

HOUNSLOW matters

Spring 26

Community and Council news from around the borough



INVESTING IN HOUNSLOW

*Improving outcomes
for young people*

p9

Budget special

p15-18



Future Feltham

p21



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What's inside

- 4 Rise and Thrive
- 5 New crackdown on fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour
- 6 Responsible dog ownership
- 8 Families and young people
- 11 Hounslow community funding
- 12 Taking action where it matters
- 13 Better recycling for every home
- 14 Hitting the new padel courts
- 15 Budget special
- 20 Regeneration
- 22 News
- 24 Housing news
- 25 Listening Council
- 26 Health and Wellbeing
- 28 Mayor
- 30 What's on
- 31 Elections
- 32 Know your Councillors


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Welcome to the latest edition of Hounslow Matters - Spring 2026



Dear Resident,

Spring is in the air and at the time of writing we're enjoying some much-needed sunshine in our part of town. There's also been a lot of positive activity at Hounslow House and out across the borough to shine a light on in these pages, on issues that matter to all of us.

A sense of civic pride encapsulates much of what we want to generate in Hounslow. I want residents to feel proud of where they live and they also deserve to feel safe and secure. That's why we've invested in enforcement, with a more visible presence in every ward within the borough from the end of March

New, agile teams of enforcement officers will be active from Bedfont to Chiswick, responding in real time and committed to reducing the impact of issues reported back to us in our recent resident survey. Number one was fly tipping, which has become an unsightly blight on our borough. This will be top of the agenda for a new enforcement operation which will also cover the reduction of anti-social behaviour, littering and irresponsible driving. Teams will also seek to engage with communities to provide a better response to everyday issues as they develop.

A combination of clean and green intention coupled with investment in local business and infrastructure are at the heart of our new budget, approved at a recent full Council meeting. You will receive full details in a separate booklet delivered to

your door, but our vision for the glorious Golden Mile is featured on page 20 and explains why we think Hounslow is one of the capital's biggest regeneration opportunities.

Our young people are our future, and I had the pleasure of meeting with local youth organisation Rise and Thrive recently, as we handed over the keys to a facility they're set to use at Belvedere House in central Feltham. I've been impressed by their work since they became active in the west of the borough five years ago and was delighted to welcome them to a space where young people can benefit from their expertise and activities co-produced by families in the area. Check out the opening pages of your Hounslow Matters to learn more.

You may be also interested to read more about two of the projects that benefitted from the recent round of Thriving Communities funding including Hounslow Youth Counselling on page 11 and how we're encouraging responsible dog ownership through a new Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPo).

I hope you enjoy reading about how we're actively looking to improve life in Hounslow. For everyone.

Cllr Shantanu Rajawat
Leader of Hounslow Council

NEW TEAM TO CRACKDOWN ON FLY-TIPPING AND ANTI- SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

majority who respect others and have civic pride. We'll do our bit by educating people on the right thing to do and making it easy as we can, but everyone must take personal responsibility and follow the rules. The message for those who don't is clear – break the law and we'll catch you and fine you."

Clr Pritam Grewal, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Customer Experience and Enforcement, added:

"Our new approach to enforcement is about protecting our streets and public spaces, and the pride people have in where they live. Through a dedicated new team, new technology and closer working with our communities, we'll better tackle fly-tipping, littering, irresponsible parking and driving, and other antisocial behaviour, creating a better environment for everyone and saving taxpayers' money."



New enforcement officers out with Cllr Rajawat

Neighbourhoods across Hounslow will benefit from a new team dedicated to tackling fly-tipping, antisocial behaviour and parking offences.

capture, report and respond to issues in real-time and reassure residents that issues are being identified and dealt with.

The specialist officers will be a highly visible presence on streets in every ward. Launching this month, the team will:

Improve enforcement of fly-tipping and littering

Enforce Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs)

Engage with local communities and educate residents on how to dispose of waste and recycle correctly

With more than 27,000 fly-tipping incidents in Hounslow over the past year, Hounslow has the 5th highest rate of fly-tipping in London. The total yearly cost for collecting and disposing of fly-tipped waste is around £4m. The Council's 2024 resident survey highlighted that safety and fly-tipping was a main concern for residents.

Clr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of the Council, said: "Clean, safe streets and public spaces are a major priority for our residents. People are fed up with others in their community dumping rubbish because they can't be bothered to dispose of it properly. There's no excuse for this behaviour and it must stop.

"We're on the side of the law-abiding

Each council ward will have a dedicated team of officers helping keep their local area clean and safe.

The team will be equipped with hand-held devices allowing them to identify,



RISE AND THRIVE –

HEALTHY AND ACTIVE IN CENTRAL FELTHAM

Following discussions with the Council, award winning local charity Rise and Thrive has a new lease at Belvedere House, in Feltham.

This is an opportunity to further develop the activities of an organisation that's developed a reputation for positive, youth orientated community work in the area with an initial offer for local young people aged 11-15 of two early evenings a week.

Clr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of the Council was joined recently by the charity's founder and CEO Darren Beecroft, Clr Samia Chaudhary, Cabinet Member for Education, Children, Skills, and Employment and local councillors to mark the handing over the keys to the new venue.

Clr Rajawat commented: "It's absolutely essential, using our own assets where we can, to provide spaces for young people. To have a space where they can express themselves and they're not out on the streets and they've got a real sense of purpose.



all the anti-social behaviour that exists on the high street and navigating these children to a safe place where there's something going on for them.

"Clearly they don't feel safe, they don't feel like they belong to the community and it's about changing the way they perceive the community and also their relationships with their friends and their circles, and it's about re-connecting back into their community where they can be safe."

Activities at Belvedere House will be targeted at local young people known to Rise and Thrive and will be co-produced with the parents of the young people involved. Local police will also be central to the activity as part of the overall outreach associated with the project.

"That's why it's so important we offered this space to Rise and Thrive because the services and experience they offer really do provide an outlet for their own activities but also working in teams and all those soft skills that come with it."

Darren Beecroft CEO of Rise and Thrive added: "It's about saving lives and changing lives. It's that community within a community, the forgotten souls within recent events, how anti-social behaviour has escalated and it's about that targeted work, just de-escalating the level of exploitation, criminality and

Church Road Clean-Up

A full-scale clean-up took place on Church Road in Cranford recently.

With the road safely closed from 9am to 2pm under a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order, the dedicated crew got straight to work. They cleared fly-tipped waste from both the highway and the embankment, gave the carriageway and footways a thorough mechanical sweep, cut back overgrown vegetation up to two metres above the concrete barriers, patched urgent highway defects, cleansed gullies and completed the red route lining.

This was a priority project for the Council, with the Leader personally involved after meeting Church Road businesses to listen to concerns and commit to action. It's part of the wider effort to tackle fly-tipping and keep our streets welcoming for everyone.

Taking the lead on RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP

Most dog owners in Hounslow already act responsibly and respect their neighbours. The borough's new Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is designed to make expectations of dog owners clear, so everyone can enjoy cleaner, safer parks and public spaces.



Following resident feedback last year which showed public support for clearer rules, the PSPO is now being enforced across the Borough. It introduces a small number of straightforward rules for anyone walking a dog in Hounslow.

What dog owners must do:

- Clean up after your dog immediately anywhere in the borough
- Carry bags or a poop scoop every time you walk your dog
- Keep dogs on a lead in designated areas, or when asked by a council officer
- Walk no more than four dogs at once anywhere in the borough
- Respect signposted dog exclusion zones, including fenced children's play areas, sports areas, fenced remembrance gardens and specific protected nature zones within Bedfont Lakes and Hounslow Heath



→ Commercial dog walkers must not use Brent Lea and Stamford Brook Common Recreation Grounds

Failure to follow the rules could result in a £100 on the spot fine, rising to £1,000 if unpaid.

Find full details and maps of where the rules apply online at: www.hounslow.gov.uk/rdopo



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 London Borough of Hounslow

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CRACKING DOWN ON ROGUE beauty practitioners

Hounslow Council is stepping up action to protect residents from unsafe beauty treatments, after a rise in unlicensed practitioners offering procedures that put people's health at risk.

