

HOUNSLOW matters

Winter 24

Community and Council news from around the borough



FESTIVE FUN FOR ALL

Future Feltham
p12-13

*Winter proof
this Christmas*
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*Big wins for
Small Ceramics*
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YOUR PERFECT *venue*

📍 FELTHAM LODGE

Perfect for intimate weddings, the Garden Room in Feltham Lodge is an exquisite setting for marriages and civil partnerships.

High ceilings, stunning chandeliers and beautiful high back chairs, the room accesses the veranda and garden - a picturesque location to capture photographs of your special day.

To book your ceremony, or if you would like to visit us, please contact:
registeroffice@hounslow.gov.uk



Feltham Lodge is a beautifully restored Victorian House, which is home to the Hounslow District Register Office.

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Welcome to the latest edition of *Hounslow Matters - Winter 2024*



Dear Resident,

Let me start by wishing you the very best for the season, whether you celebrate Christmas, Hannukah, Diwali or any of the other festivals that are so important to our communities.

Since our last edition, the most important moment in the life of the borough was probably the Hounslow Assembly, at the Gtech Community Stadium.

At its heart was a shared vision for Hounslow built on collaboration, innovation, and inclusive growth to benefit every resident and every community.

Our Hounslow economy generates an impressive £15 billion in 'Gross Value Added' (GVA) each year, but not everyone feels the benefits equally. Opportunity Hounslow - our Business Case for Growth is the framework to drive regeneration across our borough. It prioritises inclusive, sustainable, and impactful growth, ensuring that prosperity is shared, and no part of our borough is left behind.

Its ambitions align with our broader goals; a greener borough, a more sustainable local economy, and improving health outcomes for all.

Recent research by the Social Mobility Commission painted a picture of social mobility in Hounslow. Things are quite good, but we know we can do better.

- We have excellent schools, but excellence is not yet present everywhere
- We have some of the UK's highest GVA levels but some of London's lowest wages
- We have one of London's largest green workforces but some of the most carbon-intensive jobs in the capital
- We have impressive local green activity but around half of homes remain energy inefficient

We know too many working-age adults live with conditions that limit quality of life, too many older residents experience retirement marred by illness, and the cost-of-living crisis has worsened things for many.

Breaking down barriers and promoting inclusivity will address inequality and contribute to the growth and long-term prosperity of communities.

Our **Business Case for Growth** is built around three key things: Place, Industry, and Promotion.

- **Place** - transforming public spaces, improving housing through regeneration, and ensuring that we deliver environments where all our residents can thrive.
- **Industry** - growing and diversifying our economy by building on our existing strengths and targeting growth sectors to create high-quality jobs and provide local opportunities.
- **Promotion** - marketing Hounslow for investment, attracting and retaining businesses that generate employment, drive economic activity, and enhance our reputation.

This Hounslow Matters touches upon these and our work to remove barriers, green our economy, increase the availability of affordable housing, and support people at their most vulnerable.

It demonstrates our continuing work and commitment to you; the residents and communities we serve.

It is a commitment that will continue into the new year and beyond, and I hope that 2025 brings all of you the very best.

Cllr Shantanu Rajawat
Leader of Hounslow Council

HOUNSLOW TAKES CENTRE STAGE

The Council's events programme got even bigger and better throughout 2024 with just under 25,000 attending popular events taking place in and around the borough.

FILMS ON THE GREEN

Three outdoor film screenings were held in parks and open spaces, but the third had a twist – both the film and the park were voted for by the public. The most popular showing was Wonka with almost a thousand residents in attendance. Each film screening attracted visitors from across the borough who came ready with picnics and popcorn to watch a film with their friends and neighbours.



Films on
the Green

RHYTHM AND SOUND - A TASTE OF SOUTH ASIA

South Asian Heritage Month played host to the new Rhythm and Sound programme in August. The event included a 'mini mela' that involved hosting games, activities, stalls, food providers, a funfair and a full stage line up of local talent representing different South Asian countries. The day was also full of fantastic food and performances.



Rhythm
and
Sound

GREENER LIVING FESTIVAL

Taking place at Lampton Park, the latest event had more activities for residents to get involved in and initiatives to learn about. Stallholders, including local community and clear-up groups, helped raise awareness of the small changes needed to make a huge impact on carbon footprints. Residents were encouraged to help make a bug hotel with Greenspace 360's Countryside Team which will remain onsite to encourage biodiversity.



Greener
Living
Festival

HOUNSLOW LIGHTS

Returning to Lampton Park, this highly popular seasonal event celebrates Halloween, Diwali and Bonfire Night. There was something for everyone, with non-stop activities, a thrilling funfair, stallholders and food village, culminating with a spectacular fireworks display. Storytelling sessions and a storybook installation were new additions this year, with the latter not



Hounslow
Lights

FELTHAM WOWS CROWDS

A highlight of the Feltham calendar, the annual Feltham Arts Winters Night Carnival, once again saw hundreds of residents and visitors visit the town centre to watch an exciting parade.

Children from Victoria Junior School and St Lawrence RC school produced special lanterns used as part of the parade. These were coupled with special bespoke large-scale lanterns created by volunteers and local artists Artjar.



The walk, led by the Mayor of Hounslow, included dhol drummers, stilt walkers and an array of circus performers including neon hula hoop dancers and jugglers.



To the beat of the dhol drum, the eye-popping spectacle of the lanterns led the parade along the High Street, with people enjoying the carnival atmosphere before a series of stage acts started, including the hula performance and aerialist light show.

Feltham Arts, who put on the event had funding and support from the local police, the National Lottery, The Centre-Feltham and the UK shared prosperity fund as part of the Hounslow Summer of Culture Legacy.



PERFECT WINTER CELEBRATION



Photos credit: Sim Mondair



Hounslow's annual festive lights were once again switched on to the delight of residents and visitors.

Organised in conjunction with Same Sky, an arts charity with over thirty years' experience of creating magical lantern processions, and Creative People and Places Hounslow, the lantern parade showcases light sculptures to create an enchanting celebratory event full of bright, colourful lights.



Top of the class

To celebrate remarkable progress towards GCSEs across a range of subjects, Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of Hounslow Council was invited to attend an event for Key Stage 3 and 4 students from Heston Community School.

He handed out awards for outstanding end of year results, from mathematics to the arts students who have shown impressive progress.



The Leader at Heston Community School congratulating students

ALL THE FUNDERS AT THE FAIR



More than 60 local charities and community groups recently attended a funders fair hosted by the Council.

Opened by Cllr Rajawat, the event included national funders such as Ground Work, Tesco Community Grants and Trust for London. Ealing and Hounslow CVS were also on hand to support groups with queries on volunteering, governance and funding.

The Fair included workshops for charities and voluntary groups on how to maximise their funding applications and develop an effective funding strategy.

Cllr Ajmer Grewal, Cabinet Member for Residents Support, Communities and Equalities who also attended the event said: "Local charities and community groups are the beating heart of our communities here in Hounslow. Along with our grant funding for these groups, we want to empower local charities and community groups to thrive and grow."

For more information about the Council's support for the voluntary sector, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk

Improving resident experience

Hounslow Council has approved a new Cranford Community Hub at Meadowbank to bring together enhanced library services, adult education and tailored support from the Council and its partners. This included consideration of feedback from engagement with local people about what they would like to see in their Community Hub.

This is another step in the work to help residents get in touch and access services in ways that suit them and make sure residents get excellent experiences, online, on the phone and in-person.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) shows Hounslow residents are more likely to have a nearby library than almost anywhere else in England and Wales, with almost two-thirds within just 15-minutes' walk of a library. The recent residents' survey confirms 88% of users have 'excellent satisfaction'.

Building on those already valued library services, there are plans to transform all eleven libraries into Community Hubs, with tailored support services under one roof, including at Hounslow House, with the installation of a new reception desk.

This is all part of the Council's ambition to make key services accessible, intuitive and easy to use, with face-to-face support available nearer to where residents live.

