HILLINGDON people

News from your council

www.hillingdon.gov.uk

November/December 2026



Investing in education

page 16

Council priorities Page 10

Keeping you safe Page 12

Fighting fraud Page 20

HILLINGDON
LONDON

Primary school admissions

Do you have a child born between
1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023?
If so, you must apply for a school place by

15 January 2027

For full details and to apply, visit
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions
or email **admissions@hillingdon.gov.uk**



HILLINGDON
LONDON

www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Christmas and New Year WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

To minimise disruption to waste and recycling collections during the Christmas and New Year period, we will be working on Monday 28 December and Saturdays 2 and 9 January.

This will enable collections to return to normal as quickly as possible.

Normal collection day	Revised collection day
Monday 21 December	Monday 21 December
Tuesday 22 December	Tuesday 22 December
Wednesday 23 December	Wednesday 23 December
Thursday 24 December	Thursday 24 December
Friday 25 December	Monday 28 December
Monday 28 December	Tuesday 29 December
Tuesday 29 December	Wednesday 30 December
Wednesday 30 December	Thursday 31 December
Thursday 31 December	Saturday 2 January
Friday 1 January	Monday 4 January
Monday 4 January	Tuesday 5 January
Tuesday 5 January	Wednesday 6 January
Wednesday 6 January	Thursday 7 January
Thursday 7 January	Friday 8 January
Friday 8 January	Saturday 9 January

Please leave your rubbish and recycling at the front of your property by 6am. Where possible, keep bags and containers inside your property boundary and off pavements and roads.

Separate arrangements are in place for flats and businesses.

HILLINGDON
LONDON

www.hillingdon.gov.uk/rubbishandrecycling

On the cover: Meadow High pupils in one of the new classrooms.

Advertising deadline for next edition:
Monday 30 November

Editorial and advertising enquiries:
t: 01895 556903
e: hillingdonpeople@hillingdon.gov.uk
w: www.hillingdon.gov.uk/hillingdonpeople

Published by Hillingdon Council © 2026

Hillingdon People, 3E/01 Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1UW

Design: Corporate Communications

Printed by: Warners Midlands Plc

MIX
Paper | Supporting responsible forestry
FSC® C017177

recycle
When you have finished with this magazine please recycle it.

Products and services advertised in this magazine are not necessarily endorsed by the council.

For a copy in large print or as an audio version call 01895 556903

Contents

10 Setting our future direction
Council agrees priorities for 2026 to 2030.

12 Keeping Hillingdon safe and clean
Taking action on fly-tipping and food hygiene.

14 Heathrow Airport expansion
Share your views on the proposals.

16 Expanded SEND provision at Meadow High
New facilities create 90 additional places.

18 A new way to report
Highlight environmental issues easily on the go.

20 Putting fraud under the spotlight
Protecting public money and vital services.





Work is under way at Pinn Meadows in Ruislip to help reduce flooding by restoring Elma's Ditch, expanding a groundwater pond and improving water management.



Stay connected

Sign up to our e-newsletters now at
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/enews

Follow us

Welcome



There is much in Hillingdon to be proud of. We are home to thriving communities, excellent schools, valued green spaces, and ambitious businesses.

We are committed to making the borough an even better place to live, work and invest, and have agreed a new set of priorities that will guide everything we do until 2030. They focus on being Brilliant at the Basics, Putting Our Residents First, being Open for Business, delivering Hillingdon Homes for Hillingdon People, supporting Future Generations and making the council Easy to Deal With. Read more on page 10.

While our ambition for Hillingdon remains strong, we must also be realistic about the challenges ahead. Like councils across the country, we face significant financial pressures and rising demand for services. Difficult but necessary decisions will be required to protect essential services and ensure the council remains financially resilient.

The proposed expansion of Heathrow Airport remains a major concern. We recently responded to the government's draft expansion policy, raising serious questions about a process that appears designed to deliver a third runway rather than properly assess whether one is justified.

Heathrow is an important part of our borough, but Heathrow Airport Limited cannot pretend that expansion does not come at a cost to residents. We are calling for stronger safeguards, proper regulation of the airport, and a Community Impact Test that puts local people at the heart of decision-making. Heathrow must not be allowed to simply mark its own homework. Read more on page 14. With Heathrow's latest consultation running until 22 December, I also encourage residents to have their say.

We have also submitted our response to the Mayor of London's draft London Plan consultation (page 5). The proposals for substantial green belt development fail to account for Heathrow expansion and the combined pressures both would place on Hillingdon's land, transport network and infrastructure. Hillingdon is open for business and supports growth, but it must be the right growth in the right places, backed by the infrastructure our communities need.

The years ahead will bring both opportunities and challenges, but our commitment remains unchanged: to deliver excellent services, stand up for residents and ensure Hillingdon remains a borough we can all be proud to call home.



Cllr Steve Tuckwell, Leader of the Council

Put your festive creativity on display

From winter sunsets and snowy scenes to much-loved local landmarks, residents of all ages are encouraged to get artistic as the council's annual Christmas card design competition returns.

Entries should feature an image inspired by the borough and be submitted as a JPEG or PDF attachment (not embedded in the body of an email).

Designs can be portrait or landscape but must be high resolution (at least 300dpi and 216mm x 154mm).



Last year's children's category winner, Sophia Barrow

We welcome photographs, paintings and drawings. Entries generated wholly or partly using artificial intelligence (AI) will not be accepted. If you're using glitter or collage materials, bear in mind that some effects may not show up as well when the artwork is scanned.

Only one entry per person is permitted. Email your entry to *christmascardcomp@hillingdon.gov.uk* by midnight on Sunday 22 November. The winners will be chosen by Leader of the Council, Cllr Steve Tuckwell.

Enter today: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/christmas-card*

Book challenge winners presented awards



Fifteen young readers were recognised for completing the council's 2026 Summer Reading Challenge during a special ceremony at Uxbridge Library on Friday 25 September.

Winners were selected from those who completed the challenge and the 15 young people were invited to receive their certificates and prizes from the Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr Reeta Chamdal, and Cllr Wayne Bridges, Cabinet Member for Residents Services (pictured above). Each winner also received an electronic keyboard and book bundle.

This year, 4,895 children aged four to 11 took part in the challenge, with more than 2,320 completing it. As part of the theme 'Read to the Beat', they explored stories, music and creativity through summer activities at the borough's libraries, encouraging them to keep reading during the school holidays.

Explore your nearest branch: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries*

Helping older people to stay fit and active

Almost 100 residents attended the council's Age Friendly Festival at the Platinum Jubilee Leisure Centre in West Drayton on Wednesday 30 September, accessing free activities, health checks, information and support to help them stay healthier for longer.

The event proved popular, with 83 blood pressure checks and 48 blood sugar tests carried out throughout the day. Attendees also tried exercise activities and had the opportunity to speak to representatives from 14 organisations. Among those attending was **Jane Taylor from Heathrow Villages,** (pictured right) who came along with her brother, Mark. She said: "I'm here to find out about services for older people and what support there is. I was especially interested in getting access to the Age UK trusted tradesman list."



Find out more: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/olderpeople*

Strengthening family support across Hillingdon – have your say

The council is seeking residents' views on proposed changes to its children's centres and family hubs to make the service more accessible and better targeted to families seeking help.

