

HOUNSLOW matters

Summer 24

Community and Council news from around the borough



CONNECTING THROUGH ARTS AND CULTURE

*Hounslow's Natural
Summer*
p4-5

*Cabinet delivers your
ambitions*
p7

*Get Involved and
Have Your Say*
p14-15

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 inside

- 4 Helping Wildlife Thrive
- 6 Meet the new Mayor
- 7 Cabinet delivers your ambitions
- 8 News round-up
- 11 The Thriving Communities Files
- 12 Share your feedback on Family Services
- 14 Let's Talk Hounslow: Get Involved and Have Your Say
- 16 Summer of Culture 2024 Events
- 18 Stay abreast of volunteering opportunities
- 20 Heavy fines for illegal tobacco sales
- 21 Free support for residents and entrepreneurs
- 22 Housing news
- 24 Grow for the future takes shape
- 26 Transport update
- 28 What's on around Hounslow
- 31 Fostering

ADVERTISE WITH US

Hounslow Matters is a quarterly magazine written for Hounslow residents. We print over 108,000 copies and deliver it free of charge to every home in the borough.

To advertise in our magazine please email: communications@hounslow.gov.uk or visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/hounslowmatters for more information.

To view Hounslow Matters online visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/hounslowmatters
For translations or accessible formats email: communications@hounslow.gov.uk

- Follow us on X (formerly Twitter) @LBofHounslow
- Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/hounslowcouncil
- www.instagram.com/hounslowcouncil

Welcome to the latest edition of Hounslow Matters – Summer 2024



Dear Resident,

By the time you read this, we will have a new government, the children will be about to start their school holidays and you might be planning to get away for a week or two.

For much of our summer we've enjoyed a wilder look to the borough, with bursts of colour emerging in our green spaces and parks, encouraging greater biodiversity. So, if you've decided on a staycation, why not take the kids to one of them? We're one of the greenest boroughs in London, and you never know what you could find.

I also hope your young children are benefiting from our Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF). Over 2,000 did last summer and I urge their big brothers and sisters to have their say and contribute to our new Children and Young People's Plan – particularly those aged 16 – 25. It's important that we know what matters to you, so we can plan services accordingly. There are no forms to fill in; simply access our popular online engagement platform Let's Talk Hounslow and tell us what's on your mind. The audience has grown hugely this year, so you won't be alone – more details on page 14.

Our SEND improvement journey continues apace, with our team at Hounslow House shaping a positive future for young people with learning disabilities. This includes more cooperation between

professionals, parents and, of course, young people. Some of these are involved in the excellent DFN Project SEARCH programme, and the class of 2023/24 graduated recently, after stints at Thorpe Park, London Twickenham Stadium Hotel, and with the Council. If you're a parent / carer of a child aged 17-24 with a learning disability/autism or both, why not find out more? Details are within, as is a reminder of our Connexions Careers Advice service, a key part of the all-important transition to adulthood.

SEND support is also available in our Family Hubs, where we promote a similarly cooperative culture, including Parent and Carer panels across Feltham, Lampton and Brentford facilities – see page 12.

The concept of taking Council services out into the community is now firmly established, and Cranford is the latest area to benefit from a Community Hub. Read more about this exciting development involving Meadowbank and Beavers Estate on page 10.

I hope you continue to enjoy your summer; explore the array of cultural activities we've organised and take advantage of the many events detailed in our What's On section.

Cllr Shantanu Rajawat
Leader of Hounslow Council



Helping Wildlife Thrive

Step outside the front door and residents will notice that Hounslow has gone a little bit greener.

It's all part of an exciting initiative to promote biodiversity and support wildlife throughout the borough.

Yes, this summer, Hounslow has gone back to nature.

Throughout the summer, selected parks and green spaces on housing estates are part of a range of projects all aimed at encouraging our local flora and fauna to flourish.

Hounslow's Natural Summer builds on previous years' No Mow May events, which have seen the grass left uncut in some of the borough's green spaces. It means that some grassy areas are being left to grow for the season to allow nature to take its course and wildflowers and pollinators such as bees, to thrive.

Creating these natural green oases can help capture carbon from the atmosphere, reduce pollution and give local wildlife a much-needed boost.

Other initiatives introduced as part of Hounslow's Natural Summer include



creating 26 new 'bug hotels' on housing land and estates to provide safe havens for mini beasts such as pollinators and those that keep garden pests at bay.

The Council is also increasing the number of dedicated wildflower locations in the borough over the next 12 months, with seeds starting

to be resown in the autumn of 2024 and ready to bloom in the spring and summer of 2025.



Leader of Hounslow Council, Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, said: "This summer we are celebrating Hounslow's rich natural heritage and biodiversity. Our borough is one of the greenest in London and our parks continually win Green Flag Awards as being the best in London. With approximately 40 per cent of the area comprising parks and open spaces, we want to build on our impressive green credentials by giving our open spaces the chance to breathe and create stunning new habitats for our wildlife and wildflowers."

Residents of Hounslow and local community groups can get involved with Hounslow's Natural Summer in many ways, including:

- ➔ Create a mini-wildlife haven in your front or back garden by putting your lawnmower away and letting the grass grow
- ➔ The school summer holidays are a perfect time to go wildlife and wildflower spotting in one of the borough's many parks

- ➔ If you live in high-rise flats, you can spruce up your balcony with potted plants or flowers.

Residents can also spread the word about #HounslowsNaturalSummer with their friends and through social media.

To find out all about Hounslow's Natural Summer and how you can get involved, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/natural-summer



A BUG'S LIFE

Last year the Council and Lampton Services gave the green light to build 26 bug hotels in selected housing areas to help improve the biodiversity of our borough.

These eye-catching constructions offer our valuable pollinators such as bees and butterflies handy hideaways and provide creature comforts for those bugs that help to control garden pests.

Lampton also decided to introduce natural wildflowers to the grassy areas around the bug hotels to help increase biodiversity and boost animal activity around these creature features, which have been a great success.

Based on the positive feedback, the Council has received, it will be building more bug hotels over the summer to double the number that already exist.

WILD FACTS ABOUT HOUNSLOW:

How green is green?

Hounslow is one of the greenest boroughs in London with 1,568 hectares of publicly accessible space across 165 parks and areas of open land. That is more than 2,000 football pitches devoted to nature.

Stag party

Hounslow is one of west London's hotspots for Stag Beetles. This protected species is Britain's largest beetle and has a designated home in Boston Manor Park, called a Stag Beetle Loggery.

Rainy Days

Hounslow Heath's heathland is a habitat that is even rarer than the rainforests and supports an array of wildlife including the Dartford Warbler.

Wild at home

Hounslow contains one the most important wildlife habitats... your garden! Whether it is private or communal, these green spaces are vital to helping wildlife and wildflowers thrive, so give them the care they deserve.



MEET THE MAYOR OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HOUNSLOW

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

The Mayor of the London Borough of Hounslow, Cllr Karen Smith, has chosen Hounslow Community FoodBox (Charity Number 1170666) as her charity for the duration of her Mayoral year.

Hounslow Community FoodBox was set up in 2012 and started delivering emergency food to those in need from April 2013. They are a volunteer run registered charity (2016). The service was set up

in response to the rising number of people facing poverty in the London Borough of Hounslow. The FoodBox service was created to help prevent poverty and support those in a time of need with both essential food supplies and assistance to get their lives back on track. Each year the number of people supported by FoodBox has increased, and the many success stories continue to inspire and encourage their volunteers to give even more time and personal support.

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.



DEPUTY MAYOR



The Deputy Mayor of Hounslow 2024-2025 is Cllr Muhammad Shakeel Akram, who represents the Feltham North ward.

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

Cabinet delivers your ambitions

Hounslow Council has officially agreed and confirmed new Cabinet roles for the authority's political leadership team.



