

HILLINGDON people

News from your council

www.hillingdon.gov.uk

July/August 2026



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LONDON

Subscribe to our garden waste collection service

2026/27

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Weekly collections (except winter)

Six sack max capacity (three sacks as standard)

£77 annual fee

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August Bank Holiday 2026 WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

To minimise disruption to waste and recycling collections over the August Bank Holiday, we will be working on Saturday 5 September.

Normal collection day	Revised collection day
Monday 31 August (Bank Holiday)	Tuesday 1 September
Tuesday 1 September	Wednesday 2 September
Wednesday 2 September	Thursday 3 September
Thursday 3 September	Friday 4 September
Friday 4 September	Saturday 5 September

Please leave your waste and recycling out by 6am on the day of collection by your front gate but not on the pavement.

Separate arrangements are in place for flats and business premises.



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www.hillingdon.gov.uk/rubbishandrecycling

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Deputy Leader, Cllr Richard Mills and Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr Reeta Chamdal, on Middlesex Day in May with our flag which can be seen flying proudly at the Civic Centre every day.



Welcome



It's a privilege to have been elected Leader of the Council. Following the local elections, Hillingdon Conservatives retained control of the council with an increased majority, and you can read more and find out who your local councillors are on page 16.

Under my leadership, your council will remain one that is on the side of local people, delivering high quality services, value for money and continuing to put residents first. Our Cabinet reorganisation strengthens our focus on enforcement, building on strong progress recently made, clamping down on those who do not abide by the Hillingdon way. We will take a tough stance on environmental crime, including fly-tipping – seizing and crushing vehicles, where permitted, and pursuing offenders through the courts (page 20). New HMO licensing powers that we have introduced will also raise standards and tackle problematic anti-social behaviour.

Housing remains a major pressure. Under this new administration, our focus is clear: Hillingdon homes for Hillingdon people – making better use of existing homes, ensuring fair access, and helping residents move on from temporary accommodation (pages 18 and 19). We will resist outside organisations trying to force unsuitable development on us from afar and ensure we deliver the right homes in the right places, supported by infrastructure, while protecting our green spaces despite what the Mayor of London tries to force on outer London. We will also continue to stand firm against the catastrophic impacts of Heathrow expansion (pages 12 and 13) and continue the fight on your behalf to seek fair compensation for asylum-related costs that Hillingdon is forced to incur.

We will support young people through stronger links between education and business, while helping older residents stay independent and maintaining our commitment to preventing domestic abuse.

We will also continue to showcase that Hillingdon is open for business, attracting investment and creating jobs and apprenticeship opportunities for residents.

I hope you have a wonderful summer, enjoying all that Hillingdon has to offer (pages 24 and 25). I'm proud to lead your borough; I hope you are proud to be part of it too.

Steve Tuckwell

Cllr Steve Tuckwell,
Leader of the Council

On the cover: Adelina El Bachir and her son Noah.

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The STAGE Is Yours 2026

5 DAY MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOP
Week 1: 27-31 July
Week 2: 17-21 August
£130 per 5 day workshop

AGES 7-16

2 DAY MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOP
30 & 31 July
20 & 21 August
£60 per 2 day workshop

AGES 4-6

Tickets to the final performance £7
Online ticket purchases incur a booking fee of £1.50 per transaction.

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Council leader stands down



In May, Cllr Ian Edwards announced his decision not to seek re-election as Leader of Hillingdon

Conservative Group at their Annual General Meeting.

Cllr Edwards had been the council's Leader for five years, after being appointed to the position in January 2021.

Under his leadership, the council continued to prioritise residents by protecting and modernising frontline services, while maintaining a relentless focus on delivering value for money and keeping council tax lower than neighbouring authorities.

Protecting residents was a key commitment – from successfully lobbying for fairer funding for Hillingdon and continuing to raise awareness of ongoing funding pressures due to asylum costs, to challenging the Mayor of London's expansion of the Ultra Low Emission Zone and introducing a range of measures to tackle HMOs and unsafe, unlicensed properties.

At the same time, a wealth of new facilities were delivered for residents, including the state-of-the-art Platinum Jubilee Leisure Centre in West Drayton, the relocated Uxbridge Library and Museum and Archives Service, new homes, family hubs, children's homes and school amenities, while services were consistently judged high quality, with Children's Services rated 'Outstanding', Adult Social Care 'Good' and housing services securing a C2 grading.

Cllr Edwards, a Hillingdon councillor for 12 years, will continue to serve as a ward member for Eastcote. To read about the local election results see page 16.

Helping families prepare for emergencies

A roadshow for residents to learn how to better prepare for emergencies attracted more than 1,000 visitors as part of the council's work to build resilience within local communities.

Held at Hillingdon Fire Station on Saturday 9 May, the Community Resilience Roadshow was delivered by the council's emergency management and response service in partnership with organisations, including the London Ambulance Service, London Fire Brigade, and Metropolitan Police Service, alongside the British Red Cross, Environment Agency, Affinity Water, RAF Northolt, and other community and voluntary sector partners.

At the free, family-friendly event, attendees were able to speak directly with professionals from a range of agencies, explore emergency vehicles, and take part in demonstrations and activities designed to share advice on how to prepare for emergencies.



Cllr Adam Bennett, Cabinet Member for Community, Environment and Enforcement,

said: "By bringing key partners together in one location, we've given residents the opportunity to access reliable information, ask questions, and better understand how they, their families and their communities can prepare and reduce risk."

Learn about emergencies:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/emergency-planning



Pupils secure top choice of school place

The council was the second-best performing local authority in London on this year's National Offer Day on Thursday 16 April, with 94.57 per cent of parents in the borough awarded their first-choice primary school place.

Figures from the Pan London Admissions Board show the council exceeded the London average of 88.4 per cent, with 3,047 pupils securing their first choice primary school place.

Hillingdon also achieved the best results in west London, with 98.89 per cent of applicants

offered one of their top three preferred schools.

The council received 3,222 primary school applications, with 99.36 per cent offered a place at one of their preferred schools.

Cllr Susan O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Adults, Children, Health and Care, said: "I'm delighted that we're the second-best performing council London-wide and the top-performing council in west London for first choices offered to parents.

"It's also encouraging to see how well we've performed in offering applicants one of their top three preferences, and we've surpassed last year's already strong performance."



Find out more:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/primary



Boroughwide highways improvement programme gets underway

A comprehensive programme of improvement works for the borough's highways has been approved by the council to help increase safety and provide even better long-term protection for Hillingdon's roads and footpaths.

Funding for the council's Highways Improvement Programme for 2026/27 was agreed by Cabinet in April, with £8.2 million allocated to deliver a full programme of works, including £3.2 million grant funding from the Department for Transport (DfT).

Works will be delivered in phases, prioritising those areas of highway most in need, based on condition surveys conducted across the entire network. The planned, phased approach will reduce the cost and disruption of reactive repairs and help limit the deterioration of carriageways and footways. As part of the programme, the council has increased spending on long-term preventative maintenance, along with ensuring plans are in place to accommodate damage to roads caused by cold and wet weather.



Works on Misbourne Road, Hillingdon

The first phase includes £2.3 million of planned carriageway and footway improvements across the borough, from Stockley Road in Heathrow Villages, to East Avenue in Hayes and Whitby Road in Ruislip.

In January, the council was also one of only two London boroughs to receive the DfT's top 'Green' rating through its traffic light system, which grades council performance on highways maintenance.

Cllr Wayne Bridges, Cabinet Member for Residents Services, said: "Hillingdon is the second-largest borough in London, with 737 kilometres of carriageway and 1,215 kilometres of footway that

are used by residents, businesses and visitors every day.

"This investment will help us continue improving roads and pavements across the borough, making journeys safer and more reliable for everyone."

Most roadworks in Hillingdon are carried out by utility companies; the council issues permits but is not responsible for them.

View details of planned roadworks at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/roadworks.

Report a highways issue:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/highway-issues



Landlords to act now by applying for HMO additional licensing

Applications for the council's boroughwide additional licensing scheme for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) are open and landlords of shared properties with fewer than five residents from two or more households must apply by Sunday 23 August.

In February, the council agreed to introduce a boroughwide additional licensing scheme for HMOs to increase its powers to scrutinise landlords, improve housing conditions, and tackle anti-social behaviour.

An HMO is a residential property occupied by at least three people who are not from the same household but share facilities like bathrooms and kitchens. They

can often provide affordable and flexible housing options for renters.

Under the additional licensing scheme, landlords must meet licensing conditions covering safety, property standards, and effective management. It will operate alongside the mandatory licensing scheme for large HMOs (five or more residents from at least two separate households) and the boroughwide Article 4 Direction, which requires all owners to obtain planning permission before changing the use of a property to an HMO.

Cllr Adam Bennett, Cabinet Member for Community, Environment and Enforcement, said: "Residents have told us they

are tired of communities being impacted by poorly managed HMOs, and we will not hesitate to step in and pursue enforcement action for landlords who fail to comply with the new regulations."

If you are worried about poor health and safety standards or overcrowding in an HMO, email hmolicensing@hillington.gov.uk.

Enforcement action for non-compliance comes into effect from Monday 24 August.

Find out more and apply: www.hillingdon.gov.uk/hmo-licence



Upgraded, inclusive play areas delivered across even more sites

The council has continued its programme of renovating children's play areas across the borough, completing refurbishments at a further three playgrounds on local housing estates as part of its ongoing investment in community facilities, with £201,000 invested across the sites.