The current provision is uneven and does not best meet the needs of our residents, and the proposed model would widen the reach of our successful hubs and provide support in the right places.

Under the plans, the number of family hubs would be increased from four to eight and prioritised in the areas where support is needed most, helping to reduce inequality.



Three existing children's centres (Yiewsley, Yeading and Pinkwell) would be converted into hubs and a new hub created in Hayes. This would enable these venues to support a wider range of children and young people from birth to 25 years old.

This would be in addition to 12 new, proposed community outreach locations ensuring flexible access for families to early years and parenting support throughout the whole borough. As a result, five sites (Cherry Lane, Coteford, Harefield, Charville and Oak Farm) are proposed to be returned to the primary schools that own them.

The council would work with key partners to repurpose Colham Manor Children's Centre to serve as a child health hub to strengthen early intervention work. Residents have until Monday 14 December to take part in the consultation.

No decisions have been made, and feedback will be considered before a final decision is made by the council's Cabinet. If approved, the changes are expected to be implemented at the start of the next financial year.

Cllr Susan O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Adults, Children, Health and Care, said: "This proposed new approach would ensure resources are directed to families most likely to benefit and aligns with our evidence-led model of prevention and early intervention.

"These plans continue to strengthen our early support offer and enhance access to high quality services, enabling even more children and young people to live healthy, active and independent lives."

Have your say: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/childrens-centres-consultation*

Calls for major changes to London Plan to protect our green belt

In October, the council responded to the Mayor of London's draft London Plan consultation calling for significant changes to ensure the final strategy is deliverable, evidence-based and properly addresses the challenges facing west London, including the implications of proposals for Heathrow expansion

A key concern is the requirement for 24,030 homes to be delivered in Hillingdon during the next decade, more than double the borough's current target. The draft plan also gives Hillingdon London's largest green belt housing allocation, with 14,750 homes proposed on green belt land around Northwood, Ickenham and Ruislip by 2036. The council believes the focus should instead be on making full use of brownfield opportunities and a more restrained evidence-led approach to any development in the green belt.

While recognising the need for more homes, jobs and sustainable economic growth, the council believes the Mayor did not provide sufficient evidence to justify the proposed housing figures or demonstrate they are realistic.

The response also questioned how this level of growth could realistically be supported, citing a lack of detail on the infrastructure required, responsibilities, costs and timescales, particularly given the cumulative pressures facing Hillingdon from housing growth, major infrastructure, data centres, industrial and logistics development and the potential expansion of Heathrow.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Steve Tuckwell, said: "Hillingdon is an ambitious borough, and we have never shied away from growth. But growth must be properly planned and backed by the infrastructure needed to make it work.

"Our green belt is not spare land waiting to be built on. It protects communities from urban sprawl, supports wildlife and provides the open spaces our residents value.

"We are calling on the Mayor to rethink these proposals and work with boroughs on a plan for growth that is evidence led, infrastructure-enabled and shaped by local people."

Read the response: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/london-plan-response*

Celebrating our children's many successes



Organisers from the council's children's participation team

In October, the council's annual Kids in Care Awards (KICA) ceremony recognised the outstanding accomplishments of care-experienced children and young people in the borough.

More than 400 children, carers and supporters joined us at Stockley Marquee at Stockley Park Golf Club to celebrate the remarkable successes of young people who have demonstrated strength, perseverance and ambition in achieving their goals despite facing significant challenges.

There were almost 800 nominations for the awards, which were presented by the Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr Reeta Chamdal and recognised them for starting university, settling into new homes, trying new things – including sports and cooking – while commending qualities such as resilience, strength, bravery and kindness.

Support for children and young people in care: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/kidsincare*

Hundreds attend commemorative event


Wreath laying ceremony at the bunker

More than 500 visitors attended a day of themed activities to mark the 86th anniversary of the Battle of Britain on Saturday 19 September.

Held at the Battle of Britain Bunker Exhibition and Visitor Centre in Uxbridge, the event offered activities for all ages, including immersive tours, expert talks, living history displays with historical re-enactors, music and exhibitions.

This year's theme, 'The 15 Nations', explored the collaborative efforts of Britain and the other nations that came to its aid as part of the Battle of Britain.

A dedication ceremony was also held at the visitor centre's flagpoles where the Mayor of Hillingdon unveiled a refurbished interpretation board detailing those nations, their flags and the airmen who flew.

Book your bunker visit: *battleofbritainbunker.co.uk*

Standing against hate

The council launched a new Stronger Communities Forum last month as part of Hate Crime Awareness Week (Saturday 10 to Saturday 17 October).

Bringing together representatives from a range of organisations, including charities, faith and community groups, the forum provides a space to discuss local challenges and opportunities, tackle hate and extremism, and identify ways to strengthen social cohesion across Hillingdon.

The first meeting, held on Thursday 15 October, focused on improving communication and partnership working between the council, local organisations and community groups.

Zara Sweet from P3 charity said: "I joined the forum because I genuinely believe we achieve more when we work together. For me, a strong community is one where everyone feels safe, included and that they belong. It's about integration, bringing people together, celebrating our differences and making sure everyone has a voice."

If you represent a community, voluntary, faith, resident or other local organisation and would like to learn more, email *strongercommunities@hillingdon.gov.uk*.



Learn more: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/stronger-communities*

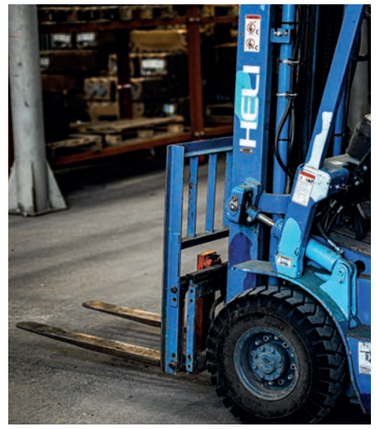
Business ordered to pay £137,000 after warehouse accident

Mills Limited, based at Zodiac Business Park, Cowley, Uxbridge, has been fined £137,000 after a council investigation found serious workplace safety failings following an incident where an employee was struck by a forklift truck.

The business was sentenced at Isleworth Crown Court on Wednesday 16 September after pleading guilty to two offences under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 at Uxbridge Magistrates' Court on 14 July.

The accident happened at the company's warehouse on 13 September 2024, and the employee fell and hit their head, losing consciousness, and required hospital treatment and aftercare.

An investigation by council health and safety officers found inadequate separation between pedestrians and vehicles, a lack of designated walkways and exclusion zones, restricted driver visibility, and poor management of vehicle movements.



The company's 2023 risk assessments had already identified forklift truck movements and pedestrian safety concerns, and recommended measures including better segregation, warning signage, and tighter controls around loading and unloading. CCTV footage also captured a near miss involving a pedestrian and a truck a week before the accident.

On 25 October, the council served an Improvement Notice requiring stronger workplace transport safety arrangements.

When sentencing, the judge took into account the company's self-reporting of the safety breach, cooperation with the investigation, and subsequent improvements.

Mills Limited was ordered to pay a fine of £118,000, a victim surcharge of £2,000, and £17,000 towards the council's prosecution costs.