A more user-friendly website will ensure residents can get information and services as easily as possible, with new e-forms to report animal issues, contact housing officers and access household support funds. This now also includes carers' and doctors' Zone R residents' parking permit applications, with more to follow over the coming months.

Residents can get things done, read information and updates, give new services a try, and let the Council know what they think at: www.hounslow.gov.uk



LEST WE FORGET



The Mayor of Hounslow, Cllr Karen Smith, attended services at the Holy Trinity Church and at the War Memorial at Feltham Green on Sunday, 10 November. She joined others in remembering those who died in World Wars and other conflicts.

Also in attendance at Feltham Green were Deputy Lieutenant, Rosi Prescott and Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of Hounslow Council. All laid wreaths at the services and joined others in remembering the sacrifice of the Armed Forces community and people lost to and touched by war.

Councillors representing the Mayor laid wreaths at memorials across the borough on the day.



Mayor Smith said: "Remembrance Sunday invites people of all faiths, cultures, and backgrounds to remember in their own way. We were joined by local people and community leaders at our commemorative events. As well as all those who took a moment to pause and reflect in neighbourhoods around the borough."

Winning Silver

Hounslow social worker Aaron Evans recently picked up a Silver Award for Newly Qualified Adult Social Worker at the Social Worker of the Year Awards

He was nominated by colleagues at Hounslow Council and chosen by panels of independent judges including previous award winners, social workers, industry leaders and people with lived experience of social work.



The Social Worker of the Year Awards is the only major national awards event for social work in England, attracting hundreds of entries every year.

Hounslow Council was the Continuing Professional Development Sponsor of Compass Job Fair, an event for careers in social care and social work, held on Monday, 25 November.

Hundreds of job seekers visited the stall, and Principal Social Worker Tamlyn Bilton was among one of the speakers at the event.

EXPLORE MORE IN THE NEW YEAR



Clr Shaheen is joined by volunteers Jenny Morales and Patricia Beldam-Ealey

In the build-up to the festive period, Boston Manor House has been decked with a beautiful Christmas tree for visitors to enjoy. A series of classes and events will be running throughout the period and into the New Year including regular weekly walks, speakers, events and classes:

Weekly walks are fully accessible and take place every Friday, between 11am and 12pm. The group meets at the entrance to the House at 10.50am.

Monthly walks meet at 10.50am on the first Saturday of the month, outside the front of Boston Manor

House. They walk from 11am to 12.30pm, through Boston Manor Park and along the Grand Union Canal, crossing over the River Brent and into Osterley Park.

A costumed guided tour of the House is led by Lady Mary Reade, who built Boston Manor House in 1623, or William Swansborough, a butler at the House in the second half of the 19th century. These family-friendly tour guides provide a fascinating account of

life at the House throughout the centuries and can be found there every Saturday at 3pm, subject to volunteer availability.

Clr Salman Shaheen said: "Boston Manor House plays host to a plethora of fantastic events and activities, made special by the House's lovingly restored interiors, rich history, and dramatic parkland setting. Come, bring the family, and you'll be sure to find something new and wonderful."

To find out what's on at Boston Manor House, visit: bostonmanorhouse.org/whats-on

Making a difference

Representatives from 15 local arts, culture and heritage organisations once again welcomed local people to the annual autumn Volunteer Fair in Chiswick Park.

Running since March 2022, the fair brings creative organisations from across the borough together with local people showcasing current opportunities and acting as a 'one-stop-shop' for volunteering roles.



Fernando and Lucas at the volunteer fair

Arts and heritage organisations offered free, creative opportunities to people who live in Hounslow. There were representatives from the London Museum of Water and Steam, relating stories about how London's water comes through the borough, and Arts Centre Hounslow discussing the volunteers needed for this season's panto.

Fernando Candido, an engineer from Brazil, attended the fair. He said: "The volunteer fair was great because it showcased the diversity of locations and types of cultural work in Hounslow and west London. It also engaged new people to serve as volunteers.

"As someone who recently moved to London, the volunteer fair allowed me to meet people with the same purpose as me: to give back to the community and support people most in need."

For those thinking about volunteering in the arts and heritage sector - look out for the Council's next Volunteer Fair, in February: bostonmanorhouse.org/west-london-volunteer-fair

In the New Year the Council will be launching a range of volunteering opportunities at Hogarth House - find out more here: hogarthhouse.org/volunteer-with-us



Clrs Asim, Mitchell and Dunne with local community members

PATH TO PROGRESS

A popular pathway to and from Feltham Railway Station has been given a new lease of life thanks to a partnership between the Council, local Councillors and the community.

People walking to and from Feltham Railway Station are now on the right track thanks to a project to bring a popular footway back to its best.

The path next to the railway line, between Orchard Road and Hanover Avenue in Feltham, had been overgrown with weeds, blighted by

litter and without street lighting, making it inaccessible for many users.

Noveen Phillips, who lives locally and started the conversation about fixing up the railway path some years ago, said: "It's actually safe to go down at night now because of the lighting. I'm partly in a wheelchair nowadays and you couldn't ever have considered a pushchair or a wheelchair down here; both are easy now, so it's a fantastic shortcut for local residents. It's absolutely brilliant, we love it."

Supporting vulnerable people

Residents interested in developing careers supporting vulnerable people paying London Living Wage are invited to a Work Hounslow career event on Thursday, 9 January at Hounslow House.

Employers Certitude, St Mungo's and Thames Reach will be in attendance to discuss live job opportunities and requirements, career prospects and more. Register to join: bit.ly/3USBFOQ

The experience of Loveth Culling, Deputy Manager of Certitude in Isleworth, is one example of how rewarding supporting vulnerable people in the community can be. She began her career as a cleaner and through her daily cleaning duties, she interacted

with the people with learning disabilities and those needing mental health support. She recalled:

"I wanted to go to work every day. Seeing them happy motivated me. I felt I could give them the quality of life they needed. I became interested in supporting them more."

In 2017, when a support worker job opportunity opened up, Loveth's manager believed she was capable for the job. She adds: 'My manager asked me to become a support worker. I would never have applied to the job if she hadn't encouraged me to do it.'

Loveth is currently working on her NVQ Diploma Level 5 qualification.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS PATHWAYS



Oaklands School recently hosted a 'Pathways' event aimed at young people aged 13-25 with Education Health and Care Plans attending a special or independent special school and their parents or carers.

A valuable opportunity to get information and insight on the different options available for pupils, both in education and employment, attendees were helped to navigate the journey into adulthood. Parents and pupils connected with Council services and organisations including West Thames College (WTC) and DFN Project

SEARCH, who have worked together with the Council in supporting over 100 young people - 78% of Project SEARCH graduates - into paid employment over the last decade.



Clr Samia Chaudhary, Cabinet Member for Education, Children, Skills and Employment commented: "The event

echoed our collaborative approach that seeks to ensure our young people with SEN and their parents receive the necessary support at key stages of their education."

ENDING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



Hounslow Council recently marked White Ribbon Day, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, 25 November, by fixing White Ribbon signs to lampposts along Hounslow High Street.

As one of only seven White Ribbon accredited London councils, Hounslow stands with organisations and individuals all over the world, in encouraging men to show their commitment to ending violence against women and girls, in line with this year's White Ribbon Day theme: It Starts With Men.

This year, Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of the Council, awarded the title of White Ribbon Champion to nominated men who will actively engage in conversations to promote safety and equality. Together they will shine a vital spotlight on the responsibility all men and boys share to end violence against women and girls.

Cllr Rajawat said: "This year's White Ribbon Day theme serves as a powerful reminder that the journey to ending violence begins with us, men and boys.

"Each of us has the capacity to be part of the solution, to challenge harmful attitudes, and to promote respect and equality. It is our responsibility to stand up against violence, abuse and harassment in all its forms and to support those who have been affected."