From illegal botox and fillers to unsafe tattooing, microneedling and laser treatments, rogue operators advertise services, often on social media, without the necessary training, hygiene standards or license. Many operate from home settings or temporary premises, making it difficult for residents to know whether the person they're booking with is properly qualified.

To tackle this, the Council's Health and



Safety team have launched a targeted programme of inspections, education and enforcement across the borough. Officers are carrying out unannounced visits, investigating reports from the public, and issuing formal cautions to businesses that fail to meet legal

requirements. In more serious cases, licences to operate are revoked and offenders prosecuted.

Last year, Council officers carried out 12 inspections against establishments, resulting in:

- The prosecution of a business offering unlicensed laser treatments, despite having been caught and formally warned on previous occasions



- A prohibition notice being served to an unlicensed tattooist who was operating in unsterile, unsafe conditions – putting clients at serious risk of infection
- Cautions for businesses who failed to carry out consultations before providing treatments and for offering services without the correct licences

What residents can do

If something doesn't feel right, don't take the risk. You can report unsafe or illegal beauty practices to the Council in confidence by emailing the health and safety team at healthandsafety@hounslow.gov.uk

ClI t Pritam Grewal, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Customer Experience and Enforcement, said: "Our priority is keeping residents safe. These treatments may look routine, but when carried out by untrained or unlicensed practitioners, they can lead to serious injury, infection and long-term harm. We're sending a clear message: if you operate illegally in Hounslow, we will take action."

"Hounslow is proud to have many talented, responsible beauty professionals operating legally and safely. By cracking down on those who cut corners, we're helping protect residents, support reputable businesses and uphold high standards across the borough."

The Council is also working closely with local partners, including health professionals, industry bodies and the police, to raise awareness and ensure

businesses understand what they need to do to comply with the law.

Residents are encouraged to check that any beauty practitioner they visit:

- Is properly trained and licensed for the treatment they offer. The licence for the premises should be clearly displayed and all therapists should be wearing clear ID
- Operates from clean, professional premises
- Uses sterile equipment and follows safe procedures
- Conducts a pre-appointment consultation before licensable treatments, including piercing, sunbeds, laser treatments and massages, to ensure the customer is safe, fit and well before the treatment.

Ordinary people doing extraordinary things

Andy Harvey is Hounslow's Registered Manager for its Shared Lives service. With over thirty years' worth of experience, he's in the perfect position to share his perspective on how the established UK-wide programme – which matches adults requiring support with approved paid carers in the local community – can transform lives.

"I've been working in Shared Lives for 30 odd years now. I always say that we want ordinary people, but they're going to be doing extraordinary jobs. I've seen the lives of the people who use the service change for the good, but I've also seen the lives of carers develop positively too.

"I once had an applicant who worked as a waitress in one of the big London hotels and she was leaving for work early in the morning but getting home at midnight. This caused worries about her 13 year-old daughter falling in with the wrong crowd and that her schoolwork was suffering. Her partner worked in security doing nights, so would be sleeping during the day.

"When she joined Shared Lives, her wages doubled and the whole fabric of the home changed. She was able to get a tutor for her daughter, and the daughter ended up going to university. We're very careful in how we match people - it's a real skill. The right placements tend to last a long time."

If you're interested in finding out more about Shared Lives / becoming a carer go to: www.hounslow.gov.uk/shared-lives



New cohort of Hounslow Youth Council meets the Council's leadership

HOUNSLOW COUNCIL MEETS HOUNSLOW YOUTH COUNCIL

As a former member of the national youth parliament programme, the Leader of Hounslow Council was keen to hear from young people and how they can shape the future of Hounslow.



Cllr Samia Chaudhary, Cabinet Member for Education, Children, Skills and Employment, said:

"This meeting showed how passionate, thoughtful and ambitious our young people in Hounslow are. Young people's voices are so important ensuring that our borough is shaped with the next generation in mind and we look forward to working with the Youth Council."

In December, Council leaders and officers welcomed the new cohort of Hounslow Youth Council (HYC) to hear their priorities, ideas and plans for the borough.

Key themes raised by HYC included empowering the youth voice in Hounslow, raising awareness of council programmes and services for young people and promoting community cohesion through youth friendly spaces.

The Youth Council will meet fortnightly, supported by a programme of training and co-produced workshops delivered in partnership with the Council and community organisations.

Following the meeting, the Council is continuing recruitment to ensure HYC reflects the diversity of the borough. The Council is particularly keen to hear from more young men, young people from White British backgrounds, and those living or studying in the west of the borough. HYC is open to young people aged 13 to 18 who live in Hounslow or attend a school in the borough.

Welcome to Dad's play

Hounslow's Best Start Family Hubs have launched a new initiative bringing dads and male carers with children aged 0-5 together through Dad's Play. It's a chance to spend quality time with your child, enjoy play together, build confidence, and connect with other dads and male carers in a supportive environment.

Sessions focus on child-led play, encouraging adults to observe what their child enjoys, join in when possible, and give children the freedom to explore in a safe environment. Attendees are supported by professionals who help nurture children's play and development while offering guidance on parenting and play.

IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Space Studio West London students spoke with employers at the Council's Limitless Apprenticeship and Jobs Fair



Lampton School students engaged with an employer at the fair

Over 200 young people aged 14 and over, including students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) from local schools and West Thames College, attended the Council's Limitless Apprenticeship and Jobs Fair at Hounslow House during National Apprenticeship Week.

The event supported young people in accessing apprenticeships, volunteering

and training as well as receiving help with applications from the Council's professional advisors.

Local and national employers, education and training providers participated, including West London NHS Trust, West Thames College, National Physical Laboratory (NPL), Cisco and Ajar Technology.

Since 2022, the Council has supported more than 4,000 young people, helping them develop skills, participate in training and progress to employment. A key part of the work is the Youth Skills and Employment Guarantee (YSEG), launched in 2023. Through YSEG, young people, the Council and local employers and partners have secured over 25,000 hours of meaningful work experience.

The support also reached to young people with special educational needs and disabilities, individuals who are not in education, employment or training (NEET), have care experience or have been involved with the Youth Justice System.

Ayush, an intern at the Sheraton Hotel through Hounslow DFN Project SEARCH Supported Internship programme, was inspired after attending a workshop run by Heathrow's Employment and Skills Academy. The workshop was delivered to help young people with SEND gain insights into the world of work. Ayush commented:

"The workshop was useful for building my career. When I was growing up, I was very interested in planes, but I didn't know how airports really worked. I plan to work in the travel sector."

Many young people without work experience can find it hard starting out and apprenticeships offer a valuable route into training and employment.

To find out current support for young people, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/employment-skills-support-young-people

Dad's Play is committed to inclusive practice, ensuring dads and male carers feel welcomed, valued and actively involved in their child's development. Additional support around issues such as housing or benefits can also be arranged through private appointments after sessions.

Specialist advice is also available at our Best Start Family Hubs, including guidance from Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists and

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) for those with specific questions or concerns.

For more information, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/familyhubs



Celebrating National Year of Reading

Hounslow Council is proudly supporting the National Year of Reading with a year-long programme of events, activities and challenges, designed to inspire people of all ages to rediscover the joy of reading.

Hounslow is among the best areas in the country for library access, with analysis from the Office for National Statistics, 2023, showing that most people in Hounslow (63%) live within a 15-minute walk of a Council library. A further 98% of residents were found to live within half-an-hour's walk. This is one of the highest proportions nationally, placing Hounslow 21st out of 318 local councils.

A Council survey also revealed that these accessible services are well-regarded by users, with 88% of respondents expressing high satisfaction with Hounslow's libraries, the highest rating of any of the Council's services.

Hounslow Council's community hub and libraries will host an exciting Year of Reading programme with something for everyone, including family storytime, workshops, reading groups and borough-wide creative competitions.

