

HOUNSLOW matters

Summer 23

Community and Council news from around the borough



CELEBRATING THOSE WHO SHINE

*Delivering for
residents*
p8-9

*Working together
for young people*
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*Making a fairer,
more equal Hounslow*
p17

*Dementia
care service*
p20

Beat The Heat

KEEP IN TOUCH



Look after yourself, older people and the young



Listen to the weather forecast and the news



Plan ahead to avoid the heat

KEEP WELL



Drink plenty of fluids and avoid excess alcohol



Dress appropriately for the weather



Slow down when it is hot

FIND SOMEWHERE COOL



Know how to keep your home cool



Go indoors or outdoors, whichever feels cooler



Cars get hot, avoid closed spaces

WATCH OUT



Be on the lookout for signs of heat related illness



Cool your skin with water, slow down and drink water



Get help. Call NHS 111 or in an emergency 999



For more information on how to stay safe in hot weather, call **NHS 111** or visit www.nhs.uk/heatwave

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Welcome to the latest edition of Hounslow Matters – Summer 2023



Dear Resident,

A year has absolutely flown by since the May 2022 elections, and my team has been working hard to deliver a thriving, cleaner, greener, safer, healthier and more liveable borough. Our corporate strategy, Ambitious for Hounslow, is at the heart of our efforts and we've made some good progress.

As we build on this strong start, we remain as committed as ever. I know household budgets are under great strain and people are worried about what the future holds. That's why at the very centre of what we do as a Council over the next few years and beyond is our desire to make Hounslow fairer for different groups in different places.

In this spirit, we have launched a far reaching Equality, Diversity and Inclusion strategy and action plan. Through this we will better understand the issues that underpin stubborn inequality, and work as a Council – alongside partners and communities - to improve lives.

That One Hounslow ethos remains central to how this Council delivers. One thing is very clear from my first year as Leader – we have a greater impact in partnership with you, our residents and communities.

That is why in early July we celebrated you in a special Hounslow Community Stars awards event at Hounslow House. The event recognised residents, voluntary groups and businesses who go above

and beyond for their communities. I was truly humbled by the dedication and commitment of residents to making a difference. You can read more about the winners on page 5-7.

I was pleased to welcome our new Mayor, Cllr Afzaal Kiani to his role in June. One of his first actions was to pledge the Council's support to military personnel, veterans and their families by signing the Armed Forces Covenant, an important way to show the value we place on existing and former service personnel. It was also pleasing to see the Mayor will continue to raise funds for important charitable causes. Do have a look at what the Mayor's charities do and keep an eye on his pages and other communications for ways you can show support.

Anyway, enough from me - I hope you enjoy this summer edition of Hounslow Matters – so much has been going on from the joy of Pride month in June, marking our new King's Coronation with British Airways, through to the launch of a new Youth Skills and Employment Guarantee.

It promises to be another brilliant summer in the borough too – so check out the many amazing arts and cultural activities that are set to take place as part of Summer of Culture 2023.

Cllr Shantanu Rajawat (Shan)
Leader of Hounslow Council

MEET THE MAYOR OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HOUNSLOW

The Mayor of Hounslow 2023-2024 is Cllr Afzaal Kiani



Mayor Kiani was first elected as a Cllr for the Hounslow Heath Ward in 2018.

He was born and raised in Rawalpindi, Pakistan and moved to the UK in 1986 as a student. After completing a degree in law, he started work as a Community Advisor for a local organisation funded by Islington Council.

Cllr Kiani has also worked for the Civil Service in various departments and has broad experience of dealing with people from diverse backgrounds. A school governor since 1990, he has held various senior positions on the respective boards of governors.

As well as serving on various committees and panels for the Council, he has sat as Chair and Vice Chair of the Housing and Environment Scrutiny Panel.

Cllr Kiani has lived in the borough since 1998 and is married with four children.

Mayor's Charity

The Mayor has chosen two charities for his Mayoral year – **Al-Mustafa Welfare Trust** (Registered Charity Number 1118492) and **CW+** (Registered Charity Number 1169897).

Al-Mustafa Welfare Trust Whilst a global charity, they have a Hounslow focussed 'Neighbours First' projects designed to tackle issues such as homelessness and provide elderly support, poverty support services, and young offenders support, among others.

CW+ Raising money for a new state-of-the-art facility at West Middlesex University Hospital that will include cancer services. The new centre will give residents of Hounslow, Richmond and Ealing faster access to tests and treatments closer to home, and will mark a major step forward in the development of patient care in our local community.

ONE HOUNSLOW COMMUNITY STARS 2023

CELEBRATING THOSE WHO SHINE

Hounslow Council hosted its **One Hounslow Community Stars awards** on Wednesday, 12 July to recognise and celebrate residents, voluntary groups and businesses who go above and beyond for their communities.

The evening, sponsored by the Hounslow Herald, was held on the

sixth floor of Hounslow House, and was hosted by Cllr Dan Bowring. Attendees included all twenty nominees, a selection of individual volunteers and representatives from organisations, who were nominated for their outstanding contribution to the borough, and the tireless enrichment of the lives of others.

Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of the Council, commented: "Hounslow has a thriving voluntary and community sector and I'm constantly amazed by its breadth and depth, the quiet army who give up their time and the variety of support provided."

OUT AND ABOUT WITH THE MAYOR

The Mayor has had a busy start to the summer season, supporting various local organisations and events:

Quacking fun

The Mayor joined Isleworth Lions and Royal Oak Charity for their annual rubber duck race.



Book launch

The Mayor attended the book launch for Hamza Lodhi.



If you'd like the Mayor to attend your civic event, charity or voluntary organisation please get in touch with mayor@hounslow.gov.uk



DEPUTY MAYOR

The Deputy Mayor of Hounslow 2023-2024 is Cllr Harleen Atwal Hear, who represents the Heston Central ward.



The full rundown of our One Hounslow Community Stars 2023

Jonathan Ashby Rock, Hounslow Arts Centre



Jonathan was nominated for his inspiring creative work in Hounslow where he has expanded the Arts Centre's vision, making really good use of the vacant Debenhams space in the Treaty Centre.

Mohinder Dosanjh, Trinjan



Mohinder's a mainstay of an organisation that seeks to empower and motivate women through an enriching friendship group that offers personal development, creative activities, fitness and much more.

Ghanaian Community Forum (GCF)



The two women responsible for the GCF received multiple nominations for their work in bringing together the Ghanaian Community across Hounslow.

Sharnjeet Bhalla, founder, Sunshine of Hounslow



Sharnjeet was described as 'the most dedicated and selfless volunteer' for her work connected to Sunshine of Hounslow. Their work supports isolated residents through health and wellbeing interventions, in addition to regular community activities.

West London Queer Project



Hounslow's leading LGBT+ group, which have become a thriving organisation that seeks to connect, support, and give voice to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer people across Hounslow and beyond.

Heston and Isleworth Air Cadets



The Vicarage Farm Road-based squadron offer training and skills development linked to the aviation sector for young people aged 12 to 20 that they may not otherwise have access to.

Chiswick Repair Café



This Turnham Green favourite has been spearheading the repair café movement in west London and are a talented team with a growing reputation for fixing things for the local population.

Speak Out in Hounslow



Community organisation working with people with learning disabilities and autism with a reputation for excellence. Some people travel into Hounslow from outside the borough because there is nothing comparable on offer in their own area.

Cycle Sisters



Riding out of Osterley Park on Sunday mornings and Hanworth Airpark every other Wednesday, these pedal powered women have developed into something of a local phenomenon.

Heston in the Community



Nominations spoke highly of Heston in the Community Youth Hub and the positive effect it had on children in the area.

Shamama Lateef



Shamama is a trustee at the Al Mustafa Welfare Trust and received multiple nominations for her proud history of community work.

Umme Khanzada



Umme was nominated for her tireless work for Cranford Action Group and was described as 'phenomenal' by a colleague.

SHEWISE



An organisation that helps women find their independence, understand their human rights, and enjoy a life of financial independence and dignity.

Malwina Kukaj



Malwina is Chair of the Polish Klan Association and a social activist who has made a significant impact within the Polish community in Hounslow.

Jenny Samuel



Another Home Start volunteer, Jenny is a retired head teacher who has been giving back with the local charity since 2006.

Darshan & Gogi Sandhu



Darshan and Gogi were nominated for setting up a community allotment in Heron Way, Feltham, aimed at the most mentally and physically vulnerable called Health means Wealth.

Max Campling, Hounslow Food Bank



Max is a dedicated young volunteer and was nominated for his tireless work at Hounslow Community FoodBox.

Michelle Odell



Through her voluntary endeavours, Michelle hopes to steer young people away from negative influences and into more positive activity.