Leader of Hounslow Council, Cllr Shantanu Rajawat takes responsibility for Strategy, Resources and External Affairs.



Cllr Shivraj Grewal becomes the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Recycling and Transformation.



Cllr Sue Sampson retains her role as the Cabinet Member for Housing Management and Homelessness.



Cllr Tom Bruce becomes Hounslow Council's Deputy Leader as well as Cabinet Member for Assets, Regeneration and Development.



Cllr Katherine Dunne remains the Cabinet Member for Climate, Environment and Transport.



Cllr Raghwinder Siddhu joins the Cabinet as the Member for Public Safety, Regulatory Services and Enforcement.



Cllr Samia Chaudhary becomes the Cabinet Member for Education, Children, Skills and Employment.



Cllr Lily Bath becomes the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Health Integration.



Cllr Ajmer Grewal becomes the Cabinet Member for Residents Support, Communities and Equalities.



Cllr Salman Shaheen becomes the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Public Spaces.

Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of Hounslow Council, said: "I am also pleased to announce our new cabinet roles and welcome our new cabinet members. We have realigned these roles to better reflect the changing needs of our community, the people we serve and the challenges we face.

"I would like to pay tribute to those who have served in the previous roles for their unwavering support and devotion to duty.

"Together, we are committed to fostering a thriving, safe, and sustainable community. I look forward to working closely with all my colleagues to achieve our shared goals and ensure that Hounslow remains a vibrant and inclusive place to live and work."

Celebrating success

DFN Project SEARCH is a year-long supported internship for young people with learning disabilities and/or autism and the 2023/24 cohort have now graduated after an awards ceremony at West Thames College.

The interns have been gaining valuable experience of the world of work at Thorpe Park, London Twickenham Stadium Hotel and Hounslow Council.

A number have already secured full time paid employment with all other graduates actively applying for permanent positions.

West Thames College, Hounslow Council, and supported employment experts Kaleidoscope provide wrap-round support for the interns including job coaching, classroom instruction and hands-on skills training in the workplace.



Over the past ten years through this initiative, Hounslow has supported over 100 young people into full-time paid employment with 78% of our graduates securing paid employment.

Katrin Lehmann, Assistant Principal at West Thames College said: "We're delighted to be part of a programme that provides such crucial employment support to local young people with learning disabilities. The programme's success is down to the hard work of partners, families and young people who strive to overcome significant hurdles together."

As part of Hounslow Council's Youth Skills and Employment Guarantee (YSEG), there are 26 supported internships available from Sept 2024.

If you're interested in joining the 2024/2025 cohort, or are a parent or carer, express your interest via: projectsearch@hounslow.gov.uk



MARJORY KINNON SCHOOL ENJOYS THE SWEET TASTE OF SUCCESS

Marjory Kinnon School in Bedford has emerged triumphant in this year's Social Enterprise Academy Dragon's Den event. Pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9 presented a range of chocolates wrapped in recycled packaging, with the monies raised from their sales used for planting beech and chestnut trees – known for their importance in local biodiversity.

The school wins a £100 prize to go towards the development of their concept.

The Dragons featured Leader of the Council, Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Phillip Walker, Hounslow Council's Director of Lifelong Learning, Skills, and Employment and Andrew Lawrence and Jim Lockett from Bedford based Software company SAP, sponsors of the programme in England. This year for the first time in England, Care Leavers from Hounslow's Virtual College took part in the competition.

Due to the exceptionally high quality of entrants' ideas, this year's Dragons Den also included a series of categories.

The winners of additional £50 prizes were:

BEST PRODUCT – Oaklands School for an Instruction Booklet that encourages independence featuring recipes and tips.

BEST PITCH – Grove Road Primary School for a diverse range of projects supporting local charitable causes and businesses.

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS – Hounslow Virtual College for their idea around the creation of a Community Café to alleviate the problem of social isolation for young people in the borough.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT – Chiswick School for their Ethical Tea concept, branded E Tea.

INNOVATION – Logic Studio School for an idea around the creation of recycled storage boxes and picture frames made from left over materials at the school, local businesses and the Council.

Bell Square celebrates 10th birthday



Bell Square recently celebrated its 10th birthday and launched Hounslow's Summer of Culture 2024 with an after dark performance of 'Pyrodise - The Legend of the White Phoenix' by the Hungarian circus company, Firebirds. Over 1,200 spectators were entertained by a mix of fire, dance and circus.

Situated on Hounslow High Street, Bell Square is one of London's unique purpose-designed spaces for outdoor performances. Over the years, Bell Square, led by Hounslow-based cultural organisation Watermans, continues to make a difference to the community offering an ongoing programme of free dance, theatre, circus and art events, delivered by highly accomplished local, national and international artists. The programme runs until November.

Alongside the Bell Square programme, an array of contributors including community groups, art centres, historic houses, museums, libraries and parks, are organising amazing events during the Summer of Culture for all ages. These events, mostly free and family friendly, showcase the best of arts and culture in the borough.

To stay up to date with what's on, visit: www.inhounslow.com/calendar or follow @summerofculture

EXPANDING HEARTS AND MINDS

The Green School Trust in Isleworth is celebrating ten years since its conception.

Originally providing a high-quality education since 1796 as a Sunday school which became the Green School

for Girls, the Trust opened The Green School for Boys in 2017. This is the first year that students from both schools will be completing their final exams as part of the Green School Trust Sixth Form.



Executive Headteacher Sally Yarrow is joined by year 7 and year 12 pupils

Pupils and staff have been celebrating this historic occasion through competitions and activities including learning to count in as many languages as possible and exploring the most significant social changes that have occurred over the past ten years.

Celebrations ended with a service of thanksgiving and was attended by the Bishop of Kensington.

Good luck to all the students across the borough who have sat exams for GCSEs and A Levels.

Continuing to bring services closer to home



The Council is creating a Community Hub Campus in Cranford. This is part of an innovative approach to enhance community support services, whilst helping build on the success of the community hubs model that exists in Feltham, Brentford and Hounslow Central.

Fitting in with the Council's wider localities model and a proactive step forward, it will help address inequalities and deliver services, as well as preventative interventions in local places, to better suit the needs of communities and support residents to get early help.

Council services will be placed at various locations to ensure convenience for Cranford residents, regardless of geographical proximity.

PLANNED PROPOSALS INCLUDE*:

- Repurposing underutilised space within The Hub on Beavers Estate and partnering with existing facilities
- Collaborating with voluntary sector partners to bolster support initiatives for residents in areas like Redwood Estate and North Hyde
- Potential plans to relocate Cranford Library to Meadowbank Adult Education Centre to create a dynamic Community Hub.

*Residents will have the opportunity to contribute to shaping these initiatives closer to the time.

Aligning seamlessly with the Council's Transforming Community Experience (TCE) programme, it will positively transform how the community accesses services, including digital platforms, telephone assistance, and face-to-face interactions through a new Resident Experience service.



Cllr Ajmer Grewal, Cabinet Member for Residents Support, Communities and Equalities, said: "Our Localities programme is all about reimagining how and where we deliver our services in local places and the Community Hub Campus in Cranford will do exactly that.

"The aim of the Community Hub Campus is to create a modern and vibrant space at the heart of Cranford, where residents can readily access a suite of services tailored to their needs. Through strategic partnerships and community engagement, we are poised to make a significant difference in improving residents' quality of life whilst addressing the inequalities to ensure a fairer and more equal Hounslow.

"I invite people in Cranford to join us in helping to shape the creation of their community hubs that offer community-based solutions to meet individual needs in their local neighbourhood."

RESIDENTS NAMED IN KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST 2024

Two members of the Hounslow community have been mentioned in the King's Birthday Honours list 2024.