Cllr Adam Bennett, Cabinet Member for Community, Environment and Enforcement, said: "This case highlights the serious consequences that can arise when workplace safety risks are not properly addressed, and we will not hesitate to take action where serious failures are identified."

Report an accident: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/health-safety-workplace*

Unauthorised blue badge misuse costs man more than £1,800



Jason McKenzie, 46, of Kenley Place, Uxbridge, has been ordered to pay £1,833 after being caught fraudulently using a family member's Blue Badge to park a company vehicle, following a council investigation.

He appeared at Uxbridge Magistrates' Court on Tuesday 25 August, where he pleaded guilty to displaying a disabled person's badge when they were not present.

Following complaints, the council received a fraud referral on 17 September 2025. An investigation by the council's counter fraud team revealed the badge was issued to a woman by Rutland County Council and had not been reported lost or stolen. Evidence showed McKenzie using the vehicle, which was registered to his employer, to park in disabled bays and on yellow lines.

Officers visited the site on 14 January 2026 and observed the vehicle parked on a single yellow line with the Blue Badge on display outside the company.

McKenzie identified himself when officers entered the business to make enquiries. Asked to produce the badge, he refused and drove away.

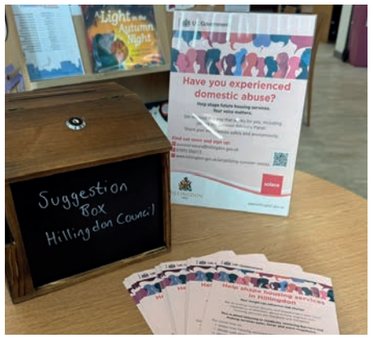
The council issued a formal notice requiring details of the driver of the vehicle, which was completed and returned on 26 February, identifying McKenzie as the driver.

During the court hearing, he was ordered to pay a £595 fine, £238 victim surcharge and £1,000 towards the council's prosecution costs. In mitigation, McKenzie apologised and admitted he was not entitled to use the badge.

Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Finance, said: "Using a Blue Badge fraudulently and then driving away when challenged demonstrated a clear disregard for the rules and we will continue to take the toughest action the law allows against those who abuse the system."

Report Blue Badge fraud: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/report-fraud*

Lived experiences to strengthen housing services



To mark White Ribbon Day (Wednesday 25 November), the council is highlighting support available to anyone affected by domestic abuse and encouraging residents to help shape housing services through a new survivor-led project.

A £120,000 Social Housing Innovation Fund grant has been secured by the council to launch its Amplifying Survivor Voices project, helping ensure the experiences of survivors of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls (VAWG) inform the delivery of housing services.

Working with Solace Women's Aid, a Survivor Advisory Panel will be established to provide safe and anonymous opportunities for social housing tenant survivors to share feedback, review policies and influence service improvements. It will also introduce specialist training for housing, repairs and anti-social behaviour officers to support vulnerable residents.

Those who wish to contribute can also share their views without attending meetings by using anonymous feedback cards and secure collection boxes at all libraries and the Civic Centre's main reception. All feedback will be reviewed and used to help inform service improvements and the work of the panel.

Residents played an important role in developing the project and securing funding. One survivor said: "Seeing the council treat our lived experience as vital expertise is an opportunity for us to make sure council housing services work for everyone and that survivors of domestic abuse in the borough can share their views in a safe, meaningful way."

Council and housing association tenants who have experienced domestic abuse or VAWG can register their interest in taking part by emailing *survivorvoices@hillingdon.gov.uk*. Find out more about the project at *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/amplifying-survivor-voices*.

If you are experiencing domestic abuse, confidential support is available (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm from the Hillingdon Domestic Abuse Advocacy Service (HDAAS). Call 07874 620954 or email *hdaas@hillingdon.gov.uk*. Outside these hours, contact the Stronger Families Hub on 01895 556006 or email *strongerfamilieshub@hillingdon.gov.uk*.

In an emergency, always call 999. If you're calling from a mobile phone and cannot speak, remain silent and follow the operator's instructions, pressing 55 when prompted.

Artisan markets create a buzz in our town centres this autumn

Thousands of visitors turned out to support a series of Saturday trial street markets in Uxbridge and Hayes, creating a vibrant atmosphere in both while showcasing the talents of local independent traders.

Two markets were held in Uxbridge High Street on Saturdays 5 and 19 September, attracting more than 2,000 shoppers. Visitors enjoyed browsing stalls from 21 independent businesses selling everything from handmade gifts and jewellery to artisan food and vinyl records.

The success continued with a market in Hayes at Stylus Place, opposite Hayes and Harlington Station, on Saturday 3 October. More than 700 people visited a variety of stalls and enjoyed live music.

The events were designed to support small businesses while increasing footfall and bringing added energy to Hillingdon's town centres.

Serina Sharma, owner of PanDo Bakery (pictured below), who traded at the Uxbridge and Hayes markets, said: "For a small business, markets like these are really helpful. They gave me a chance to get the business in front of lots of local people, meet new customers, and get our name out there a bit more. We had a really positive time, and I'd definitely do it again."



Cllr Steve Tuckwell, Leader of the Council, said: "Strong town centres are at the heart of our ambitious Growth Plan, and these markets are a great example of that vision in action.

"By giving small businesses and entrepreneurs a platform to reach new customers, grow their profile and build local support, we're helping create the conditions for them to succeed."

Look out for future dates:
discover.hillingdon.gov.uk

Tougher enforcement to stop unauthorised driveway access



Drivers who repeatedly cross pavements or verges to reach their properties without an authorised dropped kerb could have their access blocked under a new approach to protect highways in the borough.

From November, bollards or barriers will be installed to protect council-owned public highway and pavements where property owners persistently ignore warnings.

Driving over a pavement or grass verge without an authorised vehicle crossover is illegal and can cause considerable damage to the surface and underground pipes and cables resulting in costly repairs.

Properly constructed crossovers, commonly known as dropped kerbs, strengthen the pavement so vehicles can cross it to access off-road parking.

Under the new process, property owners will receive an initial warning letter clearly explaining the breach, the action needed and the consequences of failing to comply.

A final warning would follow if the issue remained unresolved, with a 21-day compliance period before bollards or barriers are installed under the Highways Act 1980 and, the Traffic Management Act 2004, to prevent further unauthorised vehicle crossovers and damage to the highway.

The aim is to encourage residents to proactively resolve these problems before physical measures become necessary.

Only the council is permitted to construct dropped kerbs in Hillingdon and residents cover all costs. They offer safe, off-road parking and could add value to your property.

Cllr Wayne Bridges, Cabinet Member for Residents Services, said: "We have more than 735 miles of pavements, and as the local highway authority, we have a duty to keep them safe and well maintained.

"Driving across a pavement without an authorised dropped kerb is not only illegal but can result in unnecessary maintenance at a cost to taxpayers, so we will use the legal powers available to us to take tougher action to protect our highways against those few who repeatedly ignore the rules.

"I encourage residents to take action promptly if they receive a warning."

Learn more:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/dropped-kerbs

New powers to tackle anti-social behaviour

The council has been given stronger powers to prevent persistent anti-social behaviour (ASB) and deliver better outcomes for victims following the introduction of new Respect Orders.