Margaret O'Connor



Margaret was one of the original volunteers for the Home Start Charity, who provide emotional support for families. She has helped hundreds of families and became a trustee in 2017.

Bernard Hughes



Praised for his work as the former chair and as a trustee of Chiswick Cricket Club, Bernard was thanked for his 'transformational guidance'.



DELIVERING FOR RESIDENTS



Hounslow Council Cabinet Members

It has been a full 12 months since Cllr Shantanu Rajawat became Leader for one of the most ambitious boroughs in London.

At the start of his Leadership, he made a commitment to ensure that his Cabinet would deliver on the things that mattered to residents, businesses, and wider communities.

This included setting out ambitious plans to make Hounslow a Thriving, Safer, Cleaner, Greener, Healthier, and more Liveable borough for everyone.

12 MONTHS ON

Over the last 12 months there have been many successes. Here is a snapshot of some of the highlights.



With ongoing demand for housing continuing to increase, Hounslow is committed to building 1,000 new high-quality homes. **400 new council homes have already been completed and a further 142 properties have been purchased.**



A small flavour of a healthier approach has been the **repair, inspection, or overhaul of 645 resident bikes in the past 12 months** through the popular 'Dr Bike' sessions.



A bold target was set to plant **20,000 more trees between 2022 and 2026**. The initial target of planting 7,500 trees for the 2022/2023 planting season has been exceeded and we are proud to have established over 8,600 new trees across parks, open spaces and carriageways.



To make Hounslow a safer place, the Violence Against Women and Girls plan, which the Council received White Ribbon accreditation for, aims to change behaviours and cultures that lead to abuse and violence individually and collectively.



Nothing was higher on the agenda than the **Cost of Living crisis with a series of high-profile marketplace events taking place**. Residents were able to seek advice on matters ranging from debt to employment, specialised counselling and wellbeing support.

Healthy Hounslow

As part of the Council's commitment to support residents' health and wellbeing, **the new Healthy Hounslow service was launched**. It offers healthy lifestyle choices to people who live, work, study or have a GP in the borough. Free to eligible groups, it promotes active lifestyles.



Over £210million has been invested into estates, which equates to £16,000 per council home over the next six years, to replace 500 kitchens per year, upgrade to new, more secure, door entry systems and replace old and worn-out windows on properties.



Improving recycling rates are underway with an anticipated rise from 35.9% in year 2021/2022, to 36.5% as of January 2023. The 37% target is within reach and is a testament to the dedication and commitment of residents.



Students from schools across the borough outperformed the national **GCSE results average of 71.4% with a staggering 77.4% of pupils achieving grade 4 or better in Maths and English**. Good luck to students across the borough for upcoming results!

BRINGING SERVICES CLOSER - COMMUNITY & FAMILY HUBS

Hounslow Council is committed to transforming the way it provides advice, information, and services to its residents by building on the successful Community Solutions approach and opening Community and Family Hubs across the borough.

Community Solutions have been out and about in Hounslow up to six days a week, connecting residents to advice, guidance, and support

for nearly two years. This preventative approach works, helping residents before they reach crisis point.

The pattern of taking the Council into communities is naturally evolving into Community Hubs, which will make use of existing Council facilities, bringing together a range of voluntary organisations, and Council services. Eventually, each will have a slightly different offer, based on local needs.

The first is at the Feltham Assembly Hall and will officially open in September. However, until then, every Tuesday afternoon between 2pm-5pm, Community Solutions and a small number of other Council services and partners will be available on site. Revenue and Benefits, Estate Improvement Team, Housing Engagement, Asylum and Refugee team and EACH (counselling and support) will all be offering services throughout the summer.

Family Hubs will adopt a similar approach, bringing together professionals working with families into one place, to provide advice, information, and support concerned with children aged 0-19 or up to 25 with special educational needs and disability (SEND).

Family Hubs will offer face to face advice and support through one of the three hubs which were opened at the end of June in Feltham (west), Lampton (central) and Brentford (east). This will be complemented by outreach and virtual services. Family Hubs will also make referrals and/or signpost users to relevant support based within each local area, helping residents feel more confident and empowered to access support early. Each Hub will have a slightly different range of services and activities on offer, based on local needs, and this will evolve over time.

Residents will be able to find out what is available at their local Community Hub or Family Hub by visiting **HounslowConnect.com** or **www.hounslow.gov.uk/familyhubs**

HAVING A BABY?

All families need some help to give their babies the best start in life, and Hounslow's offering provides exactly that. Start for Life is a central resource where families can find a huge range of support and services to help from conception through to the child's second birthday.

Through this offer, families will be able access the services they need, when they need them, more easily, including midwifery and health visiting, child development, mental health support, and specialist support for infant feeding and breastfeeding. This also includes support to quit smoking, debt advice or help with drug and alcohol use. Find out more: **www.hounslow.gov.uk/startforlife**



INTERACTING WITH HOUNSLOW COUNCIL

Hounslow Council is radically improving the way it interacts with residents. Whether they are trying to find information or seek help and advice, the Council is making sure this can be done as smoothly as possible.

As part of this overhaul, all Council services are taking part in a programme called Transforming Community Experience (TCE). This aims to make it easier for residents to navigate the Council's digital channels, resulting in a better user experience.

Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan with Cllr Rajawat, Ruth Cadbury MP, school representatives and children from Green Dragon School celebrating Clean Air Day



SUPERZONE SCHOOL

SUCCESS

When it comes to protecting the environment and putting everyone's health and wellbeing first, Brentford's Green Dragon Primary School really is a breath of fresh air.

The school has lived up to its name by becoming one of the greenest in the borough. This follows a successful bid made by Hounslow Council to the Mayor of London's environmental initiative to create a School Superzone at Green Dragon.

The school received £28,700 to fund the project and identified air quality as one of the top issues affecting the health of children, young people and families locally.

As part of the celebrations for Clean Air Day, Mayor of London Sadiq Khan joined Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of Hounslow Council, at Green Dragon to see the great work in action.

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, said: "It's great to see the work Green Dragon School are doing to reduce air pollution - from scooter storage and cycle lessons to air quality monitoring and greening their local space, they are making a huge difference to their local area."



Obay, age 9, winner of the Mayor's Clean Air Day poster competition

Green Dragon School has operated a School Street since 2020, which means that there is a restriction to traffic flow at peak times. The school also received solar panels and air source heat pumps as part of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, drastically reducing their use of natural gas. The school is now working towards asthma-friendly school accreditation on the back of its superzone success.

Green Dragon Headteacher, Nadine O'Hara, said: "We are thrilled with the efforts of our community to improve air quality. We are especially proud of our pupils who have shown great enthusiasm in making a positive impact

on their local environment through the work of our eco team and their class participation."



NEWS ROUND-UP

COUNCIL PROUD TO SIGN ARMED FORCES COVENANT

Hounslow Council has pledged its support to military personnel, veterans and their families by signing the Armed Forces Covenant in front of invited guests.



The Armed Forces Covenant is a formal commitment to those who serve and have served that they will be treated with fairness and respect, and a recognition of the valuable attributes they bring to the workplace.

The agreement was co-signed by Cllr Afzaal Kiani, Mayor of Hounslow Council, Niall Bolger, CEO of Hounslow Council, Cllr Ajmer Grewal, Cabinet Member for Safety and Regulatory Services and Wing Commander Chris Owen, Ministry Of Defence (MOD).

The Armed Forces Covenant covers all serving personnel and veterans, both regular and reservist, their families and the bereaved.



More information about the covenant, including how organisations can help support the forces community, is available at www.armedforcescovenant.gov.uk. For information on Hounslow's commitment visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/armedforcescovenant



(L-R) Stuart McLeod, Louise Duggan, Breda Daley, Cllr Kiani, Mayor of Hounslow, Cllr Grewal and Cllr Rajawat, Leader of the Council

Mission accomplished

Following a five-year project, Brentford's historic Boston Manor House has been restored to its former glory and is now open to the public.

Through funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Mayor of London's Good Growth Fund and Historic England, the site was finally removed from Historic England's 'Heritage at Risk Register' in 2022.



Set amongst 34 acres of grounds, overlooking a beautiful lake along with ancient cedar trees, the three-storey Jacobean property was built for Lady Mary Reade in 1623 and is one of the earliest examples of English Renaissance style in London.

The restoration work revealed original wallpapers from the eighteenth and nineteenth century which have been preserved and available for the public to view for the first time in centuries.



Free to enter all year round, the House will include a community programme of learning and public events, volunteering opportunities, exhibitions, galleries and a modern café. Furthermore the house will be available to hire as a stunning wedding venue.