Upgrades at Ashdown Road, Uxbridge; Hoskins Close, Hayes; and Woodlands Avenue, Eastcote were completed this spring, bringing the total number of refurbished play areas since the programme launched in 2023 to 26.

The £1.6 million programme targets facilities that have reached the end of their lifespan.



Hoskins Close



Cllr Bennett, Cllr Chamdal and Cllr Bridges at Ashdown Road

At Ashdown Road, the council has installed new swings, a roundabout and a multi-play unit with a slide, along with new safety surfacing, fencing, gates and a new path.

For Hoskins Close, there's an improved layout with equipment similar to Ashdown Road as well as a train-themed play unit, springer see-saw and play panels.

At Woodlands Avenue, the works included a new safety surface across the whole area,

a combination accessible swing unit, a new multi-play unit, a large springer see-saw and play panels.

Cllr Wayne Bridges, Cabinet Member for Residents Services, said: "By upgrading facilities on our housing estates, we're supporting families, improving local environments and making sure our communities have spaces they can be proud of."



Woodlands Avenue

Explore our parks:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/local-parks



Funding unlocked to improve your local rivers and wetlands

New river restoration projects will be delivered by the council to further improve wetland habitats, enhance biodiversity, increase flood resilience, and make waterways more welcoming for residents to enjoy.

This spring, the council secured £255,000 funding from the Greater London Authority's Green Roots Fund. This was matched with grants already secured from Thames Water, the Environment Agency, and the Water Restoration

Fund to deliver schemes at Yeading Brook at Grange Park, Hayes, and Queen's Walk (east and west) in South Ruislip.

The projects build on the success of the Spider Park river restoration scheme in South Ruislip, which completed last summer, where the council worked alongside the Zoological Society of London (ZSL).

Once again, the council is partnering with ZSL for these works, alongside the London Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency, and local

volunteers. The improvements involve reshaping and planting along the river to enhance water quality and biodiversity, creating new wildlife habitats, restoring more natural river flows and improving flood resilience.

Cllr Bridges said: "Our Spider Park project helped create a more diverse landscape that encourages wildlife while also helping to mitigate against increased flood risk due to climate change.

"These new schemes will build on that success to further enhance the ecology of the River Crane and Yeading Brook corridor."

Works are expected to commence at the beginning of next year.

Learn more:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/wetland-projects



Volunteers at Spider Park

Continued investment in SEND education



In the spring, the council marked a construction milestone with a topping out ceremony (pictured above) at a new school that will provide 90 vital additional school places for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

The satellite school on Northwood Road, Harefield, is part of our expansion of Meadow High School and replaces an unused block that was formerly part of Harefield Academy.

The topping out ceremony, signifying the completion of the

roof structure, took place on Friday 20 March.

Once complete, the school will include 10 classrooms – covering art, food technology, and science – alongside a library/common room. The site will also feature physiotherapy and fitness spaces, hygiene and medical facilities, kitchen and dining areas, a conference room, breakout spaces and staff areas. It is due to open at the start of the new academic year.

Cllr Susan O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Adults, Children, Health and Care, said: "We continue to deliver on our pledge to provide pupils in Hillingdon with a high quality and fully inclusive education, helping them to reach their full potential in a supportive learning environment."

Read about our
SEND local offer:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/send



Bridge upgrades



Works to install new lighting at Ruislip Manor railway bridge have completed as part of a public realm improvement project by the council, with further upgrades also underway at South Ruislip railway bridge.

The Ruislip Manor bridge illuminations were completed in May. They replace the previous lighting scheme, which was installed more than 10 years ago.

The council used funding from the HS2 Ltd Amenity Fund – a pool of money provided by HS2 to help deliver improvement projects in communities affected by its construction works.

Further improvements include the installation of pigeon mitigation measures.

At nearby South Ruislip railway bridge, the council is working with Network Rail on further upgrades. These include additional pigeon proofing and new vehicle-activated signs to help prevent strikes by high-sided vehicles.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Steve Tuckwell, said: "These new illuminations will enhance visibility under the bridge, making it safer for pedestrians. "It will also serve as a beacon for residents and visitors, creating a focal point people will instantly recognise as 'Ruislip Manor'."

More on HS2
funded projects:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/amenity-funding



Rogue traders prosecuted and fined for selling vapes to children

Three businesses were ordered to pay more than £15,400 combined for selling vapes to children after successful investigations and prosecutions by the council's trading standards team.

The hearings took place at Uxbridge Magistrates' Court on Tuesday 31 March and followed a test purchasing operation carried out by the council in August last year where vapes were sold to young volunteers under the age of 18.

Ekam Food and Wines Ruislip Ltd, trading as Ekam Food & Wine, 57 Victoria Road, Ruislip, was ordered to pay £4,654.

Phone Cloud London Ltd, trading as Phone Cloud, 40 Victoria Road, Ruislip, was ordered to pay £4,472.55.

Talwar Repair Center Limited, trading as Repair Centre, 154 Field End Road, Eastcote, was ordered to pay £6,301. The court heard that the seller told the child to hide the vape when they left the shop, highlighting that they were knowingly selling to an underage purchaser.



Vapes on display at Phone Cloud, Ruislip

The businesses were all charged with breaches of the Children and Families Act 2014 and the Nicotine Inhaling Products Regulations 2015. Using reports and intelligence from residents about shops knowingly selling prohibited products to children, the council held a test purchase operation on 26 August 2025, with the help of a 15-year-old volunteer.

Cllr Adam Bennett, Cabinet Member for Community, Environment and Enforcement, said, "It's simply unacceptable for

business owners to be selling age-restricted products to children, and our trading standards team works tirelessly to catch retailers who flout the law.

"We have a duty to uphold the law and protect our young people, which is why we will always take robust action against any businesses caught."

If you suspect a business is selling age-restricted products to under-18s, email tradingstandards@hillingdon.gov.uk or call 01895 250164.

Court action for company's failure to maintain a listed pub

A company has been ordered to pay more than £3,100 after it failed to carry out work to a listed former pub to fix a range of defects and tidy up the site following an investigation by the council's planning enforcement team.

Sarins Group Ltd, which owns the Red Lion pub in High Street, Harlington admitted not complying with a notice requiring remedial work to be undertaken to improve the building and untidy condition of the land.

The company was fined £1,666, ordered to pay full prosecution costs of £866 and a victim surcharge of £666 at Uxbridge Magistrates' Court on Tuesday 21 April.

The notice required the company to remove all overgrown foliage from the site, clear debris



and building materials, repaint external window boards, and replace missing or loose roof tiles with matching materials.

The matter first came to the council's attention following a complaint in June 2023 about the building's poor condition. Despite repeated warnings, no meaningful improvements were made, and a formal notice was issued in March 2024.

Inspections in April and July 2025 found that the required works had

not been completed, and the site had further deteriorated. The court heard refurbishment work is now underway, with plans to reopen the Red Lion as a pub next year.

Cllr Bennett, said: "Purchasing and ownership of listed buildings brings with it significant responsibilities and legal obligations to ensure they are properly preserved.

"In this case, it's clear that the owner fell short of meeting those responsibilities and demonstrates that we won't hesitate to take action."

Report a planning breach:

www.hillingdon.gov.uk/planning-enforcement



Crackdown on scrap metal site

The council successfully obtained a High Court interim injunction on Friday 8 May to prevent the unauthorised use of land in Rickmansworth as a scrap metal yard.

Springwell Lane Metal Recycling Limited began using the site without planning permission and, following complaints from residents, a planning enforcement notice was issued by the council in September 2024 requiring it to cease operating as a scrap metal site.

It failed to comply with the notice, and legal proceedings were initiated. However, as the site continued to be used and cause harm, the council also applied for an interim injunction to cease activities on the land.

The injunction stops the site being used as a scrap metal yard or for any activity that breaches the enforcement notice.

A full injunction that would permanently stop the use and require the site to be fully cleared is also being sought by the council.

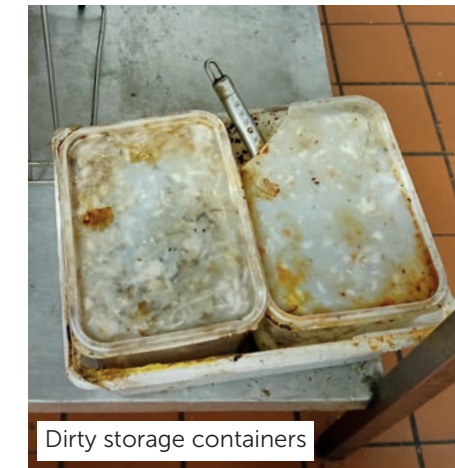
Cllr Nick Denys, Cabinet Member for Planning, Housing and Property, said: "This judgment is a significant step in the council's efforts to halt unlawful activities at this site.

"We share residents' concerns and frustrations, and I'm pleased the High Court has recognised the urgency of this issue by granting the interim injunction."



Heavy machinery at the site

Filthy Hayes takeaway lands hefty fine



Dirty storage containers

A Chinese takeaway has been ordered to pay £14,000 after a council investigation found serious hygiene failures, including grease on walls, flies on food, and food stored in buckets and washing up bowls.