The Reverend Claire Clarke, the Vicar of Hope Church in Hounslow and Selwyn Boothe, Pastoral Mentor at Gunnersbury Catholic School, have been named Medallists of the Order of the British Empire (BEM) in the birthday list.

Mr Boothe receives the award for Services to Education, whilst Rev Clarke has been recognised for her Services to the Community.

Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of Hounslow Council, said: "It is with immense pride that I congratulate these two outstanding members of our Hounslow community for being

recognised in the King's Birthday Honours.

"On behalf of Hounslow Council and the entire borough, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Claire and Selwyn for their inspirational contribution to life in Hounslow.

"We hope this great work continues for many years to come."

THE Thriving Communities Files

The first of a new series of mini features on projects supported through Thriving Communities funding.

COMMUNITY GROUP:
Hounslow Action for Youth

PROJECT:
Youth Bonds

PURPOSE:
To support young people and their families by providing activities and trauma-informed keyworker/group support to improve confidence, mental health and behaviour.

AMOUNT AWARDED:
£29,500

BENEFICIARIES:
Young people and families across Hounslow

Youth Bonds is an ongoing project based at The Bridge facility next door to Southville School, off Bedford Lane.

It's run by Hounslow Action for Youth, better known as HAY, a charity that have been serving disadvantaged young people and their families in the borough since 1986.

HAY are currently based at Marjory Kinnon School in Bedfont, a special facility for boys and girls aged 4-16 years of age.

Bhavani Kotecha, Youth Bonds' Project Manager explains the ethos behind this established service:

"Youth Bonds has been running for several years, but this funding enables us to continue finessing the service



Daniel enjoying Youth Bonds session at The Bridge

and meet current need. In essence it's a holistic approach that involves young people, their parents, social workers, and teachers.



Kirkpatrick, a former teacher who's now a wellbeing professional."

Results can be improved mental health in families that become more attuned to each other's needs through better relationships and improved communication. Families that access Youth Bonds can also be assured that there's also plenty of outdoor space for kids to let off steam, as HAY use The Bridge's facilities four nights a week. Youth Bonds also offers a free transport service to and from group sessions.

Additionally, the children also get the chance to visit local sites like Chiswick House and Gardens where they can learn new skills through volunteering and access free tickets to Hampton Court Palace for themselves and families.

"Post Covid, families were quite fractured and there was a lack of services that work with kids. It's about developing relationships with them and their families, building trust and emotional regulation.

"It's also very important to let the young people know that it's OK to talk and our sessions allow kids to feel they're in a safe space. All our staff from trustees down are 'trauma informed' and we use a therapeutic approach by Karen



Kate has joined the Parent and Carer panel at the Brentford Family Hub to share ideas for improving breastfeeding support

SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK ON FAMILY SERVICES

Parents and carers can join one of three Parent and Carer panels in the Family Hubs in Brentford, Hounslow or Feltham to discuss and share feedback on the services and support they need.

Meeting once every two months, the panels provide a relaxed and safe environment for parents and carers to have their say, meet childcare and health professionals, receive updates on local services and support for families, and learn childcare tips from other parents.



Cllr Samia Chaudhary, Cabinet Member for Education, Children, Skills and Employment, said: "The Parent and Carer panels demonstrate the Council's work with parents to improve services and support, ensuring their needs are best served. Since the rollout of the Family Hubs in September 2023, over 5,000 parents and children have received help.

"Hounslow Family Hubs have been a single point of contact for families to access services and support, closer to their home, from the Council and its partners. Over the course of the year,

the hubs will introduce new services such as infant feeding peer support. In addition to early years, there will be help for children aged five and above and for teenagers."

Following a successful Family Fun Day in April, Hounslow Family Hubs will host another free summer fun day for families on Thursday, 8 August, 12pm - 3pm, at Old Isleworthians.

Contact Hounslow Family Hubs for latest updates on services and activities: www.hounslow.gov.uk/familyhubs



'REACH + SUCCEED' FOR CARE EXPERIENCED YOUNG PEOPLE

A new project offering mentoring support to help care experienced young people aged 16-24 to 'REACH + Succeed' in their lives has launched across the borough.

Young people can get personalised help with the challenges that can make it difficult for them to move into a good job. Individuals on the programme are assigned a senior engagement mentor who will work with them at their own pace, focussing on building confidence and self-motivation, improving wellbeing and mental health, and developing the skills and qualities needed in the workplace.

Connect with senior engagement mentors via email: Connexions@hounslow.gov.uk for more information or call 020 8583 5151.

HAF A GREAT SUMMER

The Hounslow Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF) will once again take place over the summer school holidays from 29 July to 30 August.



crafts, high ropes, Hobbledown Heath and much more, these activities are fun and enriching for children and young people. They can be more active, improve their mental health and eat more healthily over the holidays. They can also make new friends and socialise in a safe environment.

The popular HAF programme takes place during the summer, Easter and winter school holidays with more than 2,000 children and young people registering to join last summer.

Feedback from parents has been incredibly positive with 99% of parents saying that their child was more active over the holidays and 95% of them saying that attending the activities improved their child's mental health over the holidays.

The children also had their say, with 77% of children saying they ate more healthily while 90% said that they made new friends.

Families can contact Hounslow HAF about the programmes via email at HAF@hounslow.gov.uk All information regarding HAF activities for summer and support for parents can be found here: www.hounslow.gov.uk/hafprogramme

From sports, games, cooking, computing coding, music, arts and



NEW CHILDCARE SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AGED 9 - 23 MONTHS

From September 2024, eligible working parents with children between nine months and up to two years old can access 15 hours of free childcare per week. Before 31 August 2024, working parents can apply to get their code to share it with their childcare provider.

To be eligible, the parent of the child (and their partner where applicable) must be working and earning a salary equivalent to 16 hours a week at the national minimum or living wage and under £100,000 adjusted net income per year.

Parents can check their eligibility and apply via Children Care Choices website: www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/how-apply-help-childcare-working-parents. They can contact Hounslow's Family Information Services to find out childcare options in the borough via email: fis@hounslow.gov.uk or by calling 020 8583 3470.

PLANNING AHEAD

Residents aged 16-19, or up to 25 who have an Education, Health and Care plan (EHP), and feel unsure about their future plans after A Levels or GCSEs, can speak to Hounslow Connexions on taking those all-important next steps.

Supporting those who are not in education, employment or training, Hounslow Connexions provides impartial careers information, advice and guidance.

They can help explore career options and routes, offer practical support to understand education, training, and employment choices, assist with college and apprenticeship applications, and provide help with writing CVs, and interview skills. Find out more by scanning the QR code or visiting Hounslow Connexions website: www.hounslow.gov.uk/connexions

LET'S TALK HOUNSLOW: GET INVOLVED AND HAVE YOUR SAY

Since the start of the year, just under 12,000 visitors have accessed the Council's online engagement platform, Let's Talk Hounslow. During this time, a total of 145 projects and initiatives have been promoted which has engaged and informed over 4,500 Hounslow residents.

Launched 12 months ago to bring the Council closer to residents across the borough, Let's Talk Hounslow aims to build a more inclusive community where everyone can participate in the decision-making process and have their say.

Residents can share their views on a series of consultations over the coming months. All details will be included on the Let's Talk homepage with instructions on how to take part.

Visit: talk.hounslow.gov.uk
Email: engage@hounslow.gov.uk

PUBLIC REALM DESIGN GUIDELINES

With an aim to create a more liveable Hounslow, the Council is engaging with residents to develop guidelines for designing public spaces, which will make them more inviting and cater to the needs of different communities across



the borough. Local pop-up stalls and workshops will be taking place where visitors can use augmented reality technology to visualise any potential or future changes.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN



Earlier this year the Council launched its Children and Young People's Plan. Based on the fundamental belief that children and young people do not exist in isolation, it aims to highlight that Hounslow must have a strategy to ensure that their needs are best served, health and wellbeing outcomes are achieved, educational opportunities maximised and their futures a success. This plan is updated annually.