CLLr Salman Shaheen, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Public Spaces, said: "As a child, libraries helped instil in me a lifelong love of reading. Now, both as parent and as an author, that's a passion I want to pass on."

"We know that reading to children can help them to develop language skills, imagination and emotional intelligence, as well as strengthening bonds with parents and carers."

"Reading as an adult can support learning and help lift us out of the stresses of the day, transporting us to another place and time."



poetry in front of a live audience and judging panel.

Adult Reading Challenges, introducing free access to millions of e-books and audiobooks as well as physical books in the Council's community hubs and libraries, and new library reading groups.

World Book Night, which bring people from all backgrounds together to read, inspire others to read more and celebrate the difference that reading can make to our lives.

"Whether you're a lifelong reader or picking up a book for the first time in years, join us as we celebrate reading for pleasure, creativity and community, during this Year of Reading."

Highlights of the year include:

Junior Book Awards and World Book Day activities, which help children enjoy the life-changing benefits of reading for fun.

Teen Read and Poetry Slam events, where year 7 pupils from local secondary schools come together to write and then perform original

Residents visiting Hounslow's community hub and libraries will find community language sections, archive records and easy-read books. There are books to complement adult learning, including pottery, sewing, painting, baking and digital skills. Hounslow's online catalogue also opens up free access to millions of e-books and audiobooks, for local people.

Full details and updates about Hounslow's Year of Reading, will become available on the Council's website, throughout the year.

HOUNSLOW YOUTH COUNSELLING

among beneficiaries of Community Funding

Around 3,500 local people are estimated to benefit from the latest round of Thriving Communities Funding, supporting Hounslow residents with their health and wellbeing.

In January, Hounslow Council awarded nearly £300k to fourteen local community groups and charities including Hounslow Youth Counselling, based in St Johns Road in Isleworth. They received £20,000 for young people struggling with their mental health.

Service Manager Maria David explaining the importance of such support: "We've seen an increase in demand and need for counselling amongst young people and the type of mental health difficulties they're presenting with are a lot more complex and often combined with neurodivergence. We find they are

seeking face to face counselling and are also requiring to stay in counselling for a lot longer."

Lisa Graham, Head Coach at London Borough of Hounslow Swimming Club, who received £25,237 to support young carers gain much-needed respite and get active said: "This investment reflects the Council's commitment to support carers of all ages and strengthen community wellbeing. By offering accessible, enjoyable, health-focused activities at Hanworth Leisure Centre, the initiative aims to reduce isolation and create positive experiences for both young carers and those they care for."

"We are thrilled to be given the opportunity to deliver this much-needed meaningful project."



Cranford Primary breaks the silence



Action Breaks Silence, an educational charity that empowers communities to end violence against women and girls, visited Cranford Primary School recently, delivering an enlightening, energetic session for Year Six pupils.

It's one of six youth-oriented projects supported by the latest round of Thriving Communities funding. Using a mix of academic and physical tools, members of the charity led the children through an interactive set of self-empowerment sessions including self-defence and learning more about healthy relationships.

TAKING ACTION WHERE IT MATTERS

In December, Hounslow Council carried out a targeted three-day clean-up at Bedfont Pitts to tackle persistent fly-tipping and improve the area for local residents.

Council teams removed dumped waste, reopened pathways, cut back overgrown areas and installed clear signage reminding people that fly-tipping is illegal and costly.

The work followed an October walkabout, where councillors and officers visited the site to understand residents' concerns first-hand and agree a set of actions to improve the area. The December clean-up delivered on those commitments and marked the start of wider work to enhance the site.



Cllr Shivraj Grewal, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Recycling and Transformation, said: "Bedfont Pitts is a valued space for local people. This clean-up was about improving the area for residents, making it feel safer and more welcoming and showing pride in our neighbourhoods. This was Hounslow taking action to keep it clean."

Further targeted clean-up days are planned across the borough this year to help keep public spaces clean, safe and welcoming.

Residents also have a vital role to play. Reporting fly-tipping and getting involved in initiatives such as the Community Payback scheme, helps the Council take faster and more effective action.

**FLY-TIPPING?
WE'RE
WATCHING**



FINES OF £1,000



Cllrs visited the fly-tipping hotspot off Kingsley Road in Hounslow.

FLY-TIPPING

Alongside clean-up activity, the Council has strengthened enforcement to deter fly-tipping across the borough.

From 1 April 2025, the maximum Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) for fly-tipping increased to £1,000, reinforcing the message that dumping waste illegally has serious consequences. Since the increase, 1,445 FPNs have been issued.

Enforcement activity includes targeted patrols, planned investigations and the use of evidence such as CCTV and covert surveillance where appropriate.



Cllr Pritam Grewal, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Customer Experience and Enforcement, said: "Enforcement is a vital part

of tackling fly-tipping. Those who dump waste illegally should be in no doubt that the Council will take action where evidence allows."

The Council has also continued to focus on longstanding fly-tipping hotspots across the borough. These locations have received increased attention through regular clean-ups, enforcement patrols, investigations and the introduction of new traffic restrictions.

While progress has been made, the Council recognises that more needs to be done. Plans are in place to strengthen on-street communications and establish action groups involving residents, businesses and council teams to agree next steps for tackling these hotspot areas.



BETTER RECYCLING FOR EVERY HOME

Hounslow Council is introducing major improvements to recycling services for residents living in flats above shops and communal properties, ensuring everyone has fair access to recycling and clear information on how to use it.

These changes are designed to make recycling easier, reduce contamination and support residents to recycle more confidently and consistently.



FLATS ABOVE SHOPS

For the first time, residents living in flats above shops will receive full access to recycling and food waste collections.

This marks a significant improvement for thousands of residents who have

historically not had the same recycling opportunities as other households. The changes respond directly to feedback from residents who said they wanted clearer, better recycling services.

The new service will be supported by the rollout of recycling and food waste containers, clear, easy-to-follow information and door-to-door engagement to help residents understand and use the service correctly.

COMMUNAL PROPERTIES

The Council is also improving recycling services for residents living in communal properties, focusing on areas where recycling access is currently limited.

Improvements will be introduced in phases and will include better bin layouts, clearer signage and revised collection arrangements. These changes aim to reduce contamination, improve recycling quality and make shared recycling easier and fairer for everyone to use.

Residents will receive a recycling package including letters and leaflets, alongside door-to-door engagement to help them feel confident using shared recycling facilities.

Cllr Shivraj Grewal, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Recycling and Transformation, said: "Residents have told us they want better recycling and that's exactly what these changes deliver. Every home in Hounslow deserves full access to recycling and we're making sure people have the services and support they need to do it easily."

FOOD WASTE ACTION WEEK

The average UK household wastes the equivalent of eight meals a week. That is up to £60 worth of food each month, or £720 per year.



Food Waste Action Week, taking place from 9-15 March, focuses on helping households save money, waste less food and make the most of what they buy.

Simple steps such as planning meals, storing food correctly and using leftovers can make a real difference. The Council will be sharing practical tips and advice during the week to help residents cut down on food waste at home.

Stay tuned to Hounslow Council's social media channels for tips and updates.

SPACE WAY VISITS

The Council is running a 6-month trial at Space Way that removes the booking system on most days. The booking system will still be in place on the busiest days, but residents can visit without booking from Monday to Thursday (except Bank Holiday Mondays, when a booking is needed).

Proof of address is still required.

For more information, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/reuse-recycling-centre



HITTING THE NEW PADEL COURTS

INVESTING in Hounslow

The Council is moving forward with plans to deliver a total of six new padel courts to the Council's racquet sports offer, at two of the borough's leisure centres.

The two leisure centres are Hanworth Leisure Centre, where two of four tennis courts will be converted to three padel courts, and Isleworth Leisure Centre, where also two of four tennis courts will be converted to three new padel courts.

Played on smaller courts and with

lighter racquets than in tennis, it can help players increase their fitness and strength while also being joint friendly and accessible to people of a wide range of ages and abilities.