On Tuesday 21 April, Hau Group Limited, trading as Royal Jade Inn, of 6 Jolly's Lane, Hayes, pleaded guilty at Uxbridge Magistrates' Court to one charge of breaching the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013 and the Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (England) Regulations 2012 after admitting a further 20 charges at an earlier hearing on Tuesday 6 January at the same court.

The company was fined £8,000 for all 21 charges and ordered to pay a £2,000 victim surcharge and £4,000 in prosecution costs.

Following a public complaint, the council's food hygiene and safety officers carried out an unannounced inspection to the premises on 5 November 2024, finding poor cleaning standards, contaminated food preparation areas, and unsafe storage practices. The owner, Den Tong Hau, agreed to voluntarily close the premises.

Officers returned the following day and found that adequate improvements had been made to permit the business to reopen. However, a follow-up inspection on 4 December found the premises again in poor condition,

with unsafe food storage, unclear labelling, and staff unable to explain food safety procedures.

Hau was interviewed by officers in July 2025, claiming that improvements had been made, and a further inspection on 13 August found the premises filthy, with heavily soiled equipment, grease covered surfaces, and pests able to enter due to a damaged chain-mail door curtain. Flies were observed landing on food.

Inspectors also found cooked and raw food stored in unsuitable containers, including washing-up bowls and reused buckets, and ingredients kept in unclean bins. Some foods were held beyond their recommended shelf life.

In a second interview in September, Hau acknowledged the issues but said improvements had been made. The council said ongoing non-compliance and health risks justified prosecution.

In mitigation, the defence said improvements had been made since the inspections and Hau obtained a Level 3 Food Hygiene Certificate in January 2026.

An inspection in March 2026 found some improvement, but the takeaway was rated two for food hygiene, meaning improvement is necessary and ongoing monitoring will continue.

Cllr Adam Bennett, Cabinet Member for Community, Environment and Enforcement, said: "Every business serving food has a legal responsibility to uphold basic standards of cleanliness. Our food health and safety team works hard to carry out inspections and support venues to make improvements but will not hesitate to take action when customers are at risk of serious harm."

Report a food hygiene problem:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/food-hygiene



Secondary school transition support



The council has expanded its successful Transition Support Programme, delivered in partnership with the Centre for ADHD and Autism Support, to help children with ADHD and autism move confidently from primary to secondary school.

The programme is now available in all mainstream secondary schools across the borough, helping around 400 more children succeed in education.

Children with ADHD and autism can find the move to secondary school challenging due to larger, noisier environments and increased sensory demands. A targeted support model was piloted in a small number of Hillingdon schools, offering help to pupils, families and staff before and after the transition.

Schools involved in the trial reported significant improvements in pupils' emotional wellbeing, confidence, behaviour and social skills.

Cllr Susan O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Adults, Children, Health and Care, said: "This pioneering project supports children with Education Health and Care Plans to remain in mainstream school and prevents the need for more expensive and often unnecessary specialist provision, improving children's life chances and overall outcomes."

Learn more:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/about-sen



Learn with us and unlock your potential

Our Learn Hillingdon Adult and Community Education classes for 2026/27 are now available – find a course to help you prepare for work or get promoted, gain a qualification, or learn new skills.

The council offers hundreds of part-time day and evening courses starting in September for people aged over 19.

Highlights include classes to help you move into jobs in health, social care, childcare and education where you will gain industry-recognised qualifications and build practical skills.

This year, we're introducing new English Skills Builder short courses, helping learners progress towards employment. We're also continuing to offer our popular English, maths and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses.

There are sessions to support health and wellbeing, including Pilates, yoga and healthy cooking.



An ESOL class in action

Our nutrition and cookery classes can also help you build skills and confidence for a career in hospitality.

The council also offers around 70 courses for adults with learning difficulties and disabilities, including new sessions on healthy cooking, budgeting and relationships.

Explore courses and enrol:

www.hillingdon.gov.uk/adultlearning



Supporting our residents' mental health

Working with our health partners, the council provides a range of emotional wellbeing and mental health support for children, young people, adults, and professionals.

Thrive Hillingdon is a website which features early-help tools, local support options, crisis guidance, and practical resources.

Topics include a series of wellbeing videos covering exam stress, motivation, neurodiversity, safety planning, and general wellbeing.

Young people can also access dedicated assistance through Kooth and Young Adult Community Navigation, which provide tailored help with wellbeing, benefits, housing, employment, education, and access to local services. If they are experiencing thoughts of, or are affected by suicide, the charity Papyrus can be reached on

0300 102 2470 or by texting HOPE to 88247.

Adults experiencing anxiety, low mood or depression can access a range of talking therapies with professional support. A community drop-in service is available at Hillingdon Cove Café in Ruislip, providing friendly support to those experiencing mental health distress.

Hillingdon Samaritans are available 24/7 on 116 123 if you need someone to talk to.

If you're worried about your mental health or someone else's, contact your GP, or call 999 in an emergency.

Access support:

www.hillingdon.gov.uk/mental-health and thrivehillington.co.uk



Family fun at new leisure centre

The council's Platinum Jubilee Leisure Centre in West Drayton opened in April – discover what's on offer.

The 6,488 square metre facility, located on Rowlheys Place, is the council's fifth sports centre, providing residents with increased opportunities to enjoy high quality leisure facilities.

It features a 25-metre swimming pool, teaching pool and splash pad with flume – the first in the borough – plus a health and fitness suite with steam and sauna facilities. The main pool also includes a Poolpod, a submersible lift providing a safe way for people with limited mobility to enter/exit.

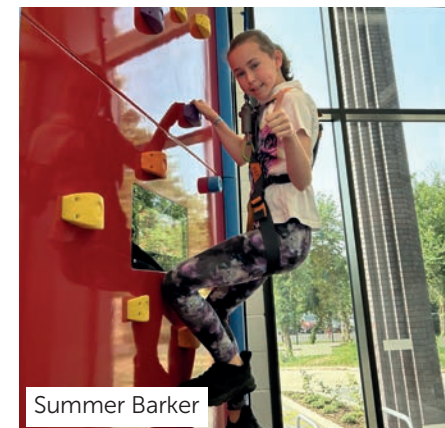


Debora Lewis and Justice

What our visitors say

Debora Lewis, from West Drayton, visited the centre with

her son Justice, aged three, to try the soft play area. She said: "The soft play facility is lovely – it's clean, it's big, and it's suitable for the under-fives. There are many different things for the children to do – lots of climbing for them to burn off their energy and the ball pit is massive."



Summer Barker

Veronica Barker, from West Drayton, attended with her

daughter Summer, aged nine, and tried the clip 'n' climb.

She said: "There are people who can't travel far, so having a local centre is great and it's a good opportunity to socialise and meet new people."

"I think if Summer enjoys the clip 'n' climb, it could become something we do weekly or monthly."

Cllr Wayne Bridges, Cabinet Member for Residents Services,

said: "The amount of interest and the number of people signing up to enjoy what's on offer at the Platinum Jubilee Leisure Centre just shows what a fantastic addition it is to our sport and leisure offer."

"The centre is a real community hub and it's so encouraging to hear how residents are already benefiting from the exciting new facilities."

Find out more and sign up:

www.better.org.uk/platinum-jubilee-leisure-centre



How Heathrow expansion plans could affect local communities

We have written to the Secretary of State for Transport, Heidi Alexander MP, urging her to review the government's approach to assessing two competing Heathrow expansion proposals at the same time. With the government also now consulting on its draft Heathrow Expansion National Policy Statement (HENPS), the council believes this will create confusion and result in a flawed public engagement process.



Harmondsworth Recreation Ground

While many residents will be aware that the government is backing the expansion of Heathrow Airport with a third runway, some may not know that two different schemes have been put forward.

The council remains firmly opposed to any airport expansion. Both proposals would devastate local communities, put thousands of homes at risk, and worsen noise and air pollution in areas already significantly affected.

The two proposals would create further disruption for residents, as both developers, Heathrow Airport Limited and Heathrow West Limited, would need to carry out separate resident consultation processes as part of the planning requirements.

This means residents would need to engage with two separate schemes, attend overlapping consultation events, navigate conflicting information and offers, and even liaise with different promoters regarding potential compulsory purchase of their homes.

This will also run concurrently with other planning policy consultations, including the government's current Heathrow Expansion National Policy Statement (see more right) and the Mayor of London's London Plan, making it even harder to meaningfully engage with the process.

The construction of a third runway at Heathrow is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, meaning the decision will be made by the Secretary of State for Transport, advised by the Planning Inspectorate acting as the Examining Authority.

The council's role is as an 'interested party.' We will represent our communities and seek the strongest possible mitigation, but we are not the decision-maker and cannot control the engagement process.

Given the complexity of the scheme, the council has created a dedicated section on its website to support residents in understanding the proposals. This, and the letter to government, can be found at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/heathrow-expansion.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Steve Tuckwell, said: "We know that many of our residents, particularly those around Heathrow Villages, are deeply concerned about the future. They are right to be, and we share many of those concerns.

"The situation is already causing real stress, disruption and anxiety for residents and local businesses and it is unfortunately likely to get much worse as everyone involved is forced to navigate overlapping processes with a high likelihood of conflicting information. Continuing with this approach risks leaving those most affected without proper engagement.

"That is why we have written to the Secretary of State to urge a clear and properly coordinated approach. The government must effectively referee this process, take back control, and ensure it is managed in a way that is clear, consistent and fair for residents."

What are the two proposals?