Whilst all residents are being encouraged to respond to the

plan, there is a particular focus on younger residents aged between 16-25 to feedback. This means it will be continually updated as we learn more of the views and needs of young people and their care givers. Doing so will ensure that the Council's forward planning is aligned with the priorities of young people as they continue to evolve.

To maximise involvement, a series of engagement activities will be taking place at public events to help them keep informed of priorities for the borough. Open to everyone, the team are particularly interested in hearing from young people, charities or organisations that work with young people such as sports clubs, youth groups, as well as carers and parents.

PARKS HUB

Did you know Hounslow's Parks team and Lampton Services Greenspace manage over 160 open spaces across the borough? In partnership with 'Friends of' groups, charities, and other organisations, the team ensures continuous improvements to maximise enjoyment for everyone. The Parks Hub, which can be accessed on Let's Talk Hounslow homepage, offers opportunities to engage with local

initiatives, volunteer, and participate in surveys to improve and make the parks in the borough even more welcoming.

NET-ZERO HUB

The Net-Zero Hub is a dedicated space within Let's Talk Hounslow where visitors to the site can learn about and contribute to the Council's journey towards achieving net-zero emissions. Featuring ongoing initiatives and projects aimed at reducing the carbon footprint and promoting sustainable living, it aims to help encourage residents to get involved in helping Hounslow become cleaner and greener.



STAY CONNECTED

More than just a platform, Let's Talk Hounslow has become a way for residents to connect, share ideas, and work together for a better future. Whether it's through consultations, workshops, or online discussions, your voice matters. Visit: talk.hounslow.gov.uk regularly for updates and get involved in shaping the future of Hounslow.



COMMUNITY SAFETY DAY SUCCESS

The Heston Tenant Resident Association (HTRA) recently held its inaugural Community Safety Day to help raise awareness around personal safety.

Organised in collaboration with the Council, services included the community safety team, enforcement, safer neighbourhood team, estate improvement, domestic and sexual abuse services, and the local fire station. In addition, the Health Outreach Team were also in attendance and conducted free health checks.

Brentford Football Trust, which organised football activities for over 20 youngsters, ran an exciting quick-fire football tournament. Additionally, there was a boxing display where young participants

showcased self-defence techniques. There was also a chance to get involved in arts and crafts activities and face-painting.

The event successfully engaged more than 100 residents, ensuring that everyone left with valuable information, guidance or advice.

Anthony Stokoe, TRA Project Administrator, expressed his enthusiasm for the event's success, stating: "At Heston Farm, as we celebrate the success of our Community Safety Day, let's look forward to the future and strive for even more achievements next year! This event has set a new standard for what we can accomplish. Thank you to the residents and the London Borough of Hounslow for making this a triumph."

SUMMER ON THE GREEN IS MOVING

As part of its annual Summer on the Green programme, the Housing Engagement Team is excited to bring summer fun to another part of the borough this year:

Thursday 8 August, 1pm – 5pm
Convent Way Community Centre,
Hounslow UB2 5UG

Wednesday 14 August, 1pm – 5pm
Edensor Gardens, Chiswick W4 2QY
(on the grassed area by flats 61-90).

Many Council services will attend to provide advice and support on various housing-related topics.

There will also be many activities young children can get involved in including Smoothie Bike, Doctor Bike, arts and crafts, face painting and more.



To find out more visit:
www.hounslow.gov.uk/summeronthegreen

www.hounslow.gov.uk/summeronthegreen2

ONE HOUNSLOW

SUMMER OF CULTURE 2024

Get ready to immerse yourself in a vibrant celebration of arts, culture, and community celebration at this year's Summer of Culture.



Outdoor Events

LE GRAND JETÉ – RÉPLIQUES

3 August, 1pm and 3pm
Bell Square. Free, all ages.

Replica is the theme for this amazing duet whose performers defy the law

of gravity as they take us on a thrilling dancer-acrobat journey to show how movement and gesture can be performed when you are either a dancer-acrobat or an acrobat-dancer.



Le Grand Jeté – Répliques

COLLECTIF FEARLESS RABBITS – RLM (RAPID LIFE MOVEMENT)

17 August, 3pm and 7pm,
Bell Square. Free, all ages.

A physical theatre show, where combat, resistance and resilience are driving the transformation of space in search of peace.



Collectif Fearless Rabbits

RHYTHM AND SOUND: A TASTE OF SOUTH ASIA

17 August, Lampton Park

A brand new programme showcasing the rhythms and sounds of local South Asian talent and entrepreneurs from the borough. Expect a day full of colour, music, food, arts and crafts.

HOUNSLOW'S SUPER SPORTS DAY

24 August, Heston Park

To celebrate the Olympics, super sports will consist of lots of fun and games, taster sessions with local sports, fitness and health providers, as well as a few retro races to keep the competitive spirit alive. Healthy refreshments will also be available – join us and help get Hounslow fit.

CREATIVE MILE – BRENTFORD ART TRAIL

30 August to 1 September,
Brentford. Free, all ages.

Brentford's Art Trail connects venues with exhibiting artists, creatives and makers from Brentford and across the borough for a weekend of open studios and exhibitions.



Creative Mile – Brentford Art Trail

NIKKI & JD – FIRESIDE

31 August, 8pm, Bell Square.
Free, all ages.

An outdoor show that combines circus, dance, theatre and live music to re-enact the story 'Beowulf'. Dark, comic and physically dangerous.



Nikki & JD – Fireside

SUMMER OF CULTURE 2024 FINALE

28 September, Bell Square.
Free, all ages.

A spectacular event to celebrate Hounslow's Summer of Culture and say goodbye until next year. Bell Square's programme continues until late November.

Hounslow's Festival of Storytelling 2024



THE POETRY TAKEAWAY

4 August and 1 September,
Chiswick Flower Market.
Free, all ages.

"People realise their lives are poetry when their stories are given back to them".

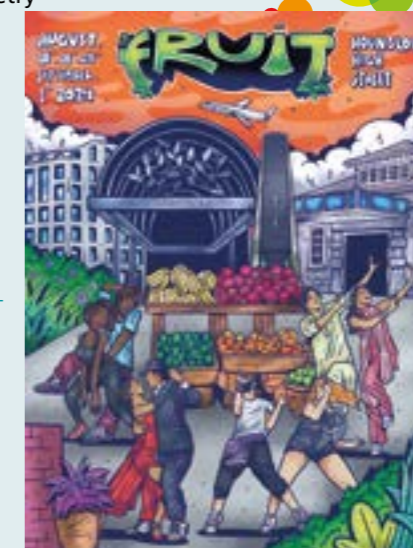
In partnership with Chiswick Flower Market, The Poetry Takeaway will do exactly what they promise; serve high quality, personalised poetry to our 'diners', written, performed and wrapped up to takeaway. Come closer, don't be shy!

FRUIT

18, 24 August and 1 September,
Hounslow Highstreet.
Free, all ages.

Step into a vibrant world of cultures,

flavours, stories and rhythms with "Fruit". Follow the experiences of different people from across the world as they share their stories and celebrate the cultures and world experiences that make up Hounslow's thriving community.



Open House Festival

14 September to 22 September

Open House is an annual festival celebrating London's buildings, architecture and neighbourhoods. There is plenty of opportunity in Hounslow for locals and visitors to enjoy and participate.

From historic houses and Victorian infrastructure, to local spaces and an array of places of worship where communities of different faiths come together, this is your opportunity to learn about the borough and explore its history!