For more information, visit: bostonmanorhouse.org



TACKLING YOUTH VIOLENCE

Hounslow Council, together with the Police, a group of young people and the charity Participation People organised a Serious Violence Summit at Brentford Football Club's GTech Stadium.

The action-packed day featured workshops by Streetdoctors, Sheldon Thomas (founder of Gangsline) and the Metropolitan Police West Area Borough Command Unit. The panel discussions focussed on several topics including how the Council is evidencing their commitment to reducing youth violence, the early intervention services to reduce youth violence and interaction between the Police and other statutory services on sharing information.

Attendee Gursimran Kaur said: "Serious violence is something I don't come across a lot, but I hear about especially in the UK. It isn't good, and it isn't something that should continue, we can all play our part in helping stop it."



Cllr Ajmer Grewal, Cabinet Member for Safety and Regulatory Services, said: "The central theme for our Safer Communities strategy is for residents to be less affected by serious crime. Summits like this are crucial to helping us achieve this."

Creating better employment opportunities

Over 900 residents have already benefited from the borough's efforts in building digital skills and creative crafts for better employment options, starting businesses and improving wellbeing.

Since 2021, Learn Hounslow, the Adult and Community Education service, has received additional funding through the Mayor of London's Good Work for All programme, which identified these areas as two of the five priorities for education and skills among people living in London.



Shahzad, Maria (teacher), Pabinder and Adriana from Learn Hounslow Cybersecurity Level 2 course

Adult learners who visited the Meadowbank Adult and Community Education Centre, attended courses including digital skills, cybersecurity, programming and creative crafts such as pottery, textiles, photography and make-up.

Furthermore, 173 learners have practised their entrepreneurship skills by selling their crafts at the Designed and Made in Hounslow pop-up markets.



Adults aged 19+ who want to explore the courses can visit: www.hace.ac.uk for the 2023-2024 prospectus. Printed copies are available from the Meadowbank Centre and local libraries. They can also contact staff on 020 8583 6000 or via email at courses@hounslow.gov.uk



Dragons' Den participants at Hounslow House

Entrepreneurship spirit alive in Hounslow

Hounslow Council hosted its first schools Dragons' Den competition in partnership with Social Enterprise Academy.

Grove Road Primary School won the competition with their idea of a healthy food stall to support the social development of young people.

Social enterprise ideas pitched included hand-made celebratory cards that tackle the cost-of-living crisis, and the development of a school pitch for the local community.

Grove Road Primary School, The Heathland School and Edward Pauling Primary School were the three schools that participated on the day. Springwest Academy, Woodbridge Park Education Services, and Oaklands took part in the overall competition.



Cllr Lily Bath, Cabinet member for Education, Children, Skills and Employment said: "It was a fantastic event, listening to schools pitch their ideas and the amount of thought and effort that went into it you can tell the entrepreneurial spirit is alive in this borough. We would like to encourage schools to keep nurturing this passion as children are the future of our borough."

Matt Nicol, Head of Programme Development, Social Enterprise Academy said: "It was great to see the next generation of Hounslow social entrepreneurs in action. They all shared creative and thoughtful responses to local social issues, are having an impact in their communities and have a great future ahead of them."

WALK THIS WAY

The latest round of ward walks has proven an enormous success and a new, wider set of area forums have been announced.

Hanworth will now have its own, while Isleworth becomes part of an expanded forum that includes Hounslow South, Osterley and Spring Grove areas. Brentford and Syon becomes a new event, while Heston and Cranford, Chiswick and Hounslow Central remain the same. In total there will be seven forums, four times a year.

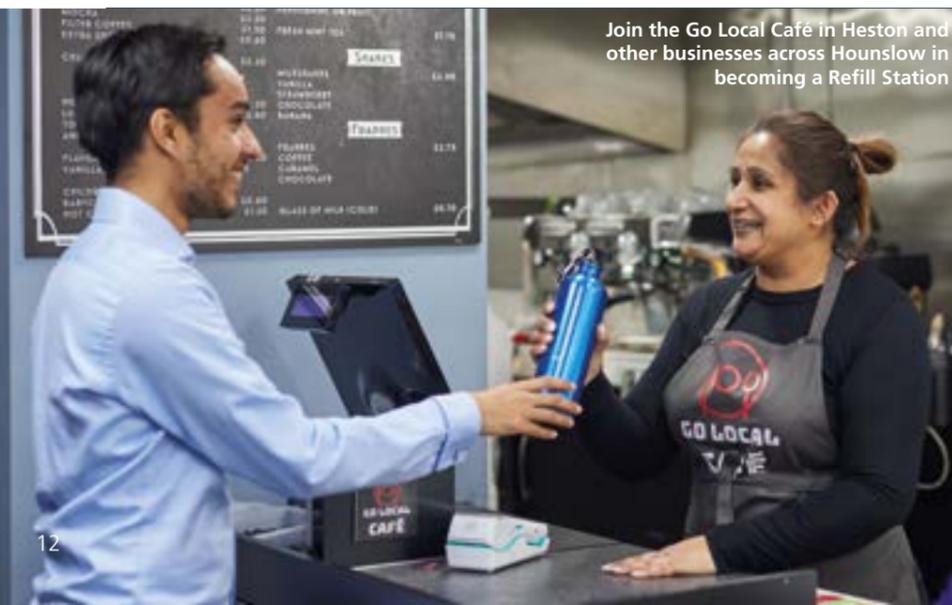
Among the latest set of walks was one to Hounslow Youth Counselling Service (HYCS), based on top of St John's Community Centre in Isleworth. The service, which received Thriving Communities Funding earlier this year, supports young people across the borough through a free, 1-2-1 counselling service.

Their service is confidential, and anyone aged 11- 25 who lives, works, or studies in the borough of Hounslow can self-refer. They work from their base in Isleworth, in schools or at Feltham Young Offenders.

For more information email: ask@hycscounselling.co.uk



Officers from the Engagement and Youth Counselling Service



Join the Go Local Café in Heston and other businesses across Hounslow in becoming a Refill Station

REDUCING PLASTIC POLLUTION

Hounslow Council has joined forces with councils across England and Wales to help stamp out the use of single-use plastics across the UK.

In support of City to Sea's national campaign, Hounslow has become a Refill Destination, working to connect residents

to places they can eat, drink and shop without the needless packaging.

As a Refill Destination, the Council will promote sustainable alternatives to single-use plastics that will not only protect the environment, but also help residents and businesses to save money by taking advantage of reusable alternatives to disposable plastic items.

Harriet Bosnell, CEO of City to Sea, said: "It's great to have Hounslow Council on board.

"At the heart of this is an acceptance of the plastic crisis we face and an acknowledgement that we can't just recycle more to solve this environmental disaster.

"City to Sea will work with Hounslow over the coming years to measure their impact and to transparently report on the growing refill and reuse in the area, as well as supporting Hounslow Council in engaging businesses and residents alike."

Welcoming the Baton of Hope - There is always hope



Cllr Chaudhary and Hounslow's Director of Public Health, Kelly O'Neill, at the Baton Of Hope event at Brentford FC's Community Stadium Hub

This is the message that Hounslow Council has shared with the community as part of a national drive to raise awareness about suicide and what can be done to prevent it.

The Baton of Hope made a 12-day journey from Glasgow to London, taking in many different communities along the way.

Organised by The Baton of Hope charity, it is the largest suicide prevention initiative in the country, attracting thousands of volunteers and supporters.

The Council and its partners provide a range of services to support people who are in crisis and urge anyone who is feeling overwhelmed to Just Say Something.

- If you are struggling or know someone who is, just say something to the Safe Space Helpline. It is open every day from 11am-11pm. Call 020 3475 5185.

- This local service, supported by the Council can provide a listening ear, coping strategies and can direct you to other local services. This service is for residents aged 18 and over.

- Safe Space also offers a Drop-in service between 5pm-7pm, seven days a week at Safe Space Hounslow, Southville Centre, Southville Road, Feltham TW14 8AP.

You can call the drop in service on 020 7471 0584 (please leave a message).



Pride Walk 2023

The West London Queer Project (WLQP) started Pride 2023 with a '10k Walk and Celebration' by the Thames, in aid of Motor Neurone Disease.

The walk took in a scenic, circular cross borough route across Hammersmith and Chiswick Bridges.

Founded in Hounslow, WLQP is an inclusive community organisation dedicated to fostering unity, acceptance, and empowerment within the LGBT+ community of West London. By organising events and initiatives, WLQP aims to create a safe and supportive environment for all individuals, celebrating diversity and promoting social change.

IN THE LIMELIGHT

Lime e-bikes have now launched in Hounslow in partnership with the Council. The trial scheme is up and running in Chiswick, Brentford, Osterley and Isleworth. It is expected to launch in August across Heston, Cranford, Bedfont, Feltham and Hanworth.