Heathrow Airport Limited's proposal includes:

- creation of a 3.5-kilometre third runway north-west of the airport and associated taxiways, designed to accommodate aircraft of all sizes
- an increase in air traffic movements by 276,000 a year, to a total of 756,000 per year
- additional terminal capacity created by expanding and modernising facilities, increasing overall capacity up to 150 million passengers a year
- a new terminal complex to the west of Terminal 5 along with two 'satellite' terminals
- supporting infrastructure to increase cargo capacity by 50 per cent, reconfigured surface access, including the realignment of the M25 motorway below the new runway and consolidated parking facilities, including an expanded public transport interchange.

How to find out more

Visit www.heathrow.com/expansion/our-proposal.

Subscribe to Heathrow Airport's latest project updates on the above website.

Contact them with queries by emailing communityrelations@heathrow.com.

The Heathrow West proposal, led by The Arora Group, includes:

- creation of 'Heathrow West' with a 2.4-kilometre runway further to the east of the Heathrow Airport Limited scheme (claimed to be operational by 2035)
- an option to extend the runway to 3.5 kilometres after 2040, should this still be considered necessary
- a new Terminal 6, located to the west of Terminal 5 and designed to handle up to 40 million passengers each year
- expanded airfield infrastructure and a new transport hub connecting to rail and bus services
- upgraded roads and facilities
- a construction approach that avoids building over the M25 until after 2040.

How to find out more

Visit heathrow-west.info.

Subscribe to Heathrow West's latest project updates on the above website.

Contact them with queries by emailing communityrelations@heathrow-west.info.



Have your say in expansion consultation

The government is currently consulting on its draft Heathrow Expansion National Policy Statement (HENPS) and residents are encouraged to share their views.

Previously known as the Airports National Policy Statement (ANPS), the 2018 document required a review following significant global, policy and legislative changes and has been renamed to reflect that it is solely for Heathrow expansion.

The HENPS sets the basis for deciding whether to approve a new third runway. The aim is to establish the need for additional capacity;

the economic, social, access and environmental requirements that proposals must meet; and it also explains why the Heathrow Airport Limited scheme has informed this review.

At the time of writing, the council is putting together its response which will be published on our website.

Residents are urged to share their views before the closing date on Tuesday 1 September.

Submit your feedback:

www.hillingdon.gov.uk/heathrow-expansion



New hub expands vital support

We are celebrating the opening of our new family hub in West Drayton. *Hillingdon People* went along to find out more and speak to local families benefiting from its support for children and young people.

The hub, located in the Platinum Jubilee Leisure Centre in Rowlheys Place, was officially opened by the Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr Reeta Chamdal, and Cllr Susan O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Adults, Children, Health and Care on Friday 26 June.

Family hubs provide children, young people and families with a range of high quality services under one roof in a caring and nurturing environment.

What's available?

Our early years offer includes stay and play sessions, music and movement, story time, speech and language activities, school-readiness support, and access to specialist clinics such as physiotherapy and occupational therapy.

Families can also benefit from health visiting and midwifery clinics, infant feeding and breastfeeding support, healthy



Arshika Jain with baby Srishti

lifestyles and mental health advice, alongside parenting programmes, one-to-one family support and peer groups.

Children and young people aged eight to 19 can also access the council's Youth Offer. This service provides term-time sessions for school years 7 to 9 on Wednesdays and school years 10 to 13 on Fridays, as well as a

selection of holiday programmes. Targeted support is also available. For more information, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/youth-offer.

In addition, families can access financial advice, practical skills and guidance on returning to work.

Many services are also available online through workshops and are delivered in partnership with schools, health services and voluntary organisations.

What our families say

Since opening, the hub has already begun supporting local families through a range of services and activities.

Adelina El Bachir, from West Drayton, attended a baby group with her six-month-old son, Noah. She said: "It's a great addition to the area – something that was really missing. It means kids have a place to come locally, rather than travelling elsewhere."

"Children are exposed to a positive environment where they



Jenny Cook and her son Micah with a family development worker

can interact with others before nursery. For mums, it's also about building friendships and having the chance to chat."

Jenny Cook, also from West Drayton, came along with her son Micah. She said: "We used to go to Yiewsley, so it's great to have something closer as we don't live in the town centre. We've also signed up for the gym and swimming lessons for Micah."

"It's lovely to meet other mums, and the staff work across other children's centres too, so you build relationships. They know you, and you feel really welcome."

Kopila Khadka, also from the area, visited with her seven-month-old daughter Nishvika. She said: "It's all about interaction. I live in a flat,

which can feel quite monotonous, but coming here feels refreshing. It's great to meet other mums and hear their experiences."

Cllr O'Brien said: "We want every child in Hillingdon to have the best possible start in life, and our family hubs play an important role in making that happen."

"By bringing services together in one welcoming and accessible location, we can provide earlier support for families, help children thrive and ensure parents can access advice and guidance when they need it most."

"It's fantastic to see the positive difference the West Drayton hub is already making to local families."



Kopila Khadka and Nishvika and Saloni Chandra and Trisha

Helping every child reach their potential

The government's Giving Every Child the Best Start in Life strategy, which launched in July 2025, set out its vision for all children, regardless of their circumstances, to have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

As part of this national initiative, the council created its own Best Start in Life strategy which outlines our plans and priorities to achieve our vision that every child in Hillingdon will have the best possible start in life – safe, healthy, happy, engaged, valued and ready to learn.

It focuses on what matters most to families and sets out clear, practical steps to help every child thrive.

Prior to the government initiative launching, Hillingdon had already been focused on delivering a family-centred, child-first approach in the borough by creating Hayes and Uxbridge family hubs, which provide integrated services.

These facilities, alongside the West Drayton and South Ruislip family hubs, are now part of the government's Best Start for Life Family Hubs initiative.

Read the strategy and find out more about our plans at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/family-hubs.

**BEST
START
IN LIFE**

Find your nearest family hub or children's centre:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/family-hubs



Cllr Chamdal and Cllr O'Brien at the official opening

Your council

Following the local elections on Thursday 7 May (and the postponed election for Hillingdon West ward on Thursday 18 June), 53 councillors were elected to represent Hillingdon's 21 wards.

The Conservatives retained control, increasing their overall majority, and now have 31 seats, while Labour have 16, Reform four, the Green Party one, and there is one independent.

The names, photos and parties of each of the borough's councillors and the wards they represent are detailed on the right.

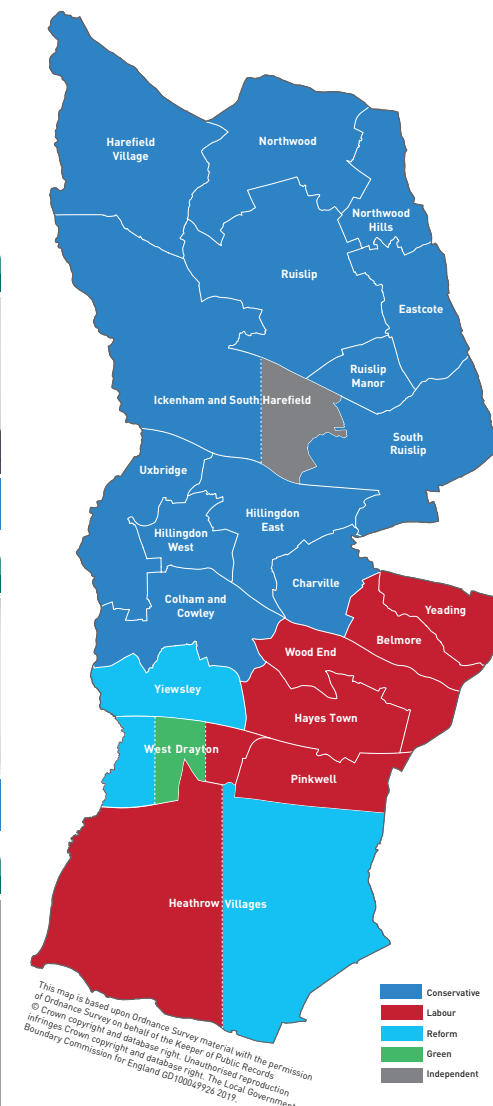
Cabinet Members and leaders of the parties are highlighted, and a map of Hillingdon displays the parties representing each ward.

Election results can also be found at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/election-results, where you can see the councillors elected for your local ward, all candidates and the voter turnout.

A total of 85,874 people voted in the elections, giving an overall turnout of 41.2 per cent. Harefield Village ward had the highest turnout, with 53.3 per cent of residents having their say.

Your elected councillors have regular contact with constituents, representing residents at a local level and deciding how the council carries out its various activities.

Councillors have been making arrangements to hold surgeries in their wards, so that constituents can meet with them and discuss any council-related matters. Councillor details are available at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/councillors.