Available for adults who repeatedly engage in ASB, the orders can be used to prohibit specific behaviours and activities, restrict access to certain locations and require individuals to take positive steps to address the causes of their behaviour, such as attending drug or alcohol treatment programmes.

A key difference from previous powers is that breaching a Respect Order is a criminal offence, meaning the police can make an immediate arrest where a breach is suspected.

The new legislation also strengthens powers to tackle nuisance vehicles, including illegal off-road bikes and dangerous e-scooter use, and allows dispersal orders to remain in place for longer to help manage ongoing disruption in neighbourhoods.

Cllr Adam Bennett, Cabinet Member for Community, Environment and Enforcement, said: "ASB can have a serious impact on our residents and communities, which is why we welcome these new powers.

"Respect Orders will give councils and the police stronger tools to tackle persistent



offenders, provide better protection for victims and help make our neighbourhoods safer.

"As well as addressing the behaviour itself, the orders can help tackle the underlying causes of ASB, while ensuring there are meaningful consequences for those who continue to cause disruption."

Report ASB:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/antisocial behaviour

Setting our future direction

The council has agreed new priorities for 2026 to 2030, which outline our ambition to make Hillingdon an even better place to live, work and invest.

PRIORITIES
2026-2030

The six priorities highlight what residents, businesses and visitors can expect from the council during the next four years and will sit at the heart of everything we do, including shaping day-to-day decisions, future policies, services and investment.



BRILLIANT AT THE BASICS

We strive to get the basics right, first time, every time.

- Being a provider of services that make you feel proud to live in Hillingdon.
- Keeping your neighbourhoods, roads and green spaces clean, safe and well maintained.
- Providing reliable weekly waste collections.
- Taking tough enforcement action against those who harm our communities.



PUTTING OUR RESIDENTS FIRST

We will continue to put residents at the heart of every decision we make.

- Supporting you to live healthy and independent lives.
- Protecting vulnerable residents.
- Leading strong partnerships to improve outcomes for residents and communities.
- Being on your side and standing up for communities.
- Listening to your views to shape what we do.



OPEN FOR BUSINESS

We will harness our global connectivity to drive local prosperity.

- Promoting Hillingdon as a place for investment.
- Supporting high-growth industries, innovation through partnerships, and businesses of all sizes to thrive.
- Revitalising your town centres and public spaces and improving connectivity.
- Enabling residents to access employment and skills.

Sustainable economic growth | Excellent public services | Investment in our communities



HILLINGDON HOMES FOR HILLINGDON PEOPLE

We will put local people at the heart of housing and development decisions.

- Supporting the delivery of affordable homes.
- Maintaining and improving our housing.
- Holding landlords to account to protect tenants from poor conditions.
- Ensuring development reflects local need and community character.



FUTURE GENERATIONS

We will support every young person to reach their full potential.

- Delivering excellent education opportunities by working closely with schools, colleges and universities.
- Expanding apprenticeships, skills and employment opportunities for local young people.
- Ensuring every child has access to the technology and digital skills they need to succeed.
- Providing modern libraries, leisure facilities and youth opportunities that support learning, wellbeing and aspiration.



EASY TO DEAL WITH

We will make it simpler for you to access the services you need.

- Enhancing our digital services to give you more access and convenience.
- Giving you clear, and accessible information.
- Responding to you quickly when you need us.
- Bringing services together to make it easier for you to use them.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Steve Tuckwell, said: "These priorities set a clear standard against which you can hold us to account, and I'm pleased to say that work is already underway to put the foundations in place to deliver them.

"We know ambition alone is not enough. Our job now is to continue to build a council that is financially sustainable, well-run and delivers high quality services consistently for all our residents."

Watch the video:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/council-priorities



Strong governance based on financial resilience | An organisation fit for the future

Keeping Hillingdon safe and clean

From tackling fly-tipping on our streets and public spaces to ensuring food businesses meet hygiene standards, the council is taking action to protect residents and improve neighbourhoods.



Cllr Bennett oversees the crushing of the first vehicle seized for illegal dumping

Our enforcement teams were sending a clear message as part of Keep Britain Tidy's Fight Fly-tipping Fortnight (Monday 12 to Sunday 25 October) campaign and beyond that fly-tipping in our borough will not be tolerated.

Where evidence allows, the council is getting tough on those who blight our communities and damage the environment by pursuing enforcement action through fines, vehicle seizures and crushing, or prosecution where necessary.

While most residents dispose of their waste responsibly, a small minority continue to think they can dump rubbish without any consequences.

They're wrong. Fly-tipping is a criminal offence and those responsible can face a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £5,000, prosecution and a maximum fine of up to £50,000.

We've successfully been using social media to take action, from pushing other authorities to step up, to asking for your help to identify fly-tippers and support our investigations, as well as showcasing how we're clamping down on this issue.

Urging authorities to act

On Friday 9 October, we called out National Highways on social media following months of reports from frustrated residents about an abandoned lorry and fly-tipping on the A40 slip road between Denham and Swakeleys Roundabout.

The council had long been pressing National Highways and Buckinghamshire County Council to remove the eyesore as the vehicle was just outside the borough, not on Hillingdon Council land, which meant we couldn't legally remove it ourselves, but to no avail. Following the post, it was removed the following day.

Help our CCTV appeals

We are also continuing our name and shame CCTV social media campaign.

A post on Monday 12 October showing images of several people dumping rubbish in St Anselm's Church car park in Hayes and asking residents to help us identify those responsible, captured national media attention with more than 850,000 views in three days.

People also came forward with information which is now being investigated.

Any information could prove crucial in helping us take action against those responsible and naming and shaming offenders.

You can view our latest CCTV appeals at *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/catch-fly-tippers*. If you recognise anyone, or have any details, get in touch confidentially by emailing *publicprotection@hillingdon.gov.uk*.

Caught and crushed



In September, the council's commitment to getting tough on fly-tipping was also put into practice through the crushing of its first vehicle which had been seized in connection with illegal dumping in the borough.

Last year, a Ford Iveco flatbed truck was caught leaving waste on a residential road in Ickenham.

Using our CCTV network, our anti-social behaviour team tracked down the vehicle in Hayes, where it was seized and impounded. It was subsequently crushed on Thursday 3 September.

Watch the crushing: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/flytipping*

Correct waste disposal

There's no excuse for dumping waste illegally in Hillingdon when a range of free or low-cost disposal options are available, including weekly waste and recycling collections, bookable textile and bulky waste collections, a garden waste subscription service, waste and recycling centres, and a free Pop-Up Waste Drop service. View the options at *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling*.

You have a legal responsibility to ensure your waste is disposed of correctly. Always check that anyone removing your waste is a registered waste carrier. If your waste is dumped illegally, you could be held responsible and fined.

New way to report fly-tipping incidents

Love Clean Streets (LCS) is our new reporting system for environmental issues, including fly-tipping.

Read more about it on page 18 or visit *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/love-clean-streets*.

Remember that 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, especially where there is a wider community impact.

Find out more: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/flytipping*

Cllr Adam Bennett, Cabinet Member for Community, Environment and Enforcement, said: "Our teams work tirelessly behind the scenes carrying out inspections, supporting businesses, investigating complaints and taking enforcement action.