As part of the new scheme, Lime is offering 50% off the cost of e-bike rides for lower income residents via its Lime Access programme. The programme provides unlimited discounts with Lime for eligible riders - including concession pass holders, key workers, students and the unemployed - helping them get where they need to go in a safe, sustainable and affordable way.



Cllr Katherine Dunne, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate, Environment and Transport said: "Cycling has so many benefits - from supporting people's health and wellbeing, to easing traffic and improving air quality.

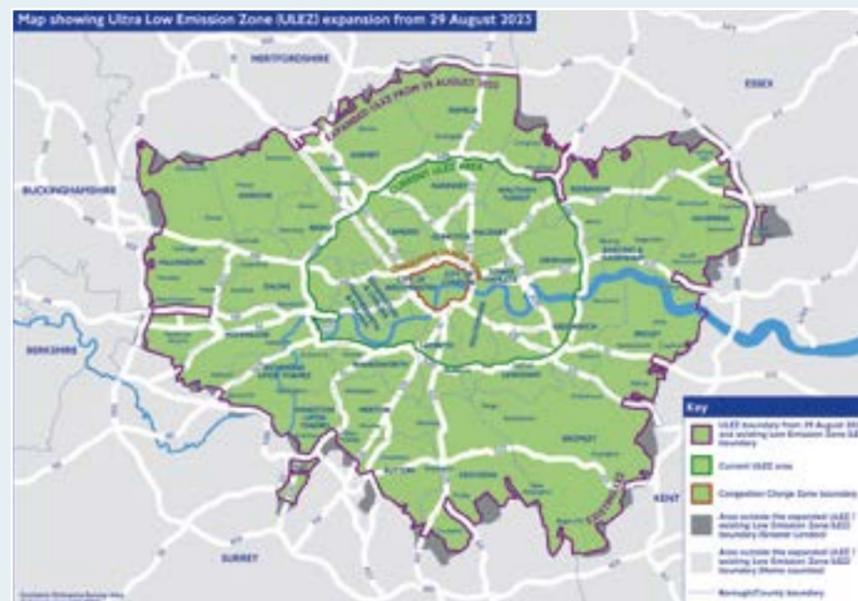
"By introducing dockless e-bikes to the borough and enabling people to take one-way trips, we can encourage even more people to try out cycling in the area and improve the air quality for all."

Users must park the e-bikes at mandatory parking zones located around the borough which are marked out. Riders will need to take a mandatory end of trip photo, which are all reviewed. Those that park outside of these zones will be warned and then fined.

Residents can download the app, hop on, and try it!

GETTING READY FOR ULEZ EXPANSION

With air pollution estimated to be a contributing factor in premature deaths and life-changing illnesses, the Mayor of London is expanding the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) to cover Greater London.



Eligible Londoners and small businesses may qualify for a grant to scrap older, polluting vehicles and replace them and the criteria as to who can receive the grant has now been expanded.

Subsidies to support wheelchair accessible vehicles and minibuses owned by schools/colleges, charities, academies and local authorities. In addition, some vehicles or residents are eligible for grace periods, discounts and exemptions from the charge.

Drivers of non-compliant vehicles will need to pay a £12.50 daily fee to use the vehicle in the zone. Failure to pay the fee will mean prosecution by a penalty charge notice of £180. The zone will apply 24 hours a day.

Across the borough, signage will be installed to advise motorists that they are entering a ULEZ area which will be enforced by automatic number plate recognition cameras.

HOUNSLOW'S SUMMER OF CULTURE

Many amazing arts and cultural activities will be held as Summer of Culture returns. Lots of the events are free of charge and family friendly.

Building on the success of Hounslow's Summer of Culture 2022, communities and organisations including art centres, historic houses, museums and libraries have come together to create a 2023 programme ready to bring residents and visitors to Hounslow through a dazzling array of events, activities and performances. Events include:

- Live street performances
- Film screenings in green and residential spaces
- Outdoors art trails
- Exhibitions in libraries and community venues featuring dynamic stories of people in Hounslow.

Among the highlights will be the popular 'Films on the Green', which will be returning to parks, the riverside and residential spaces.

Outdoor performances will be part of the Feltham Festival and the South Asian Outdoor Festival 'Anhad' will take over Hounslow High Street in August. The Creative Mile will showcase the richness of creativity in Brentford in September and partners will be providing opportunities to participate and explore culture in venues and on the streets.

Visit www.inHounslow.com/summerofculture to find out more.





The flowers on the BA mural were designed by Jasmine and Raya, children from a local holiday club, Fun Fest Hounslow

the borough's street parties and community events.

Other dignitaries including Deputy Lieutenant for Hounslow, Rosi Prescott, local MPs Ruth Cadbury and Seema Malhotra as well as Cabinet Members and Ward Councillors also joined the festivities.



Celebrating with children from Victoria Junior School, Hounslow

Roger Smith, Hounslow resident and Chair of the Hounslow Borough Respiratory Support Group, was recognised as one of 500 newly created Coronation Champions by The King and Queen Consort, in conjunction with the Royal Voluntary Service.



Residents who became British Citizens were given a special King Charles III citizenship ceremony followed by English themed refreshments and each delegate was also given a special Coronation pen.

Throughout the weekend, Hounslow House was illuminated with red and blue lights to mark the event.

The special bank holiday weekend took off with the unveiling of a special 'royal welcome' mural in Thornbury Park, Isleworth. Commissioned by British Airways, in partnership with VisitBritain and children from FunFest Hounslow, it was enjoyed by visitors from across the world as they came into land at Heathrow.

The Coronation Big Lunch saw families, friends and neighbours come together for dozens of streets parties and events across the Borough.

Residents of all ages also came together to lend a helping hand and make a difference to their local area from litter picking to helping at foodbanks, as part of the Big Help Out initiative.

Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of Hounslow Council and the previous Mayor Cllr Raghwinder Siddhu, enjoyed visiting some of

Celebrating together

Residents and communities across Hounslow came together to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla.

A programme of royal-themed community events including street parties, library events and volunteering days marked this historic occasion.

To help support local festivities, Council street closure fees were waived and grants of £40,755 were awarded through the Thriving Communities Fund.



MAKING A FAIRER, MORE EQUAL HOUNSLOW



Hounslow Council has committed to transform the opportunities and life-chances of communities in the borough's 30 most disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

A Fairer, More Equal Hounslow - its new strategy to improve equality, diversity and inclusion - sets out an ambitious approach to target policies and funding to the areas which need them most to thrive.

Alongside the focus on 30 Equality Opportunity Areas, the strategy identifies a range of other measures to reduce inequalities across the borough, regardless of where people live. Many of these are targeted to support people who are



currently disadvantaged because of their disability, age, ethnicity, gender, sexuality or faith.

The strategy and its action plan was co-designed through extensive engagement last year with residents, businesses, community groups and public sector partners.



Cllr Shivraj Grewal, Cabinet Member for Communities,

Equality and Culture said: "We are intent on making a difference to long standing inequality in our Borough, and whilst this is clearly not something that will happen overnight, our strategy and action plan lays the right foundations to make progress towards building a fairer, more equal Hounslow."

The strategy is based on three pillars - Equality by Place, Equality by Group, and Equality as Employer.

Pillar one will use evidence across multiple measures of inequality and will feature joint working between the Council, its partners, communities and businesses. These may include improvements to public transport, housing, digital connectivity, education and training, the environment, support into work and safety.



The second pillar includes measures aimed to reduce inequality around disability, age, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and faith, as well as how we can better support local businesses.

Based on feedback from groups within Hounslow, and focused on improving accessibility, representation, and support, this includes:

- Ongoing partnership between RNIB and MAB, including employment of two dedicated Eye Care Liaison Officers
- Better partnership working between the Council and health partners to improve communications and engagement with LGBT+ residents
- Imminent funding for the borough's deaf community through Royal Association for the Deaf, focusing on skills development and employment opportunities
- Setting up a Young People's Network to increase engagement in local decision making
- More wellbeing classes to keep older people active and stimulate minds
- Support community groups to co-design and host equality events, in partnership with Hounslow's Cultural Providers Network
- Flexible Adult and Community Education courses to support women and carers to upskill and re-skill.

Valerie Hill, CEO, Middlesex Association for the Blind said: "MAB is delighted by the positive impact the partnership with the RNIB and Hounslow Council is already making on Hounslow residents."

The Council will also be embedding the equality agenda within the culture of the organisation (third pillar), to ensure its staff better reflect the communities they serve and have equal voice and opportunity themselves to thrive.