The estimated capital cost for the new courts is £950,000 and the projected additional income across the two leisure

centres is £1.4 million*, delivering value for money over four years.

It is currently estimated that the new courts will be available for spring/summer 2027 and Council partner, Lampton Leisure, will manage the new offer on behalf of the Council.



Cllr Salman Shaheen, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Public Spaces, said: "I'm proud we are investing nearly £1 million to bring padel to our leisure centres, in Isleworth and Hanworth, for the first time. There can be no greater investment than in the health and wellbeing of our residents."

"By building these new courts, this hugely popular, and rapidly growing sport, accessible to a wide range of ages and abilities, will be opened up to more people in Hounslow, giving residents more ways to keep fit and have fun."

The Council's current usage data shows a significant decline in tennis participation, with court occupancy falling by 27% compared to pre-pandemic levels. This underutilisation presents an opportunity to repurpose existing assets to meet changing community needs and preferences.

Hounslow Council aims to add padel to its existing offer of racquet sports which include tennis, badminton, squash, and similarly popular pickleball, which local people can play at Brentford and Osterley Leisure Centres.

Join a friendly volunteer group in your local park

With more than 100 people volunteering in parks across Hounslow there is plenty to get involved in, whilst supporting wildlife and helping keep green spaces tidy.

Cllr Salman Shaheen, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Public Spaces recently joined an active group of volunteers in Jersey Gardens, Osterley. Led by an expert team from Lampton Greenspace and supported by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

The group talked about the social and physical benefits of volunteering. Others said it's good to give something back and make the park nice for others.



Tony who has been a local since the 80s joined the group a year ago. The team have been busy clearing a large rockery space, invasive ivy and litter. He brought his children to play in Jersey Gardens, and now more recently, his grandchildren. Tony said: "Exercise is

important especially as we get older, and we go to a local café for a drink after as well."

Get involved and find a group near you talk.hounslow.gov.uk/volunteering-in-hounslow-parks

INVESTING FOR THE FUTURE

- Delivering cleaner and safer streets
- Making the borough greener
- Protecting those in need
- Investing in our communities
- Building more affordable homes
- Modernising services

Described as "a budget for the future" it outlines proposals to invest in people, protect vital services and back the borough's long-term success.

The budget focuses on supporting residents through a period of continued economic pressure, while maintaining a strong financial footing for the Council.

Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of the Council, said: "We are a Council that delivers for people, supporting them to thrive and strengthening our communities. This budget protects vulnerable residents, provides more services close to people's homes, and backs our younger generation and communities. It invests in the services residents rely on - from cleaner streets and welcoming parks to safe, warm homes."

"Hounslow has a great future and the potential to be London's biggest opportunity for growth. That's why we are investing to unlock land for new homes, attract businesses and create jobs."

"With a strong financial track record, even in a tough economic climate, we will continue to invest in our borough now and for the future."

A budget investing in... cleaner streets, stronger communities and a fairer future.
£158.4 million from council tax invested in local services.

Cleaner and safer streets

- **£750k** additional for street cleaning
- **£3m** invested in parks
- Stronger approach to tackle fly-tipping
- Increased local enforcement presence

Homes

- **£32m** estate improvements in 2026/27
- **£150m** invested in better social homes by 2030
- **£125m+** for new social homes

Thriving communities

- **£200k** to strengthen community capacity
- **£4m** to redevelop the Brentford Leisure Centre
- **250k** for discounts and offers on leisure for young people

Protecting those in need

- **£11m** new children's residential and short-break homes
- **£4.3m** Family Hubs and Family First support
- **£8m** Adult Social Care funding

Growth and jobs

- **£4m** to unlock regional growth, supporting the West London Orbital railway, Golden Mile tech and creative district and Future Feltham
- **£1.5m** Pride in Place town centre investment

Modernising services

- 11 Community Hubs and Libraries delivering local services
- **£1.6m** invested over five years in Citizens Advice

And much more... this budget supports hundreds of vital services across Hounslow, from education and housing to highways and neighbourhood safety.

Investing in people, services and the borough's growth

Helping boys find their voice in Hounslow

A new pilot programme in Hounslow is helping teenage boys rethink what it really means to 'be a boy and a man'.

Who Am I and What do I Stand For?, run by the council's Safer Communities team, brings 8-10 boys together for six weekly sessions exploring identity, relationships, emotions, and the pressures imposed by social ideas of masculinity.

It aims to provide a safe and supportive space for boys to explore their identity, challenge harmful stereotypes, and develop skills to make positive choices and grow into healthy young men.

Through open discussions, scenario-based activities and guided reflection, the group tackles topics many men and boys rarely get the chance to talk about, from navigating friendships and romantic relationships to mental health, body image, and how to handle conflict.

The programme uses the "Four Pillars of the Community" - family, peers, media and the law - to help participants explore where their values come from and how these influences shape behaviour.

Each week, the group track their own progress, building confidence as they gradually challenge stereotypes and build healthier ways to express themselves.

Participant finish the programme as a White Ribbon Champion, pledging to promote respect and healthier attitudes towards women and girls in their own circles - whether at home, work or in social situations.

Offering a space many boys say they need, but rarely find, this project provides participants a with chance to redefine masculinity on their own terms and step forward as positive members of the community.



A first class return to parental joy

Daniel is a father who faces daily challenges due to impaired reading skills. He cares for his daughter Mia, who has a disability and special educational needs.

Determined to give his daughter a special day out at the London Sea Life Aquarium, Daniel enrolled in Hounslow Council's travel training programme to help him build confidence using public transport.



Through the programme, Daniel learned how to navigate routes, read transport information and travel independently from west to central London.

On the day of their trip, he successfully guided Mia to the aquarium - and saw her face light up as she watched the colourful sea life.

The travel training service supports residents to build independence, confidence and skills that make everyday life easier.

For information, email Community.Provisions@hounslow.gov.uk

Fix-a-Bike empowers pupils with lifelong cycle skills

Fix-a-Bike is a hands-on bicycle maintenance workshop designed to give Year 5, 6, and 7 students the skills, confidence and knowledge to independently look after their bikes. Launched as a pilot in the 2024-25 financial year, the programme has reached 16 schools in Hounslow, training just over a thousand students to date.



In the 2025-26 financial year alone (as of February 12, 2026), 462 students have already participated, with additional sessions scheduled before the end of the year.

Delivered by DBS-checked mechanics, the practical, interactive sessions teach essential skills including fixing punctures, performing ABC safety checks, adjusting brakes, lubricating chains, as well as basic bike upkeep. Twice daily workshops accommodate up to 60 students, fostering independence, problem-solving and teamwork.

Each participant receives a certificate, handout and Cycleworks "FAB" sticker.

A Westbrook Primary teacher said: "The bicycle repair workshop delivered at the school was an incredibly enriching and practical experience for students. It not only taught valuable life skills but also instilled a sense of independence and problem-solving. Overall, the workshop was a resounding success, empowering students with skills that they can use for a lifetime."

Hounslow's green heritage with Brentford Football Club

A small orchard with 14 new apple and pear trees was planted at Robin Grove Park in Brentford.

Students from Brentford School for Girls planted two of the new trees and were joined by others including Brentford FC.

This work complements the Council's 'Grow for the Future' project, which is delivering the UK's first-ever policy of transforming neglected spaces into orchards, community gardens and allotments. These are paired with schools and community groups, to bring biodiversity, sustainability and healthy food closer to home, communities and young people.

James Beale, Brentford FCs sustainability manager, said: "We're grateful to Hounslow for helping us develop this orchard, as well as all those from the community who planted trees with us.

"Nature is a key pillar of our work here at Brentford. By enhancing and building green spaces, we can take small, but significant steps to nurturing our environment for our habitat and society. We hope the community can enjoy this space and benefit from it."



Ethan Pinnock plants tree, with mascot Buzz

Employment support for care leavers

Angelika, an 18-year-old who grew up in care, has recently completed her work placement in paint and decorations on a construction site in Brentford. With no prior knowledge or experience in the construction sector, she worked hard to start her journey to employment.