"Whether that's ensuring food businesses meet the highest hygiene standards or taking tough action against fly-tippers who blight our neighbourhoods, we won't hesitate to act when businesses or individuals put residents, communities or the environment at risk."

Keeping food businesses safe for customers



The council's environmental health team works behind the scenes to help ensure food businesses meet hygiene and safety standards.

Every year officers carry out thousands of inspections to help protect customers from harm.

Inspections cover everything from the cleanliness of kitchens and food preparation areas to food storage, pest control measures and staff training.

Officers also ensure businesses provide accurate information about allergens, helping people with food allergies and intolerances make informed choices and stay safe.

While most businesses meet the required standards, officers can take enforcement action when serious concerns are identified. This can include enforcement notices and, where necessary, closure and prosecution.

In October, Cllr Bennett joined the team (pictured left) on a series of unannounced inspections at restaurants and takeaways in West Drayton to see their work first-hand.

During one inspection, council officers discovered a food business operating in poor conditions. The premises received a food hygiene rating of zero. The council is now working with the business to help them make improvements.

Between January to October this year, the team carried out 962 inspections, while 479 new food businesses were registered.

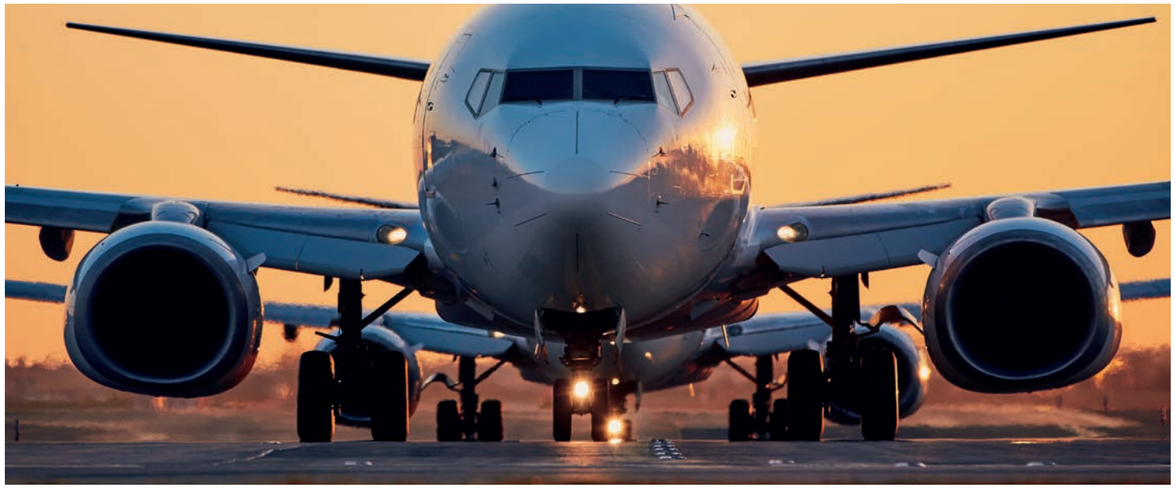
The food hygiene ratings recorded were:

- 26 – 0 rated
- 80 – one rated
- 29 – two rated
- 118 – three rated
- 184 – four rated
- 525 – five rated.

What do the food hygiene ratings mean?

The Food Hygiene Rating Scheme helps customers make informed choices about where they eat or buy food. Ratings reflect standards of food hygiene and, include food handling, storage and preparation, as well as management practices.

Check local food ratings: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/foodrating*



Heathrow Airport expansion policy offers ‘no obvious route to refusal’

During summer, the council responded to the government’s draft Heathrow Expansion Policy Strategy (HENPS) raising major concerns that it appeared more focused on enabling a third runway than determining whether it should proceed.

A public consultation on the draft HENPS ran from June to September, and the council formally submitted its response reaffirming its longstanding opposition to expansion. Given the scale of the harm already identified, which is only likely to increase as more detail emerges, there is no justifiable basis for pursuing expansion.

In its response, the council stated that the draft policy failed to go far enough in providing Parliament with confidence that expansion is justified in principle. It argued that the government’s own evidence identified uncertainty around the scale and distribution of economic benefits, while the impacts on local communities, public services, transport networks, health and the environment were clear, substantial and, in many cases, unavoidable.

The response also raised concerns that the government’s four tests for economic growth, air quality, noise and climate change contained no meaningful pass-or-fail mark and did not clearly set out the circumstances in which expansion should be refused. The council argued that Parliament is being asked to endorse expansion before it has been demonstrated that it is acceptable.

The council’s submission also highlighted the unique burden placed on the borough as Heathrow’s host authority, including the long-term impacts of noise, pollution, congestion, community disruption and pressure on local services. It also called for effective regulation of the airport by a body that could hold it to account, and proposed the introduction of a fifth Community Impact Test to scrutinise the effects of the airport’s operations on the borough and its residents.

While continuing to oppose expansion, the council said that, if the government chose to proceed, the policy could not be presented in its current form and must be fundamentally strengthened through tougher tests, stronger safeguards, independent oversight, enforceable mitigation measures, full funding for public service impacts and a fairer share of the benefits for the communities expected to bear the greatest adverse impacts.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Steve Tuckwell, said: “Our position to these proposals has never wavered: the council remains unequivocally opposed to Heathrow expansion.

“The government’s role is not to champion Heathrow expansion but to judge it fairly. Our response shows that the HENPS reads more like a framework for making expansion happen, rather than fairly examining whether it should.

“We will continue to fight to secure every possible protection for our communities and ensure their interests are never treated as an afterthought.”

Petitioning in Parliament

In September, officers from the council’s environmental specialists team presented at the Transport Committee’s scrutiny sessions of the HENPS in Westminster, chaired by Ruth Cadbury MP.

During the session, the committee heard oral evidence from the council as the host authority, alongside representatives on behalf of neighbouring authorities.

The council set out that an unjustifiable weight was being attributed to a wholly inadequate economic case. Furthermore, the ‘Critical National Growth Infrastructure’ (CNGI) designation appears contrived and uniquely designed to facilitate Heathrow expansion. It creates a framework in which almost any level of harm can seemingly be justified by reference to national growth, leaving affected communities to bear the consequences of a decision-making process weighted against them from the outset.

As one council officer told the committee: “It isn’t a fair assessment of harm versus positive, which is the bedrock of the planning system.”

The council also reiterated that should the government decide to proceed, the introduction of a fifth test to ensure the airport better protects and supports the communities most impacted would be essential.

Read the full response: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/heathrow-expansion*

Share your views on Heathrow Airport Limited’s plans

Heathrow Airport Limited has launched an eight-week public consultation on its expansion proposals.

The scheme is one of two proposals currently being considered by the government for the addition of a third runway.

The consultation, which runs until **Tuesday 22 December,** includes details of the proposed new runway and supporting airport, transport and construction infrastructure and has been designed to help local residents and stakeholders better understand how any expansion might affect them.