The strategy is available at: www.hounslow.gov.uk/fairermoreequalhounslow

WORKING TOGETHER FOR HOUNSLOW'S YOUNG PEOPLE



(L-R) Steven Forbes (Exec D of Children's and Adults Services), Marcus Gayle (Brentford FC Ambassador), Cllr Shantanu Rajawat (Leader, Hounslow Council), Sally Stephens and Cllr Lily Bath were joined by Project SEARCH Graduates

The launch of the Youth Skills and Employment Guarantee (YSEG) recently took place at Hounslow House and shared the stage with the graduation of the latest cohort of DFN Project SEARCH interns.*

Among the speakers were Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of the Council, Cllr Lily Bath, Cabinet Member for Education, Children, Skills and Employment; and Mandy Skinner, Assistant Chief Executive.

Job prospects for some of the borough's young people remain tough – although the number of 16-24 year olds receiving Universal Credit for more than a year has fallen from its 2021 peak, it is still almost double what it was pre-covid.

There are obvious, long-term benefits to both individuals and their communities through the all-important transition from education to work, from improved future earnings and financial resilience to community spending.

The ambition of the YSEG is to ensure all young people aged 14-25 have better access to the skills and employment opportunities across Hounslow. The offer to young people will include:

- Skills pathways that ensure young people are equipped for future employment opportunities
- Richer, better quality work experience and training programmes including apprenticeships
- Improved access to information, advice, and guidance to help navigate opportunities available through the Council and partners.

A key challenge will be to develop an alliance of local partners to help shape the offer. The launch included members of the local business community, representatives of the Education, VCSE and Public Sectors plus, of course, the latest graduates from DFN Project SEARCH and their families.



Georgie Cox, Project SEARCH Graduate



Gurkaran Singh, one of DFN Project SEARCH's Class of 2022/23, spoke at the joint event

YSEG will endeavour to remove barriers and improve outcomes for young people who currently have difficulty accessing skills, training, and employment including SEND, care experienced and those who have experienced or been supported by the Youth Justice System.

Among them was Heston based Kinan Patel, a DFN Project SEARCH graduate who, following a successful internship, has now secured a job as an Apprentice Business Support Officer with Hounslow Council, and he commented: "I'm ready and excited to take the next steps in my career with the foundation Project SEARCH has helped me build."



"The encouragement, expertise and mentorship has been helpful in equipping me with the essential skills necessary for my Apprenticeship Business Support Officer role, and any future opportunities that may arise."

*Project SEARCH is a year-long transition to work programme for young adults with a learning disability and autism or both. Hounslow is one of over 100 DFN Project SEARCH sites across Europe and increases a young person's employability from 4.1% to over 60% into full time paid employment. Hounslow Council has regularly achieved outcome rates of 70% plus.

(L-R) Kelly O'Neill, Hounslow's Director of Public Health, Alex Wicking, Senior Public Health Officer for Sexual Health, Natalie Travis and Andy Wooldridge from Turning Point National



KEEPING YOUNG PEOPLE SAFE & HEALTHY

Hounslow Council has joined forces with national health and social care provider Turning Point, to launch a new Young People's Sexual Health Outreach Service for the borough.

The new service, called Young Hounslow Sexual Health (YHSH), provides young people up to 24 years old in Hounslow with free information, guidance and support on all aspects of sexual health, contraception and relationships.

YHSH offers a range of different methods to support Hounslow's young people with their sexual health, including Relationship and Sex education, providing registration and an outlet hub for the Come Correct C-Card Scheme, and free testing for Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea.

Welcoming the new initiative, Cllr Samia Chaudhary, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Transformation said: "Hounslow Council and its partners are committed to providing our young people with the best support to help them feel protected, safe and to enable them to make informed choices about their health and relationships."

"It's exciting that we are involving our young people in developing the identity for the new service and we look forward to seeing the results."

To find out more about the service, contact: natalia.massucco@turning-point.co.uk follow: @YHSexualHealth

RM Partners

NHS

Are you 55-74, live in Hounslow and smoke or used to smoke?

You can get a free NHS lung health check.

Lung health checks are quick, simple, and a good way of spotting lung-related problems early on.

Please contact us for more information and to check if you are eligible.



For more information scan the QR code, visit: lunghealthchecks-westlondon.nhs.uk or call 020 7351 8607

Saima discusses her condition with a care worker in a scene Hounslow Council's Glimpses dementia video.



GLIMPSES OF HOPE

Hounslow Council recently commissioned a touching new film to raise awareness about the challenges faced by people in the borough living with dementia.

Glimpses is a four-minute journey through the life of Hounslow-local Saima who at 64, is faced with the daunting news that she has dementia.

The Council has worked with Hounslow-based not-for-profit Capture Minds to create the film.

Shot on location in the borough, Glimpses aims to shed light on the reality of life with dementia and how services, family networks and the community all interact to support the

individual who is living with the condition.

Cllr Samia Chaudhary, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Transformation, said: "This emotional and thought-provoking case study is our tribute to those brave people in our borough who are living with dementia, along with their carers and family members. Hounslow Council will be using the video to raise awareness about dementia in the borough and support our wider goal of becoming recognised as a Dementia Friendly Community."

You can watch Glimpses at: www.hounslow.gov.uk/dementia

ENHANCED DEMENTIA CARE SERVICE LAUNCHED

New, comprehensive support has been launched by the Enhanced Dementia Care Service as a joint project between health and social care services and Hounslow's voluntary sector.

It provides help through the dementia journey, including support with a diagnosis, preventing crisis hospital admissions and enabling people to live independently.

To find out more about and to make a referral, visit: www.hrch.nhs.uk/edcs



(L-R) Cllr Chaudhary, Luki Obro, Felice Fisher, Silvia Mazzanti, Anne Stratton and Kate Sergeant

MEMORIES ARE MADE OF...

Hounslow Council is piloting two new memory cafés to support people in the borough who are living with dementia.



Cllr Chaudhary and Cllr Sampson visited the Memory Café

Memory cafés are social get-togethers where people who are experiencing memory loss through dementia can meet with others on a similar journey to share their experiences and form new friendships.

The first new memory café is held at Clayponds Community Centre in Hounslow and is organised by homeware provider Visiting Angels West London. A second memory café is held at Edward Pauling House in Feltham by Visiting Angels South Middlesex. Both cafés are supported by Hounslow Council's Housing team.

Cllr Sue Sampson, Cabinet Member for Housing Management and Homelessness, said: "Memory cafés provide a lifeline for people living with dementia to meet others, talk about their experiences, socialise and find out more about the help that is available to them."

Find out more about services for people living with dementia in Hounslow at: www.hounslow.gov.uk/dementia

EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS TO FLOURISH

The Community Provisions team supports adults with disabilities, who live in the borough, to access amazing opportunities with the focus on empowering individuals to flourish. The service, which is part of the local authority, provides person-centered support via the Community Access Service, Employment Opportunities Service, Travel Training Service and the Prevention, Transition and Development Service.

The services specialise in supporting people with mild to moderate learning disabilities and individuals who are neurodiverse, by connecting them with activities and events that can help them to overcome barriers they may face and reduce isolation. Opportunities are facilitated to make friends, increase inclusion, stay healthy, make informed choices, learn new skills, and develop independence.

The Travel Training Service trains residents to become independent travellers on public transport, which increases their skills and confidence, as well as

developing knowledge around personal safety and awareness.

The Community Access Service provides opportunities for residents to access the local and wider community. Focus is on participating in new activities, volunteering, health engagement, developing soft skills, friendships and co-producing the service.

The Employment Opportunities Service supports residents to find and sustain meaningful paid employment, Access to Work with signposting for support, with special focus on job retention and career development.

The Prevention, Transition and Development Service provides 1:1 specialist support for those individuals who require more focused outcomes to overcome barriers and make connections in finding pathways they wish to follow.

For more information about Hounslow Council's Community Provisions Team, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/communityprovisions



Community Provisions service-users learning how to travel independently through the Travel Training Service

HAVE YOUR SAY ON AIR QUALITY IN HOUNSLOW

Hounslow Council wants residents views on air quality in the borough and what can be done to improve it.

The Council is currently consulting on its draft Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) 2023 - 2028.

The plan sets out the current status of air pollution in Hounslow and outlines the actions the Council will take over the next five years to improve air quality.

Air quality improvement initiatives that form part of the plan include installing more air quality monitors, improving opportunities for people to walk and cycle in the borough and introducing measures to further reduce harmful emissions.

Anyone who lives, works, studies or visits Hounslow is invited to give their views on air quality in Hounslow as part of the consultation.

Find out more about Hounslow's draft Air Quality Action Plan and complete the online consultation here: www.hounslow.gov.uk/aqap



GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS

Twenty nine fantastic local businesses have been awarded over £109,000 in grants by the Council to invest in their growth or energy saving efforts which will positively impact the environment.



