhelmingly 'yes' in favour of the council's redevelopment proposals in a resident ballot (79 and 94 per cent respectively).

The proposals were given the green light to progress to the next stage at the council's Cabinet meeting on Thursday 17 June, and the council hopes to submit a planning application for each estate in the autumn.

The council has been impressed by the high level of involvement from those living on both estates and listened to residents' ideas and feedback to shape proposals.

The developments will help to revitalise the Hayes area and residents from both estates will be able to live



Artists' impression of Avondale Drive estate

in modern and safe homes which are built to the highest possible standards.

The council hopes to build more than 500 new homes on the Hayes Town Centre Estate and 220 on the Avondale Drive site. A key feature of both of the new estates will be a wide range of property sizes including one, two, three and four bedroom apartments and maisonettes. There will also be a range of tenures, as new homes will be a mixture of replacement social rented homes, additional council homes, shared equity homes, shared ownership homes and homes for sale. Other features include resident-only courtyard gardens, new play areas and new community facilities.

If given the go ahead, work on both developments is expected to start in the autumn of 2022.

## Other non-council affordable developments

The council is working with developers to maximise the number of affordable homes in the borough. Below is a selection of a few of the schemes which have recently completed.

## Waterside Heights, Horton Road

Located in the heart of West Drayton, Waterside Heights, which was completed in May 2021, has a selection of 22 apartments available for London affordable rent and 65 (one and two-bed) shared ownership apartments for sale.

All homes feature high-spec interiors and have excellent rail links to the capital. Grand Union Canal is nearby and Colne Valley Regional Park with its amazing nature trails and lakes is just minutes away.

For more information on this scheme and other shared ownership developments visit, [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/shared-ownership](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/shared-ownership).

## Park Road, Uxbridge

Located in North Uxbridge, the development completed in March 2021. Built by Kearns Developments, the nine flats (five two-bed and four three-bed) are being rented by residents on the council housing list.

Each flat includes a range of kitchen appliances and has an ensuite bathroom in the master bedroom.

## Cllr Jonathan Bianco, Cabinet Member for Property and Infrastructure, said:

"Building new homes, maximising the number of affordable properties and improving and modernising existing council housing are key priorities for this administration.

"We are committed to ensuring that residents from all backgrounds have access to high-quality homes which are modern, safe, energy-efficient, well-designed and meet or exceed minimum space requirements."

For more information on the Discount Market Sale scheme, shared ownership, Help to Buy and other ways to get on the property ladder, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/housing](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/housing)



# Continuing to + KEEP HILLINGDON SAFE +

As national restrictions eased during the last two months as part of the government's roadmap, the council carried out a range of initiatives to keep coronavirus (COVID-19) infection rates low and support residents and businesses.

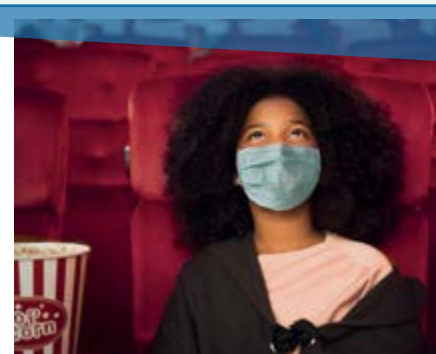
## Restrictions ease - what you can do now From Monday 17 May

As infection rates and hospital admissions continued to fall, the government allowed the third step in its roadmap to progress.

This was welcome news for the hospitality and entertainment industries as it permitted indoor activities to resume. Pubs, restaurants and cafés could serve customers inside again; hotels, cinemas and museums were able to reopen; and organised adult sport and exercise classes could once again be held indoors.

All remaining outdoor entertainment was also able to resume, such as outdoor cinemas and performances. Some larger events were also able to take place, including conferences, theatre and concert performances, and sports events. However, restrictions on the number of attendees remained.

Up to six people or two households were able to meet indoors and up to 30 people outdoors. Guidance on meeting family and friends was also updated, with people able to make informed, personal decisions on close contact, such as hugging. Up to 30 people were also able to attend weddings, receptions, and commemorative events, including



wakes, and care home residents were able to receive more visitors.

COVID-secure rules, including social distancing, remained for the workplace and businesses, such as in shops and hospitality settings.

At this point, the council reminded residents that while this was another step towards normality, they should remain vigilant by adhering to the rules still in place and continuing to follow the hands, face, space and fresh air guidelines; getting tested regularly and taking the vaccine when offered to ensure that infection rates remained as low as possible.

## Step four out of lockdown

On Monday 14 June, the government announced that stage four of its roadmap out of lockdown would be delayed by up to four weeks from Monday 21 June to Monday 19 July (subject to infection rates and hospitalisation figures).

Rules ordering the wearing of face coverings in enclosed public spaces, limiting groups to six people indoors and 30 outdoors, and keeping nightclubs shut remain in place while the government monitors the spread of the Delta variant and delivers more first and second doses of the vaccine.

Residents are encouraged to follow social distancing guidelines and take the vaccine when offered to help keep Hillingdon safe.

## In-house contact tracing provides quicker support for residents testing positive

The council has seen improved contact tracing results since it started to take part in the 'Local-O' scheme in April.

In comparison to the centralised system used previously where there was a contact rate of 76 per cent, the council has been able to reach on average 94 per cent of people.

The initiative localises the process, with those in the borough who receive a positive COVID-19 test result getting a phone call from the council rather than from the national centre during the council's call centre opening hours.

The scheme has also enabled the council to support residents who test positive for COVID-19 more quickly by providing access to help, such as the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme and services from the council's COVID-19 Community Hub.

As soon as the council is informed of a positive test result, the contact tracing team calls the resident to ensure they've filled in the online NHS questionnaire to detail who they've had contact with, when their symptoms started and places they've visited. If the council's dedicated call centre team can't make contact by phone, a specialist council team will make a socially distanced home visit.