This campaign aligns with the Council's Corporate Plan, Violence Against Women and Girls Plan, Safer Communities Strategy and as well as its longstanding commitment to tackling violence against women and girls.



Cross-party Councillors and the Mayor of Hounslow, stood together at Borough Council on 26 November, to acknowledge the White Ribbon campaign and support 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.

This international, annual campaign highlights and opposes gender-based violence and launched 25 November, running up to Human Rights Day, 10 December.

HOUNSLOW WELCOMES NEW AREA POLICE CHIEF

Recently Cllr Shantanu Rajawat met new Chief Superintendent Jill Horsfall, for the West Area Basic Command Unit, which covers Hounslow, Ealing and Hillingdon.

He said: "I am encouraged by my conversation with Chief Superintendent Horsfall. We share many aims and I look forward to working with her to help us keep crime levels low in Hounslow.

"As we make clear in our Safer Communities strategy, we want our communities to be safe and feel safe in Hounslow."



Chief Superintendent Horsfall joined the force in 1998 and spent most of her career in uniformed front line policing roles.

She said: "I am delighted to be leading policing in Hounslow. I will be collaborating with partners to deliver a truly excellent service for all residents."

Solid groundwork has already established Hounslow as a low crime borough. More than 91% of residents confirmed that they feel safe during the day, in the Council's recent resident survey.

The Council recently invested in seven new Safer Operational Communities Team members. These officers are already working with local communities across the borough.



JAMIE OLIVER TAKES ON CHILDHOOD OBESITY

Jamie Oliver is partnering with Hounslow Council to deliver his Ministry of Food's first-ever programme directly targeting primary schools in deprived areas to upskill children and their families in cooking delicious and nutritious food.

This will be a unique initiative which specifically supports primary schools struggling the most with deprivation and obesity. Expected to reach over 1,100 people in the first year alone, families will have the opportunity to develop their skills alongside deepening understanding of nutrition, food safety and waste reduction.

An instructor from Jamie Oliver's Ministry of Food will teach an initial 14 'trainers' – including primary school teachers, parents of primary school children, and community outreach workers engaging with children at primary schools.

The accredited training course includes sessions on food safety and hygiene, nutrition, food waste, and three days' hands-on instruction where they will be shown how to cook and teach a range of Jamie Oliver's recipes.

Once completed, each of the 14 trainers will then hold eight practical lessons with families from primary schools in target areas such as Green Dragon Primary School in Brentford, Westbrook Primary School in Heston, Ivybridge Primary School in Isleworth, and Beavers Community Primary School in Cranford, passing on their healthy cooking skills and nutritional knowledge to children and their parents where it's most needed.

Hounslow Council will provide each primary school with a £500 starter kit, including any equipment and utensils the school lacks, to allow the trainers to teach their sessions.

Cllr Ajmer Grewal, Cabinet Member for Residents Support, Communities and Equalities said: "At a time when the Government is moving to ensure children will no longer be exposed to junk food TV adverts, fulfilling their



Jamie Oliver said: "It's so good to have Hounslow Council join our Ministry of Food programme. And they're starting in primary schools, which is brilliant –

we know that the earlier you can get kids excited about food and nutrition, the better. Arming families with the knowledge to cook from scratch can only have a positive impact, empowering them both now, and in the future.

"We want the next generation to grow up understanding and loving food, as well as having the skills and knowledge to be able to nourish themselves. Nearly 20% of reception-age kids in Hounslow were overweight in 2023, rising to 40% in Year 6 – and this is a trend we see up and down the country. We know that the earlier you can get kids excited about food and nutrition, the better. Right now the system is stacked against us. Not only is our food environment flooded with high-sugar/salt options that are especially targeted at young people, but generations are losing the skill to cook for themselves."

manifesto commitment to giving every child the best and healthiest start in life, it is both essential and timely that, here in Hounslow, we are supporting that commitment with our own work to ensure children are eating well, healthy, and learning."

Cllr Salman Shaheen, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Public Spaces said: "Childhood obesity rates are a ticking time bomb. That's why we're partnering with Jamie Oliver to deliver this unique programme that will give families with young children the skills and knowledge to cook affordable, nutritious meals. The ripple effect, impacting over 1,100 people in the first year alone, will help tackle entrenched health inequalities and create a healthier Hounslow for the next generation."

"Evidence shows that being overweight in childhood leads to serious health problems in adulthood and that children in the most deprived areas are most impacted, reinforcing inequalities and poorer life chances. We need to support the health of our children from an early age, and education is the key."

future Feltham

Feltham, the westernmost town in the borough, is undergoing a remarkable transformation. Historically a hub for market gardens and the aviation industry, Feltham is now a bustling District Centre, as recognised in the London Plan (2021). It serves the diverse neighbourhoods of Feltham North, Feltham Village, East Bedfont, and Hanworth, offering residents a wealth of amenities and a vibrant town centre.

This transformation is about more than just buildings; it's about creating a place where community and heritage thrive alongside new opportunities. As part of the Opportunity Hounslow Business Case for Growth, Feltham has been identified as one of two initial focal points for the Government's national growth mission, positioning the town for even greater development and economic potential in the years to come.

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A TOWN CENTRE REIMAGINED

The heart of Feltham has been revitalised with extensive public realm improvements. From repaved and widened footways to



new street lighting, pedestrian crossings, cycle lanes, and bus lane extensions, every detail has been carefully designed to enhance accessibility and safety. Carriageways have been resurfaced, and new street furniture adds a modern touch to the town's historic charm.

Feltham's iconic landmarks, such as St Catherine's Spire and the Feltham War Memorial, anchor the town's rich heritage. Meanwhile, green spaces like Feltham Green and Bridge House Pond serve as vital community hubs. Recent improvements to these areas, including the Freddie Mercury Memorial Garden, celebrate local history and provide welcoming spaces for all.



EMBRACING COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

One of the most exciting projects underway is the construction of the Feltham Green Eco Cabin, set to open in early 2025. This flexible community hub will be home to the Friends of Feltham Green and support a variety of local activities, from community gardening to public events. The Cabin embodies the Council's commitment to fostering social integration and active participation, offering a space where residents can connect, learn and contribute.

Feltham's artistic and cultural landscape is flourishing, with projects like the Bridge House Pond Mural showcasing the town's creativity. This stunning mosaic installation, designed by local artists and supported by community members, tells the story of Feltham's rich history and its bright future. The mural transforms the area around Bridge House Pond, making it a focal point for residents and visitors alike. It's an excellent example of how art can bring people together and instil a sense of pride in their surroundings.

Another highlight is the England Connects Mural Mosaic, unveiled at Feltham Station earlier this year. Made up of over 1,300 tiles created by local residents and artists from around the world, this collaborative masterpiece celebrates unity in diversity and reflects Feltham's vibrant community spirit.



A VISION FOR FELTHAM'S FUTURE



Cllr Tom Bruce, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Assets, Regeneration and Development, said: "Our Feltham Masterplan, adopted in 2017, provides a roadmap for the town's development through to 2032. At its core is the redevelopment of the 12-hectare Ministry of Defence site on Elmwood Avenue, the largest brownfield site in Hounslow. This area will be transformed into a vibrant mixed-use community, with plans for new homes, jobs and commercial space.

"The masterplan also emphasises the importance of leisure and community facilities, with over 12,000 square metres dedicated to creating spaces where residents can come together. Feltham Arenas parklands, for example, are undergoing phased improvements to enhance safety, accessibility, and recreational opportunities."

COMMUNITY AT THE CORE

Engaging the community is central to every step of Feltham's regeneration. The Feltham Local Activities Group (FLAG), supported by Hounslow's Creative People and Places programme, has been instrumental in hosting events like the Feltham Fete. These gatherings not only celebrate local talent but also foster a sense of pride and belonging.