Hillingdon consultation events (find out more about the proposals, view documents and speak to the project team)

- **Longford**
  Tuesday 3 November, 1pm to 7pm, Thistle London Heathrow Hotel, UB7 0EQ
- **Sipson**
  Thursday 5 November, 2pm to 7pm, London Heathrow Marriott Sipson, UB3 5AN (accessible venue)
- **Harmondsworth**
  Saturday 14 November, 10am to 3pm, Harmondsworth and Longford Community Centre, UB7 0AU
- **Harlington**
  Wednesday 2 December, 2pm to 7pm, Raddison Blu, UB3 5AW
- **Cranford**
  Tuesday 8 December, 2pm to 7pm, Hilton Garden Inn, TW6 2SQ (accessible venue)

Information points to view documents also available.

Bookable online events

(two a summary of the proposals and four topic specific)

- **Consultation overview**
  Monday 9 November, 6.30pm to 7.30pm
- **Road and Surface access**
  Monday 16 November, 6.30pm to 7.30pm
- **Noise**
  Thursday 19 November, midday to 1pm
- **Construction**
  Monday 23 November, 6.30pm to 7.30pm
- **Managing the effects of expansion**
  Thursday 3 December, midday to 1pm
- **Consultation overview**
  Thursday 10 December, midday to 1pm

Book onto online events, find out more, and have your say: *www.heathrow.com/expansion*

You can also provide feedback by:

- emailing *expansionconsultation heathrow.com*
- Writing to FREEPOST EXPANSION CONSULTATION
- completing a paper feedback form at events.

Got any questions?

- Email *expansionconsultation@heathrow.com* or call 0800 307 7996.

Increasing vital SEND school places

The council has created 90 additional places for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) at Meadow High School as part of its continued investment in inclusive education. *Hillingdon People* explores the new facilities.



Students enjoying the outdoor play space

The campus in Northwood Road, Harefield, marks the completion of the second phase of the council's significant expansion project for the school.

The facility, which opened on Monday 28 September, replaces an unused residential block and increases the council's ability to accommodate growing numbers of students with SEND, helping them thrive in a nurturing learning environment.

It reflects a standard educational environment while providing an inclusive design across an array of classrooms, including science and food technology suites, an art studio, as well as the library/common room.

In addition to a number of therapy spaces, there is also a fitness room, multi-use games area, medical facilities, kitchen and dining areas, and a conference room.

Additional features include an eco-roof and solar panels to provide renewable energy, as well as car parking and cycle parking spaces. Where possible, materials from the former site have been reused or recycled.

The multi-million-pound investment has already delivered a new two-storey building at the school's Royal Lane site in Uxbridge, which opened last autumn.

This part of the expansion provided eight new places for children with SEND, and enhanced facilities for its existing 82 pupils.



Cllr O'Brien, representatives from the council, school, contractor Graham and project managers Pellings, at the new school site

Cllr Susan O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Adults, Children, Health and Care, said: "Every child deserves the opportunity to learn, grow and succeed in an environment that meets their individual needs. These new high quality and fully inclusive facilities will help more children and young people with SEND develop their confidence, independence and skills for the future.

"This investment demonstrates our commitment to ensuring local families can access the support and opportunities they need within the borough."

Headteacher Graham Cunningham said: "We're delighted that our second site has opened on the Northwood Road campus, and the state-of-the-art buildings will provide an amazing learning environment for our students to thrive and succeed and be ready for the next steps of their lives when they leave us.

"It will allow us to support the local authority's vision for SEND reforms moving forward by providing an additional 90 places, and it aligns with our mission statement to provide a truly personalised education for local young people in the Hillingdon area.

"The standard of the build is amazing, and clearly a lot of thought has gone into making sure that it is the right building to meet the needs and requirements of the young people who will be accessing their education here."



Enjoying one of the school's new go-karts



Pupils in one of the new classrooms



Trying out equipment in the outdoor play area

Cllr Nick Denys, Cabinet Member for Planning, Housing and Property, added: "This development will benefit residents for generations to come and is an excellent example of how thoughtful planning and investment can transform underused sites into valuable community assets. It will also help reduce the council's reliance on expensive independent special school places."



Therapy dog Teddy with a student

View our SEND Local Offer:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/send

A new way to highlight issues

The council's reporting service, Love Clean Streets (LCS), makes it quicker and easier for residents and businesses to report environmental issues on the go.



The dedicated mobile phone app offers a faster way to report issues directly to the council, including fly-tipping, graffiti, damaged play equipment and highway concerns.

Since September, more than 6,000 reports have been submitted to the council using LCS, both on mobile phones and online via the council's website.

Setting up a profile is easy. Follow our step-by-step guide on the opposite page or visit *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/Love-Clean-Streets* for more tips to help you submit a report from your phone and desktop computer.

The free app provides a single, streamlined service where subscribers can report an issue that is automatically directed to the relevant council team, helping to ensure problems are assessed promptly. The progress of reports can also be tracked in real time.

LCS enables users to report issues across a range of services. These include street cleansing concerns such as litter and dog fouling; highways concerns like potholes, faulty street lighting or damaged street furniture; problems in parks and open spaces, including damaged equipment, issues with footpaths, overgrown hedges and broken glass; abandoned vehicles; and overgrown shrubs, grass or trees. It can also be used to request dry mixed recycling and food waste bags, as well as bulky waste collections.

Carla Jorsling-Thomas (pictured above) said: "Like most people, I've occasionally noticed litter, fly-tipping, damaged street furniture or overflowing bins and thought someone should report it, before carrying on with my day.

"Recently, I tried the Love Clean Streets app and was impressed by how quick and simple it was. In minutes, I'd taken a photo and sent the report directly to the right team.

"It's easy to complain about neighbourhood problems, but the app gives us a practical way to act. If we all reported issues when we saw them, we'd benefit from cleaner, safer streets."





Cllr Wayne Bridges, Cabinet Member for Residents Services, said: "By utilising new technology, we're continuing to deliver more efficient and responsive services and making it easier for residents to deal with us.

"The LCS app gives residents an easy, real-time and direct way to tell us when something needs attention, helping to maintain communities we are proud of.

"I'd encourage residents and businesses to download the app today and start reporting any issues they spot in their neighbourhoods."

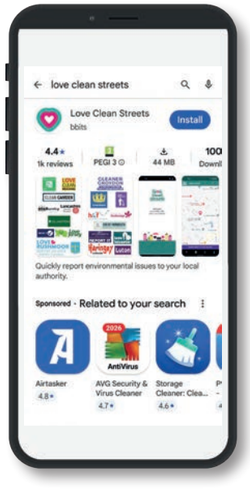
Report and request on the go

The LCS app is simple and free to use, allowing you to log a problem quickly and easily.

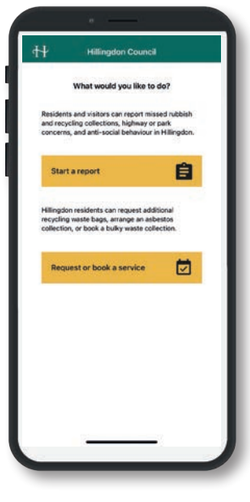
Get started

1 Download the App

Search 'Love Clean Streets' on the App Store or Google Play Store on a mobile phone or tablet.