She commented: "It's stressful at first because I was going through big changes, from spending time not doing much to taking on responsibilities like waking up every day for work. It takes time to adjust, but you must do it because that's about your future."

With the encouraging support from our 14-19 team mentor, the Virtual School and Work Hounslow, Angelika earned the qualification required for an entry level role in construction. She then applied for a two-week work experience placement with a building contractor.

"My careers mentor is really supportive, helping me find jobs and training opportunities. Her team organised sessions to help me and young people who have been in care to learn how to prepare for job interviews."

Angelika encourages care experienced young people to explore different options.

"You can reach out to the Council for support that's available. Do something you really want to. If you're unsure, look for opportunities like volunteering, work experience, paid or unpaid through online or charities."

How to pay your Council Tax

There are three easy ways to pay your Council Tax bill.

You can pay your council tax in 10 or 12 monthly instalments

Option 1:

Direct Debit is the best and easiest way

Go online to www.hounslow.gov.uk/counciltax where you can set up a direct debit straight away using your account number and online key which you will find on the front of your bill.

You can choose one of the four dates we offer to pay by direct debit – 1st, 10th, 18th or 25th of the month.

Option 2:

Online – Visit www.hounslow.gov.uk/pay and select one the options under 'Council tax and benefits'.

Option 3:

Call **0300 7906 871** and quote the account/invoice number at the front of your bill, following the prompts you will hear.

Payments can be made 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Calls cost no more than national rate calls to 01 or 02 numbers, from a landline or mobile.

Other ways to pay:

You can pay in person at any PayPoint Outlet or any Post Office. Please check at www.paypoint.co.uk/paypointlocator for your nearest one and its opening times.

Remember to take your Council Tax bill with you as they will need to scan the barcode on the front of this bill. You can also download the Allpay App from the Apple store or Google Play anytime, anywhere.

Please note the Council no longer accepts cheques as a method of payment. The following cards will not be accepted: Diners Club, Electron and American Express.

Sign up for My Hounslow

Save time and stay in control of your council services with your new online account. Visit: my.hounslow.gov.uk

Help for those who need it

If you are on a low income you may be able to get Council Tax Support to help pay your household Council Tax bill.

For more information about all the support available to help people locally, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/council-tax-support



Sources of support

There is also a range of help available to families on lower incomes, such as free school meals and school uniform grants.

You can use our free benefits calculator anonymously anytime. Scan the QR code below to find out whether you might be entitled to additional benefits.

www.hounslow.gov.uk/benefit-calculator



UK Government

NHS

WRAP YOUR CHILDREN UP WITH THE BEST PROTECTION - VACCINATIONS

Are your child's vaccines up to date? Check their red book or speak to their GP practice.

STAY STRONG. GET VACCINATED.



Golden Mile London A NEW CHAPTER FOR HOUNSLOW

The Golden Mile London has always been part of Hounslow's story. From its Art Deco landmarks to its industrial heritage along the Great West Road, this iconic stretch has helped shape West London for generations. Now the area is entering a new chapter.

This February, Hounslow Council officially launched its vision for the Golden Mile, setting out how the area will grow and evolve over the coming years. The vision was launched in Brentford at the Gtech Community Stadium, where businesses, partners and community stakeholders came together to hear more about our plans to transform the area into a thriving Creative-Tech and Innovation District. This large and important economic corridor connects Brentford and the whole area with central London and Heathrow. It is at the heart of the capital's growing creative industries, with major media, film and technology companies already based nearby and nearly half of London's TV and broadcasting jobs.

Attendees heard about our plans to create new homes and good jobs while improving the streets and

neighbourhoods around the Great West Road. Over the next 15 years, the Golden mile could deliver thousands of new jobs and homes alongside greener streets, better transport connections, and new cultural and community spaces. Investment in the area will support local training, skills and employment opportunities, while also improving public spaces, making it easier and healthier for people to walk and cycle.

Hounslow is now sharing the opportunity with national and international partners to help attract the investment needed to turn our plans into reality. The Golden Mile is a major opportunity for both Hounslow and London.

Representing the borough at the London stand, council leaders and partners will be promoting the Golden Mile London Vision and Investment

Framework to international investors and businesses. It is a chance to attract the right kind of investment - one that supports jobs, skills and long-term benefits for residents and to position Hounslow as one of London's most exciting places for growth.



Cllr Tom Bruce, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Assets, Regeneration and Development, said:

"The Golden Mile London is one of Hounslow's greatest opportunities. It has huge potential to deliver new homes, good jobs and greener, better connected neighbourhoods. By taking our plans, out to developers and investors, we're showing the world that Hounslow is ambitious, confident and focused on growth that benefits our residents."

The next chapter is just the beginning, and the Council will continue working with everyone to make sure that we create new homes, good jobs and better places for people to live, work and spend time. The Golden Mile is a story with Hounslow residents at it's heart.

Investing in FELTHAM'S FUTURE

Feltham is a town shaped by its people and exciting plans are now in place to build on the progress already being made.



Hounslow Council's Cabinet has approved the Future Feltham Investment Framework, setting out a long term vision to improve everyday life for residents while creating new opportunities for generations to come.

The framework focuses on what matters most to local people: homes, jobs, green spaces and community facilities. Over 1,500 homes have already been delivered or are in the pipeline in Feltham, alongside new community assets such as the Eco Cabin, the Freddie Mercury Memorial Garden and the new Feltham Community Hub and Library.

A key part of Future Feltham is the proposed transformation of the former Ministry of Defence site into a new green neighbourhood, delivering much needed homes, jobs and shared spaces. This will be complemented by investment in education and skills, helping residents – especially young people – access training and jobs linked to Heathrow and growing industries.

The framework also prioritises a greener, more welcoming town, with plans to enhance parks and open spaces and reimagine the Longford River as a green corridor connecting neighbourhoods.

Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of the Council, said: "The framework builds on real progress and provides a clear roadmap for delivery. With plans for up to 3,000 new homes and over 9,000 jobs, Future Feltham is about creating town residents are proud to call home. Now and in the future."



New council homes delivered for Hounslow residents.

Last year was an important year for Hounslow residents, with the completion of 131 new council homes across six sites. These new homes are helping more local people find safe, secure and affordable places to live, while making better use of land across the borough.



One of these developments is the newly completed development at Hospital Road, Hounslow where a long-standing derelict building has been transformed into six new council homes. The development includes five one-bedroom flats and one one-bedroom bungalow, all available to residents on the Council's Housing Register.

Cllr Tom Bruce, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Assets, Regeneration and Development, said: "I'm really pleased to see these new council homes completed here. We've transformed a derelict site into high-quality, energy-efficient homes that will make a real difference to residents. Handing over keys to local families is always a proud moment."

These modern, energy-efficient homes are designed to be comfortable and affordable to run, helping residents manage household bills while reducing environmental impact. They also offer an option for residents looking to downsize, which helps free up larger family homes for those who need them most.

This development is one of several already completed, with more council-led housing schemes planned, ensuring Hounslow continues to invest in homes for local people, now and in the future.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

On Tuesday, 27 January, the Leader of the Council, Cllr Shantanu Rajawat and the Mayor of Hounslow, Councillor Amy Croft, attended a Holocaust Memorial Day service at Heston Community School.

The annual event brought together people of all ages and backgrounds in a shared act of reflection.

A particularly moving moment came when guest speaker Eliana Ostro shared the story of Max, offering a powerful reminder that the Holocaust is not only a chapter in history books but a collection of individual lives, families and futures forever altered. Her testimony reflected this year's theme, "Bridging Generations," underscoring how remembrance continues through children, grandchildren and communities determined never to forget.



Speakers reflected on Hounslow's proud identity as one of London's most diverse boroughs, home to nearly 200 languages.



Cllr Ajmer Grewal, Residents Support, Communities and Equalities, said: "That diversity, is not simply a statistic but a strength - a daily demonstration of coexistence, respect and shared responsibility. Genocide is not sudden.