Tours and Trails

Local artists and creatives will guide visitors through Hounslow's town centres and highstreets to explore them in new and imaginative ways. A self-guided tour, find out the full details on: www.inhounslow.com

HOUNSLOW'S WORLD MUSIC TRAIL BY AMY TICKNER

An eclectic collection of ten Hounslow based creatives performing music and songs that represent their cultures and nationalities. Learn about an individual, their culture, and listen to a recording of them playing.

PICTURING BRENTFORD BY GIDEON REILING

Using AR, the trails invites visitors to step back in time to discover the stories, places, faces and voices that have gone to shape the town – and those that still do today.

THE TWO KINGS OF BRENTFORD BY JACK FAIREY

When an old-timer Brentford local and a new resident are thrust into each other's lives, they must learn to set aside their differences and see Brentford through the other's eyes.

CHISWICK CINEMATIC AUDIO TOUR

Through immersive soundscapes and captivating anecdotes, attendees will be transported to the bustling streets of early 20th-century Chiswick, where the echoes of excited moviegoers fill the air.

FELTHAM: FROM FARMLAND TO FRONTIERS BY EKTA KAUL

Get ready to track the transformation of Feltham, from agriculture to hubs of creativity in aviation and music, illustrating the area's evolution through its creative endeavours.

STAY ABREAST OF VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Infant feeding can be a challenge for new mums without the support of others. To help, the National Childbirth Trust (NCT) is on the lookout for volunteer infant feeding peer supporters to help young families with breastfeeding. The role will be to offer support, encouragement and advice, as well as signposting people to local services if they need a little extra support.

Volunteers only need to take about two hours out of their week. Training is completely free and you can gain a Level 2 OCN qualification. One mother who previously volunteered for NCT as an infant feeding peer supporter said it was "a highlight of my week".

"I spent time with likeminded women and gained some friendships with other

local mums. It's definitely something I will add to my CV as I've learnt lots about listening, empathy, and support," she continued.

Those interested can email: hounslowsupport@nct.org.uk or apply to be a volunteer by following this link: bit.ly/nctifps



SEXUAL HEALTH ADVICE

FROM A SOUTH ASIAN PERSPECTIVE

Talking about sexual health needs and services can be a tricky subject to discuss at the best of times. Adding cultural sensitivities and the fact that much of the advice out there comes from a western perspective, can make it even trickier for people from South Asian communities.

That's why The Desi POV, a collaborative working group of local healthcare professionals, is working to make sexual health content more inclusive and relevant for South Asian people in Hounslow and across London. They regularly produce engaging and

informative videos on subjects including sexually transmitted infections, contraception, and consent. There are videos in several widely-spoken languages in South Asian communities, including Urdu and Punjabi.

Watch the videos by scanning the QR code:



SCHOOL'S IN FOR SUMMER

The Wellbeing and Recovery College, run by the West London NHS Trust, is running several free courses this summer to help residents improve their physical and mental wellbeing.

Courses are open to anyone 18 and over who lives, works or studies in Hounslow, Ealing, or Hammersmith and Fulham.

All the courses are delivered by at least one person with lived experience of the subject, making them meaningful and relatable to anyone who is going through, or has been through, something similar.

Sign up for the free courses by visiting: bit.ly/wrcwl

Be Their One

It only takes one person to save a life. Scan the QR code to take the free Zero Suicide Alliance awareness training today and learn how to support someone in distress. Could you be their one?



If you are struggling or feeling overwhelmed call the Hounslow Safe Space Helpline: **020 3475 5185 11am-11pm every day**

ILLEGAL TOBACCO SALES RESULTS IN HEAVY FINES



Some of the illegal cigarette packets seized following Hounslow Council inspections

Thousands of cigarettes and other items have been taken out of circulation following a crackdown from the Council, which has left three borough shop owners coughing up hefty fines.

In two separate inspections officers found large quantities of cigarettes, hand-rolling tobacco and smokeless tobacco, typically used for chewing, that did not comply with packaging laws, along with a quantity of counterfeit cigarettes.

Under UK law all tobacco products must be sold in plain standardised packaging which carries easy-to-read warnings about the harm that their use causes to people's health.

In March 2023, officers inspected the premises of Khatta Meetha Ltd on Bath Road, Hounslow. They found on sale 557 packets of 20 cigarettes and 41 packets of 10, 99 loose cigarettes, 21 pouches of hand-rolling tobacco, 2,335 packs of smokeless tobacco and 13kgs of shisha tobacco.

Business owner, Mohammed Zafar was charged with offences under UK tobacco sales laws and admitted the offences at a hearing before Uxbridge Magistrates. At sentencing in March 2024, the company was fined £400 for each of six offences, making a total fine of £2,400, ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £960 and costs of £844. As the director, he was given a 12-month Community Order with £5,000 costs and a victim surcharge of £114.

In a separate incident, Council officers visited the premises of Meet Food and Wine on Harlington Road West, Feltham

where they found 330 packets of 20 cigarettes, five kilograms of rolling tobacco and 309 packs of smokeless tobacco.

At a hearing in April 2024, company directors Valinder Singh Arora and Gurnam Singh Canijlo admitted seven offences and were given a £5,000 fine, with £6,192 costs and a victim surcharge of £2,000.

In both cases, the seized tobacco was sent to be destroyed.



Cllr Raghwinder Siddhu, Cabinet Member for Public Safety, Regulatory Services and Enforcement, said: "It is important that people

are clear about the harm that smoking can cause, this is why UK law demands that cigarette packaging shares warning messages in a clear and accessible way.

"These businesses denied their customers this information and sold illegal and fake products, putting personal gain before the health of local people.

"I commend the work of our trading standards officers in uncovering these crimes and bringing the perpetrators to court. I hope this case sends a clear message that we will not tolerate harmful, criminal behaviour here in Hounslow."

Our Healthy Hounslow service offers free programmes that can make a difference to health and wellbeing for local people. Learn more about the free support on offer, to help you stop smoking: [healthyhounslow.co.uk/stop-smoking](https://www.healthyhounslow.co.uk/stop-smoking)

AFRAID AT HOME AND WANT TO TALK?

A free, confidential, weekly drop-in service is available for anyone experiencing domestic abuse, sexual abuse or gender-based violence.

The One-Stop-Shop now meets at Holy Trinity Church on Hounslow High Street, and is available every Wednesday from 10am to 12pm, no appointment necessary.

A team of domestic and sexual abuse workers are available to help and support with benefits, housing, employment, children's support, family law and immigration. Specific services for Asian and Eastern European communities are also available.



To find out more call the team on 0781 003 1780.

FREE SUPPORT FOR RESIDENTS AND ENTREPRENEURS STILL AVAILABLE



Council Officers discuss business support available to residents

An ongoing initiative launched in October 2023 to offer free business support and advice has been extended until the end of the year.

Created in partnership with CPG consultants, Smarter Society business support, and the West London Chamber of Commerce, Hounslow Council established a comprehensive support service aimed at bolstering local businesses and the community to stimulate the local economy.

The initiative offers pre-start and start-up businesses, as well as existing entrepreneurs support across all industries to develop viable, sustainable enterprises and help them flourish.

The service is free for businesses and residents in the borough and includes support and training in

several key areas:

1. Setting Up Your Business: Guidance on the early stages of the process.
2. Scaling Up Your Business to Grow Revenue: Strategies and tools to help expand and increase revenue.
3. Making Your Business More Digital Ready: Assistance in adopting digital technologies to enhance business operations.
4. Knowledge and Skills for Writing and Winning Tenders: Training on how to write and secure tenders with government, construction, and large businesses.