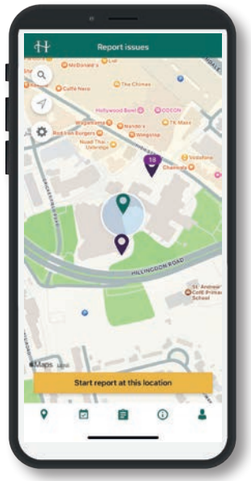


Once installed, select 'Hillingdon Council' as the 'Home Authority' and add your home address to your profile for the best experience.



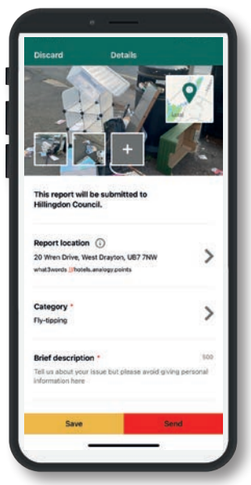
2 Set the location

Search for a place and position the pin on the exact spot on the map to ensure your report is as accurate as possible. Don't forget to check if the issue has already been reported. This will help avoid duplicate reports.



3 Take a photo and add a category

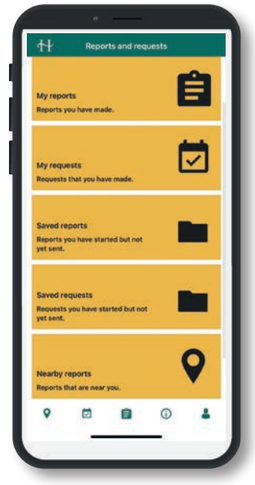
Add pictures, a category and any other details that will help our teams find and deal with the issue quickly.



Don't forget to choose the category that best matches the problem, eg litter, fly-tipping, graffiti, dog fouling or broken glass. This helps send your report to the right team.

4 Submit and stay updated

Return to your submitted, saved and nearby reports at any time to follow progress and stay connected to what is happening locally.



love clean streets®

Find out more:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/Love-Clean-Streets

Putting fraud under the spotlight

As part of Fraud Awareness Week (Sunday 15 to Saturday 21 November), we're highlighting how the council is tackling fraud, protecting taxpayers' money and ensuring vital services and support reach the residents who need them most.



In the first half of 2026 (April to September), our counter fraud team identified savings and prevented losses worth more than £5 million, helping protect public money and ensure council services are used fairly and as intended.

The team investigates referrals, checks applications and uses intelligence and data matching to identify potential fraud across council services. This includes working with the National Fraud Initiative, which helps councils identify discrepancies and possible wrongdoing.

Behind the scenes: uncovering fraud

Between April and September 2026, our counter fraud team delivered significant results, including:



Recovery of **43** council properties, preventing losses of approximately **£3 million**



The cancellation of **12** fraudulent emergency accommodation placements, saving around **£377,000**



Uncovering **134** false council tax discount claims worth **£150,000**



Identifying undeclared income, savings and property ownership in adult social care cases of more than **£200,000**



2 Blue Badge misuse prosecutions

Cllr Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Finance, said: "Fraud is not a victimless crime. It takes money away from essential services and can prevent residents from accessing the support and resources they are entitled to.

"The team's work helps ensure public money is used appropriately and that support reaches those who are genuinely eligible, demonstrating the importance of robust checks and effective investigations.

"Residents are often our eyes and ears and if you suspect fraud, I encourage you to report it. By coming forward, you can help us protect public money, recover homes and ensure support reaches the people it is intended for."

Could you spot the signs?

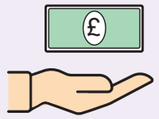
You might not always know when something is wrong, but there can be warning signs to look out for. These could include:



Tenancy fraud – homes that appear abandoned, sublet, or occupied by someone other than the legitimate tenant.



False claims – people hiding income, savings, or property by giving misleading details on applications.



Social care fraud – using direct payments for non-care related expenditure or failing to declare income and assets.

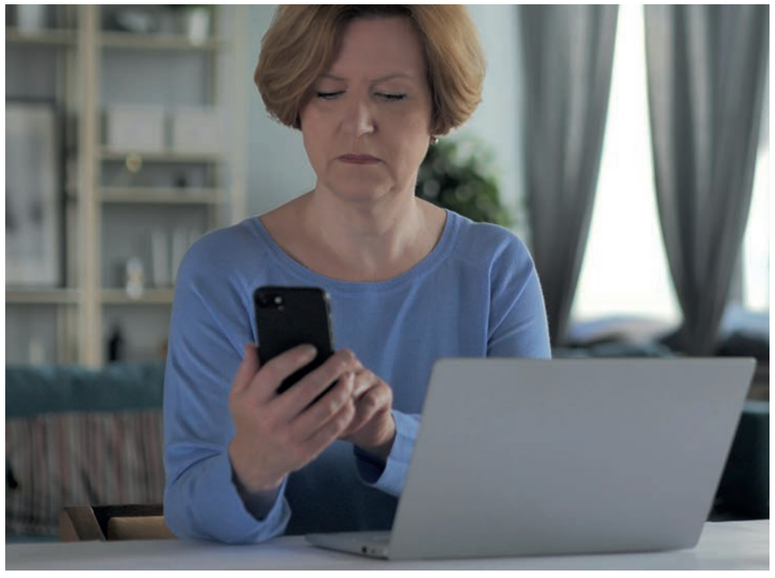


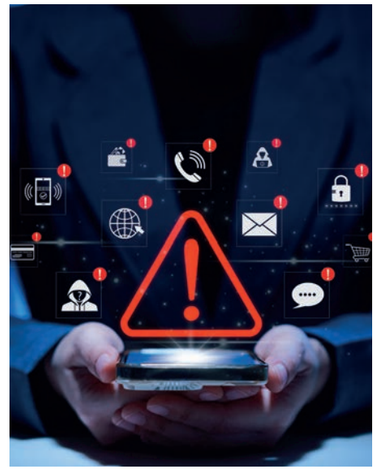
Blue Badge misuse – using some else's badge or parking without the badge holder present.



Beds in sheds – sheds or outbuildings, often dangerous, used illegally as living spaces without council tax being paid.

If something raises concerns, report it to our counter fraud team. Every credible concern is assessed, and information can be provided confidentially.





Could it be a scam?

Criminals may pretend to be the council in emails, text messages or phone calls to try to obtain your personal or financial information.

Be cautious if you are asked to click a link, make a payment, share personal details, or act urgently. Fraudsters often use pressure to encourage quick decisions.

Before responding, check the sender's email address carefully and look out for unexpected requests or poor spelling and grammar. Never provide personal information or payment details through links or contact details included in a suspicious message.

While the council will use email and text messages to contact you regarding late payments, we will never ask you to disclose sensitive information. Details about how we will contact you regarding council tax payments can be found on our website at *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/council-tax-contact*.

If you are unsure whether a message is genuine, email *fraud@hillingdon.gov.uk*.

Report fraud in confidence: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/report-fraud* or call 0800 389 8313.

Hillingdon People Awards

The council is inviting residents to put forward exceptional individuals or organisations making a difference.

Formerly known as the Hillingdon Community Awards, the event which has been relaunched celebrates those whose commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of others or helping improve their community deserves wider recognition.

The awards proved hugely popular last year, with the council receiving 212 nominations, and 21 winners selected across four categories.