This local contact helps to make the process more personal, avoids the need for residents to be contacted multiple times, and by ensuring the questionnaire is filled in quickly and people are in turn told to self-isolate, it allows the council to stem the spread of the virus quicker.



## Thank you for participating in enhanced COVID-19 testing

During April, May and June, the council carried out enhanced testing in a variety of targeted areas across the borough to suppress the spread of COVID-19 variants of concern.

Working with Public Health England enhanced testing was carried out by the council in April in an area of the UB3 postcode in Hayes and in May in an area of the HA4 postcode in Ruislip after a single case of the Beta variant was found in both localities.

More than 2,300 tests were carried out in Hayes and more than 5,000 in Ruislip.

Additionally in May, the council carried out enhanced testing and accelerated vaccination in pockets of the borough where at least two cases of the Delta variant were found. This included Harlington, West Drayton, Yiewsley, Uxbridge and Charville (targeted areas within the UB3, UB4, UB7, UB8 and UB10 postcodes).

South Ruislip was also identified as having had at least two cases of the same variant but as enhanced testing had already recently taken place there, the focus for that area became accelerated vaccination.

During each phase of enhanced testing, those living and working in the targeted areas were asked by the council to take a PCR COVID-19 test whether they were showing symptoms or not. For Hayes, the council carried out door-to-door testing, whereas for

the other areas the council signposted residents to the nearest testing centres and supported those who were unable to attend a centre with a home visit.

There is currently no evidence to suggest that the regulated vaccines would not protect against variants. The purpose of enhanced testing is to help to suppress and control the spread of the virus while enabling a better understanding of variants of concern. All positive test results in the targeted areas were genome sequenced to identify any further spread of variants of concern.

The council also provided guidance to schools where there were outbreaks and set up an enhanced mobile testing unit at some secondary schools in targeted areas.

In addition to the enhanced testing, the NHS carried out an acceleration of the vaccination programme by encouraging residents to come forward for their vaccination as soon as they were eligible.



## Continue to get tested

As many as one in three people who have COVID-19 show no symptoms but could be passing the virus onto others.

Everyone is encouraged to take regular free rapid tests to help to prevent outbreaks and reclaim a more normal way of life. Rapid testing detects cases quickly, meaning positive cases can self-isolate immediately.

Even those who have been vaccinated are encouraged to still get tested regularly.

## If you do not have symptoms you can choose one of the following ways to get tested:

1. Book an appointment to attend our local community testing site [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/community-testing](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/community-testing).
2. Order and collect home test kits from our community testing site or have kits delivered to your home at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/home-testing](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/home-testing).
3. Pick up a free box of home test kits from your local pharmacy. Calling ahead to check stock availability is advised.
4. Secondary school and college students will continue to be provided with tests to use at home twice a week, throughout term-time and the holidays.
5. Some workplaces are also taking part in a 'workplace collect' scheme and offering employees tests to use at home.

## If you have any COVID-19 symptoms:



a continuous cough



high temperature



or loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

you should self-isolate and book a test by visiting [www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](http://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test) or calling 119.



### Open for business

As further businesses reopened from Monday 17 May, the council has continued to support businesses by encouraging residents to shop and eat locally.

The council has also assisted the hospitality sector by waiving the cost of temporary pavement licences for 12 months. Since last summer, 115 licences have been issued. To find out more, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/pavement-licence](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/pavement-licence).

The council has also been fast-tracking licensing applications to support businesses to reopen as quickly as possible. Other support measures have included suspending pre-application inspections for existing businesses until after they reopen and allowing for licence fees to be paid in instalments.

Businesses were also provided with advice from council officers about how to make their premises COVID-secure, and enforcement officers and the council's COVID marshals carried out regular patrols to check businesses and customers were adhering to the latest government guidelines.

The council has also procured specialist business expertise to support small independent businesses and help rejuvenate town centres and local shopping parades. This includes support to hold promotional



events, finding alternative uses for vacant shops and temporary street furniture for outdoor dining.

**Kajal Patel (pictured above), 42, Designer at Kajal's Couture in Northwood,** said: "It's been great opening again and the response from our customers has been amazing. We've spent most of the time video calling clients these few months, so to have them come back, browse through our collection and try on our dresses has been fantastic. We're looking forward to seeing more easing of restrictions so we can really embrace normality once more."

The council has also continued to provide businesses whose trade has been impacted by COVID-19 with a range of support grants. **Natalie Walker, aged 46, owner of Red Onion Café (pictured below),** said: "It's been really good to open up again and this time with our converted garden which is COVID-secure and perfect for the summer weather. It's been great welcoming back our usual customers and seeing new faces after so long. "We also have the bonus of having a pavement licence as do many of our neighbouring cafés and restaurants which makes our high street look welcoming, attractive and certainly open for business. We look forward to welcoming more people."

**Cllr Martin Goddard, Cabinet Member for Finance,** said: "We have worked extremely hard since the start of the pandemic to support businesses through what has been a very challenging time. "More than £75 million has been paid out to 3,500 businesses across a variety of sectors to assist them and help them to bounce back. "As all businesses have now been able to reopen, I encourage residents to shop and eat locally to support our high streets and boost the local economy."



**BUSINESS SUPPORT**  
Ross Forsyth from the council's licensing team, Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cllr John Riley and Natalie Walker

### "I've had mine"

We're encouraging residents who haven't yet had their COVID-19 vaccine to book their appointment as soon as possible.

The NHS programme has now seen more than 290,555 first and second doses being given to Hillingdon residents. This is an impressive uptake – thank you to those who have come forward. The vaccine is being offered at larger vaccination centres, pharmacies, and some local NHS services.