Cabinet Members and their portfolios

Position/portfolio	Councillor
Leader of the Council	Steve Tuckwell
Deputy Leader and Corporate Services, Digital and Transformation	Richard Mills
Finance	Eddie Lavery
Adults, Children, Health and Care	Susan O'Brien
Community, Environment and Enforcement	Adam Bennett
Residents' Services	Wayne Bridges
Planning, Housing and Property	Nick Denys

Belmore

		
Amanpreet Kaur	Sital Punja	Jagjit Singh

Harefield Village

Hillingdon West

	
Adam Bennett	Reeta Chamdal

Pinkwell		
		
Tony Eginton	Tony Gill	Kuldeep Lakhmana

Yiewsley

	
Sophie Dror	Stacey Lucas

Charville	
	
Darren Davies	Archan Raval

Hayes Town		
		
Navnit Dhesi	Stuart Mathers	Raju Sansapuri

Ickenham and South Harefield





Kaushik Bannerjee

Eddie Lavery

Jane Palmer

Ruislip		
		
Philip Corthorne	John Riley	Peter Smallwood

Colham and Cowley		
		
Shehryar Ahmad-Wallana	James Bourke	Adam Huddle

Heathrow Villages

	
Matthew Elder	Narinder Garg

A graphic titled "Northwood" in a teal banner at the top. Below the banner are two portrait photos of panelists. On the left is Ekta Gohil, a woman with dark hair, smiling, wearing a black top and a necklace. On the right is Henry Higgins, a man with grey hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and blue tie. Below each photo is a blue box with their names in white text: "Ekta Gohil" and "Henry Higgins".

Ruislip Manor

	
Susan O'Brien	Douglas Mills

Wood End

		
Elizabeth Dumergue	Kamal Preet Kaur	Gursharan Mand

Eastcote		
		
Nick Denys	Ian Edwards	Danielingham

Hillingdon East

		
Wayne Bridges	Kelly Martin	Colleen Sullivan

Northwood Hills




Jonathan Bianco

Ranjeet Rathore

South Ruislip		
		
John Garner	Richard Mills	Steve Tuckwell

Yeading

	
Hedson Farinha De Castro	Ella Garelick

- Conservative councillor
- Labour councillor
- Reform councillor

- Green councillor
- Independent councillor
- Cabinet Members

-  Leader of the Council
 Labour Group Leader
 Reform Group Leader



Cllr Denys visits Haig Road in Uxbridge where homes are being upgraded

Debunking housing myths and enhancing our housing stock

The council is working to prevent homelessness by tackling common housing misconceptions and promoting available support, as well as delivering more affordable homes for residents alongside wider service improvements.

Like other London authorities, Hillingdon is seeing rising demand for housing assistance, largely driven by evictions from private landlords or breakdowns in arrangements with friends and family.

In 2024/25, more than 7,300 households approached the council for housing assistance, a 47 per cent increase on the previous year. Around 100 new homeless applications are now received each week, with more than 1,600 households living in temporary accommodation.

As part of an awareness campaign, the council is tackling housing myths to promote available support and encourage early action for those at risk.

Common housing myths

MYTH

"I have young children, so they have to give me a council house."

FACT

"Having young children does not automatically entitle you to a council

house. While families with children are often considered to be in priority need, homes are allocated based on a range of criteria, and due to the limited supply of larger properties, we are often required to explore the private rented sector to find housing solutions."

MYTH

"I will only be in temporary accommodation for a couple of weeks, then I'll be given a council home."

FACT

"Temporary accommodation doesn't guarantee you a council

home. The best way to reduce time spent in temporary accommodation is by finding an affordable private rental. We can support you to move on with a

list of landlords and help with rent in advance and deposits."

MYTH

"My temporary accommodation must be in-borough and near where I used to live."

FACT

"Temporary accommodation is offered based on availability and, in emergencies, may be outside the borough. If you're worried about your housing situation, contact us early so we can help prevent homelessness and avoid the need for temporary housing."

MYTH

"I've always lived in Hillingdon and my children go to school here, so the council must house me locally. If I refuse an offer, they must find me another."

FACT

"We always aim to accommodate households within the borough, but

high demand for affordable housing means this isn't always possible. Any offer outside the borough follows a thorough

assessment and is only made when no suitable options are available in Hillingdon.

If you're offered a home, it's important to understand your options before deciding. Refusing an offer could end your temporary accommodation and limit future options. In most cases, it's best to accept first, then request a review."

Get help early

If you're concerned about your housing situation, act early and seek support from the council or organisations such as the Hillingdon Advice Partnership, Shelter and Crisis. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/housing-advice.

Private renters should also be aware of their rights. The Renters' Rights Act, introduced in May, sets out new rules and responsibilities for tenants, landlords and letting agents. Visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/renters-rights for more information.

Delivering more accessible and energy-efficient homes

As the borough's largest landlord, managing more than 13,000 homes, the council is investing in improvements to meet tenants' needs. This year's budget includes £45 million for upgrades, with £4 million for adaptations for residents with disabilities and more than £10 million for decarbonisation to improve energy efficiency and tackle damp and mould.

Work is underway to decarbonise more than 300 homes, including 20 properties from the 1930s on Haig Road, Uxbridge. Upgrades include energy-efficient doors and windows, insulation, low-carbon ventilation, and replacement smoke and heat alarms, guttering and fascias.

Brian Fischer (pictured right), who has lived in the area for more than 40 years, said: "It

looks fantastic and feels like a really nice uplift to our home, while the windows and doors are a big improvement.

"We've also already noticed that the external wall insulation has made a big difference to the temperature of the house."



Building more homes for Hillingdon residents

In March, the council appointed Bugler Developments to deliver 21 new family homes at Haydon Drive, Northwood Hills. Groundworks are underway to replace 16 outdated studio bungalows with six three-bed and 15 four-bed affordable homes, including three fully adaptable for wheelchair users. Residents were rehoused before construction, and usable assets such as boilers under five years old were removed. Completion is expected in 2028.

Work is also progressing on the Yiewsley redevelopment, which will provide 95 (100 per cent) affordable homes and a modern library. Foundations are complete at Falling Lane, where a tower crane is in place, while brickwork continues at Otterfield Road. Otterfield Road is due to

finish in 2027, with Falling Lane following in 2028.

In Hayes, residents have begun moving into Seabrook Court after a successful Building Safety Regulator inspection. At Avondale Drive, phase two will start with the demolition of Wellings House. The full redevelopment across both estates will deliver 740 new homes (50 per cent affordable), alongside improved community spaces and public areas.



Otterfield Road, Yiewsley

Cllr Nick Denys, Cabinet Member for Planning, Housing and Property

said: "We're working hard to deliver more much-needed affordable homes, with a diverse mix of housing developments under construction.

"Our pledge is Hillingdon homes for Hillingdon people. However, demand continues to outstrip supply, and homes are allocated to those in highest priority need. It's important that residents take proactive steps to take control of their housing situation.

"Alongside increasing the number of homes available, we're also investing in improving our existing housing stock for the future."



A Pop-Up Waste Drop event at Hillingdon Court Park, Uxbridge

Keeping Hillingdon's streets clean

Dumping rubbish is illegal, harms the environment, and disrupts neighbourhoods. The council is taking action to investigate waste crimes, punish offenders, and make it even easier for residents to dispose of household waste.

Fly-tipping is the illegal dumping of waste, with no intention of having it cleared. It can be any size, from a single black bag to a truckload of rubbish.

The council is responsible for the enforcement and clearance of rubbish on council land, including roads, pavements, public car parks, green spaces, and council housing estates.

On private land, removal is the landowner's responsibility, but the council can investigate and prosecute offenders.

Fly-tipping can lead to an on-the-spot fine of up to £1,000. If you pay someone to remove your waste and it's dumped illegally, you could still be held responsible.

More serious offences can result in fines of up to £50,000, unlimited

fines in crown court, community service, or up to five years in prison.

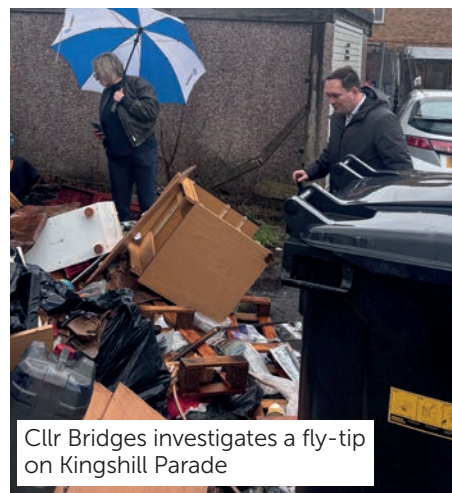
Cracking down on fly-tippers

Last year, the council's anti-social behaviour (ASB) team issued 372 fines for fly-tipping and littering. They use resident reports, hotspot visits and CCTV to gather evidence.

For larger cases involving vehicles, registration numbers can help identify offenders. The council is utilising powers granted to local authorities last year to stop, search and seize vehicles connected to fly-tipping.

So far in 2026, two vehicles have been seized, including one in Hayes after it was caught illegally dumping waste on a residential road in Ickenham.

The ASB team carries out regular high street patrols and work closely with businesses to



Cllr Bridges investigates a fly-tip on Kingshill Parade

enforce waste duty of care rules. Last year, they issued hundreds of reminders and a record number of Fixed Penalty Notices to businesses that failed to produce the correct waste paperwork.

Reporting made easy

If you see a fly-tip, or have evidence, please report it online at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/flytipping.

This is the most effective and quickest way to ensure dumped waste is promptly investigated and collected.

Expanding your household waste services with more convenient options

The council is delighted to give residents more choice and make it easier to dispose of household waste with access to a new recycling centre and the continuation of its popular Pop-Up Waste Drop service.

From Wednesday 15 July, residents will be able to use the Space Way Reuse and Recycling Centre near Heathrow, increasing the availability of waste and recycling services across the borough.