Find out more by visiting: www.mygrowthpod.com/hounslow

A NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR HOUNSLOW

Hounslow Council is partnering with Business in the Community, the UK's largest and most influential responsible business network dedicated to building a fairer and greener world together, supported by His Majesty The King for over 40 years.

is in the network it convenes and in the pioneering and passionate individuals in business, who help to drive, inspire and engage others to do more." - HM King Charles III.

Details of this partnership are yet to be revealed.

"Business in the Community's strength

HOUNSLOW: A BOROUGH OF BUSINESS

As one of the most diverse boroughs in the country, Hounslow is home to 285,000 people who speak 188 different languages. It is also known for its entrepreneurial spirit with the second highest Productivity, GVA(B) per hour, in London.

Seen as a gateway to London, it is well-connected and strategically located, and a hub for international trade and local talent. Many companies from the media, gaming, and technology sector have made the borough home.

Hounslow, along with Ealing, Hammersmith & Fulham, are recognised as the Boroughs of Business and recently participated in the West London Festival of Business - a celebration that showcases and promotes business communities throughout the surrounding areas.



Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of Hounslow Council spoke at the event and highlighted the success story of west London, with over 100,000 businesses worth nearly £75 billion: larger than many major European cities. He also discussed the new West London Orbital Rail line that could help create 120,000 jobs along the route as well as potentially 16,000 new homes.

The Council hosted a stand to showcase the borough along with 44 other stands by local and national businesses, including Heathrow Airport, Brentford FC, and HSBC.

JOINING FORCES TO IMPROVE LIFE ON HOUSING ESTATES

When it comes to making housing estates safer places to live, Hounslow Council works with partners in the fight against crime and anti-social behaviour.



Housing Police team members PS Neil Witcombe and PC Caroline Baxter

The Council is funding a dedicated police team to respond to our tenants' concerns and help them with safety issues. The team is funded through the Housing Revenue Account and serves the Council's stock of 13,600 properties. Working alongside Council staff, the team makes welfare checks on tenants and makes contact with young people on our estates.

The team targets criminal activity within the estates including drug use and cuckooing which is where criminals take over someone's home for criminal activities.

The Housing police team operates outside standard hours and works closely with Housing/ASB teams, so jointly they can respond quickly to residents' complaints.



Cllr Sue Sampson, Cabinet Member for Housing Management and Homelessness, said: "We take safety and wellbeing on our estates extremely seriously, which is why we are excited to be working closely with our partners in the police team to give our tenants the reassurance they need."



Cllr Sue Sampson inspects the new bin areas at Brentford Towers with MetroSTOR Director Nigel Deacon, Estate Caretaker Team Leader, Tom McCarthy, and local resident Garvin Snell

BIN STORE BONUS FOR HOUSING TENANTS

Plans to replace out-of-date bin rooms and chutes in high and mid-rise Council blocks continue to provide tenants with safety and reassurance.

Acting on the recommendations from fire risk assessments and addressing the concerns of tenants, the Council has removed them from 15 housing locations across the borough, and instead replaced them with modern, clean external bin stores.

It means that flat-dwellers now bring their waste and recycling out to a communal area away from their homes, ready to be collected by refuse teams.

The programme has been extended following the success of an initial chute replacement project at Brentford Towers.

Tenants were worried that the chutes posed a potential fire risk, while the bin rooms attract anti-social behaviour.

The Council worked with industry experts MetroSTOR to install the

brand-new bin storage areas, which are already proving to be a big hit with tenants, refuse collectors and the Council's caretaking team.

Feedback includes comments on how much more pleasant and free from odour and litter the areas have become. Removing the chutes and bin rooms has freed up our estate caretakers' time to concentrate on other issues.

The external bin areas have been designed to make it easier and safer for the refuse collection team to access and empty the bins, resulting in a quicker, cleaner service.

The project has also seen recycling rates soar by 30 per cent, with it now being easier than ever to separate the waste and place it in the appropriate bin.

TRANSFORMING HOUNSLOW

As part of the Council's commitment to regeneration, 'Opportunity Hounslow: Gateway to London and the World,' is the groundbreaking investment prospectus highlighting the borough's prime development sites. The prospectus emphasises Hounslow's strategic role in green innovation, smart logistics, media production, and urban development.

The Council recently also introduced its visionary town centre masterplans for Brentford and Hounslow, which aims to revitalise urban centres and foster regeneration, jobs, and prosperity.

The prospectus and masterplans outline initiatives to deliver over 4,600 new homes and 2,500 job opportunities, driving Hounslow's growth as a sustainable and inclusive community.

The prospectus is available to view at opportunityhounslow.com

VIBRANT FUTURE WITH GOOD DESIGN AND SUSTAINABILITY

To enhance the borough's architectural landscape and promote sustainable development, the Council has adopted the Character, Sustainability, and Design Codes Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

The SPD, which supports the Local Plan policies, offers detailed insights into Hounslow's local character and visions for its diverse neighbourhoods. It introduces design codes and guidance to improve the quality and sustainability of development across the borough.

With the SPD now adopted, it will guide the Council's planning department in all future decisions. This milestone underscores the Council's dedication to high-quality, sustainable design practices, contributing to a vibrant and resilient built environment.

GOING FOR GOLD

Hounslow Council's Clements Court housing development has won top accolades in the prestigious Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) National Site Awards, securing the Gold Award and being named The Most Considerate Site of 2024.



Officers from the Housing Development Team collecting the awards

Located on Green Lane, the Clements Court project is an infill development on the existing Clements Court Estate, delivering 48 new homes built by the Council's construction partner Wates. The design focuses on modern living and environmental sustainability.

The CCS Awards celebrate excellence in construction, recognising innovation, community respect, environmental care, and workforce value. Judges praised the Clements Court project for its commitment to construction innovation, communication with residents, carbon footprint reduction initiatives, and excellent workplace facilities.

The project involved demolishing single-storey garages to create three new buildings with 48 homes, a central space with play equipment, seating, cycle stores, and bin storage.

Two other Hounslow Council/Wates schemes were also honoured. The Rose Garden development in Feltham and the Everglades development on Inwood Road in Hounslow both received Bronze Awards for their community engagement and respect during the building process.

These awards highlight Hounslow Council's dedication to addressing the housing crisis with plans to deliver 1,000 new homes by 2026.



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

"These awards affirm our commitment to creating not just homes, but sustainable communities built on care and excellence. We are proud to set high standards in social housing development."

GROW FOR THE FUTURE TAKES SHAPE

The first sites are now open as part of Grow for the Future – a pioneering Hounslow Council initiative and the UK’s first policy to transform wasteland into orchards, community gardens and allotments and pair them with local schools so urban kids in deprived areas can learn about biodiversity, sustainability and healthy living.

Funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, this unique and innovative policy aims to create up to four new sites per year, with the inaugural orchard project at Feltham’s Westmacott Drive Open Space the first to be completed.



The site, once a fly-tipped patch of scrubby grass, is now home to a beautiful wildflower meadow, apple, pear and cherry trees, raspberry and blackberry bushes, and sunflowers. It is part run by the local Rivers Academy school alongside officers from Hounslow’s Parks team and Cultivate London.

Kayleb Anderson is a 14-year-old student from Rivers Academy and one of

the children who has helped transform the derelict land into a thriving plant and food-growing community space. Speaking to The i newspaper, he said: “I find this really good and relaxing, to just be taken out of some lessons and go outside planting, it helps.”

Cllr Salman Shaheen, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Public Spaces, said: “The Feltham site is a pilot scheme to prove the concept works and the signs so far are extremely encouraging. We’re proving to the rest of the country that this is absolutely possible.

“Grow for the Future teaches young residents to grow food and give it to those who need it most. Produce can be taken back to school and used for practical lessons, or donated to other families in need.

“I’m calling on councils around the country to follow Hounslow’s example and take up public unused land and turn it into spaces where kids can grow food and learn about biodiversity and sustainability.”