- Heathrow Vaccination Centre, Compass Centre, Bath Road, Heathrow, TW6 2GW
- The Record Store, The Old Vinyl Factory, 15 Pressing Lane, Hayes, UB3 1HA
- Lawton Pharmacy, 8/9 Crescent Parade, Uxbridge Road, Uxbridge, UB10 0LG
- Eastcote Pharmacy, 109-111 Field End Road, Pinner, HA5 1QG
- Stockley Park Golf Club Limited (Howletts Pharmacy), Stockley Park, Hayes, UB11 1AQ
- Boots Pharmacy, 128 Intu Shopping Centre, Uxbridge, UB8 1GA
- Winston Churchill Theatre, Pinn Way, Ruislip, HA4 7QL

The NHS will let you know when it's your turn to have the vaccine and how to book your appointments at the sites above. Remember, if you've had your first dose please also take the second to ensure you have stronger and longer lasting protection. It is important that everyone gets two doses.

The vaccine is safe and effective and remains the best way to protect against the virus.

For more information about the vaccine, visit [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus).



**Miraj, aged 28, from Ruislip,** said: "I took the vaccine because it helps everyone get back to normality. It's similar to the vaccines we got as kids and they are there to keep everyone safe. I thought it was really good and well-organised, I didn't have to wait long, the volunteers and staff here were great."



**Krishna Kumari, aged 28, from West Drayton,** said: "I feel better now and happy that I got the vaccine. It was painless and quick. I got the vaccine to help contribute to helping us all get back to normality. I also took it to protect my family - I have two children and I want to keep them safe."



**Benjamin Foote, aged 26, from Ruislip,** said: "So far, it's gone so well. It's easy and straight forward. I got the vaccine because if I do get COVID-19 it reduces transmission and I'm less likely to spread the disease."



**Paramjit Kaur, aged 27, from Hayes,** said: "I want to be able to travel again, and also to protect my loved ones and family."



CREDIT: CHRISDOORNEY/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM



# Further your education with our new programme of courses

Our adult learning courses for 2021/22 have been revealed, offering you plenty of fun and exciting learning opportunities. Whether you're wanting to gain a qualification, change career, build on your existing skills, get creative, meet people or learn something new, we have a range of classes for you to choose from.

With the new academic year just around the corner, our adult learning centres are now taking bookings for their sessions that are starting from September.

The courses, which are held either in-person at one of our four centres across the borough, in the community (as part of established groups, at schools and children's centres) or online, are great value for money and an opportunity for you to develop skills, gain a hobby, start a new vocation or support your health and wellbeing.

You don't need to have a qualification or vast experience to enrol on many of our classes. Our programme caters for all ages and abilities, offering something for everyone, with levels ranging from beginners, to intermediate and sessions that are more advanced.

Our programme for 2021/22 contains more than 70 nationally recognised qualifications and features a variety of subjects, including floristry and horticulture, English, maths, accounting, childcare, health and social care, yoga, sewing, painting, foreign languages and digital skills.

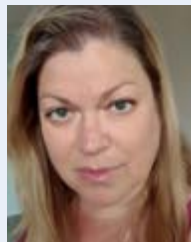


New for this year are qualifications in creative industries. Whether you are interested in gaining a qualification in makeup or fashion to work in the film industry, or want to create your own business start-up, our creative industries courses will help you to take your first steps towards a career in this growing and diverse sector.

As COVID-19 restrictions continue to ease, our adult learning centres are looking forward to welcoming students back to their COVID-secure classrooms. However, a range of courses will continue to be offered online, allowing you to take part in these around work and family commitments from the comfort of your home.

## Hillingdon's courses are helping me to forge a new career

**Jane Whitlock, aged 50, from West Drayton,**



became interested in floristry when she enrolled on the council's Award in Creative Craft (Floristry) course in September 2018. She then went on to complete a Level 2 Certificate and Level 2 Diploma in Floristry at Brookfield Adult Learning Centre. She has also whetted her appetite in the subject with a variety of short courses and workshops.

Jane works as a Human Resources Manager for Mitie and is currently studying for an Award in Education and Training at Brookfield. She said: "I find the floristry courses that I've undertaken incredibly rewarding.

"I am learning new skills, gaining confidence and I am very well supported by all the staff. Additionally, it is helping with my wellbeing as I find floristry incredibly relaxing and it takes away lots of the stresses of your working week.

"I have a keen interest in teaching and want to progress to teach floristry at some stage. The courses I have undertaken and the support I had, I feel, will enable me to reach that goal."

If you, like Jane, want to enter a modern, vibrant and creative industry, our highly skilled floristry tutors would love to teach you how to manage the latest floristry trends as your knowledge and skills develop. They have courses from beginner level through to advanced that can help you join the industry or work your way up to owning or managing a business.

**Cllr Susan O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services,** said: "We are committed to ensuring that residents have access to high-quality, varied and value for money learning opportunities.

"It's fantastic to hear how many of you over the years have reaped the benefits of learning with us and how our courses have helped you.

"This year's adult learning programme contains a range of exciting classes designed to inspire, build independence and boost confidence. Whether you're looking to learn a new skill, make friends or gain a qualification, why not have a look at what's on offer and enrol?

"Our friendly team is on hand to provide more information and help you at every step on your learning journey."



## My course is helping me to develop and make new friends

**Anda Dzenuska, aged 39, from Uxbridge,**



is originally from Latvia. Prior to moving to the UK, she found she needed counselling and had a couple of sessions before realising that this was a career she would like to pursue as supporting others has always come naturally to her.

Anda had worked in retail prior to enrolling on the Level 2 Counselling course at Brookfield Adult Learning Centre. Describing the course, she said: "We had to invest significant time in self-development, which can be beneficial in your workplace, relationships and also help to build a better understanding of ourselves. The course taught me how to better develop my interpersonal and reflective skills. Reflecting on my life, my character and how I interact with other people has helped me to see myself as a unique person with all the imperfections and strengths which make me who I am.