"It is a process, enabled when prejudice goes unchallenged and when indifference takes hold."

Green Heat Network Funding secured

INVESTING in Hounslow

Hounslow has secured £10.55 million from the Government's Green Heat Network Fund (GHNF) to launch a major sustainable heating project that will transform how homes and public buildings in Isleworth and Brentford are heated.

The funding will enable Phase One of the Hounslow Heat Network, an ambitious scheme that will draw waste heat from Thames Water's Mogden Sewage Treatment Works. The heat will be distributed through approximately 8.8km of underground pipes, supplying clean, reliable energy to local homes as well as NHS buildings, schools, libraries, and commercial sites.

With the potential to serve up to 3,000 homes, the network will reduce reliance on gas and help protect residents and businesses from future energy price spikes. Once complete, it is expected to deliver 50GWh of low carbon heat each year, cutting carbon emissions by around

6,690 tonnes of CO2 annually - the equivalent of taking more than 3,800 petrol cars off the road.

Heat networks, sometimes described as 'central heating for cities', supply heating from a central source rather than individual boilers. Construction is expected to begin in 2028, mobilising the local supply chain in the low carbon

energy sector and creating significant skills and employment opportunities.

Cllr Katherine Dunne, Cabinet Member for Climate, Environment and Transport, welcomed the funding: "Gaining this funding is a real win for our borough and will enable us to go further and faster in delivering on our Climate Emergency Action Plan. Cleaner energy benefits everybody in Hounslow, cutting carbon emissions while protecting residents from future price shocks."



UNLOCK YOUR RIDE

DELIVERING for Hounslow

To make cycling more convenient and secure across the borough, the Council is introducing Cyclehoop destination bike hangars

These compact, weather-resistant units will be installed at Hounslow Central Underground Station on Lampton Road and Turnham Green Underground Station on Turnham Green Terrace before May. Unlike exposed on-street racks, these hangars will shield bikes from the elements and theft while taking up just half a standard parking space.

Each hangar can securely store up to six bicycles in a sturdy, half-cylinder

design, boasting Sold Secure Diamond accreditation - the highest security standard for cycle storage.

Initiatives like this show how small, thoughtful infrastructure can make a big difference. For Hounslow cyclists, a secure spot at the end of the journey might just be the encouragement needed to leave the car at home more often.

For more information, visit the Cyclehoop Trips Network site cyclehoop.com or scan the QR code on the unit.

Free women-only bike maintenance course

Hounslow Council has partnered with Cycle Sisters, a women's cycling charity, to deliver free, women-only bike maintenance courses. These have supported 30 women to grow in confidence and fix their own bikes.

Hayley, course leader, said "It was an absolute treat to lead the ABC Bike Maintenance session with CycleSisters, they are the friendliest bunch.

"The number one benefit is probably confidence. After attending the session, the riders feel more confident to attempt previously unknown or scary repairs. This in turn gives them more independence as they undertake long(er) distance rides, solo rides, and group rides, feeling strengthened in the knowledge that they can tackle

common issues that may come their way."

More free, women-only bike maintenance classes will run from the spring. Keep an eye on council socials and in our resident e-newsletter, to find out when.



GO FORTH AND GROW

Downton Abbey actor Jim Carter OBE backs West London's first-ever Right to Grow policy. Hounslow Council's new policy, called Go Forth and Grow for the Future, enables communities and schools to steward unmanaged land that is going to waste, connecting them with nature and building civic pride.

The Emmy-nominated actor, who is patron of Greenfingers, a charity creating magical gardens for children's hospices, alongside his wife Imelda Staunton. He has called on other local councils to follow Hounslow's example as one of the first councils in the country to open its doors for public growing.



Hounslow Council's original Grow for the Future policy won backing from the government and the Greater London Authority. The UK's first policy secured over £200,000 from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. It pairs local community groups and schools with plots of land, to grow food.

The new Go Forth and Grow for the Future policy builds on this, cutting red tape and providing interested groups with toolkits to help them.

Cllr Salman Shaheen, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Public Spaces, said: "With this policy, the whole borough can be a garden, helping residents to take over unloved land to grow food and flowers. It allows people of all ages to learn about and care for the environment, by getting their hands dirty."

UPSCALING HOUNSLOW'S DOWNSIZING POLICY

Hounslow Council has increased the support available for Council tenants with one or more spare bedrooms who would like to take part in the voluntary downsizing scheme.

With larger properties in high demand for families, downsizing to a smaller home means your property becomes available to a family that needs it. The scheme provides practical support and prioritisation to tenants who wish to transfer to smaller, manageable and more affordable homes.

The recent change to the voluntary scheme now increases the incentives available. For each bedroom given up council tenants will receive £2000, with an additional £300 paid towards removal costs. The council will also help reconnect appliances in your new home.



You may be eligible if you live in a two, three or more bedroom council property and have a satisfactory tenancy report. If you have rent arrears, you should seek help to pay your rent at: www.hounslow.gov.uk/paying-rent/problems-paying-rent before applying to downsize.

Once you have applied a housing officer will be available to support your application, answer any further questions, and discuss the types of homes you could downsize to.

If you'd like to discuss options please contact downsizing@hounslow.gov.uk. You can apply online at: www.hounslow.gov.uk/downsizing-council-home.



LISTENING, LEARNING AND WORKING TOGETHER

Tenants, leaseholders, councillors and housing officers came together at the Housing Conference on Saturday 31 January, for an open and honest conversation about council housing in Hounslow and the future of local services.

The event placed residents firmly at the centre, recognising that the people who live in council homes every day are best placed to shape how services improve.

Residents were encouraged to share what is working, what is not, and to take part in shaping solutions.



Cllr Sue Sampson, Cabinet member for Housing Management and Homelessness, said: "Good housing services are built on trust, accountability and listening.

Events like this give residents a real voice in shaping the improvements they want to see. This event has highlighted the positive outcome of the Council's first inspection under the Regulator of Social Housing's new consumer standards, where Hounslow was rated as 'C2', the second-highest rating.



"We continue our commitment and ongoing work to being a good landlord for our tenants."



The conference closed with a clear message: resident involvement matters. Attendees were encouraged to stay engaged through tenant-led scrutiny, local groups and future events, helping to ensure housing services continue to improve for everyone in Hounslow.

Council tenants who want to get involved to help improve services, email engage@hounslow.gov.uk

GETTING TO HEART OF THE MATTER

Thank you to everyone who attended the latest Cabinet Question Time at Kingsley Academy on Wednesday, 4 January. The Council would like to extend particular thanks to esteemed Chair, Prof Peter John CBE.



The Council's Cabinet Team listened to what people had to say about Hounslow High Street, community safety, potholes, parking and more.

Question Time events move around the borough. You can find out more, on our website talk.hounslow.gov.uk/cabinet-question-time



STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY VOICES

Hounslow Residents' Panel brings together local voices to share views on the issues that matter most.

Whether it's about local services, policies, or new projects, their opinions help guide decisions, and over 2,000 residents from across the borough are getting involved through surveys, focus groups and workshops, offering feedback.

Panel member feedback has recently informed many local transport

proposals including bike hangar locations across the borough.

Their views have also been shared through the Families First Survey, helping to better understand the



COLLABORATIVE APPROACH SHAPES MAJOR STRATEGY

During 2025 the Council developed its new 2025 - 2030 Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy, bringing together three key areas into one coordinated plan.

To make sure the strategy reflected community needs, the Council engaged widely with residents, partners, local communities and voluntary organisations.

Outreach took place with groups including care leavers, disabled residents, LGBTQ+ and those with learning disabilities. This was further supported by Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise networks and organisations including Crisis Skylight and Thames Reach.

This collaborative approach helped identify local priorities and shape a strategy that supports residents effectively over the next five years.

support needs of parents, carers and young people, and the Hanworth Air Park Masterplan consultation.