The council is also making its Pop-Up Waste Drop service permanent following a successful trial, which saw almost 29 tonnes of unwanted and bulky waste (equivalent to about 1,800 washing machines) collected from more than 920 visitors at 10 sessions across the borough. Keep your eyes peeled for the next event at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/waste-drop.

The free-to-use service will continue every two weeks, rotating across targeted locations throughout the borough, including at least six sessions in Yiewsley and West Drayton during the next year.



Cllr Bridges at the Space Way Reuse and Recycling Centre

This expanded offer follows a council review of its West Drayton Waste Weekend service, which will close from Monday 21 December, saving Hillingdon taxpayers more than £300,000 as part of the council's ongoing work to better meet their needs and deliver best value for money by modernising services.

Residents will be able to continue using the Waste

Weekend service as usual, up until its final weekend of 19 and 20 December.

Harefield Civic Amenity Site is also available to all borough residents with visitors able to dispose of an expansive range of waste items from vapes and coffee pods to lithium-ion batteries. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/rubbishandrecycling.

Space Way at a glance



Open to all ALL Hillingdon residents



Open 8am to 3.30pm, seven days a week



Approximate off-peak journey time by car...

13 minutes



17 minutes



21 minutes



Cllr Wayne Bridges, Cabinet Member for Residents Services, said:

"A number of irresponsible individuals continue to blight our borough with dumped waste and there really is no excuse when a variety of free or low-cost disposal options are widely available.

"We are also making it even easier for residents to dispose of waste with the continuation of our Pop-Up Waste Drop events, and the introduction of an extra amenity site option, as well as using stronger powers to tackle serious offenders, seize vehicles, and work with the police to secure prosecutions."

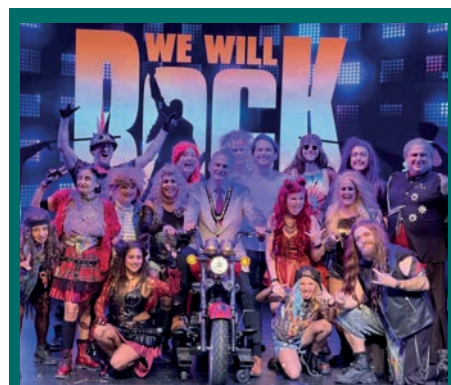
Serving the borough's communities

From championing volunteers to supporting local charities, Cllr Philip Corthorne reflects on his mayoral year.

Born at Hillingdon Hospital in 1965, Cllr Corthorne spent his early years in Hayes before moving to Ruislip in 1970. More than three decades on from his election as a ward councillor in 1993, he describes Hillingdon as both his home and a central part of his identity, after a milestone year that saw both him and the borough mark their 60th anniversaries.

Throughout his mayoral year, Cllr Corthorne focused on strengthening community cohesion and building partnerships between organisations, businesses and voluntary groups. "Often it's about starting a conversation," he said. "Building relationships can lead to real, practical improvements for residents."

His mayoral calendar included a range of engagements, from citizenship ceremonies, school and care home visits to new business openings. He also worked closely with voluntary groups ranging from litter pickers to sports clubs, recognising their vital contribution to local life. "So many people give their time selflessly, and it's important they are properly thanked and recognised," he said.



With members of Pastiche Musical Theatre



At the Battle of Britain Bunker with the Squadron Royal Air Force Air Cadets

He also valued engaging with young people, particularly during visits to schools and the Council Chamber. "Their curiosity about civic life is inspiring," he said.

Among the most memorable moments were encounters with dedicated volunteers, including a 99-year-old who takes three buses to travel to a local hospice. "It's truly humbling," he said. "Such wonderful people are the very best of us."



Cranford Park Family Day 2025

One of the most meaningful aspects of his year was supporting grassroots charities. Cllr Corthorne's chosen charities were SEND Family Support, which provides support to those caring for children with special educational needs and disabilities, and the Hillingdon Stroke Support Group. Following his own stroke 10 years ago, he is passionate about helping people achieve a better recovery and quality of life.

Reflecting on his time as Mayor, Cllr Corthorne described it as "an immense honour and privilege" to serve. "Though my time as Mayor ended in May, my commitment to this borough remains as strong as ever," he said. "Hillingdon's greatest strength is its people, and I will continue to serve them as an active ward councillor."

Introducing the new Mayor



On Thursday 14 May, Cllr Reeta Chamdal became the new Mayor of Hillingdon. She said: "It is a tremendous honour to be elected and I'm deeply grateful for the trust placed in me and humbled by the opportunity to serve our borough as the first citizen."

Her chosen charity is Hillingdon Autistic Care and Support which supports autistic people and their families across the borough. Find out more and donate at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/mayorcharity.

A record rise in our foster carers

The council is celebrating after recruiting 16 new fostering households in 2025/26 – the most ever in a single year. Discover why more families are choosing to foster with Hillingdon.

The new carers represent a 60 per cent increase in the number joining the council since 2024/25.

Among the newly recruited households are first-time foster carers and those who have transferred from independent fostering agencies.

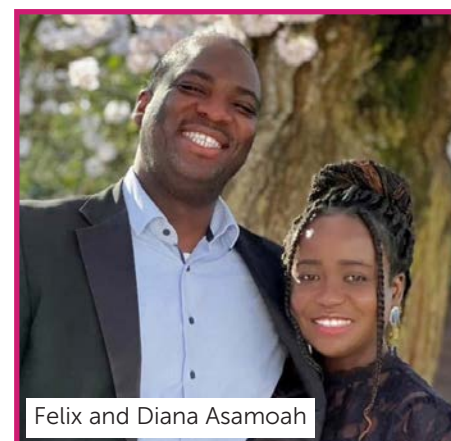
To support more than 300 children in its care and help address the national shortage of foster carers, the council has focused on recruiting its own carers and, in May 2024, introduced a new fostering support package to encourage more people to consider fostering.

Alongside the 16, an additional 23 carers are currently in the approval process and set to join the council in the coming weeks and months.

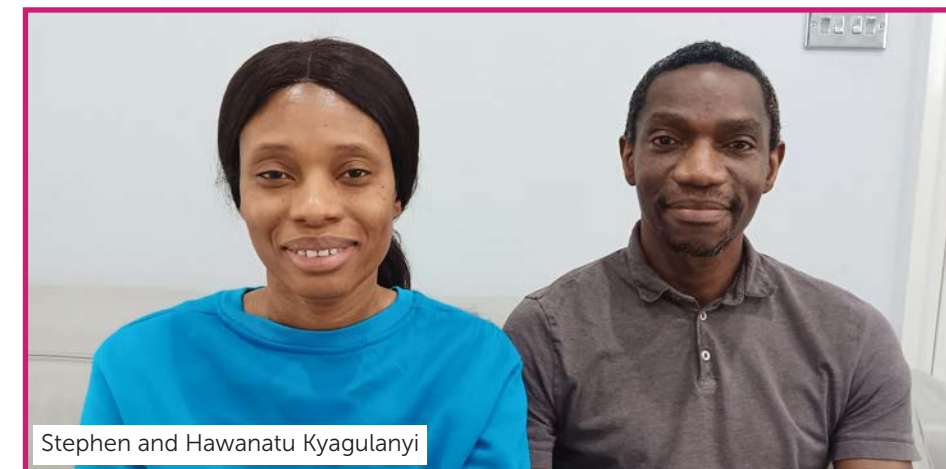
Meet our newest carers

Felix, 42, and Diana Asamoah, 38, joined Hillingdon in November and now care for a 16-year-old girl. The couple have three children of their own.

Felix said: "We were delighted to be part of this whole fostering journey. What makes it much easier is the help that Hillingdon



Felix and Diana Asamoah



Stephen and Hawanatu Kyagulanyi

is giving to people who want to foster. Hillingdon has a great support system – we were really well prepared.

"The package does help – my wife and I both work full-time. We thought we had to save money in preparation to foster and, when we realised we could get support, we thought, 'wow, this is really good'. It really helps your foster child."

Stephen and Hawanatu Kyagulanyi, from Hayes, have three daughters and joined the council in November and began fostering a 14-year-old girl just before Christmas.

Stephen said: "We have lived in Hayes for more than 10 years, have always wanted to help out in

the community, and thought 'we have a spare bedroom'.

"I think fostering has taught us not to be judgemental and to reach out to any child regardless.

"We always prioritise our child's needs. The end of term is coming up, and we've got some sightseeing in central London and holidays planned. All these things cost money, and the support package has helped make this possible. The training has also been immensely helpful."

Could you foster?

Hillingdon Council has a highly competitive and supportive fostering package, for both new and existing foster carers. This includes:

- payments up to £1,500 per week
- 25 per cent off your council tax bill
- £1,000 off utility bills
- an annual family Merlin pass
- more than 100 training courses.

Learn more about fostering for Hillingdon:

www.hillingdon.gov.uk/fostering



Discover summer in Hillingdon



Young people playing basketball at the indoor court at Harlington Young People's Centre

Looking for ways to keep the family entertained this July and August? From swimming and outdoor adventures to theatre workshops, library events and hidden gems, there's plenty to explore.

Hillingdon Youth Offer

Keep children and young people busy with a range of activities as part of the council's Hillingdon Youth Offer. From sports and cooking to arts, crafts and music – there's something for everyone.