The opening of the first site was also attended by Downton Abbey actor Jim Carter, a strong supporter of Grow for the Future and Cllr Shaheen’s ambitions to take it nationwide. Carter wants the government to put gardening on the national curriculum and other local authorities to use Hounslow as a blueprint to ensure similar initiatives can be delivered across the UK.

To find out more about the Grow for the Future initiative, please visit: talk.hounslow.gov.uk/grow-for-the-future



Jim Carter with Cllr Shaheen

PLAY THE LITTER LOTTO

Hounslow Highways has teamed up with Litter Lotto to help ensure a cleaner Hounslow.



A new app which is available via the Apple and Google Play stores offers weekly and monthly prize opportunities in exchange for residents and visitors helping to keep streets clean of litter. It allows residents to take a photograph each time they put litter in one of the many street litter bins across the borough, thereby submitting an entry,

and having the chance to win one of many different prizes.

Residents will automatically be entered into a monthly £50 jackpot specifically for users in the borough, and will also be entered into the £1,000 UK-wide monthly jackpot where users are picked at random by LitterLotto.

There are also LitterLotto Coins which are redeemable virtual coins hidden all over the borough. These can be collected by residents and visitors, with £52,000 worth of redeemable prizes to be won.



Cllr Shivraj Grewal, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Recycling and Transformation, said: “We want to be proud of our environment in Hounslow borough but it can be hard sometimes when litter is left on the pavements and parks, which happens far too often.

“The Council does clean it up, but it is very costly and labour intensive. Our residents can play their part by using the bins, or taking their mess home.

“Hounslow Highways’ partnership with LitterLotto is here to help residents do their bit in the community, and ensure a cleaner Hounslow for all. Tell all your friends and family about it.”

The partnership aims to encourage residents to play their part in the community by putting their rubbish in street bins and using the app to ensure a cleaner Hounslow for all.

Visit: www.litterlotto.com for more information and to download the app.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Interested in running a small food stall or coffee trailer in one of Hounslow’s beautiful parks?

Hounslow Council is seeking proposals from mobile catering facilities to operate within its parks and open spaces through summer 2024 and into 2025.

For more information, and to download the Business Proposal Information form,

please visit: talk.hounslow.gov.uk/parks-mobile-catering

This opportunity is open to new and experienced providers of mobile food and drink and will aim to provide healthy snacks and beverages to a diverse audience of visitors to borough parks.

The Council is looking for a range of different food offers and is open to proposals to operate in any of the borough’s parks.

Providers that already operate inside of Hounslow are encouraged to apply, as well as businesses that would usually operate outside of the borough.



ROAD SAFETY THROUGH THEATRE



Hounslow Council brought a 'Theatre in Education' Programme that talked about the importance of road safety in a fun and accessible way, to 20 Primary and 10 Secondary schools in Hounslow, this spring.

Performers illustrated the importance of safety, vigilance and consideration for others, while traveling to school, be that by walking, cycling or using public transport.

For primary schools, the theme was 'Be Bright, Travel Right' and taught year six students about the importance of being alert and aware when travelling. This message is especially important because these children will move to year seven in September, where they may often travel independently.

Secondary school students were engaged by a performance called 'What Went Down' which focused on road safety and the dangers of roadside distractions, such as mobile phones, headphones and friends. Scenes showed the potential consequences of such distractions, including accidents resulting in severe injuries or fatalities.

Simon Carter, Head of The Green School for Boys, said: "I was delighted to be able to welcome the Theatre in Education Road Safety performance back to our school. The show delivers a vital message about how our young people can keep themselves safe on the roads, but in an interesting and accessible way and the boys really enjoyed the show. Thanks as always to Hounslow Council for supporting this excellent initiative."

CASHLESS PARKING TRIAL

Hounslow Council has introduced a six month trial of an alternative cashless parking payment method across 20 sites in the borough. These sites allow residents to simply tap and pay at the machine.

These will be in addition to the existing PayByPhone and PayPoint services, which will remain functional at all current parking locations.

To find out more about the contactless parking payment trial, visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/parking



LAMP COLUMN CHARGEPOINTS COME TO HOUNSLOW

In response to feedback from residents who told the Council they could not access local chargepoints easily, the Council has become one of the first London boroughs to introduce dedicated charging bays next to existing lamp columns.

EV drivers across Hounslow are already reporting improved access to on street charging points because of the new dedicated bays; which are part of a six-month (minimum) council trial to support more sustainable travel and cleaner air for local neighbourhoods.

The Council will invite feedback and is collecting and reviewing all the thoughts and ideas shared by local people and businesses.



Cllr Katherine Dunne, Cabinet Member for Climate, Environment and Transport, said: "We recommend that everyone tries walking, cycling or taking public transport, as the benefits to personal health and wellbeing, coupled with cleaner air and safer streets, make these excellent choices."

"However, we understand that some more vulnerable people, their carers and other workers and tradespeople, do still rely on cars. We hope that better access to EV charging close to home will help people to choose a cleaner, electric vehicle. This is why we're committed to installing 2,000 new EV chargepoints by 2026, and why we're making the parking space next to EV chargers, specific to these vehicles."



WARM WELCOME TO CARGO BIKES

Following calls from local people who were keen to trial a new, clean and sustainable method for transporting goods, Hounslow Council has launched a cargo-bike in Chiswick.

Cargo cycles are greener, healthier, cheaper and more efficient replacements for delivery vans. Among those who requested the bike were traders from Chiswick Flower Market, which is at 176 Chiswick High Road and takes place on the first Sunday of the month.

The hire scheme means that many local traders now benefit from a shared, local cargo-bike.

In addition to local businesses, families have also been using the bike to get around the area.

The Chiswick cargo bike can be booked by contacting info@ourbike.co.uk It was supplied by Our Bike, with help from Peddle My Wheels, and is cared for and managed by Fudges Cycles, on Chiswick High Road.



CYCLE HUBS

Cycle hub launch events were held at Inwood, Heston and Feltham Park to inaugurate weekly free cycle training sessions.

These cycle hubs – converted from old shipping containers – serve as a storage space for bicycles catering for residents who want to improve their cycling skills but don't have access to one.

SECURE BIKE PARKING JUST GOT EASIER

New, secure and accessible cycle hangars will be rolled out across the borough for people in flats and older terraced houses, which don't have access to secure cycle parking. It is also a condition that all new developments install covered and secure cycle parking, to make sure of provision, moving forwards.

The Council has committed £230,000 to cycle parking in the last year and is now working on enclosures near tower blocks, including Brentford Towers and the Ivybridge Estate. It will also provide new, on-street cycle stands by choosing locations that are busy and overlooked. There are already 40 bike hangars, that hold 240 bikes, across Hounslow. The council has secured funding to install a further 18 in the next nine months.

Local people can find their nearest bike parking on the Cyclehoop website or request a bike hangar on their road by searching 'residential cycle parking' on the council website.



While residents could already take advantage of training sessions at Inwood Park, this launch event introduced a wider variety of cycles for people with disabilities, allowing more members of the community to experience the benefits of riding a bicycle.

Find out more at: www.hounslow.gov.uk/CycleHounslow

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

OUTDOOR CINEMA

19, 20, 21 July, 7.30 - 11pm

Picturehouse Outdoor Cinema is coming to Gunnersbury Park.

Grab a blanket and settle in under the stars to see incredible films on the big screen - including Dirty Dancing, Stop Making Sense, and 10 Things I Hate About You.

All tickets include a £5 voucher to use on drinks or a snack, so be sure to arrive early to pick up your treats. £14+

BOARDGAMING MEETUP

4 August, 1 - 3.30pm

Ever heard of Dr Eureka, Rhino Hero or Loony Quest? These are just a few of the great games you can play with family and friends. And why not try out our giant Connect 4, Jenga and Dominos too?