Interested in joining? Get in touch by emailing engage@hounslow.gov.uk



HEALTHY, AFFORDABLE FOOD FOR ALL

Access to healthy, affordable food is vital for the wellbeing of individuals and communities.

In Hounslow, the Council is working with partners across the borough to strengthen the local food system so residents can more easily access nutritious, sustainable food that supports healthier lives.

Hounslow Council is already supporting a range of initiatives designed to improve the local food environment and build community resilience. These include community food-growing projects that bring residents together to grow fresh produce locally, cookery training programmes that help people build confidence and practical skills in preparing healthy meals at home, and the Healthier Catering Commitment scheme, which works with local food businesses to promote and provide healthier options for customers.

A recent review of Hounslow's food system has also highlighted some of the challenges many residents face when trying to choose healthy and affordable food. Rising living costs and increasing food prices are making it harder for some households to maintain a balanced diet. In some neighbourhoods, communities are also more exposed to fast-food outlets and may have fewer nearby places offering fresh and nutritious food options.

Understanding these wider influences

is an important step in improving the borough's food system. The findings from this review will help inform the development of a people-centred Food Strategy for Hounslow, supporting actions that connect people to a healthier, more sustainable and fairer food system.

THE HOUNSLOW FOOD NETWORK

One example of how residents are being supported in the Hounslow Food Network is a collection of 31 voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) members who help vulnerable people. The members provide hot meals and food parcels, and run community pantries, which provide access to healthy and affordable food in a dignified, shopping-style environment. People pay on average pay £5 per week and take home at least 15 items, equivalent to approximately £30 worth of retail food shopping. In recognition of this vital role, the Council has helped this sector through funding and by providing affordable spaces for many to continue operating.

For a more extensive round-up of all the work being done across the borough, you can read the full report here: www.hounslow.gov.uk

STAY SAFE FROM MEASLES

London recently saw an outbreak of measles. The first symptoms include: high temperature, rash, runny or blocked nose, sneezing, coughing and red, watery eyes.

If you or your child has a rash and you suspect it's measles, contact your GP and stay away from work, school or nursery for at least four days.

The best way to prevent measles is the MMR vaccine. If you're unsure about your child's vaccination status and they're under five, check their red book. If you can't find the red book or your child is aged five to 18, contact your GP to check whether they've had both MMR doses.

If your child is missing either dose, you can book a catch up appointment with your GP.

It's also never too late for adults. If you missed the vaccination as a child, contact your GP to arrange your MMR catch up. Find out more, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/mmrmeasles

SWAP TO STOP – FREE HELP TO QUIT SMOKING

If you're ready to swap smoking tobacco for a less harmful alternative, the Councils' Swap to Stop scheme can support you on your journey.

This free programme offers vouchers for free vape kits that you can use as a stepping stone to quit for good. Any Hounslow resident aged 18 and over who smokes can apply for Swap to Stop; it's quick, easy and all online.

Your vape starter kit also includes two weeks' worth of liquids and atomisers and you'll eventually get enough supplies to last you six weeks.

WHY JOIN SWAP TO STOP?

Swap to Stop is a government-backed nationwide campaign helping smokers make the switch from cigarettes to vaping – a move proven to be better for your health.

A 2022 UK government report concluded that "in the short and

medium term, vaping poses a small fraction of the risks of smoking". And almost all (95%) of ex-smokers say they felt benefits soon after quitting.



Cllr Lily Bath, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Health Integration, said:

"Quitting smoking is the best thing you can do for your health, which is why we're doing everything to support people to take that step.

"Swap to Stop is about harm reduction and helping people to take the first step to a smoke-free life. However you want to stop smoking, we can help you. It's just one of the ways we're helping the people of Hounslow lead longer, healthier lives."

Sign up for Swap to Stop today and take the first step to a smoke-free life: www.hounslow.gov.uk/health-wellbeing/swap-stop

SWAP 2 STOP

Ready to Quit Smoking?

Hounslow Council is offering residents a free 6-week Swap to Stop programme to help you move from smoking tobacco to vaping - a much less harmful alternative.

You'll get:

- ✓ A free vape starter kit delivered straight to your home
- ✓ Free top-ups for 6 weeks
- ✓ Simple step-by-step support

Make the change to protect your health.

Join Swap to Stop today.

www.hounslow.gov.uk/health-wellbeing/swap-stop

London Borough of Hounslow

NEED HELP TO GET OVER THE FINISH LINE?

Hopefully, after six weeks you'll be tobacco-free and on your way to a healthier future. But if you feel you need a little more help to get there, you can join Healthy Hounslow's stop smoking service. Again, it's completely free and open to anyone who lives, works, studies, or has a GP in Hounslow: healthyhounslow.co.uk/stop-smoking

BREAKING THE STIGMA
REAL STORIES, REAL PEOPLE AND NO SHAME

THE ADDICTION PODCAST

HEAR PEOPLE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE TALK ABOUT ALL THINGS ADDICTION, TACKLE STIGMA, BUST MYTHS AND TALK REAL FACTS

COMMUNITY FREEDOM COURAGE SUPPORT CONFIDENCE FUTURE HAPPINESS FACTS TAKE ACTION HEALTH AMBITION CONNECTION RECOVERY COMPASSION

PODCASTS CAN BE FOUND ON SPOTIFY, YOUTUBE AND APPLE PODCASTS OR SCAN THE QR CODE

BREAK THE STIGMA OF ADDICTION

A new podcast from the Council and the Addiction Recovery Community (ARC) called Breaking the Stigma sees people with lived experience discussing addiction.

It focuses on drug and alcohol addiction, along with the stigma and shame that people can feel when they're at their lowest ebb.

The aim is to encourage more people to talk about addiction, challenge their own beliefs and the beliefs of others, and ultimately get more people to seek help. There are several episodes online now and you can listen for free: bit.ly/stigmapod

If you're concerned for yourself or a loved one and require support for drugs and/or alcohol issues, please contact ARC Hounslow on 01895488675 or by emailing cnw-tr.archounslow@nhs.net.

You can also find out more on the ARC Hounslow website: www.cnwl.nhs.uk/services/addictions/arc-hounslow

THE MAYOR OF HOUNSLOW 2025-26 IS CLLR AMY CROFT



The Mayor has been truly inspired by the wonderful groups, organisations and individuals she has met in the 260 events she has attended so far, who are doing amazing work across the borough to make the lives of their fellow residents better.

She would love to create better networks of these organisations across the Borough during her year in office, so if you know of groups doing good things in the community, who she may not have met, do encourage them to contact her at mayor@hounslow.gov.uk, and invite her to come along and see what they do.

The Mayor's Chosen Charities



TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE MAYOR'S CHARITIES:

Via BACS:

Name of Bank Account:
LB Hounslow Mayor's Account A

- Account number: 27513920
- Sort Code: 60-11-18
- Reference (your surname)

By Phone:

Call 020 8583 2243/6155 to make a card payment.