"This year has helped me to take better care of myself and grow

as a more assertive person. I have learnt how to be more aware of my prejudice towards others and how a non-judgemental approach can benefit interaction with others.

"There were challenging tasks I have never done before, but my tutor and counselling group have always been very supportive, and I realised that all of us can achieve so much more than we thought with the right support and direction.

"The main outcome of this year's studies has been the new friendships we all developed in the class. Together we have discovered so much more about ourselves and supported each other along the way. This support and belief in each other has given me the strength to learn more. I am now keen to start the Level 3 Counselling qualification and learn more about theory, ethics and mental health and pursue a career in counselling"

If, like Anda, you would like to enter the health or social care profession, we have courses for those who have no background or qualifications in either sector and qualifications at higher levels for those who have some experience and want to develop their career in the industry.

## Our adult learning centres

**Brookfield Adult Learning Centre**  
Park Road, Uxbridge, UB8 1NP  
[brookfield@hae-acl.ac.uk](mailto:brookfield@hae-acl.ac.uk)  
01895 556455

**Harlington Adult Learning Centre**  
Harlington Community School,  
Pinkwell Lane, Hayes, UB3 1PB  
[harlington@hae-acl.ac.uk](mailto:harlington@hae-acl.ac.uk)  
01895 556252

**Ruislip Manor Adult Learning Centre**  
Linden Avenue,  
Ruislip Manor, HA4 8TW  
[ruislipmanor@hae-acl.ac.uk](mailto:ruislipmanor@hae-acl.ac.uk)  
01895 277347

**South Ruislip Adult Learning Centre**  
Victoria Road, Ruislip, HA4 0JE  
[southruislip@hae-acl.ac.uk](mailto:southruislip@hae-acl.ac.uk)  
01895 556248

For more information about the courses on offer and to enrol, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/adult-courses](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/adult-courses) or call 01895 556455





## BE AMAZED

Visit the historic Battle of Britain Bunker. The secret heart of Britain's air defence where ordinary men and women did extraordinary things.

Wren Avenue, Uxbridge  
 battleofbritainbunker.co.uk  
 01895 238154



THE  
**BATTLE OF  
 BRITAIN  
 BUNKER**



# Inclusive work programme helps young people thrive

The council has partnered with charitable organisation DFN Project SEARCH to provide young people with supported work placements at its Civic Centre in Uxbridge.

The Transition to Work programme, is open to 17 to 24-year-olds with a learning disability or autism. Last September, the initiative welcomed its first cohort, and 12 participants are currently gaining valuable experience in the council to help prepare them for the workplace.

Over the course of the year-long programme, the interns are being given the opportunity to gain 800 hours of transferable skills by working in three different departments while studying for an employability qualification.

The scheme, which is also being run in partnership with Orchard Hill College and Hillingdon Autistic Care and Support, provides an on-site tutor and full-time job coach employment specialists to support the participants as they transition from education into full-time employment.

At the end of their placements, the interns will be encouraged to apply for roles within the council or supported in applying for jobs in the local community.

### Here's what a few of our interns had to say:

**Daisy Hudson, aged 23, from Uxbridge,** said: "My mum recommended this programme to help boost my confidence and improve my communication skills. My first placement was in the school admissions department and I helped with a variety of tasks including data entry. I enjoyed this role because I like to be organised and wanted to gain more admin experience."

**Jack Freshwater, aged 22, from Uxbridge,** said: "I found this programme through my carers. For my first placement I was a facilities assistant and I enjoyed working with this department because I liked doing the permit checks of the car parks, auditing the cleaning stations and checking the printers. In a couple of weeks' time, I'll be doing my second placement in the green spaces team, doing tasks such as tidying, weeding and maintaining the parks, cemeteries and other green spaces."

**Leader of the Council, Cllr Ian Edwards,** said: "The council is committed to ensuring that all our young residents are given the support they need to take the next steps in building successful and fulfilling careers. "It has been a privilege to see how the confidence and independence of those taking part has grown in just a few months and I'm looking forward to welcoming the next cohort of young people in September."

**Will Blades, aged 19, from Ruislip,** said: "A family member suggested Project SEARCH and we arranged a phone interview with the team, and to my surprise and happiness, I landed a spot! I was given two placements, my primary one was with the school admissions department and involved maintaining a large spreadsheet of live data, filling envelopes and liaising with other teams. "Overall, I've greatly enjoyed and appreciated my time on the programme. Learning how to act professionally in a work environment was something I needed to experience and the people I work with are very friendly. I hope to use the skills I've gained to get a job either within or outside the council, to help fund scuba dives and my adventures across the world!"

**Apply for September 2021**  
 For more information on Project SEARCH and how to apply for September's intake, email Stuart Smith at [ssmith7@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:ssmith7@hillingdon.gov.uk) and for an application form, email Orchard Hill College at [assessments&placements@orchardhill.ac.uk](mailto:assessments&placements@orchardhill.ac.uk).

If you would like to find out more about this programme and other local employability initiatives, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/ready-for-work](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/ready-for-work)



**GAINING CONFIDENCE AND NEW SKILLS**  
 Interns Jack Freshwater, Will Blades and Daisy Hudson

## Autumn Show 2021

**Enter our growing and gardening competitions**  
 Find out more online

Entry deadline:  
**Friday 17 September**  
 Autumn Show takes place:  
**Saturday 2 October**  
 See website for show details

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk/autumnsow](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/autumnsow)





**HILLINGDON BLOOM**  
Get growing for Hillingdon

Entry deadlines:  
Hillingdon in Bloom: 30 July  
Autumn Show: 17 September

**Enter our growing and gardening competitions online**

**HILLINGDON**  
LONDON

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk/bloom](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/bloom)



**Have your say on the future of housing in Hillingdon**

**We want to ensure that Hillingdon residents have access to high-quality affordable homes and the council is planning to set out its vision for the next five years.**

Please complete our short online questionnaire to let us know what housing issues matter most to you.