In addition to cultural events, the regeneration efforts focus on providing high-quality, sustainable housing. Recent developments include Fairview's Feltham 355, which offers 120 new homes, nearly half of which are affordable, and Frank Towell Court Infills, delivering 102 social rent units. These projects align with the Council's goal to create inclusive, vibrant communities.



FELTHAM GREEN AND FREDDIE MERCURY MEMORIAL GARDEN

Feltham Green, a treasured public space, is undergoing significant enhancements. The upcoming Freddie Mercury Memorial Garden, set to be completed in early 2025, will celebrate the life of one of Feltham's most famous residents. This project not only honours the town's cultural legacy but also aims to attract fan tourism, further boosting local pride and economic activity.



BUILDING MOMENTUM

Feltham is more than a place of growth - it's a community where history and progress coexist. With excellent transport links, including a well-connected train station and proximity to Heathrow Airport, Feltham is poised to become an even more vibrant and desirable destination.

As the Council moves forward, its focus remains on sustainable development, inclusivity, and enhancing the quality of life for all residents. Together, the Council and its partners are building a future that reflects the best of Feltham's past while unlocking its vast potential.

For more information on the Feltham Masterplan and ongoing regeneration projects, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/feltham-masterplan

SUPPORT LOCAL

Small Business Saturday is a national campaign that celebrates small, independent businesses and encourages shoppers to “shop small.”

On the first Saturday in December the Council shone a spotlight on the diverse and unique small businesses in Brentford Town Centre, highlighting their contributions to the local economy, creativity, and community spirit.



From the inviting waterside ambiance of Sam's Waterside to the curated retail experience at Mother Rugger, these businesses are integral to Brentford's vibrant scene. Hewson Books, Brentford's first independent bookshop in years, is a haven for literature lovers, while Small Ceramics, recent Advance for Growth winners exemplifies innovation and craftsmanship.

The Council remains committed to supporting local enterprises through sustainable and inclusive economic growth. Small businesses are the backbone of Brentford's thriving community, and by shopping local, we help them flourish. Join the campaign this December and make a difference by supporting favourite local businesses across Hounslow.



Stefano and Daisy with Robert Clasper from JCDecaux receiving their Advance for Growth award

BIG WINS FOR SMALL CERAMICS



Hounslow Council, in partnership with JCDecaux and the West London Chamber, is proud to announce Small Ceramics as one of the winners of the 2024 Advance for Growth competition. This annual initiative supports local businesses by offering them a platform to showcase their work through high-profile advertising on JCDecaux's outdoor media network across the borough.

Based in Hounslow, Small Ceramics is making a big impact with its

beautifully crafted, sustainable pottery. Each piece is handmade with care, combining traditional techniques with contemporary designs. Their work not only celebrates local artistry but also aligns with Hounslow's commitment to sustainability and supporting small businesses.

As part of their prize, Small Ceramics will receive a bespoke advertising campaign, helping them reach new audiences and grow their brand. This exposure is a game-changer for local entrepreneurs, giving them the opportunity to elevate their business and contribute to the borough's thriving economy.

Keep an eye out for Small Ceramics on billboards and support this incredible local business as they continue to create beautiful, sustainable art right here in Hounslow.

vital infrastructure, housing and green initiatives.

From new homes to high-value jobs, this is your chance to see Hounslow thrive. Together, we'll create a borough where residents and businesses can succeed and prosper. Visit the Council's website to learn more!

OPPORTUNITY HOUNSLOW

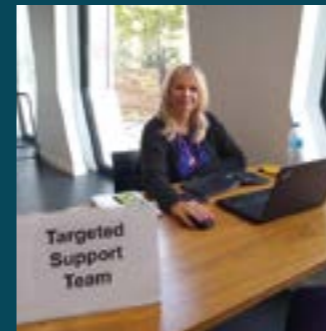
Hounslow Council is leading the charge for economic growth with Opportunity Hounslow - Business Case for Growth. This ambitious strategy outlines how the Council plans to attract investment, create jobs, and build vibrant communities across the borough.

Focused on key areas like Feltham, Brentford, and the Golden Mile, the plan showcases Hounslow's potential as a hub for innovation and opportunity. By working with the government, local businesses, and community partners, the Council aim to unlock funding for

Winter proof this Christmas

For many residents, the winter and Christmas period can be a stressful and difficult time to manage. The Council has a range of support services to help residents through it.

Community Hubs



The Council has a number of Community Hubs across the borough where residents can connect with the Council and other key partners to access information, advice and guidance on a wide range of topics including finance, benefits and debt. Many residents struggle with social isolation and their health in the winter period, the Hubs will continue to deliver activities to develop social connections and improve residents' physical and mental health.

To find a Community Hub, and when they are open during the Christmas period, visit: www.hounslowconnect.com or call 020 8583 2211.

Warm Spaces

Now in its third year, the Council's Warm Spaces initiative offers a number of locations delivered by the Council and partners for residents to access free Wi-Fi and connect with others

through a range of social activities. A map of all the warm spaces is available on pages 16-17, or visit the Council's website.

Household Support Fund

For pensioners, the Council can offer financial support through its Household Support Fund. The fund is available to pensioners struggling to heat their homes or afford other essential items over the colder months. This fund will support residents that are no longer entitled to the Winter Fuel Payment. Apply here: www.hounslow.gov.uk/household-support-fund via phone 020 8583 2211, or in person at a local Community Hub.

Citizens Advice Hounslow

Citizens Advice Hounslow will be available at a number of locations across the borough through offices and their Mobile Advice Unit. The service can help residents with free, confidential, impartial advice on welfare benefits, debt, housing, employment, consumer, relationship and family issues, immigration and other topics. Residents can also contact them by telephone on 0808 278 7830.

Crosslight Advice

The Council's community partners provide specialist debt advice at the Council's Community Hubs and over the phone. They also offer face to face money courses and cost of living toolkits to support residents to prevent getting into debt. Residents can find out more by visiting www.crosslightadvice.org/help or visiting Crosslight at a Community Hub.



Green Doctor

The Green Doctors service provides free home energy consultations to eligible Hounslow residents. Green Doctors can help residents with advice on energy bills, energy saving tips, and financial support. To find out more, contact 0300 365 3005 or visit www.london.greendoctors.org.uk

Stay Steady and Active

The Stay Steady and Active programme at Lampton



Leisure is a great way to increase bone health and strength, reducing the risk of injuries and fractures associated with a fall.

Winter is a particularly precarious time for falls, with icy walkways and cold bones, so this is a good way to make it through the colder months unscathed. Head to steadyandactive.co.uk to find out more.



Health and Wellbeing

Hounslow's Health Outreach Team provides residents with information on local health and wellbeing support services. Residents can visit the Health Outreach Team at the Treaty Centre on Hounslow High Street.

The team also offers:

- Blood pressure checks
- Body Mass Index (BMI) checks
- Advice on health concerns, such as diabetes, high blood pressure, stop smoking services, mental health service plus much more.

your warm welcome

To help with rising energy costs, Hounslow Council is working with voluntary organisations to provide warm spaces across the borough this winter. You can pop into any of our warm spaces whenever they are open.

Check www.hounslow.gov.uk/warmspaces for opening times and details.