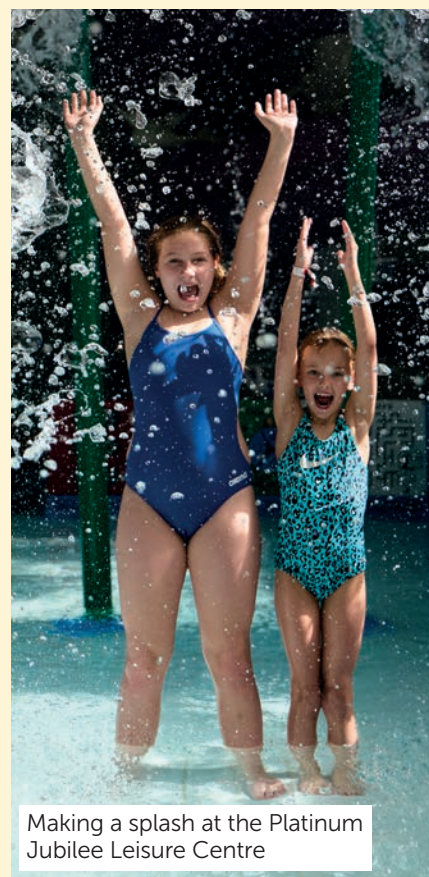
Sessions are available for those aged eight to 18, with additional support programmes for young people up to 24 years old, including mentoring and counselling. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/youth-offer.

Fun, fitness and family time

Dive into family-friendly fun at your local Better swimming pool with Swim For All sessions and family swims. Or head outdoors for a refreshing dip in the 50-metre lido at Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Complex. Find out more at better.org.uk/hillingdon.

At the all new Platinum Jubilee Leisure Centre in West Drayton, there's even more to enjoy. Take on the colourful clip 'n' climb challenges or book the rooftop 3G football pitch for a match, training session or kickabout with friends. Find out more at better.org.uk/platinum-jubilee-leisure-centre.

For younger children, Botwell Green Sports and Leisure Centre offers a four-floor soft play area, including a dedicated space for under-threes and an on-site café. Find out more at better.org.uk/botwell-play.



Making a splash at the Platinum Jubilee Leisure Centre

Free holiday activities

Running from Tuesday 21 July to Friday 28 August, the council's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is open to school-aged children receiving benefits-related free school meals.

With more than 19,700 places at more than 50 locations, activities include sports such as football, Taekwondo, canoeing, climbing, along with arts, coding, cookery and more – including SEND-specific sessions. Learn more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/HAF-programme.



Children enjoying our HAF programme

Bringing stories to life

Children aged four to 11 can join the free Summer Reading Challenge at Hillingdon libraries until Saturday 12 September. This year's theme, Read to the Beat, links stories, music and creativity, encouraging reading for fun over the holidays.

Sign up at any branch to collect rewards and be in with a chance to win an electronic keyboard and songwriting journal. Highlights include the Imagination Station at Botwell Green Library on Friday 31 July and at the Great Barn, Manor Farm, on Thursday 13 August.

Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/summer-reading.



Step into history

Discover Hillingdon's past through a packed programme of events, exhibitions and hands-on activities.

At Cranford Park, enjoy nature walks, wildlife sessions and family-friendly activities. A highlight is the open day at the secret garden and restored stables on Sunday 9 August. Find out more at discover.hillingdon.gov.uk.

At the Battle of Britain Bunker Exhibition and Visitor Centre, explore wartime history through a series of expert talks from Saturday 18 July to Saturday 5



Last year's family day at Cranford Park

Get active outdoors

Make the most of the borough's green spaces with a variety of free and low-cost activities.

If Wimbledon has inspired you to pick up a racket, book a court at one of Hillingdon's 10 tennis sites, or take part in free, hour-long community sessions at Northwood Recreation Ground and Rosedale Park. Booking is required at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/tennis-programmes.

There are also free outdoor fitness classes from Boxercise to circuit training through Our Parks sessions – visit ourparks.org.uk for details.



September, covering subjects from Operation Kaiser to VJ Day.

Visitors can join immersive guided tours, including "in their own words" experiences on Saturday 18 July and Saturday 15 August, Secrets Uncovered tours on Saturday 25 July and Saturday 29 August, and weekly unguided tours from Sunday 26 July to Sunday 6 September. Family-friendly crafts, trails and interactive activities run throughout the summer.

Find out more at battleofbritainbunker.co.uk.

The Hillingdon Museum and Archives Service, Uxbridge is hosting creative and heritage events, including weekly Ready, Set, Craft and Go sessions throughout August, an ancestry workshop on Friday 28 August, and guided walks and talks in September. Find out more at discover.hillingdon.gov.uk.

The new Hillingdon at 60 exhibition opens at the museum on Wednesday 2 September, bringing together residents' memories from the past six decades. Through first-hand audio recordings, visitors can hear stories of everyday life, work and community – from the Nestlé factory in Hayes to Concorde's first test flight from Heathrow. Find out more at discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/hillingdon-60.

Playday returns

Hillingdon's annual Playday returns on Wednesday 5 August at Hillingdon Athletics Stadium.

This free event celebrates the power of play with activities including BMX, basketball, cricket, tennis, sandpit play, arts and crafts, recycling activities and health and wellbeing stalls.

Booking is required. No parking is available, public transport is recommended. Find out more at discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/playday.

News from our partner

Keeping you and your family protected from getting measles

Measles is spreading in London. You may have heard on the news about recent outbreaks in Enfield and Islington which led to several people being hospitalised, mainly children.

Do we really need to worry about measles?

Yes. Measles isn't a mild childhood illness. While many recover, for some it causes complications that can lead to hearing loss, pneumonia, blindness, brain swelling and, in rare cases, death. The best protection is the MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccine.

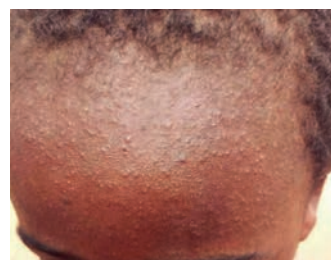
What are the main symptoms?

Rash, fever, sore red eyes, cough, sneezing, runny

or blocked nose. The rash can be harder to see on brown or black skin (see below), so check for white spots inside the mouth.

Worried you might have measles?

Measles is highly contagious. If you think you or your child may have measles, please isolate, especially from those at higher risk including babies, people with weakened immune systems and unvaccinated pregnant women.



Please do not attend your GP practice or A&E in person. Phone or contact your GP practice online or call NHS 111 for advice.

Protect your family

Make sure you and your loved ones are fully protected with two doses of the MMR vaccine.

- **Check your records** in your child's red book or the NHS App.
- **Book any missing doses** through your GP.
- **School-aged children** can attend catch-up clinics. Book now at www.schoolvaccination.uk/catch-up-clinics.

Independent Chair Audit, Finance and Performance Committee opportunity

We're seeking an experienced independent chair to lead audit, assurance and scrutiny, overseeing risk, financial reporting and performance.

The role includes oversight of internal and external audit, approval of the Statement of Accounts, and review of finance, governance and risk.

Applicants must be independent of the council and free from political association within Hillingdon. Approximately 10 to 11 meetings per year plus briefings.

Closing date: Friday 31 July

Apply with CV and expression of interest (max 500 words).



www.hillingdon.gov.uk/jobs

News from our partners

Keeping you safe: update from the Metropolitan Police Service

Having worked in and around Hillingdon for the past decade in both response and proactive policing roles, it is a privilege to now take on the role of Superintendent for Neighbourhood Policing in the borough.

I step into this position at a time of strong performance. Crime is reducing across many of our priority areas, and there is already a dedicated, high-performing neighbourhood policing team working closely with communities and partners. Recent results reflect that commitment and include a:

- 22 per cent reduction in personal robbery year-on-year
- significant increase in retail crime detections,

now at 27 per cent, rising to around 50 per cent in some areas

- 3 per cent reduction in neighbourhood crime so far this year.

These are achievements we should be proud of – but they are not the end point. My priority is to build on this momentum and ensure we deliver a consistently high standard of neighbourhood policing across every part of Hillingdon.

Our focus will remain clear: tackling neighbourhood crime, confronting violence against women and girls, and reducing anti-social behaviour. Alongside this, I am determined to strengthen the way we communicate – so that residents and partners not only see the policing activity in their area, but

understand the impact it is having.

Policing is strongest when it is rooted in the people we serve. That is why I want to see even greater community involvement in shaping local priorities. Ward Panel meetings are a vital part of that, and I would encourage residents to attend, speak up, and help influence the issues we focus on in their neighbourhoods. We will also continue to expand our reach through Met Engage, our online platform for direct communication with the public. If you are not already signed up, I encourage you to join at www.metengage.co.uk to stay informed, connect

with your local officers, and share what matters most to you.

My commitment is clear: to lead a visible, responsive, and accountable neighbourhood policing service that listens, acts, and delivers. By working together with our communities, we will continue to drive down crime and ensure Hillingdon remains a safe place to live, work, and visit.



Superintendent Jake Albon-Massey

Warm weather information from the London Fire Brigade (LFB)

As the weather changes, we continue to prepare for seasonal risks, including wildfires.

LFB now has specialist wildfire vehicles and trained officers to respond quickly. Local crews also maintain water incident training, supported by 10 specialist water rescue teams across London.

Hillingdon Fire Station recently hosted the Hillingdon Resilience Roadshow, bringing together partner agencies to showcase support for residents (read more on page four). Here are some top tips and considerations

to help keep you safe this summer.