Have your say from Monday 19 July by visiting [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/housing-strategy](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/housing-strategy)

**HILLINGDON**  
LONDON

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk)

# A warm welcome to the new Mayor of Hillingdon

Cllr Roy Chamdal was elected Mayor of Hillingdon at the council's Annual General Meeting on Thursday 20 May. He replaces retiring Mayor, Cllr Teji Barnes, in the prestigious role to highlight positive work taking place across the borough. *Hillingdon People* finds out more about the borough's latest first citizen.

Subject to COVID-19 restrictions, the Mayor will attend events in and around Hillingdon, meet with residents and community organisations across the borough, and welcome schools and local groups to the Mayor's Parlour and Council Chamber. He has chosen his wife, Reeta Chamdal, to serve as Mayoress, and his daughter, Evangeline Chamdal, for the role of Mayor's Escort.

Cllr Chamdal has been a resident of Ruislip for more than 30 years and was elected councillor for Brunel ward in 2014. He got into politics to make a difference to residents. As a ward councillor, he was instrumental in introducing an outdoor gym at Connaught Recreation Ground and a children's playground at Abbott's Close.

Away from politics, he is a proud father of four children and has a grandson. Some know him as an avid cricket fan and he has also taken up golf. Cllr Chamdal started his career in the food industry manufacturing samosas and Indian sweets, he then moved onto bread production and now onto cakes.

Cllr Chamdal is no stranger to making a difference, he was School Governor at Whiteheath Infants and Juniors, and also Ruislip High School where his key responsibilities included finance and children with Special Educational Needs and disabilities.

This year's Mayor's Charity Appeal will support the Domestic Abuse Survivors (DAS) and the Navratri Garba.

He chose DAS due to the rise in incidents of domestic violence during

the pandemic and was impressed by how they cared for those who turned to them for support. Navratri Garba provides free food to those most in need. Cllr Chamdal was inspired by how the charity supports the wider community. He hopes to raise awareness of the extraordinary work that both of these charities do for residents.

**Cllr Chamdal** said: "It's a great honour to be elected the new Mayor of Hillingdon. I want to thank the councillors for electing me and congratulate our outgoing Mayor, Cllr Teji Barnes, who has done a fantastic job in meeting residents and community groups to help bring us all together - despite the challenges this pandemic has brought."

"I will continue the work all our past mayors have engaged with and look forward to meeting many of our residents, young and old, and from different communities. This last year has been difficult for us all, and I hope that with restrictions easing we are able to celebrate the great events which take place in our borough."

**Cllr Barnes**, said: "My year as Mayor was unforgettable and a truly inspiring year in my life. I was able to engage with Hillingdon residents through the most difficult times while we were struggling against a global pandemic. I had the chance to meet amazing people like volunteers who continuously helped others by organising food parcels, phone calls, prescription collections and offered a virtual hand to hold through the really dark days."

"I was able to connect with so many via my YouTube channel Mayor of Hillingdon 2020 and showcase the



great work of our NHS staff, our young people, charities, libraries and open spaces. Each day felt like a gift and each meeting with someone, whether it was online or in person, made my day. There were also so many great stories of courage, determination and motivation from shop owners and new business owners of how they managed to survive against the odds. I am also grateful to my children, Escort Cameron, and Mayoresses Roma and Elouisa, for their support during my memorable term."

The Deputy Mayor is Cllr Becky Haggart and the Deputy Mayor's Consort is Marios Kaikitis.

If you would like the Mayor to attend your activity or event, please call 01895 250763 or email [mayor@hillington.gov.uk](mailto:mayor@hillington.gov.uk). To find out more about the Mayor's Charity Appeal and donate, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/mayor](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/mayor)



## Update from the West Area Chief Inspector

I hope that you are enjoying the warm weather and I also hope you've noticed our enhanced patrols in the borough's parks and open spaces - these will continue throughout the summer.

At the time of writing I have not yet made the selection for the Hillingdon neighbourhood Inspector's post but they will be in post by the time you read this, and I hope they will become a familiar face to many of you.

Overall crime is down by just over 5 per cent, and these figures are important as we are comparing lockdown periods from last year with non-lockdown periods this year, so we do not simply get the statistical benefit of lockdown to make our figures look better. Robbery is down by 30 per cent and burglary is down by 27 per cent, and we have a comprehensive plan in place to keep those offences down.

Our cohort of new recruits are still coming on stream through Brunel University and our recruitment campaign continues. If you are thinking of applying, as a non-degree holder,

the Met Police will both fund your degree and pay you whilst you study.

I'd like to reference our current Hard Calls Save Lives campaign, which encourages everyone to pass on information to us, no matter how small. Knife crime continues to be a concern, and whilst we and the council are working hard to tackle offending, and to provide opportunities to keep youths out of trouble, we do need your help.

It can be daunting to pass on information about knife crime. You might be unsure what information is useful or what might be done with it. Crimestoppers are not the police, and are not linked to the police. They are an independent charity which provides a safe place for people to speak up about crime.

Anything and everything you say to Crimestoppers is 100 per cent anonymous; they have an anonymity guarantee that has never been broken. When you contact Crimestoppers, a specially trained call handler will take your call, and listen without

judgement, they will not ask you how you came about the information.

It may feel like a hard call but you could stop someone's child being killed. Call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or report online at [www.hardcallsavelives.co.uk](http://www.hardcallsavelives.co.uk).



Chief Inspector  
Richard  
Watkinson

## Volunteer to support families in Hillingdon

Home-Start Hillingdon is a small, independent charity providing assistance to families with children aged under five. *Hillingdon People* finds out about their valuable work and how you can get involved through volunteering.



The community organisation, located in Long Lane, Hillingdon, was formed in 1999 and has since helped hundreds of families across the borough via their network of volunteers who offer emotional and practical support. The council also supports their efforts and this year gave the charity a £120,000 grant to help them maintain their operations.