London Borough of Hounslow library	Shared library and leisure centre	Voluntary and community sector support	Leisure centre only
Community Hub	Family Hub	Adult Education	Housing Social Café



- 1 Beavers Library, The Hub**
103 Salisbury Road, Hounslow TW4 7NW
- 2 Bedfont Library**
Staines Road, Bedfont TW14 8DB
- 3 Brentford Library**
11F Boston Manor Road, Hounslow TW8 8DW
- 4 Chiswick Library**
1 Duke's Avenue, Chiswick W4 2AB
- 5 Cranford Library**
Bath Road, Hounslow TW5 9TL
- 6 Feltham Library, The Centre**
High Street, Feltham TW13 4GU
- 7 Hounslow Library, Hounslow House**
First floor, 7 Bath Road, Hounslow TW3 3EB

- 8 Osterley Library**
11 St Mary's Crescent, Isleworth TW7 4NB
- 9 Heston Library**
New Heston Road TW5 0LW
- 10 Hanworth Air Park Leisure Centre & Library**
Uxbridge Road, Hanworth TW13 5EG
- 11 Isleworth Library and Leisure Centre**
Twickenham Road, Isleworth TW7 7EU

- 12 Osterley Sports & Athletics Centre**
120 Wood Lane, Isleworth TW7 5FG
- 13 The Southville Centre**
Age UK, Southville Rd, Bedfont TW14 8AP
- 14 Brabazon Centre**
Creative Spaces London, 106 Brabazon Road TW5 9LT
- 15 Cranford Community College**
C-Change West London, High Street TW5 9PD
- 16 Maswell Park Church**
24 Heath Road, Hounslow TW3 2NN
- 17 Bedfont Lane Community Centre**
9 Proctors Close, Feltham TW14 9NB
- 18 Belvedere House Community Resource Centre**
Feltham Community Development Association, Lemon Grove, Feltham, TW13 4DH
- 19 Chiswick House and Gardens**
Burlington Lane, Chiswick, W4 2RP
- 20 The Six Bells Brentford**
148 High Street, Brentford, TW8 8EW
- 21 Riverside Vineyard Church**
Riverside Vineyard, Air Park Way, Feltham, TW13 7LX

- 22 St Paul's Church**
Hope Church Hounslow, Bath Road, Hounslow West, TW3 3DA
- 23 Autism Hounslow**
Hounslow Youth Centre, Kingsley Road, Hounslow, TW3 1QA
- 24 Hounslow Methodist Church**
Bell Road, Hounslow, TW3 3PB
- 25 The Bridgelink Centre**
373 Summerwood Road, Isleworth, TW7 7QR
- 26 Feltham Assembly Hall Community Hub**
25 Hounslow Road, Feltham, TW14 9DN
- 27 Family Hub Central**
Neville Close, Hounslow, TW3 4JG
- 28 Family Hub West**
7 Hanworth Road, Feltham, TW13 5AF
- 29 Family Hub East**
North Road, Brentford, TW8 0BJ
- 30 Meadowbank Adult & Community Education Centre**
Learn Hounslow, Community Close, Bath Road, Cranford, TW5 9QX
- 31 The Oriel Community Centre**
Feltham Social Café, Cresswell Road, Feltham, TW13 6YG
- 32 Mission Hall Community Centre**
Brentford Social Café, Mission Square, Brentford, TW8 0SD

Visit our website to check for updates as more locations are added.



Giving refugees a voice

In November, Cllr Ajmer Grewal, Cabinet Member for Residents Support, Communities and Equalities, visited local charity LEAH to find out how they are empowering asylum seekers, refugees and migrants to learn English.

A weekly English class in Heston is funded by the Council through its Thriving Communities Fund. The local charity recently received more than £16,000 from the Council's flagship community funding programme and the Refugee and Asylum seeker fund.

Abby Holliday, Director at LEAH, explained what the funding means for her charity, she said: "LEAH has been supporting those with the lowest language skills

for 42 years and our free service is provided entirely by volunteers.

"Our Heston class supports around 40 asylum seekers, refugees and migrants, most of whom would otherwise not be able to access any English language support. Our class provides a vital stepping stone that enables isolated learners to meet and receive tailored English language support, engage with others, and gain confidence in communicating their needs.

"We are very proud of the unique support that our LEAH volunteers provide to learners in Heston, and the opportunities we provide to create a positive and rewarding life in the UK."

A survey by the previous cohort found 90% of participants said the lessons made them feel more confident and 82% said the lessons had improved their speaking skills.

Along with taking part in the class, Cllr Grewal met with participants who outlined what the project meant to them.

Ismail described how the lessons helped him tackle his social isolation, he said: "This semester has helped me a lot because I have had a lot of psychological and social changes, but when I come to the school I am very happy.

"I would recommend this class to anyone in a similar situation: what is life if you're not learning!"

The Council's recent round of funding provided £508k of funding to 24 community organisations and charities, ranging from intergenerational projects to tackle social isolation in older people to IT training for Hounslow residents who are visually impaired.

Cllr Grewal said: "Charities such as LEAH play a pivotal role in Hounslow's thriving voluntary sector and I was particularly impressed with the project volunteers who go that extra mile to support these residents.

"Our new four-year Thriving Communities Strategy shows our commitment to support the voluntary sector and we will ensure these volunteers, community groups and charities will remain woven into the fabric of every day life in Hounslow.

"We can achieve so much more by working together."

The next round of Thriving Communities funding will be available soon and community organisations and charities can apply on the Council's website:

www.hounslow.gov.uk/TCF

HAVE YOUR SAY your way

There are now more ways than ever for residents to have their say on the things they care about.

Improving how the Council consults and engages with communities is one of its key priorities. Its vision is 'Every resident, business, partner and community organisation should be aware of and able to shape decisions about the subjects which matter to them.'

To achieve this, the Council launched the Radical Overhaul of Consultation and Engagement. Over 12 months the project analysed what worked well, and what didn't, and developed new approaches to improve.

It was shaped by more than 1,200 residents, council staff, Cabinet Members, community groups and partners, and drew from best practice elsewhere. This included an independent Citizens Jury of people representative of the borough who told us what they'd like to see.



Cllr Ajmer Grewal, Cabinet Member for Residents Support, Communities and Equalities, said: "I'm passionate about everyone in our borough feeling like they have a voice and can be heard on the issues which matter to them.

"It's really important for us as a Council to know what people are thinking. We need to understand the opinions and concerns of our diverse communities, and learn from their ideas, so we can make the best decisions.

"Through our radical overhaul of engagement we've brought in new practices and methods to hopefully ensure people know about opportunities to give their views, and can do so in a way which works for them."

For more information and to find out what we're currently engaging on, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/get_involved

New initiatives include:

- **New engagement principles** to guide work and make clear what people should expect
- **An engagement toolkit** on how to carry out good engagement and reach different communities
- **Let's Talk Hounslow** – an online portal where people can take part in consultations, learn about other opportunities and join communities of interest
- **A Residents Panel**, reflecting the borough's population, to be a sounding board for proposals and a pool for workshops and focus groups
- **Refreshed Area Forums**, which cover different neighbourhoods, with greater variety to make them more meaningful, relevant and inclusive
- **Community Development Networks** for local groups to come together to discuss priorities, aspirations and how to achieve them
- **Expanded Equalities Networks** covering age, women, race, disability and sexuality to ensure these sometimes under-represented groups have a safe and influential space to give their views

Cabinet Question Time

30 January, 6.30pm - 8pm, Gtech Community Stadium, Lionel Road South, Brentford TW8 0RU



TAKE ME TO THE RIVER

DISCOVER, CLEAN AND CONNECT

Hounslow Council, in collaboration with Let's Go Outside and Habitats & Heritage, is inviting residents to dive into the Take Me to the River project. This exciting initiative offers a series of events designed to help visitors explore and rejuvenate the hidden gems along the River Crane.

The project aims to connect people with nature, encouraging them to discover parks and green spaces in the borough. From taking a break, guided walks and nature talks to community clean-up days, there's something for everyone. Residents will not only learn about the rich biodiversity along the river but also play a vital role in protecting and enhancing these natural habitats for future generations.

Why not join a litter-picking event or a wildlife-spotting session? It's a great way to enjoy the fresh air, meet new people, and support the local environment. Plus, it's a fantastic opportunity for families to engage in outdoor fun and educational activities together.



Cllr Salman Shaheen, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, and Public Spaces said: "The Take Me to the River project is all about reconnecting our community with nature. These events help us protect our beautiful parks and green spaces while giving residents the chance to explore and learn about the incredible habitats right on their doorstep."

Visit the Parks Hub at talk.hounslow.gov.uk/hub-page/parks to see the full events calendar and find out how you can join the Take Me to the River adventure. Let's protect the parks and rivers - because every little action helps.