Grass and wildfires

Hot, dry weather means wildfires can start easily and spread quickly. If you discover a fire, move to a safe place and call 999, giving a precise location (use www.what3words if possible). Do not tackle it yourself and stay well away.

Never barbecue in parks or open spaces. Fully dispose of them safely, fully put out cigarettes, and take litter home – especially glass bottles.

For more advice, visit www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/grass-and-wildfires.

Water safety

The council prohibits swimming at Ruislip Lido due to cold water shock, changing depths, hidden hazards and the risk of swimmer's itch. In addition, swimming in open water like canals and rivers can be extremely dangerous. Never enter the water to rescue someone – call 999 instead. Avoid swimming after drinking alcohol and take care near the water, especially at night.

If you fall in, try to stay calm, float on your back to control your breathing, and hold onto something that floats.

Call for help or swim to safety if you can.

If you see someone in trouble, call 999, give a clear location, and encourage them to float. Stay with them and, if safe, throw something that floats.



Daniel Johnson Hillingdon Borough Commander

Hillingdon Heritage Membership

Enrich your experience of our heritage sites by becoming a Hillingdon Heritage member.

To find out more and sign up, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/heritage-membership

BATTLE OF BRITAIN BUNKER • CRANFORD PARK
EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDENS • MANOR FARM
HILLINGDON MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

www.hillingdon.gov.uk

Discover Hillingdon

For further details and to book these events (which are either run by the council or take place at council-owned venues) plus many more, visit discover.hillingdon.gov.uk. Events marked * are FREE.



July

- 16 Cluedo**
Runs until 18 July
Compass Theatre
- 17 Women's Walking Football***
Also on 25 and 31 July
Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Complex
- 17 Junior Youth Session**
Ruislip Young People's Centre
- 17 Junior Youth Session**
Harlington Young People's Centre
- 18 'In Their Own Words' Tour**
Also on 15 August
Battle of Britain Bunker
- 18 Speaker Series: Molly Wilson - Operation Kaiser**
Battle of Britain Bunker
- 18 Into the Woods Jr**
Also on 19 July
Winston Churchill Theatre
- 19 Don't Stop Believing!**
Beck Theatre
- 20 Twilight Yoga**
Also on 27 July
Battle of Britain Bunker
- 20 Tea Dance***
Christ Church
- 21 Dementia-friendly Daytime Disco**
Also on 25 August and 22 September
Compass Theatre
- 22 Surinderella**
Also on 23 July
Beck Theatre
- 22 Books, Beats and Beyond***
Various locations

- 23 Meet your housing team***
Also on 6 and 20 August
Various locations
- 29 Coldplace: A tribute to Coldplay**
Beck Theatre
- 25 Secrets Uncovered Tour**
Also on 29 August
Battle of Britain Bunker
- 26 Unguided Tour**
Also on 9 and 23 August
Battle of Britain Bunker
- 26 Dr Bike***
Various locations
- 27 Falls Prevention Workshop***
Civic Centre
- 27 Games and Activities in Ruislip Woods***
Also on 28, 29, 30 and 31 July
Woodland Centre
- 27 Craft Making Session***
Also on 28, 29, 30 and 31 July
Woodland Centre
- 28 Running Your Own Race – Meet the Author***
Botwell Green Library
- 31 Desi Dance***
Also on 28 August and 25 September
Botwell Leisure Centre



August

- 1 August Annual Herb Walk**
Eastcote House Gardens
- 3 Craft Making Session***
Also on 4, 5, 6 and 7 August
Woodland Centre
- 3 Games and Activities in Ruislip Woods***
Also on 4, 5, 6 and 7 August
Woodland Centre
- 5 Cuppa Cocoa Crochet Circle***
Also on 12, 19 and 26 August
Charville Library
- 5 Dementia-friendly Sing-a-long**
Also on 2 September
Winston Churchill Theatre
- 6 Knit and Natter***
Also on 13, 20 and 27 August
Northwood Hills Library



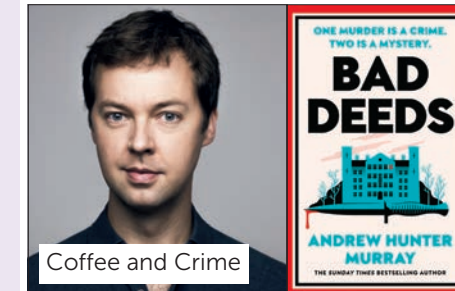
Eastcote House Gardens

- 6 Teddy Bears Picnic***
Also on 27 August
Manor Farm House
- 6 Tea Dance***
Winston Churchill Theatre
- 7 Yeh Dosti**
Beck Theatre
- 12 Manga Drawing Workshop***
Oak Farm Library
- 14 Over-55s Coffee Morning***
Manor Farm House
- 17 Tea Dance***
Christ Church
- 22 Screen Free Social***
Oak Farm Library
- 26 Northwood HQ Big Band Summer Concert**
Battle of Britain Bunker
- 28 Soul Night Out UK**
Beck Theatre
- 29 Fireman Sam Live: The Lost Pirate Treasure!**
Beck Theatre
- 29 Speaker Series: Jack Bowsher - VJ Day**
Battle of Britain Bunker

September

- 1 Once Upon a Bump***
Also on 8, 15, 22 and 29 September
Uxbridge Library
- 2 Couch to 5K***
Various locations
- 4 Speaker Series: Will Iredale – Churchill's Pirates**
Battle of Britain Bunker
- 5 Lego Club***
Also on 12, 19 and 26 September
Botwell Green Library
- 5 Family Book Bunch***
Also on 12, 19 and 26 September
Yeading Library
- 5 Blitz-Themed Tour**
Battle of Britain Bunker

- 7 IT Taster Session***
Also on 14 September
Botwell Green Library
- 7 Board Game Social***
Also on 14, 21 and 28 September
Oak Farm Library
- 10 The History of Soul**
Beck Theatre
- 11 Coffee and Crime with Andrew Hunter-Murray**
Manor Farm Library



- 11 Scrabble Club***
Also on 25 September
Northwood Pop-up Library
- 18 Creative Writing Workshop***
Uxbridge Library
- 22 Visually Impaired Social Group***
Botwell Green Library
- 23 An Evening with Janice Hallett**
Ruislip Manor Library

Community events

Regular events

Yoga with Nikky

Tuesdays, 7.30pm to 8.30pm
Saturdays, 8am to 9am
Cost: £12 or £60 for six classes.
To book, call or WhatsApp 07855 021499.
Eastcote House Gardens

Duck Pond Market

First and third Sunday of the Month
10am to 3pm
Manor Farm, Ruislip

July

- 26 Hayes Canal Festival**
11am to 5pm
High Point Village, UB3 4FN

August

- 12 The Peculiar Perspective of Paolo Uccello, a talk by Helen Oakden**
2pm
Cost: Free entry for Arts Society Hillingdon members. Visitors £9.
Winston Churchill Theatre

September

- 5 Northwood Craft Market**
10am to 2pm
Find out more: www.northwoodcraftmarket.co.uk.
Methodist Church Hall, HA6 3AA
- 5 Harrow Choral Society's Open Workshop**
11am to 4pm
Cost: £10, under-18s £2.
Find out more and book: www.harrowchoral.org.uk, email boxoffice@harrowchoral.org.uk or call 07794 253463.
St Alban's Church Hall, HA2 7PF
- 8 Talk with gardeners' world presenter, Rekha Mistry**
Doors open 7.45pm (8.10pm start)
Cost: Free, booking essential.
Find out more and book: ruislihorticultural.org.uk.
St Martin's Church, Ruislip
- 9 Portraits of London: 10 leading artists interpret the city through two centuries, a talk by Charlie Foreman**
2pm
Cost: Free entry for Arts Society Hillingdon members. Visitors £9.
Winston Churchill Theatre
- 13 RCHS Great Autumn Show**
1pm to 4pm
Cost: Free.
The Great Barn, Manor Farm

Council updates straight to your phone

Quick steps to get set up:

- 1 Scan the QR code
- 2 Click 'Follow' and unmute the bell icon to turn on notifications




www.hillingdon.gov.uk

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June, September,
January



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Scan the QR code to find out more.
better.org.uk/hillingdon

Swimming Lessons with Better




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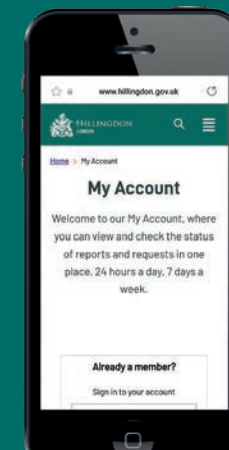
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Benefits
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/benefits

Births, deaths and ceremonies
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/births-deaths-ceremonies

Businesses and licensing
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/business

Councillors, meetings and consultations
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/council

Council tax
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/counciltax

Families' Information Service, fostering and adoption
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/families

Fraud Hotline
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/report-fraud
0800 389 8313

Health and wellbeing
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/health

Housing Services
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/housing
01895 556666

Hillingdon Social Care Direct (adults) (including TeleCareLine and Meals Service)
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/socialcare
01895 556633

Leisure (including parks, leisure centres, theatres and events)
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/leisure

Libraries
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries

Planning and Building Control
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/planning

School admissions
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Stronger Families Hub
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/stronger-families

Transport, roads and parking
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/transport

Mental health support

Hillingdon Mind
01895 271559

Samaritans
116 123 (freephone)

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