The charity recruits, trains and manages volunteers who are then matched with a local family to provide befriending

support. Their role is to provide a friendly listening ear, offer encouragement, give practical help with the children, as well as helping the family access local support and services.

The volunteers have been credited by residents and medical professionals for having a huge impact in helping families cope when they are finding things difficult. Many professionals, including health visitors and mental health practitioners, make referrals to the charity as they recognise the difference

the volunteers can make when families are dealing with issues such as postnatal depression, isolation and managing difficult personal circumstances.

Before the pandemic, each volunteer would visit their family at home on a weekly basis. During the lockdowns, as in-person home visits weren't possible, volunteers maintained their relationships with families through regular phone calls. These calls gave isolated and struggling parents the opportunity to talk and be heard and enabled volunteers to signpost them to other useful services.

Now restrictions have relaxed, Home-Start has introduced 'walking visits' which allow volunteers to meet and spend time with their family outside. As soon as it is safe to do so, the charity hopes to resume home visits.

### Become a volunteer

The number of families Home-Start can support depends on how many volunteers they have. If you have been a parent or carer and are available for half a day a week, the charity would love to hear from you. If you can speak a second language, that would also be a bonus.

Before being placed with a family, all volunteers undertake the charity's Volunteer Preparation course. The next course starts on Wednesday 22 September and takes place every Wednesday for nine weeks, between 9.45am and 2.30pm. The training will be delivered at a COVID-secure location, following the latest government guidelines.



**Aasha from Hayes (pictured right)** heard about Home-Start's work through Belina GRoW, a charity helping women to enter the workplace. She wanted to get involved so she could lend her support to local families. Aasha undertook the charity's Volunteer Preparation course last October and has since used what she has learnt to support the family she was matched with.

She said: "I didn't know about Home-Start before, but now I see how the families respond to the volunteers and I think it's such a brilliant thing. When someone calls and cares, it can help make things so much better for the family. If you have the power to help people, you should do it, and, if you can make someone's day, just for one day, you can change their world."



As Aasha has been volunteering with Home-Start for only a short time, she hasn't yet been able to have a face-to-face visit with her family, and is really looking forward to being able to offer that in-person support.

She added: "Having not yet had the opportunity to provide face-to-face support, I am looking forward to having the chance to be able to visit my family and see how much more of a difference I can make."

### Cllr Douglas Mills, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Transformation, said:

"Home-Start Hillingdon provides a vital service for residents with young children across the borough. It offers friendly, non-judgemental support and I would encourage any local families who are struggling to contact the team.

"If you have the spare time to befriend a local family, please do get in touch with the charity to find out more about this enriching and rewarding volunteering opportunity."

For more information and to get involved, visit [www.homestart-hillingdon.org.uk](http://www.homestart-hillingdon.org.uk) or email [office@homestart-hillingdon.org.uk](mailto:office@homestart-hillingdon.org.uk). You can also stay up to date with the charity's activities by following them on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

**SUPPORT LOCAL SHOPS AND BUSINESSES**

**Shop locally and support Hillingdon's high streets**

With everything from gardening services to restaurants, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/businessdirectory](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/businessdirectory) to find out which businesses are open near you and what COVID-19 safety measures they have in place

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk)

**Rural Activities Garden Centre**

**Shop with us for plants and more**

We are offering:

- a 'choose and collect' service •
- pre-booked appointments for shopping •
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Minimum order £10 for collection and delivery services • Pay by card • No cash accepted •

To place your order, email [@jsarnicki@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:jsarnicki@hillingdon.gov.uk) or call 01895 443445 to book an appointment.

Please find our latest plant availability list on the Rural Activities Garden Centre Facebook page.

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk/ragc](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/ragc)



# HILLINGDON WHAT'S ON?

Hillingdon has a range of free (unless specified) socially distanced and online activities to keep you entertained throughout July and August.



Culture Bite Lunches:  
Aliya Ali-Afzal



## LIBRARIES

**Culture Bite Lunches:**  
**Aliya Ali-Afzal**  
Friday 16 July, 1pm to 1.45pm on Facebook Live  
Put your questions to award-winning author Aliya Ali-Afzal as she discusses her debut novel *Would I Lie to You?*, a warm-hearted and funny story about a woman who must hide the fact that she's spent her family's savings.  
**Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/CB-lunches](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/CB-lunches).**

**Culture Bite Lunches:**  
**Richard Roper**  
Monday 2 August, 1pm to 1.45pm on Facebook Live  
Richard Roper is a non-fiction editor at Headline Publishers. His first novel, *How Not to Die Alone*, was inspired by an article he read about people whose job it is to make funeral arrangements for those with no family or friends. Richard's second book, *When We Were Young*, is a tender story about wanting to go back - when you know it's time to move on. Tune in as Richard discusses both releases and answers questions put to him.  
**Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/CB-lunches](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/CB-lunches).**

**Culture Bite Lunches:**  
**Victoria Scott**  
Wednesday 11 August, 1pm to 1.45pm on Facebook Live  
In this instalment, join journalist turned author Victoria Scott as she talks about her debut novel *Patience*, which explores the lives of the Willow family. Central to the story is Patience, who suffers from Rett syndrome. When the opportunity to put

Patience into a new gene therapy trial to cure her condition becomes available, opinions are divided, and the family is torn.  
**Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/CB-lunches](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/CB-lunches).**

## EXERCISE

**Exercise with Alice**  
Mondays and Thursdays, 10am to 11am  
The award-winning dance exercise class for over-60s of all abilities is available via Zoom and at a COVID-19 secure location. The sessions, which can be enjoyed either seated or standing, provide fun and friendships while getting fit; and are led by a qualified West End dancer.  
**Cost: A monthly subscription of £25.**  
**For more information, call 07736 546190 or email [exercisewithalice@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:exercisewithalice@yahoo.co.uk).**  
**Guide Hut, Ickenham**