£5 suggested donation per group

FISHER + VINTAGE CULTURE, PURPLE DISCO MACHINE; TOM GRENNAN, BLOSSOMS + SPECIAL GUESTS; KORN; PEGGY GOU + SPECIAL GUESTS;

Gunnersbury Park will play host to a series of concerts offering a vibrant mix of music genres in August 2024.

For more information visit: www.visitgunnersbury.org/what-s-on

STORYTELLING WITH MR SEF: STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

11 August, 11am - 12pm

Enjoy stories and songs with celebrated storyteller, Sef Townsend and do some join-in fun activities and use your imagination to share your ideas with pictures that you can make, words that you can speak or songs that you can sing.

£5

WATERWORKS

4 September, 12noon - 10.30pm

Waterworks will be returning to Gunnersbury Park. Waterworks is a multi-

stage festival that celebrates cutting-edge UK based and influenced electronic music with a strong emphasis on supporting emerging talent. The event will provide food and bars.

DNB ALLSTARS FESTIVAL

15 September, 12noon - 10.30pm

Prepare yourself to finish the season in style at Gunnersbury Park, where we'll see the first ever DnB Allstars Festival.

There's seven uniquely designed stages, and over one hundred artists booked for this one - definitely going to be a day full of unforgettable vibes.

16+

CHISWICK HOUSE AND GARDENS

chiswickhouseandgardens.org.uk/whats-on

BEN & JERRY'S SUNDAES IN THE PARK FESTIVAL

27 July, 12pm - 10pm

Join us for the sweetest festival line-up of live music from this summer's coolest artists, cabaret and unlimited ice cream.

THE TALE OF JEMIMA PUDDLE-DUCK BY QUANTUM THEATRE

31 July, 2.30pm - 4pm

Prevented from hatching her eggs at the farm, foolish Jemima goes in search of a nesting place in the forest and soon she meets a charming 'gentleman' who offers her the perfect nesting place in his woodshed.

But why is his wood-shed full of feathers and why is he asking her to collect the herbs for roast duck?

Back at the farm, the Collie-dog, Kep, puts two and two

together, but will he be in time to rescue Jemima from her fate?

FAMILY FRIDAYS

Friday 2 August to Friday 27 September, 10.30am - 3.30pm

To celebrate the launch of our exciting new pop-up touring exhibition - Ealing, People's Unite, Southall Community Alliance with the support of Gunnersbury Park Museum will be hosting a series of fun arts and craft activities for all the family to join in.

Free

NATIONAL PROSECCO WEEK FESTIVAL

17 - 18 August, 12noon - 7pm Garden Pavilion

Visit this free event in our Garden Pavilion to experience the true taste of Italy. You can pop by and enjoy a glass of bubbly (or other beverages), browse the stalls of mouth-watering Italian produce and enjoy a summer afternoon in the gardens

THE ADVENTURES OF DOCTOR DOLITTLE BY ILLYRIA THEATRE

21 August, 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Illyria Theatre are returning to Chiswick House with their new fun-filled family musical.

Hugh Lofting's timeless classic celebrates empathy, inspiring us all to see the world through the eyes of animals.

Doctor Dolittle leads a simple life as a village doctor. But one day, with the help of his wise old parrot Polynesia, he makes an extraordinary discovery: that he can talk to animals.

This funny, exciting new family musical is performed with flair and wit by Illyria in the great outdoors.

CHISWICK HOUSE DOG SHOW

22 September, 11am - 4pm

Chiswick House Dog Show is an annual celebration of everything DOG. Run by the community for the

community, it has show rings, doggy dash, celebrity judges, fancy dress, and stalls selling every imaginable canine treat, toy, goods, clothing or food.

London Museum of Water & Steam

SUMMER SCAVENGER HUNT.

20 July - 1 September

Head to the London Museum of Water & Steam for a puzzling summer scavenger hunt. Follow the clues to solve the mystery phrase and then claim your prize.

£3.50 per scavenger hunt

JULY STEAM UP

27 - 28 July, 10am - 4pm

We are bringing our engines back to life. Discover the fascinating world of water and steam at our Steam Ups. Share in the history and energy of the Kew Bridge

Waterworks and marvel at the amazing working pumping engines that helped make London the city it is today.

TRAMWAY & LIGHT RAILWAY SOCIETY

28 July, 10am - 4pm

The Tramway & Light Railway Society are at the Museum with their tramway model on display.

FELTHAM ARTS:

www.felthamarts.org

LIBRARY BOOK CLUB, COMMUNITY CHOIR, RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR, FELTHAM CHORAL SOCIETY, FELTHAM HISTORY GROUP, HISTORY WALK BEDFONT LAKES for more info on above activities, visit: www.felthamarts.org/adult

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

WILDCATS, 5 - 11 YEAR OLDS

FREE non-competitive football sessions for girls.

Various locations and all ability levels.

weetabix.co.uk/weetabix-wildcats

OURPARKS BITESIZE

Free at-home exercises

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

PARKPLAY

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 Osterley, Gunnersbury, Bedfont, Hanworth and Crane Park

Find your nearest www.parkrun.org.uk

SUMMER FAIR

17 August, 12noon - 3pm Belvedere House, Highfields Estate, TW13 4DH

Fun activities for all, including arts and crafts, cake stall, tombola and much more!

Raising funds for Pulse Youth Club

To book a stall for £10 call Michelle on 07562 763 098

*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

[f @RAHealinghounslow](https://www.facebook.com/RAHealinghounslow) [@rightathomeealing](https://www.instagram.com/rightathomeealing)



Are you ready for the #DigitalSwitchover?



Find out what you
and your family need
to do so you're not
affected.

[www.hounslow.gov.uk/
digitalswitchover](http://www.hounslow.gov.uk/digitalswitchover)



Share your home, shape a brighter future

Hounslow Council celebrated Fostering Fortnight (13-26 May) by sharing a diverse range of 'moments' from across the borough's fostering community and hosted a series of events where anyone curious about fostering could find out more about changing a young person's life.

In line with the awareness fortnight's theme #FosteringMoments, Hounslow gathered a diverse range of experiences from Foster Carers, Cared for Children and Social Workers.

Among them was Sally, who considers herself and husband Simon 'veteran' carers, having looked after over a dozen children during a career that spans nearly a decade. She said:

"I met one of our older fostered children last year, it was the first time since he left us a few years ago – he'd grown about four feet! We had a chat and he asked how the family were and everything, and then just as we were going our separate ways he reached out and hugged me! It is not something he did when he lived with us, and he just said: 'Thank you.'

"It was recognition that he needed us and that wasn't always apparent at the time! We've had official recognition when we were judged outstanding by fourteen panellists, but this was different, unexpected, and special."

Aziza is an Organisational Development and Learning Partner Apprentice at Hounslow Council. She also has lived experience of the care system and remembers when she first met her foster carer:

"I still remember the day I was placed like it was yesterday. I was 12 years old, and after six weeks of staying in paediatric care, I was finally released into the care of my foster mother. I remember sitting in that meeting room at the hospital, not knowing what or more importantly, who to expect. When she arrived, her warm smile immediately put me at ease. Admittedly, I was nervous and anxious, but the fact she welcomed me in with open arms and treated me like a daughter moulded me into the assertive, self-assured young woman I am today."

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 - £899.52 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
- A pass to access the borough's leisure centres and classes so that you get time to relax and recharge
- 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:
fostering@hounslow.co.uk

Call 020 8583 3426

Visit: www.hounslow.gov.uk/fostering

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

Photo coming

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



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
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

Key

-  Labour
-  Conservative
-  The Workers Party
-  Cabinet

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