The grants were distributed as part of the recent Innovate and Grow enterprise support programme, in partnership with Smarter Society, with businesses offered the opportunity to secure between £2,000 and £4,000.

More than 150 small firms were also supported through free targeted

mentoring, digital skills and bid winning workshops through the programme.

Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of Hounslow Council said: "Hounslow is and always will be home to a vibrant mix of businesses and entrepreneurs with a global reach.

"It's fantastic to see the unique ways in which the businesses will be investing the funding, from transforming their online presence to making sustainable changes which will help them save money and reduce their carbon footprint.

"As a Council, it is vital we equip our businesses with the tools to overcome challenges and adapt for the future. We remain committed to driving a strong local economy that offers high skilled job opportunities to local workers. Supporting our small businesses helps make that happen."



Capital H Catering and Leisure Equipment have invested the grant funding into a new ULEZ compliant vehicle and hired a new driver



No1 First Aid Instructors are helping residents and businesses learn vital life saving skills with their training programmes

Having recently expanded their capacity to deliver training courses, they will be utilising the £3,350 grant to develop a website and marketing strategy which can support this ambition.

Colette Ball, Director of No1 First Aid Instructors, said: "Without the grant we would never have been able to get this expertise, skill and professionalism onboard that will certainly make a big difference to promoting our brand and getting us noticed in our local community."

FIND OUT HOW SOME OF THE BUSINESSES WILL BE USING THE FUNDING:

Capital H Catering and Leisure Equipment Ltd

The family run company hire and sell catering equipment and furniture to the leisure and hospitality sector. They will be using the £4,000 grant to begin the first steps in developing low-

carbon business practises by investing in upgrading their vehicle fleet to newer low-emissions vehicles. Being ULEZ compliant will ensure they can continue growing their customer base in Hounslow and the surrounding areas.

No1 First Aid Instructors Ltd

The team provide nationally accredited first aid training which covers CPR and the safe use of a defibrillator, for workplaces, schools, community groups and churches to ensure people in Hounslow have access to life saving skills.



Cllr Grewal, Cllr Gull and Cllr Rajawat are joined by Council officers, school representatives and children from Springwell School in Heston

REUSING, RECYCLING AND REPAIRING IN HESTON

Hounslow Council, in partnership with ReLondon, recently launched Heston In The Loop, a pioneering environmental initiative that aims to transform Heston into a thriving circular neighbourhood.

The sustainable neighbourhood model aims to introduce circular economy solutions that empower individuals, schools, and businesses in the Heston area to waste less and reuse, repair and recycle more.

Hounslow and ReLondon have developed sustainable practices that benefit residents, visitors, and businesses; leading to a reduction in Hounslow's carbon footprint, and helping residents save money amid increasing cost of living challenges.

The official launch was marked by Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of Hounslow Council, at one of the project's low-carbon Eco Refill events at Springwell School in Heston.

The Eco Refill events involve pupils 'selling' their reusable products to teachers and parents and helping the school's community cut down on plastic waste.

Cllr Rajawat, said: "We are delighted to collaborate with ReLondon on Heston In The Loop as it represents a significant step forward in the Council's efforts to create a more sustainable and resourceful borough.

"By embracing low carbon neighbourhoods, we can effectively address waste reduction, protect our environment, and empower residents to waste less, reuse more, and ultimately save money.

"We hope to lay down a marker for circular neighbourhood transformation in London, as well as helping to guide councils across the United Kingdom."

Selected initiatives have been ongoing since April 2023, with the project's partners already having an impact in Heston. These include:

Pupils Profit: three schools in Heston have launched ECO Refill Shops with the support of Pupil's Profit. These monthly events allow parents and teachers to refill household products, reducing single-use plastic and saving 135 plastic bottles from waste to date.

Cultivate London and Heston Action Group: these partners organise community food growing sessions that raise awareness about the benefits of reduction, repair, reuse, and recycling in food growing, while enabling residents to harvest fresh, locally grown produce.

Traid: a Repair Café was held at Heston Community Centre, with 380 kilograms of clothing, shoes, and small electrical appliances saved from landfill through a donation drive.

Too Good To Go, Ferris, and Olio: these partners' apps help businesses and residents to share unwanted food, clothes, and household goods.

Hounslow Council and ReLondon will be working with different circular partners throughout the two-year project.

Residents can stay up to date with the latest activities and events in Heston by visiting www.hounslow.gov.uk/hestonintheloop, or following @hestonintheloop on Instagram and Facebook.

DOWNSIZING HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER

Hounslow Council tenants, who have one or more spare bedrooms in their property, can now qualify for the voluntary downsizing scheme.

Support and financial assistance is available for those that want to transfer to smaller, manageable and more affordable homes.



Cllr Sue Sampson, Cabinet Member for Housing Management and Homelessness, said: "With

household bills skyrocketing, downsizing is a fantastic option for tenants with extra bedrooms to lower those costly bills, while helping to provide a new home for families that need them most.

"We know moving house is a huge decision, which is why we have a generous benefits package to help reward tenants and make their move as stress free as possible."

The scheme offers the following benefits:

- High priority for a move to an alternative property
- Full decoration of the property you will be moving to, in the colours of your choice
- £1,000 cash incentive
- A handyman service to assist you setting up your new home
- Taking care of your removals
- Help available with the reconnection of appliances

To find out more, view the full range of options available and apply by visiting www.hounslow.gov.uk/downsizing



Cllr Sampson visited resident James, who lives in Feltham, to view the retrofitting and insulation works recently completed by the Council

EQUIPPING OUR HOMES

FOR THE FUTURE

Hounslow Council has pledged £1 million to tackle damp and mould in all its council homes with a dedicated taskforce being established to confront the issue head on.

The Council is now reviewing and updating damp and mould processes and procedures and establishing case review panels for any high risk cases.

This is part of its wider plans to make its homes sustainable for future generations.

Earlier this year, the Council also received £4.3 million from the Department of Energy

Security and Net Zero to retrofit 348 council homes across Hounslow. The funding could provide an average fuel saving of £110 per annum for social housing properties that receive the retrofitting and aims to lift residents out of fuel poverty.

To report a damp and mould issue, please ring the repair line on 020 8583 4000 or report online at www.hounslow.gov.uk

A BUG'S LIFE: REWILDING OUR COMMUNAL AREAS

Thirty 'bug hotels' are set to be established across Hounslow's estates in a bid to rewild the Council's communal spaces. The initiative, which will enable natural habits to flourish for the long term, will be trialled until October and the Council is seeking residents' feedback on the initiative.

Cllr Sue Sampson, Cabinet Member for Housing Management and Homelessness, said: "Selecting specific areas on our estates will encourage greater biodiversity, improve our local environment, and create

healthier habits for plants and insects. It also helps to tackle pollution by locking carbon away below the ground."

"However, we are keen to get residents' involvement in this initiative and I would encourage residents to contact their Estate Improvement Officer to offer their thoughts and any other ideas on how we can rewild our estates."

For more information, please contact your Estate Improvement Officer.

THREE THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE COUNCIL'S PLANNING ENFORCEMENT TEAM

1 We deal with almost 1,500 queries from the public each year!

It could be anything from a bed in a shed, a person selling cars from a residential address through to more serious issues such as a tree being felled in a conservation area or unauthorised works to a listed building.

Whilst it might seem like planning enforcement issues should also include party wall concerns, encroachment of land or construction noise, these are generally not planning matters.



Earlier this year a resident was fined over 6,000 for illegally knocking down their home

2 Just because the build doesn't comply with Council's approval or government legislation doesn't necessarily mean we will take enforcement action

The team's job is not to play 'spot the difference'. Some matters we cannot justify enforcement action, especially if it's a minor breach such as an extension which is an inch too high, or a brick type which doesn't 100% conform with the approval.

The Council needs to act in a proportionate way, and ensure that any action it takes, removes the impact to a next-door neighbour or to the street scene.

3 We will not hesitate to prosecute parties who fail to resolve issues which the Council raise with them

Since the start of 2020 the Council has brought in almost £1 million pounds back into the public purse because of 23 prosecutions against planning flouters.

FIRST ZERO CARBON HOUSING SCHEME LAUNCHED



Cllr Tom Bruce, met with residents living in the scheme and celebrated this important milestone

Residents in Hounslow will now reap the benefits of the Council's first zero-carbon housing scheme. The two-year project, which was developed in partnership with Neilcott Construction, saw 13 affordable homes being built.

Located on the corner of Staines Road and Frampton Road in Hounslow, the scheme incorporates the use of Air Source Heat Pumps, photovoltaic panels and a highly efficient building fabric, which contributes to Hounslow Council tackling the climate emergency it declared in 2019.