Find out more and join the movement at: talk.hounslow.gov.uk/take-me-to-the-river

Let's Go Outside and Learn: www.lgoal.org

Habitats & Heritage: habitatsandheritage.org.uk

Welcoming wildflowers

To help encourage pollinators and other species, including bats and hedgehogs, to move throughout the borough, 12 wildflower meadows are being created across ten Hounslow park sites over the coming weeks, and are set to bloom from spring 2025.



The meadows will be managed with minimal intervention but will be de-weeded, re-seeded and monitored throughout the project.

Some of the native wildflowers being introduced include Common Poppy, Common Knapweed, Self Heal and Black Medick.

Locations of the meadow are: Ludlow Road Open Space, Poplar Way, Strand on the Green, Kingsley Road, Redlees Park, Bear Road, Homefield Recreation, Carville Hall South, Myrtle Avenue and Raleigh Park.

GREEN MEANS GO -

HOUNSLOW LAUNCHES CLIMATE INVESTMENT DRIVE

Hounslow Council has signed up to the Local Climate Bond Pledge which will help tackle climate change – and everyone is invited to take part.

The Council has taken a bold step in its fight against the climate emergency. Cllr Katherine Dunne, Cabinet Member for Climate, Environment and Transport and the Council's Executive Director for Finance and Resources (pictured above) signed the Green Finance Institute's "Local Climate Bond Pledge". The Council has also committed to launching the Local Climate Investment scheme, which will allow residents and businesses to directly invest in community projects.

Launching officially in June 2025, the Local Climate Investment (also known as a Local Climate Bond), aims to raise £5 million over five years to fund transformative low-carbon projects across the borough. From boosting renewable energy and expanding green spaces to championing sustainable travel, these projects are set to make a lasting impact. And with contributions starting at just £5, anyone over 18 (citizens, community groups, businesses, and even Council employees) can get involved in shaping a more sustainable Hounslow while earning a return on investment.

Cllr Dunne is leading the charge. She said: "This is an incredibly exciting moment for Hounslow. By signing the Climate Pledge and launching our Local Climate Investment, we are taking bold and tangible steps to tackle the climate emergency. The future of our borough

depends on all of us working together and this initiative allows our community to make a meaningful difference.

"Hounslow has always been a leader in sustainability and this investment builds on the legacy of our Climate Emergency Action Plan. Together, we can create a greener, fairer, and healthier future for generations to come."

The Local Climate Investment directly supports the Council's ambitious Climate Emergency Action Plan, which aims to increase climate resilience and adaptation, and support borough-wide carbon emissions reductions. Examples of local projects that the investment could support include:

- Retrofitting community buildings by installing solar panels to generate renewable energy
- Greening spaces by planting trees, wildflower verges and implementing sustainable urban drainage
- Reducing neighbourhood waste by creating repair hubs for fixing and repurposing goods.

Want to be part of the change? Visit: talk.hounslow.gov.uk/lci to learn more and sign up for updates ahead of the June 2025 launch.

Healthy Hounslow BetterPoints

Give your loved ones the gift of quitting smoking this Christmas.
 AND earn up to £50 in BetterPoints if you quit!



Healthy Hounslow offers FREE one-to-one support to quit smoking and the use of other tobacco products like shisha and chewing tobacco.



It's never too late to quit and it's easier to stop smoking with the right support.

- We offer:**
- Weekly face-to-face or telephone sessions with a stop smoking advisor
 - Access to stop smoking aids such as e-cigarettes or Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT)
 - Tailored support and goal setting to help you break habits
- You can self-refer to our service via the website or by calling 0204 559 8200. Office opening hours: Monday to Friday, 9:00am – 5:00pm

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR HOUNSLOW RESIDENTS

The Council is delivering on its Housing Pledge, providing quality, affordable homes for residents in need. From Tintern, Hamlet, and Sonnet Houses in Brentford, to the innovative Windmill Road development, it's creating vibrant, sustainable communities that transform lives.



blocks, offering a range of housing options to meet the needs of the diverse community. With thoughtfully designed amenity spaces, landscaped areas, and sustainable transport facilities such as cycle parking, this development exemplifies the Council's commitment to high-quality living environments.

At The Everglades, the Council's latest project near the heart of Hounslow, 33 new homes, 94% of which are social rent, are setting the standard for future housing. Designed with sustainability at their core, these homes boast air source heat pumps, photovoltaic panels, and high-performance insulation, achieving a 94% reduction in CO2 emissions. These homes are a testament to the Climate Emergency Action Plan, promoting greener lifestyles with car-free designs and enhanced communal spaces.

At Burlington Close, 61 new affordable homes have been added across three



Opening celebration of Tintern, Hamlet and Sonnet Houses, in Brentford.

Meanwhile, the Windmill Road development, built to the exceptional LETI standards, features five council houses, each equipped with private gardens and innovative low-carbon technologies. These zero-carbon homes are already changing lives.

One resident shared: "Living in our new home has made such a difference. We were sleeping in the living room at Charlton House for the last two years. Now, having a garden means I can go outside even when I can't leave the house. My children love it, and having a downstairs toilet has made life so much easier. We've only been here nine days, but it's already changed our lives, my mental health is better, and we can finally have friends over. It's truly our forever home."



Cllr Sampson meets a tenant at the opening of Burlington Close, who recently downsized from a larger property and shared their positive experience of moving into their new home.

Cllr Sue Sampson, Cabinet Member for Housing Management and Homelessness, expressed her pride in these achievements: "As we approach the festive season, I'm thrilled that so many families will be able to celebrate in their new homes. These projects show our commitment to providing safe, high-quality, and affordable housing that meets the diverse needs of our community. Together, we're creating places where residents can thrive and build brighter futures."

With 96 council homes completed at Tintern, Hamlet, and Sonnet Houses and many more on the way, Hounslow is making strides in addressing the housing crisis. These developments reflect the Council's mission: not just to build houses, but to create homes where people feel secure, connected, and proud.

For more information on Hounslow's affordable housing projects and to see how it's shaping a better future for the community, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/1000pledge



BE AIR AWARE AND KEEP POLLUTION AT ARM'S LENGTH

In the UK, air pollution is the biggest environmental threat to the health of everyone, including for children. Here in Hounslow, the Council wants to make sure residents are aware of how they can reduce the effect air pollution has on their health.

To do this it's launching a new campaign called Be Air Aware, which focuses on all elements of air pollution, encompassing risks from the air outside and in homes. It's about providing residents with the best tools to stay as safe as possible

when around polluted air and useful tips to avoid the worst areas where possible.

The campaign aims to help residents understand personal risk levels in relation to air pollution and take the necessary steps to manage risk, as there are some people for whom it can be particularly dangerous.

The most vulnerable populations include pregnant women, the elderly and anyone with a chronic health condition.

Children are at risk because their lungs have not yet fully developed.

Be Air Aware is all about protecting an individual's health. Why not check out clean air walking routes to work or school, find out how to get live air quality updates straight to a phone, and get useful tips on how to be protected even when air pollution can't be avoided?

To find out more, head to: www.be-air-aware.co.uk

NEW ADVERTISING POLICY TACKLES UNHEALTHY FOOD

The new policy is part of the Council's ambition to support residents to live a healthier life and prioritise children's health.

A new food advertising policy from the Council aims to boost the health of Hounslow residents by reducing exposure to adverts for foods and drinks high in fat, salt and sugar, especially for children and young adults. The decision was made at a recent Council Cabinet meeting.

Along with switching the spotlight away from unhealthy foods, Hounslow became the first Council in the UK to introduce restrictions on the promotion of commercial baby foods, including follow-on and toddler milk.

The healthier food advertising policy is a key component of the Council's Whole Systems Approach to a Healthy Weight. This involves initiatives across the borough to help make the healthier choice the easier one, and recognising that there is no one single solution to address food-related ill health such as obesity, type 2 diabetes, tooth decay and heart disease.