Multi-sports club for children with disabilities



**Led walks in Hillingdon**  
Monday to Saturday across the borough  
The Walk Hillingdon programme runs free guided walks through many of the borough's award-winning parks, including Gutteridge Woods, Stockley Park, and Ruislip Lido and Woods. Booking in advance is essential to ensure safe group sizes can be maintained.  
**Find out more and book at [discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/led-walks](http://discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/led-walks).**

**Mindfulness with Alice**  
Wednesdays, 10am to 11am via Zoom

Learn to manage stress, depression and anxiety. Get help with sleep, relaxation, pain management and general wellbeing at this friendly group. Mindfulness based on Oxford University CBT and NLP. New weekly evening class coming soon.  
**Cost: A monthly subscription of £20.**  
**For more information, call Alice on 07736 546190 or email [mindfulnesswithalice@yahoo.com](mailto:mindfulnesswithalice@yahoo.com).**

**Multi-sports club for children with disabilities**  
Mondays, 5pm to 5.40pm and 5.50pm to 6.30pm, via Zoom  
Run by qualified sports instructors, these free virtual sessions for six to 12-year-olds with disabilities are designed to help improve coordination, balance and fitness. Children taking part will need a drink handy, plus the use of household items, such as socks and a box. For health and safety, parents are required to remain in the room while the session is taking place.  
**Find out more and book at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/disabilities](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/disabilities).** Joining details will be sent to you once you're registered.

**Tennis court hire and coach-led sessions**  
A hiring fee of £5 per hour, per court has been introduced at seven of the locations (Cavendish Recreation Ground, Churchfield Gardens, Fasnidge Park, Hillingdon Court Park, Rosedale Park, Swakeleys Park and The Closes). Payment can be made when booking a court. Free coach-led tennis sessions for young people aged over 12 years are on offer once again at Cavendish Recreation Ground.  
**Cost: £5.**  
**Find out more and book at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/tennis](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/tennis).**  
**Cavendish Recreation Ground**

## ONLINE EXHIBITIONS



**Faces of the Battle: A Local Perspective**  
A gallery commemorating local RAF airmen, from Hillingdon and the surrounding areas, who participated in the Battle of Britain. The display, which features personal stories, military achievements and photographs highlights the bravery and sacrifices these men made during this pivotal moment in British history.  
**Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/faces-of-the-battle](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/faces-of-the-battle).**

**The Treaty of Uxbridge**  
In 1645, at the height of the English Civil War between King Charles I and Parliament, Uxbridge was chosen to hold peace talks. The talks were held in February at Place House - part of which survives as The Crown and Treaty Public House on Uxbridge High Street. The exhibition looks at what was discussed, the characters who took part, and the history of The Crown and Treaty House itself.  
**Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/treaty-of-uxbridge](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/treaty-of-uxbridge).**

## LEISURE

**Comedy Compass**  
Sunday 25 July, 7pm, and Sunday 29 August, 7pm  
Comedy Compass compère Lewis Bryan is back with a great line-up of talent in this new outdoor setting. Doors and the garden bar are open from 6pm. Blankets and camping chairs are permitted, or just lay, laughing on the grass. These are over-18 only events.  
**Cost: £8.**  
**Find out more and book at [www.hillingdontheatres.uk](http://www.hillingdontheatres.uk).**  
**Compass Theatre**



**Duck Pond Markets**  
First and third Sunday of the month, 10am to 3pm  
Foodies markets on the first Sunday of the month. Artisan markets on the third Sunday of the month.  
**Find out more at [duckpondmarkets.com](http://duckpondmarkets.com).**  
**Manor Farm**

**Exhibitions at the Cow Byre Gallery**  
Daily, 10am to 5pm  
Located on the Manor Farm site, this popular gallery exhibits work from different local art groups nearly every week of the year. The latest displays will include work from Peter Hopper (Sunday 1 to Saturday 7 August), the Arbutus Group of Artists (Sunday 8 to Saturday 14 August), Middlesex Women's Institute (Sunday 15 to Saturday 21 August) and NU Shei Art (Sunday 22 to Saturday 28 August).  
**Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/manor-farm](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/manor-farm).**  
**Manor Farm**

**Manor Farm House Visitor Centre**  
Wednesday to Fridays, 12pm to 3pm and the first and third Sunday of the month, 11am to 3pm  
The visitor centre is located inside the beautiful Tudor Manor Farm House and provides an excellent introduction to Manor Farm's rich history, which has been documented since medieval times. The Grade II listed building, with many original features remaining, includes one of the oldest examples of domestic wallpaper still to remain on its original wall in England, two permanent display rooms with artefacts, interactive displays, temporary exhibitions and more. A collection of 18th and 19th century farming tools is also housed next door in the Pram Shed.  
**Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/manor-farm](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/manor-farm).**  
**Manor Farm**

**Playday**  
Wednesday 4 August  
A range of free taster sessions will take place across the borough to mark this year's national day of play. The hour-long



sessions will be held in small groups with social distancing measures in place. Activities include cycling, storytelling, fitness classes and cricket. Booking in advance is essential.  
**Find out more and book at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/playday](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/playday).**

**The Stage is Yours**  
Monday 26 to Friday 30 July, 10am to 4pm and Monday 16 to Friday 20 August, 10am to 4pm  
The Compass Theatre is running two weeks of musical theatre

workshops for children aged between four and 14. Participants will work with an experienced director, choreographer and musical director, rehearsing songs, drama scenes and dance routines from hit West End and Broadway musicals. Each week will feature a different musical.  
**Cost: Ages four to six, £50/ages seven to 14, £115 (paid in advance).**  
**Find out more and book at [www.hillingdontheatres.uk](http://www.hillingdontheatres.uk).**  
**Compass Theatre**