Speaking about the Council's development plans, Cllr Tom Bruce, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development, said: "Like many other London boroughs, Hounslow is facing



an acute housing shortage. This scheme epitomises our commitment to tackling the crisis and building 1,000 new council homes over the next four years. Not only will these residents benefit from homes at affordable rent, but they will also benefit from homes with a zero-carbon design."

NEW SPACES CREATED FOR GROWING FOOD

Hounslow Council's trailblazing new programme, Grow for the Future, has been allocated £165,000 from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

Grow for the Future is a first-of-its-kind policy in the UK to turn unused and unloved land across the borough into new allotment sites, community gardens and orchards to grow food.

For the first time ever in the UK, the Council will look to pair each new site with a local school and dedicate a portion of it to teach urban children in often deprived areas about where their food comes from, the importance of good nutrition, and how to live healthy lives.

The food grown by the schools can be donated to support children and their families who are going hungry.



Cllr Salman Shaheen, Cabinet Member for Recreation, Public Spaces and Parking, said: "Grow for the Future will provide

hundreds of new growing spaces for Hounslow's residents to put food on their plates as the cost-of-living crisis bites. We will take wasteland that has lain empty for years and put it to use, equipping our children with vital life skills and educating them on biodiversity, sustainability and healthy living.

"I am delighted that the government and the GLA have given their backing to this unique new programme. I hope



Cllr Shaheen and children from Green Dragon School plant flowers in Watermans Park

other councils across the country will be inspired to take unused land and open it up as a common treasury for all people."

Hounslow Council expects to be able to create 500 new spaces for food growing from the first phase alone. It plans to bring online four new sites per year and expects the first sites to be ready this summer.

WHY HOUNSLOW SUPPORTS NO MOW MAY

Each year, the Council and Lampton Services support No Mow May by letting grass grow in selected Housing areas, Parks, and grass verges.

Plantlife's No Mow May is an initiative that encourages households, organisations, and local authorities alike to refrain from mowing their lawns during the month of May (and sometimes beyond).

Each year, strategic periods of longer grass can:

- Help tackle pollution
- Lock carbon away below the ground
- Support wildlife and local habitats to thrive

By putting away the lawnmower, mini wildlife sanctuaries can prosper in parks and gardens. Wildflowers - such as daisies, clovers, and buttercups - flourish during No Mow May, and attract essential pollinators like bees and butterflies (as well as other insects).

These insects play a vital role in pollinating plants and contribute to the overall health of our ecosystem.



A guide to Hounslow weed removal services

Every street will be attended to by one of the three services.

WEEDING PROGRAMME (February - November)

Programme for the most severely affected streets

Largest weeds and difficult to control

Streets receive multiple visits by operatives



DEEP CLEANSE PROGRAMME (new for 2023)

Programme for streets and areas needing medium-level weeding

Removal of weeds as well as other cleansing activities

Smaller number of roads than weeding programme



WARD-BASED STREET CLEANSE (fortnightly)

Routine fortnightly street cleanse (leaves, litter)

Includes low-level weeding in summer months

Report via FixMyStreet website if weeds need more urgent attention



Visit www.hounslow.gov.uk/weed-removal for full details

IMPROVED WEED REMOVAL PROGRAMME

You asked, we listened.

As part of Hounslow's commitment to ensuring a cleaner and greener borough, the use of chemicals to treat weeds was stopped in 2020. This decision supports ambitions to protect the environment, promotes biodiversity and encourages wildlife.

The new manual method of weed treatment means the Council has reinvested the resources that were previously spent on chemicals. These include:

- ➔ Dedicated teams with trimmers to support teams
- ➔ Trials into alternative methods to reduce the germination rate



Cllr Guy Lambert, Cabinet member for Highways, Recycling and Health Integration, said: "It's our

fourth year where we are managing weeds in Hounslow without the chemicals far too many councils continue to use - by which they are killing bees and generally harming the environment.

"We are learning how to cope without chemicals, and it is not straightforward, but we have greatly improved the service this year. Manual weed management does however mean clearing weeds may take a little longer.

"Weeds may sometimes grow back faster, so ongoing control is necessary. To ensure an efficient service, we have extended the removal window, and more than one visit will often be needed, as well as widespread use of the new Deep Cleansing programme."

Please check the plans set out on the Hounslow Highways website, which gives the planned dates for visits to the streets selected for more intense weeding and for deep cleansing, based on experience and what residents have told us are most affected.

What's going on AROUND HOUNSLOW

Welcome to Hounslow

Hounslow is an exciting and vibrant west London borough with lots of things to see and do. Around Hounslow includes fun things to do for all the family including children and young people. It's advisable to check with the organiser or venue if the event or activity is still going ahead.

Gunnersbury Park & Museum

www.visitgunnersbury.org/whats-on

STITCH, KNIT AND CRAFT

4, 18 August, 5 and 29 September
10.30am - 12.30pm

Join us for our friendly fortnightly textile group – bring a project to work on, learn from others, and have a good old natter over a cuppa. £2, including refreshments. No booking required

VICTORIAN OUTDOOR GAMES

1 and 15 August

With the help of Nanny Helga, find out how children used to play outside in the time of the Rothschilds. Have fun in the park Victorian style with toys like goops, marbles, yoyos and cups and balls. You'll also be able to try skipping, rhyming games, hopscotch, skittles and croquet.

Children £5 each, adults go free (Maximum of 2 adults per child)

MAKE AND TAKE: COLOURFUL HEADRESSES

29 August, 11am - 3pm

Create a headdress to celebrate the flamboyant style

of Queen's lead singer and one time Feltham resident, the one and only Freddie Mercury. Inspired by our People and Places Gallery. £2 suggested donation

PRINCESS AMELIA'S SUMMER PARTY

8 and 22 August
11am - 12.15pm,
2 - 3.15pm

Gunnersbury's famous royal resident, Princess Amelia, daughter of King George II, is having one of her famous summer parties. Come and help her get ready! There will be sweet refreshments and dancing - so come and be the Belle or Beau of the Ball!

Suitable for children aged 5 -12 years. All children must be accompanied by an adult

£5 per child, adults free (maximum of 2 adults per child).

Booking required.

GUNNERSBURY PARK WILL HOST SERIES OF CONCERTS: N-DUBZ PLUS VENBEE

11 August, 4 - 10.30pm

Viral drum-and-bass breakout Venbee are joining the bill on Friday 11 August 2023. This will be N-Dubz' only hometown show next year and with such heavyweight names jumping onboard,

it's set to be the unmissable party of the summer. Book your tickets today!

KYGO PLUS MK, SOFI TUKKER & FRANK WALKER

12 August, Timings TBC

Global superstar, producer and DJ KYGO announced that he will play his biggest-ever UK headline show, at London's Gunnersbury Park on Saturday 12 August. The day out will also feature house legend MK taking to the stage, dynamic dance music duo SOFI TUKKER, Toronto EDM DJ Frank Walker and more to be announced. Fans are encouraged to buy early as it's their only chance to catch a KYGO headline show in 2023.

LIMP BIZKIT + PENDULUM, KENNYHOOLA, JOEY VALENCE & BRAE, DEIJUVHS

13 August, 2 - 10.30pm

After a show at the capital's Wembley Arena in April, the nu-metal icons will return to London on August 13 to play the massive show. Supporting them at the new gig will be Pendulum, KennyHoopla, Joey Valence & Brae and Deijuvhs.

CHISWICK HOUSE AND GARDENS

chiswickhouseandgardens.org.uk/whats-on

PUB IN THE PARK

1 - 3 September

An epic festival weekend of award-winning food, world-class chefs and music from McFly, Ronan Keating, Squeeze and much more!

The UK's biggest touring food and music festival curated by Michelin-starred chef, Tom Kerridge returns to Chiswick House and Gardens for another epic festival weekend.

London Museum of Water & Steam

Wednesday to Sunday, until Monday 28 August
10am - 4pm

We've got everyone's favourite Wet and Bubbly Science Show, workshops for 8-11 year olds and lots of hands-on activities. Be prepared to have splashy, playful fun this summer!

Normal admission applies. School holiday activities are free and do not need to be booked in advance.

For more information, call 020 8568 4757

HEALTH IN THE PARK

29 July, 11am to 3pm
Redlees Park

Enjoy over 40 Health and Community Stalls and Free healthy activities throughout the day for all ages

Keep Active

BETTERPOINTS

Download the free app and get going! Visit App Store or Google Play and register.

hounslow.betterpoints.uk

LOCAL FOOTBALL

Find local football sessions groups including Wildcats, Squads Competitive and Recreation sessions.

find.EnglandFootball.com

WILDCATS, 5 - 11 YEAR OLDS

FREE non-competitive football sessions for girls.