A HEALTHIER HOUNSLOW

The latest data shows that Hounslow has the fourth highest level of adult obesity in London and the fifth highest percentage of five-year-olds with visible tooth decay. Of all residents, 21% are overweight (including obesity).

Children and families living in the most deprived areas of the borough are more exposed to adverts for unhealthy foods and drinks.



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

"The policy demonstrates the Council's commitment to creating a healthier and more equal Hounslow. It is an important step in reducing health inequalities and creating healthy environments in which all our residents can thrive."

FIVE WAYS TO WELLBEING

The Council recently invited people to take part in a range of activities over five weeks to increase their wellbeing. The good news is, it's not too late to take part.

A five-week campaign encouraging people to improve their physical and mental health by taking part in guided activities.

Hundreds of people across Hounslow got involved across in the Council's campaign this autumn and took advantage of free Lampton Leisure gym passes, volunteered with local community groups, and even took part in a photography competition. One of the four winners was Eric Batten (winning entry pictured).

Why not create a personal Five Ways to Wellbeing plan? Focus on one of the five ways every week, take part in activities that bring them to life, and record how it helped increase health and happiness. For inspiration, head to the webpage and find out more: www.hounslow.gov.uk/5ways2wellbeing



DON'T FACE ADDICTION ALONE

A series of inspirational films highlights the stories of people in Hounslow who have recovered from drug and alcohol addiction with the support of Addiction, Recovery, Community (ARC) Hounslow.

The stories of people like Charlotte tell us a great deal about how recovery from addiction is possible. Her father and partner both passed away after struggling with alcoholism and she subsequently faced her own problems with alcohol.



KEEPING YOUNG CHILDREN HEALTHY THIS WINTER

As winter approaches, young children often experience a range of illnesses due to colder weather and increased time spent indoors, which can lead to the spread of various infections. Understanding these common winter ailments and how to manage them is crucial for keeping children comfortable and healthy.

Common complaints include colds and flu, stomach bugs, and croup. Scan the QR code for a full list of symptoms, recommended NHS home treatments, and when to seek further treatment for a range of children's illnesses, or visit: www.healthiertogether.hrch.nhs.uk/parentscarer/worried-your-child-unwell



WHEN AND WHERE TO SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE

While many winter illnesses can be managed at home, those with concerns can seek support from health visitors by calling 020 8973 3490, or a local pharmacist, who can offer advice on a range of conditions and suggest medication. They may also be able to offer treatment and some prescription medicine for some conditions without needing to see a doctor.

If symptoms are getting worse, please contact the GP. For an urgent out-of-hours GP appointment, call NHS 111. Only call 999 or visit the nearest A&E department in critical or life-threatening situations.

Watch the powerful videos here: bit.ly/ARCFilm24



If concerned for yourself or a loved one, and require support for drugs and/or alcohol issues, please contact ARC Hounslow on 01895 488 675 or by emailing cnw-tr.archhounslow@nhs.net. Find out more on the ARC Hounslow website: www.cnwl.nhs.uk/services/addictions/arc-hounslow

USEFUL CONTACTS FOR ANYONE NEEDING SUPPORT THIS FESTIVE PERIOD

SAMARITANS

(24 hours a day) 116 123 or visit www.samaritans.org

DOMESTIC ABUSE HELPLINE

0808 2000 247
www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk

RESPECT HELPLINE

(Male victims of domestic abuse)
0808 8010 327
www.mensadviceline.org.uk

AGE UK

0208 560 6969
www.ageuk.org.uk/hounslow

MIND

020 8571 7454
www.hfehmind.org.uk

HOUNSLOW FOODBOX

07719 891787 during opening times:
Tuesday - Friday, 10am - 1pm
Saturday 10am - 12pm
07718 263614 at other times
www.hounslowfoodbox.org.uk

THE SILVER LINE HELPLINE

Helpline for older people experiencing loneliness (24 hours a day)
0800 4 70 80 90
www.thesilverline.org.uk

SANELINE

Mental health helpline
0300 304 7000
www.sane.org.uk/how-we-help/emotional-support/saneline-services

SHOUT

Mental health support text service
85258 (24/7)
www.giveusashout.org

THE HOUNSLOW SAFE SPACE CRISIS HELPLINE

11am - 11pm every day.
020 3475 5185.

MIND INFO LINE

Support with everything mental health-related
Monday - Friday, 9am - 6pm
0300 123 3393 or text: 86463

CAMPAIGN AGAINST LIVING MISERABLY (CALM)

www.thecalmzone.net
Helpline: 0800 58 58 58 (5pm to midnight, everyday)

ADDICTION RECOVERY COMMUNITY (ARC HOUNSLOW)

www.cnwl.nhs.uk/services/addictions/arc-hounslow
01895 488675 (open from 10am-4pm)

RECYCLING AND WASTE COLLECTIONS OVER CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

The rubbish and recycling collections dates are changing over the Christmas period. These changes will be between Saturday, 21 December 2024 and Saturday, 4 January 2025 when normal collections will resume. Garden waste and bulky waste collections will be suspended over this period to assist with additional workload. The last day of these services will be Friday, 20 December 2024 and they will resume on Monday 6 January 2025.

Space Way Reuse and Recycling Centre will be closed on Wednesday, 25 December and Thursday, 26 December, as well as Wednesday, 1 January 2025.

Usual collection day	Revised collection day
Monday 23 December	Saturday 21 December
Tuesday 24 December	Monday 23 December
Wednesday 25 December	Tuesday 24 December
Thursday 26 December	Friday 27 December
Friday 27 December	Saturday 28 December
Monday 30 December	Monday 30 December
Tuesday 31 December	Tuesday 31 December
Wednesday 1 January	Thursday 2 January
Thursday 2 January	Friday 3 January
Friday 3 January	Saturday 4 January

Normal collections will resume on Monday 6 January 2025

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

Additional recycling, should be presented in a clearly labelled carrier bag alongside the recycling boxes. It is important that the contents of the recycling is presented in the same way as when using recycling boxes. Plastic and cans (red box) should be included in one bag, all paper and cardboard (blue box) should be in another, and glass (green box) in another. If these are mixed, the additional recycling will not be collected.



Cardboard boxes must be flattened, and pieces should be no bigger than 70x70cm in to fit within the recycling vehicles.

Keep all plastic wrapping and film out of your recycling! To find out more about recycling this type of plastic please visit: www.recyclenow.com/repeat-the-cycle



Do not put old batteries in recycling boxes. Disposing of batteries incorrectly can cause fires and be extremely dangerous for the collection

crews. Batteries can be taken to any local retailer that sells batteries as they offer a disposal service.



Keep the collection team safe by ensuring all aerosol cans are completely empty before recycling them in the red box – aerosol cans that are not completely

empty can pose a fire risk at the materials handling facility, and cause injury to crew members.

Excess waste left next to or on top of wheeled bins will not be collected. This waste should be kept until the next rubbish collection date, or can be taken to Hounslow's Space Way Household Reuse and Recycling Centre (TW14 0TH). More information can be found at: www.hounslow.gov.uk/spaceway

To report a missed collection, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/christmascollections

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR TREE IS COLLECTED PROPERLY

Real Christmas trees will be collected in January 2025 between Monday 6 January and Friday 17 January. Residents will need to place their real Christmas trees (with lights and decorations removed) on the boundary of the property, not on the pavement by 7am for collection. Real trees should be no bigger than 6ft and a manageable width for crews.

Please note that artificial Christmas trees will not be collected.