Manor Farm House

## VENUES

- Cavendish Recreation Ground**  
Field End Road, Eastcote, HA4 9PG
- Churchfield Gardens**  
Eastcote Road, Ruislip, HA4 8BE
- Compass Theatre**  
Glebe Avenue, Ickenham, UB10 8PD

- Fasnidge Park**  
Rockingham Parade, Uxbridge, UB8 2UW
- Harmondsworth Recreation Ground**  
Summerhouse Lane, West Drayton, UB7 0AW
- Hillingdon Court Park**  
Parkway, Hillingdon, Uxbridge, UB10 9JX

- Ickenham Guiding HQ**  
Community Close, Ickenham, UB10 8RE
- Manor Farm**  
Bury Street, Ruislip, HA4 7SU
- Moorhall Recreation Ground**  
Priors Gardens, Priory Avenue, Harefield, UB9 6AP

- Northwood Recreation Ground**  
Chestnut Avenue, Northwood, HA6 1HR
- Rosedale Park**  
Albion Road, Hayes, UB3 2RY
- Swakeleys Park**  
The Avenue, Ickenham, UB10 8LD
- The Closes**  
Church Close, West Drayton, UB7 7PY

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



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www.jlrestates.co.uk

**MULTI SPORTS CLUB**  
for children with disabilities

Enjoy these fun and relaxed sessions on Zoom for children aged 6 to 12 years.

The FREE sessions run on Mondays:

- 5pm to 5.40pm
- 5.50pm to 6.30pm

For ages 6 to 12 years

Parents/carers are required to stay in the session to ensure smooth running.

To book your child's place, visit:  
[www.thepsdgroup.org.uk/psd-clubs/](http://www.thepsdgroup.org.uk/psd-clubs/)

For more information contact:  
[info@thepsdgroup.org.uk](mailto:info@thepsdgroup.org.uk)  
020 3397 7409

HILLINGDON LEARNING DEVELOPMENT

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk/disabilities](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/disabilities)

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[www.hillingdon.gov.uk/doitonline](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/doitonline)

**Environment and roads**

Abandoned Vehicles ▶  
Environment and Anti-Social Behaviour ▶  
Flytipping ▶ Graffiti ▶  
Parks and Green Spaces ▶  
Pest Control ▶ Roads and Pavements ▶  
Special Collections ▶ Street Lighting and Cleansing ▶  
Waste and Recycling 01895 556000  
Licensing ▶ Animal Welfare 01895 277433  
Food Health and Safety 01895 250190

**Learning**

Adult Learning [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/adultlearning](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/adultlearning) 01895 556455  
Library Information Desk 01895 250714  
School Admissions [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions) 01895 556644  
School Transport 01895 250008  
Truancy Hotline 01895 250858

**Leisure**

Battle of Britain Bunker Exhibition and Visitor Centre [battleofbritainbunker.co.uk](http://battleofbritainbunker.co.uk) 01895 238154  
Botwell Green Sports and Leisure Centre 020 8561 0956  
Haste Hill Public Golf Course 01895 250777  
Highgrove Pool and Fitness Centre 01895 630753  
Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Complex 0345 130 7324  
Hillingdon Theatres [www.hillingdontheatres.uk](http://www.hillingdontheatres.uk) 01895 250615  
Queensmead Sports Centre 020 8845 6010  
Uxbridge Public Golf Course 01895 556750  
William Byrd Pool 020 8897 9390

**Local democracy**

Council Meeting Dates and Agendas 01895 250636

**USEFUL SERVICES AND AGENCIES**

Addiction, Recovery, Community, Hillingdon (ARCH) 01895 207777  
Affinity Water 0345 357 2407  
Age UK Hillingdon 020 8756 3040  
Alzheimer's Society Hillingdon 01923 823999  
Asphaleia Action 01895 272478  
Carers Trust Hillingdon 01895 811206  
Centre for ADHD and Autism Support 020 8429 1552  
Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline 03454 04 05 06  
Citizens Advice Hillingdon 0344 848 7903  
Communicare Counselling Service 01895 256056  
Disablement Association Hillingdon (DASH) 020 8848 8319  
HD Carers Support Group 07752 169849  
Healthwatch Hillingdon 01895 272997  
Hillingdon Autistic Care and Support (HACS) 020 8606 6780  
Hillingdon Brain Tumour and Injury Group 01895 713205

**HILLINGDON CONTACTS**

Electoral Services and Registrars 01895 558250  
Conservative Group Office 01895 250316  
Labour Group Office 01895 250780  
Mayor's Office 01895 250763

**Planning**

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk/planning](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/planning)  
01895 250230  
Building Control, Inspections and Dangerous Structures 01895 558170  
Dangerous Structures (out of hours) 01895 250111  
Local Land Charges 01895 556115

**General**

Adoption and Fostering [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/fost-adopt](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/fost-adopt) 0800 783 1298  
Brown Badges 01895 277277  
Council Tax and Benefits [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/counciltax) 0300 123 1384

Families' Information Service [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/fis](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/fis) 01895 556489  
Fraud Hotline [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/reportfraud](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/reportfraud) 0800 389 8313  
Hillingdon First Card [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/hillingdonfirst](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/hillingdonfirst) 01895 556677  
Hillingdon Social Care Direct (adults and children) ▶ Blue Badges ▶ Freedom Passes ▶ Meals Service ▶ TeleCareLine 01895 556633  
Housing Services [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/housing](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/housing) 01895 556666  
Substance Use and Misuse or Sexual Health 01895 250721  
Trading Standards [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/tradingstandards](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/tradingstandards) 01895 250164

**All other council enquiries (not listed above)**  
01895 250111

**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 and Fire**  
Metropolitan Police Non-emergency 101  
Textphone 18001 101  
Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch [all@hillingdonnhw.co.uk](mailto:all@hillingdonnhw.co.uk)  
Hillingdon Fire Station 020 8555 1200



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