Donate via JustGiving by scanning the QR:



Deputy Lieutenant Cadet Awards



St Lawrence Primary School attending London Borough of Hounslow 60th Anniversary Exhibition and Talk

Out and about with the Mayor



Business in the Community presentation of books to Marjory Kinnon School

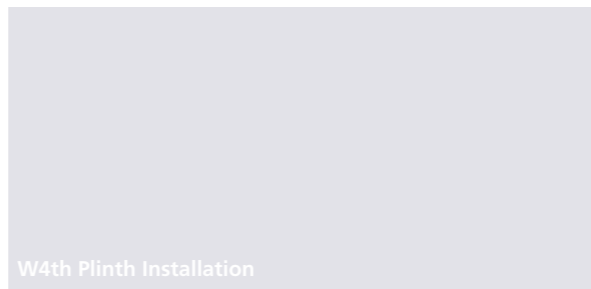


Business in the Community presentation of books to Fairholme Primary School



Southwark Cathedral

If you would like the Mayor to attend your event please email: mayor@hounslow.gov.uk



W4th Plinth Installation



Coptic Nativity and Epiphany Carols



The Mayor and the Mayor Bear at the Mulberry Centre



Buddhist Community Centre London Branch Fundraising Charity Night



The London New Years Parade



Café Together



Hope Church football Youth Project



Hounslow Foster Carer Awards



Holocaust Memorial Ceremonial



Brentford Christmas Flea Market



COLLECTIONS OVER EASTER

Usual collection day	Revised collection day
Friday, 3 April (Bank Holiday)	No Change
Monday, 6 April (Bank Holiday)	Tuesday, 7 April
Tuesday, 7 April	Wednesday, 8 April
Wednesday, 8 April	Thursday, 9 April
Thursday, 9 April	Friday, 10 April
Friday, 10 April	Saturday, 11 April

Please read carefully



Annual Garden Waste Collection

Fortnightly collections from 1 April 2026 until 31 March 2027 **£75**

For residents on Council Tax Reduction **£37.50**



SIGN UP NOW
www.hounslow.gov.uk/gardenwaste



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

GUNNERSBURY 100: ALIVE!

28, 29 March 11am and 2pm

Join us for a family friendly, immersive drop-in session! We'll be delving deeper into the themes of our centenary exhibition "Gunnersbury Unlocked: From Private Ground to Public Park".
£3 per child

GUNNERSBURY 100: RELAXED MORNING

30 March, 10.30am - 12.30pm

Join us for a relaxed morning of activities that are specially adapted to be neurodivergent and/or SEND friendly (suitable for anyone aged 5-25).

Our relaxed morning will take place on a Monday, a special opening for neurodivergent families or families who need a quieter environment when visiting the museum.

EGG HUNT

31 March to 12 April, 11am-4pm Tues-Fri

Collect your trail sheet from the museum and begin your search for colourful hidden

eggs scattered across the lawn behind the museum.
£2 per child

HOGARTH'S HOUSE

hogarthshouse.org/events-exhibitions/#upcomingEvents

CHARLOTTE COOPER EYE, THE WITNESS

Until 10 May

Eye, the Witness concludes Charlotte Cooper's year-long residency at Hogarth's House with a body of work that continues her critical inquiry into the dynamic relationship between art and psychoanalysis.

Boston Manor Park

bostonmanorhouse.org/whats-on

WILDLIFE FRIENDLY GARDENING WORKSHOP

2 May

Make things to take home like wildflower seedballs, bug homes and birdfeeders to get you started right away
Booking via Eventbrite:
bit.ly/40MIG6k

HANSEL AND GRETEL

24 March - 12th April

Follow the breadcrumbs and lose yourself in a magical woodland world as Hansel and Gretel is reimagined in this intimate, imaginative retelling of the classic fairy tale.

Designed especially for primary school children, yet richly entertaining for adults, this production places storytelling at its heart. With live folk music woven throughout, the story unfolds in a way that is warm, playful, suspenseful, and gently thrilling, inviting audiences of all ages to lean in and share the adventure.

£13 - £17

3D PAPER WEAVING

2 April, 12.30pm and 3pm

Come and create an open weave basket using paper with us. Intertwine paper yarns to create an open weave vessel using the basketry technique of random weaving with sumac stitch. Using a mould, you'll create your own decorative woven vessel.

Workshop is for ages 16+
From £10.84

PLANT POT DECORATING

4 April, 1.30pm and 3.30pm

Inspired by the House's grounds and the natural imagery inside, create your own terracotta plant pot and take home.

£7.59

BRENTFORD DIGITAL DOCK

Brentford Digital Dock is a flexible and affordable workspace in the heart of Brentford. It offers co-working office space, meeting and breakout areas, fast internet and kitchenette facilities. The Dock has partnered with Human Driven AI CIC to deliver free AI Clinic weekly sessions as a way of helping people in their professional journey.

digitaldockbrentford.com

CHISWICK HOUSE AND GARDENS

chiswickhouseandgardens.org.uk/whats-on

WILD EXPLORERS: MESSY PLAY SESSIONS FOR LITTLE ONES

Every Monday, 10 - 10.50am

Joyful messy play sessions for babies and toddlers, taking place every Monday at Chiswick House & Gardens.

£16.50 for one child and one adult
£14.50 for additional siblings

COMMUNITY AND CREATIVE CAMPUS TOUR

28 March, 10 - 11am and 7 April, 11.45am - 12.45pm

Come along for a behind-the-scenes tour of our major redevelopment project and learn about the future of Chiswick House & Gardens.

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 through groups including Wildcats, Squads Competitive and Recreation sessions.

find.EnglandFootball.com

OURPARKS BITESIZE

Free at-home exercises

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

PARKRUN

Run, walk or jog your way around Osterley, Gunnersbury, Bedfont, Hanworth and Crane Park
Find your nearest
www.parkrun.org.uk

HOUNSLOW COUNCIL ELECTIONS

2026

As the local elections approach, it is important that all eligible residents are registered to vote.

People can easily register to vote online by visiting www.gov.uk/register-to-vote and completing an application. It only takes a few minutes.

Voters need to bring photo ID to vote at a polling station.

People can still use photo ID if it has expired, as long as the photo still looks like them. For more information and to view the full list of accepted photo ID visit: www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID

KEY DATES TO NOTE:

Early April	Everyone in your household who is eligible will receive a poll card
20 April - Midnight	Today is the last day you can register to vote
21 April - By 5pm	Today is the last day you can apply for a postal vote form or make amendments to any existing voting arrangements
28 April - By 5pm	Today is the last day you can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate if you do not have an accepted form of photo ID
28 April - By 5pm	Today is the last day you can apply for a proxy vote
20 - 27 April	Ballot papers posted to those that have applied to vote by post
7 May - 7am to 10pm	Get ready to vote - today is polling day

* Information correct at time of print

BEDFONT



Lily Bath
Adult Social Care, Public
Health and Health
Integration

**Adesh
Farmahan**

**Raghwinder
Siddhu**

BRENTFORD EAST



Max Mosley

**Marina
Sharma**

BRENTFORD WEST



Guy Lambert

Emma Yates

CHISWICK GUNNERSBURY



**Joanna
Biddolph**

Ranjit Gill

**Ron
Mushiso**

CHISWICK HOMEFIELDS



Jack Emsley

**Gerald
McGregor**

John Todd

CHISWICK RIVERSIDE



Amy Croft
Mayor

**Gabriella
Giles**

Peter Thompson
Leader of the
Opposition

CRANFORD



**Ghazala
Butt**

**Vickram
Grewal**

Hira Dhillon

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



Vacant

Allan Joseph

Aysha Tariq

HESTON CENTRAL



**Harleen
Atwal Hear**

Shivraj Grewal
Infrastructure, Recycling
and Transformation

Vacant

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
Residents Support,
Communities and
Equalities

Pritam Grewal
Community Safety,
Customer Experience
and Enforcement

HOUNSLOW EAST



Junee Meah

**Daanish
Saeed**

HOUNSLOW HEATH



Samia Chaudhary
Education, Children, Skills
and Employment

Afzaal Kiani

**Farhaan
Rehman**

HOUNSLOW SOUTH



Tom Bruce
Deputy Leader of the Council
Assets, Regeneration and
Development

Sayyar Raza

Karen Smith

HOUNSLOW WEST



**Bandna
Chopra**

**Jagdish
Sharma**

**Mohammed
Umair**

ISLEWORTH



Sue Sampson
Housing Management
and Homelessness

Salman Shaheen
Culture, Leisure and
Public Spaces

**John Stroud-
Turp**

OSTERLEY AND SPRING GROVE



**Unsa
Chaudri**

Tony Louki

**Aftab
Siddiqui**

SYON AND BRENTFORD LOCK



**Dan
Bowring**

Katherine Dunne
Climate, Environment
and Transport

**Theo
Dennison**

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.

These councillors will remain in office until the council elections in May 2026.

Key

- Labour
- Conservative
- Green
- Independent
- Cabinet