Various locations and all ability levels.

weetabix.co.uk/weetabix-wildcats

OURPARKS BITESIZE

FREE at-home exercises

www.ourparks.org.uk/content/couch-to-programmes

PARKPLAY IN HOUNSLOW

Free fun games for all the family.

Osterley Park, every Saturday morning.

park-play.com/parks/osterley-park

PARKRUN IN HOUNSLOW

Run, walk or jog your way

Osterley, Gunnersbury, Bedfont, Hanworth and Crane Park

Find your nearest www.parkrun.org.uk

HOLIDAY CAMPS

Exciting line-up of activities planned for 8 to 16 year olds during the school holidays at Brentford Fountain Leisure Centre and Hanworth Air Park Leisure.

Contact: Jonathan.Barbour@lampton360.co.uk

COMMUNITY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

GENTLE EXERCISE CLASS

Tuesday, 1 - 2pm
Osterley Sports and Athletics Track

FAMILY CIRCUIT (6+)

Monday, 5 - 6pm
Osterley Sports and Athletics Track

THAMES VALLEY CAVALIERS BASKET BALL

Brentford Fountain Leisure Centre

Wednesday, 7 - 9pm
Mixed Basketball session 13+

Sunday, 10am - 12pm
Under 18's Basketball session

Monday, 7 - 9pm
Women's Basketball session

Contact: Serena Weerakoon
Serena.Weerakoon@lampton360.co.uk

HELPING OLDER PEOPLE FORGE FRIENDSHIPS

Re-engage Hounslow, a charity that fights loneliness and isolation, is urging older people from the local community, to join their free tea parties in Hounslow.

Re-engage volunteers have run the social events in the borough since 2011 and have a regular group of people aged 75 and over who enjoy tea, sandwiches, cake and companionship at a host's home.

If you'd like to join tea party group please go to: www.reengage.org.uk/join-a-group/tea-parties or call: 0800 716 543.

The group is looking to expand and needs more volunteers, so if you'd like to volunteer, visit: www.reengage.org.uk/volunteer

Brentford Nudes

A dazzling drawing collective was born early this year in Hounslow, beautifully named Brentford Nudes, which hosts traditional life drawing sessions with a twist!

Brentford Nudes is proud to convert blue Mondays into magical evenings. Artists and creative curiousers are invited to explore different mediums while drawing a diverse pose format, from short gesture poses of 1min to 25min length.

All levels are welcome in these creative drop-in sessions, previous online booking.

It occurs fortnightly in the brand-new community hub Digital Dock, Brentford.

£15 per session which includes: 2h life drawing from a professional model, materials, coffee, tea and biscuits.

www.angelachico.com/brentfordnudes
info@angelachico.com

GUNNERSBURY PARK SPORTS HUB

We have something to keep the whole family active and entertained including:

- State-of-the-art gym
- Sports hall
- Fitness studios
- Floodlit 3G pitches
- Floodlit tennis courts
- Football, cricket and rugby pitches

Discover more at better.org.uk/gunnersbury-park





Who we are?

Not-for-profit financial cooperative, owned, controlled and trusted by over 24,000 members!

What we offer?

Easy way to save and a flexible way to borrow directly from your pay or by direct debit.

Become a member at planesaver.co.uk or scan:



SUMMER OF CULTURE 2023

Hounslow unites for a programme of events, activities and performances showcasing the very best in arts and culture.

Local, national and international artists will be delivering a breathtaking programme and everyone is encouraged to get involved.

For the full calendar of activities, visit: www.inhounslow.com/calendar or follow on: @summerofculture.

LIBRARY OF COMMUNITY STORIES

Communities and residents were invited to share stories, tales, fables and memories as part of the Digital Festival of Storytelling.

These stories have been compiled in the newly created Library of Community Stories. You can listen to

the stories on the Council's YouTube channel and view accompanying illustrations on www.inhounslow.com/community-stories

OUTDOOR PROGRAMME

There's exciting activity happening right across the borough in parks and on our high streets! For more information, please visit www.felthamarts.org and www.bellsquarelondon.com/whats-on.

EXHIBITIONS

The exhibition programme features Creative People and Places Hounslow showing across our libraries, Feltham Station Gallery and Gunnersbury Museum have curated a programme for residents to enjoy, connect and foster understanding. For the full list of exhibitions, visit: www.inhounslow.com/calendar

DON'T LOSE YOUR VOTE

The way you vote is changing - you now need to show an accepted form of photo ID to vote in a polling station



ACCEPTED FORMS OF PHOTO ID INCLUDE:

- **PASSPORT** issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a British Overseas Territory, an EEA state, or a Commonwealth country
- **DRIVING LICENCE** issued by Britain, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or an EEA state
- **BIOMETRIC IMMIGRATION DOCUMENT**
- **IDENTITY CARD** bearing the Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram (a PASS card)
- **A BLUE BADGE**
- **A NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD** issued by an EEA state
- **OLDER PERSON'S BUS PASS**
- **DISABLED PERSON'S BUS BASS**
- **OYSTER 60+ CARD**
- **FREEDOM PASS**

You can still use your photo ID if it has expired, as long as the photo still looks like you.

Find more info and the full list by visiting: www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID or by scanning this QR code:



No suitable photo ID?

Apply for free, online at www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate. If you require a paper application, email the Elections Team at elections@hounslow.gov.uk

The Council is currently contacting every household in Hounslow, either by email, letter or telephone so we can update the electoral register; please respond to either confirm we have the correct information or let us know of any changes.

For more information, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/annual-canvass or contact us at elections@hounslow.gov.uk

OUR PARKS PRESENT...

FILMS ON THE GREEN



For more information



BEDFORD



Lily Bath
Education, Children,
Skills and Employment



**Adesh
Farmahan**



**Raghwinder
Siddhu**

BRENTFORD EAST



**Marina
Sharma**



**Rhys
Williams**

BRENTFORD WEST



Guy Lambert
Highways, Recycling and
Health Integration



**Lara
Parizotto**

CHISWICK GUNNERSBURY



**Joanna
Bidolph**



Ranjit Gill



**Ron
Mushiso**

CHISWICK HOMEFIELDS



Jack Emsley



**Gerald
McGregor**



John Todd

CHISWICK RIVERSIDE



Amy Croft



**Gabriella
Giles**



Peter Thompson
Leader of the
Opposition

CRANFORD



**Ghazala
Butt**



**Sukhbir
Dhaliwal**



**Vickram
Grewal**

FELTHAM NORTH



**Muhammad
Shakeel
Akram**



**Samina
Nagra**



Kuldeep Tak

FELTHAM WEST



**Madeeha
Asim**



Hina Mir



**Alan
Mitchell**

HANWORTH PARK



**Bishnu
Gurung**



**Farah
Kamran**

HANWORTH VILLAGE



**Richard
Foote**



Allan Joseph



**Noor
Kaleem**

HESTON CENTRAL



**Harleen
Atwal Hear**



Shivraj Grewal
Communities, Equalities
and Culture



Riaz Gull

HESTON EAST



Aqsa Ahmed



Gurmail Lal



Amrit Mann

HESTON WEST



**Emma
Siddhu**



**Karamat
Malik**



Shantanu Rajawat
Leader of the Council

HOUNSLOW CENTRAL



**Rasheed
Bhatti**



Ajmer Grewal
Safety and Regulatory
Services



**Pritam
Grewal**

HOUNSLOW EAST



Junue Meah



**Daanish
Saeed**

HOUNSLOW HEATH



Samia Chaudhary
Adult Social Care, Public
Health and Transformation



Afzaal Kiani
Mayor



**Farhaan
Rehman**

HOUNSLOW SOUTH



Tom Bruce
Regeneration and
Development



Sayyar Raza



Karen Smith

HOUNSLOW WEST



**Bandna
Chopra**



**Jagdish
Sharma**



**Mohammed
Umair**

ISLEWORTH



Sue Sampson
Housing Management
and Homelessness



Salman Shaheen
Recreation, Public
Spaces and Parking



**John Stroud-
Turp**

OSTERLEY AND SPRING GROVE



**Unsa
Chaudri**



Tony Louki



**Aftab
Siddiqui**

SYON AND BRENTFORD LOCK



**Dan
Bowring**



Katherine Dunne
Deputy Leader of the Council
Climate, Environment and
Transport



Balraj Sarai

Key	
	Labour
	Conservative
	Cabinet

To find out which ward you live in, who your councillor is and how to contact them, visit www.hounslow.gov.uk/democracy_and_elections or call 020 8583 6808