The Christmas tree collections dates can be found on: www.hounslow.gov.uk/christmastreecollections

Alternatively, drop the real Christmas tree off at one of the designated drop off points listed below between Friday 20 December 2024 – Friday 24 January 2025:

- **Hanworth Air Park** - Hounslow Road car park TW13 6AA
- **Hounslow Heath** - Staines Road car park TW4 5AR
- **Redlees Park** - Worton Road car park TW7 6DW
- **Bedfont Lakes** - Clockhouse Lane car park TW14 8QA
- **Space Way** - North Feltham Trading Estate, Pier Road, Feltham TW14 0TH
- **Turnham Green** - Opposite Christ Church by the phone box



CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

Hounslow House and some other Council offices will close at the normal time on Tuesday, 24 December 2024 and will re-open on Thursday, 2 January 2025.

COUNCIL SERVICES OVER THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PERIOD 2024/25

During this time, residents can still access services online and via emergency numbers:

- To inform the Council of an emergency, please call 020 8583 2222
- View emergency contact information at www.hounslow.gov.uk/outofhours

FREE COUNCIL-CONTROLLED PARKING

Hounslow Council is spreading some festive cheer this Christmas by once again suspending car parking charges across parts of the borough.

Residents and shoppers will be able to park for free in council-controlled paid parking spaces, both on-street and in car parks, on 23 and 24 December. This seasonal offer is designed to make it easier for everyone to enjoy their last-minute Christmas shopping while supporting Hounslow's vibrant small businesses and town centres.

It's the perfect opportunity to shop local, find unique gifts, and contribute to the success of businesses in the borough this festive season.

Unleash recycling magic with Hounslow Council's Waste Wizard

Are you confused about recycling? Not sure what goes where? Do you want to find out how to give unwanted items a new lease of life by repairing and reusing them?

Then it's time for some recycling magic with the Waste Wizard.

Get instant answers - with the online tool and Waste wizard app you simply:

- ★ Enter the item you want to dispose of.
- ★ Hey presto, get immediate information about what to do with it.

Visit hounslow.gov.uk/wastewizard for more information



HOST YOUR NEXT EVENT OR MEETING

in style



Book one of our versatile public hall venues for your special occasion. Stunning and historical event spaces across the borough, with modern facilities and A/V equipment.

We offer a range of spacious and versatile spaces for events including wedding receptions, parties, corporate conferences, and community activities both big and small!

Contact our team now for all enquiries

✉ halls@hounslow.gov.uk



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

10, 24 January, 21 February, 7, 21 March 2025
10.30am - 12.30noon

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, just turn up.

LITTLE FLAMINGOS: LAGHU AND THE CLEVER CROW

17 January, 10.30am - 11.30am; 1.30pm - 2.30pm

Join us for rhymes, action songs, and interactive stories, followed by free play in our small soft play area. Tea, coffee and juice will be served.

These playful sessions are led by our volunteers and inspired by the flamingos that used to live here at Gunnersbury.

£3 per child

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

PARKPLAY

Free fun games for all the family.
Osterley Park, every Saturday morning.

park-play.com/parks/osterley-park

PARKRUN

Run, walk or jog your way around Osterley, Gunnersbury, Bedfont, Hanworth and Crane Park

Find your nearest
www.parkrun.org.uk

*Information correct at time of print

TRUSTED CARE & COMPANIONSHIP IN YOUR OWN HOME

Now serving Hounslow, Chiswick, Isleworth, Feltham, Brentford and the surrounding areas



OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:

Companionship, Personal Care, Dementia Care, Live-In Care & much more

- Our Care is person-centred - we go the extra mile
- All CareGivers are introduced to Clients in advance
- We do not wear uniforms, unless requested by Clients
- Our Care calls are never rushed
- 1hr minimum up to 24/7 live-in care

CALL NOW FOR A **FREE** CARE ASSESSMENT

0208 432 9788

✉ ealing@rightathome.co.uk

🌐 rightathome.co.uk/ealingandhounslow

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THE MAYOR OF HOUNSLOW 2024-25 IS CLLR KAREN SMITH



Mayor Smith was first elected to the Hounslow South ward in 2018.

She has lived in Hounslow all her life and attended Hounslow Heath and Heathlands Schools, followed by West Thames College (Hounslow Borough College at the time).

Before joining the Council, Mayor Smith worked for the Metropolitan Police in both Hounslow and Chiswick Police Stations.

Since joining the Council, she has served on the Licensing Committee and on the Scrutiny Panels for children and young people and health and social care. She has also vice-chaired area forums.

Over the years she has also volunteered with various charities, including Beanstalk and a local food bank and she currently works at Artsed drama school in Chiswick.

The Mayor's Chosen Charity



TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE MAYOR'S CHARITY:

Via BACS:

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

- Account number: 27513939
- 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 code.



GNCLBH - Nepalese Cultural get together, Feltham



Dashain & Tihar Festival celebration 2024, Feltham

Out and about with the Mayor



London Mayors Association Civic Service Westminster Abbey



Topping Out Ceremony, Old Post Office Brentford



Hounslow Lights, Lampton Park

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



Mother Tongue, Motherhood and Mental Health, Hounslow



Harpist Imogen Ridge – Mayor's Inaugural Dinner, Brentford



MacMillan Coffee Morning, Isleworth Bowling Club



TAUK London Bathukamma & Dasara Celebrations 2024, Feltham



Talentfest LVA, Feltham



Mayor's Charity Quiz Night – winning team

GUIDING YOUNG ADULTS

Joanna from Brentford

"I foster teenagers and I wouldn't say I'm a parent to them, it's more like a guide. I help to prepare them for adult life, empower them to voice their opinions and develop the skills needed for their future. I've had two long-term fosters for four years and probably seven or eight placements in total."

"When you have a teenager who moves in, you are starting with a complete blank page, and you get to work on their goals without any expectations. It can be a very confusing time at that age, they have a lot of pressures, a lot of responsibilities, the majority of which they didn't choose. Teenagers are developing an adult mind and a selfish nature - and I say that in a good way because I think being selfish when you're a teenager is important, as you develop an identity. Young people need to find their own voice."

"I have someone who's been with me since July and a week into her college course she was lurking in the kitchen

behind me. I asked what she wanted to say, and she said she didn't like her course. When I suggested she could change courses her whole face lit up."

"I think education is important and I want my fosters to feel the same. I am incredibly proud that I got to attend the graduation of my first long-term placement earlier this year."

"You can form some special bonds and relationships with these young people, and it's genuinely given me a purpose. You've just got to be very kind and very open. Some of them love talking on the phone and will call you continuously! Now whenever my phone goes, I see it as this little window into their day."

The best thing is when a teenager who is agitated and wants to share this with you. You realise how powerful it is to be that someone on the other end of the phone to ease them through it. They're telling you because they know you are with them and on their side."

Fostering is one of the most rewarding jobs you can do, and Hounslow believes in recognising and appreciating the dedication and impact of our foster carers.

Benefits include:

- Generous allowances - £1,130 per fortnight per child*
- Council tax refund in full whilst a child is in your care
- Support around the clock
- Annual Merlin free passes for you and your family to 30 of the UK top leisure centres, Alton Towers; Thorpe Park etc
- Blue Light Card giving access to discounts such as theatres, shops, restaurants etc
- Up to £750 setting up allowance
- Access to fostering psychotherapist to promote placement stability

*dependent on identified needs – for full list of benefits contact contact@fosterwithwestlondon.org.uk

Call 020 8753 1075
Visit: www.fosterwithwestlondon.org.uk

BEDFONT



Lily Bath
Adult Social Care, Public
Health and Health
Integration



**Adesh
Farmahan**



Raghwinder Siddhu
Public Safety, Regulatory
Services and Enforcement

BRENTFORD EAST



**Marina
Sharma**



**Rhys
Williams**

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



**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



Aysha Tariq

HESTON CENTRAL



**Harleen
Atwal Hear**



Shivraj Grewal
Infrastructure, Recycling
and Transformation



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
Residents Support,
Communities and
Equalities



**Pritam
Grewal**

HOUNSLOW EAST



Junue 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
Mayor

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



Balraj Sarai

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

Key

-  Labour
-  Conservative
-  The Workers Party
-  Independent
-  Cabinet