For 2027, the new categories are:

Community Champion Award - an individual who has dedicated time and effort to help improve their local community, such as uniformed groups, volunteering with a charity, litter picking or starting a free fitness class.

Environmental and Green Spaces Award - a person or organisation who has shown great dedication to protecting, enhancing or improving the environment or local biodiversity.

Making a Difference Award - a person or organisation dedicated to helping improve the lives of a specific group or individual, such as through a charity or unpaid care work.

Young Community Champion Award - a young person (under-18) who has dedicated time and effort to help improve their local community through work, such as volunteering with a charity, litter picking or starting a free fitness class.

Pride of Hillingdon Award - one nomination which has stood out to the judges for individual recognition.

Past nominations have highlighted people or community groups who have dedicated their own time working with local charities or youth groups, litter-picking in parks and green spaces, or hosting fitness classes that enable people to stay healthy and active.

Winners will be selected in the new year and invited to attend an awards ceremony in the spring, hosted by the Mayor of Hillingdon and Leader of the Council, Cllr Steve Tuckwell.

Nominations are open until Friday 15 January.

Shine a light on local heroes

Behind every nomination is a story of someone voluntarily giving their time to help others.



Corrie Irwin (pictured above) won a silver award in the 2026 Helping Vulnerable People category for her work with the charity ORCHYD, which provides holidays for children with disabilities. She said: "I feel very privileged and honoured to have been nominated and to have won it.

"I am very proud of what I do, with ORCHYD. We're an amazing bunch of volunteers who really do amazing work in the borough and it's lovely to have this recognition."

Behind every nomination is a story like Corrie's.



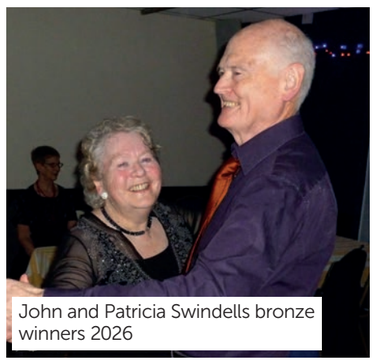
Jacqui Burke silver winner 2026

Cllr Tuckwell said: "Year on year, our awards have highlighted the many people across the borough doing exceptional things and demonstrating unwavering commitment to bettering the lives of those around them.

"The Hillingdon People Awards are our way of ensuring that those endeavours and dedication receive the recognition and exposure they deserve.

"From those helping improve our local environment and biodiversity to younger residents showing that selflessness can span generations, we want to acknowledge their contributions.

"If this sounds like someone you know, nominate them today and I look forward to reading their story soon."



John and Patricia Swindells bronze winners 2026

Nominate today: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/hillingdon-people-awards*

New initiatives to tackle flood risk

Three flood alleviation projects are delivering benefits across Ruislip, with work completed at one and progress continuing on two further schemes.



Cllr Bennett at a newly-installed 'leaky dam' in Park Wood, Ruislip

Construction has finished at Park Wood, a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), where a series of natural flood management measures have been installed. These include five leaky dams, a new pond and other woodland interventions designed to slow the flow of water through the woods following heavy rainfall.

The scheme will temporarily hold water back, reducing the flood risk to properties on roads downstream, including Park Avenue and Broadwood Avenue.

This project has been funded by the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Natural Flood Management Fund and the HS2 Community and Environment Fund.

A second project is underway at Pinn Meadows, where work will help slow water flow by restoring and naturalising sections of Elma's Ditch and expanding the groundwater pond to increase its capacity following heavy rain. Alterations to pipes that feed into the ditch will also help manage excess water.

Together with the measures in Park Wood, the project forms part of an area-wide approach to reducing flood risk within the River Pinn catchment. The works are funded by Defra's Natural Flood Management Fund and scheduled for completion later this month.

The third project at Bessingby Park began last month. Works include deepening and widening the 'attenuation pools,' which allow rainwater to accumulate and then drain away slowly over a long time.

The excavated soil from these works will be used to create a protective mound along the park's southern boundary.

This scheme is due to complete later this month and is funded through the council's Carbon Offset Fund.

Cllr Adam Bennett, Cabinet Member for Community, Environment and Enforcement, said: "These new projects are a vital part of our ongoing work to help futureproof the borough against the changing climate and protect local residents and businesses from some of the impacts of extreme weather.

"While events like severe floods are relatively infrequent, it is essential that we continue to invest in measures that strengthen our defences, enable us to be better prepared and help protect our communities should something happen.

"As well as reducing the risk of flooding, these projects will create and enhance habitats for wildlife, boosting biodiversity and bringing additional benefits to our green spaces."

Learn more: *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/flood-resilience-projects*





Enjoy festive fun for all the family

With something for all ages, the council's Christmas programme has plenty on offer to help you celebrate.

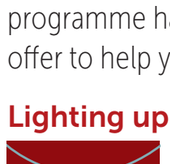
Lighting up the way



High streets and town centres across the borough will be decorated for the season from Monday 9 November, with Christmas trees and lighting displays bringing some extra sparkle to local neighbourhoods.

The council's annual Christmas light switch-on takes place on the Civic Centre forecourt in Uxbridge on Friday 27 November, from 5.45pm. Sponsored by the council's highway partners, McCann Ltd and O'Hara Bros Surfacing, attendees can enjoy free refreshments while listening to festive tunes from a brass band and carol performances by local schools.

Fun on stage



This year, two different productions of *Jack and the Beanstalk* are coming to Hillingdon. At the Compass Theatre in Ickenham, the show runs from Thursday 3 to Thursday 31 December, while the Beck Theatre in Hayes will stage its own version from Wednesday 9 to Thursday 31 December.

Younger audiences can also enjoy *Rudolph's Runny Nose: The Santa Show 2026* on Sunday 13, Sunday 20 and Tuesday 22 to Thursday 24 December at the Compass.

For full listings and tickets, visit *discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/theatres*.

Seasonal stories and activities



There's plenty to enjoy in Hillingdon's libraries, with crafts, festive readings, wellbeing sessions, quizzes and seasonal celebrations.

Highlights include a reading of *A Christmas Carol*, a Christmas quiz and a festive coffee morning with music from the Ruislip Belles and Beaux handbell ringers.

Find out more at *discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/library-events*.

Highlights at our historic venues



Get into the festive spirit, with Father Christmas returning to Manor Farm, a wartime-themed Christmas celebration at the Battle of Britain Bunker and an evening of Victorian festive ghost stories at Hillingdon Museum. Find out more and booking details at *discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/christmas-events*.

Shop locally this Christmas



The Uxbridge Christmas Market, outside The Pavilions shopping centre, runs from Thursday 19 November to Thursday 31 December. Browse handcrafted gifts, seasonal treats, and enjoy live music and carol singing on weekends.

Support local businesses and enjoy free parking for Hillingdon*First* cardholders on two weekends in December. The offer is available in council owned car parks and on-street parking bays (excluding Ruislip Lido and Botwell Green, Highgrove, Platinum Jubilee and Hillingdon leisure centres) on Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 December, and Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 December.

Find out more about Hillingdon*First* at *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/hillingdonfirst*.

Christmas recycling

Recycle more, waste less



Paper, card, cans, glass, cartons and plastic bottles can all go in your usual recycling collection.

Wrapping paper and cards with glitter or foil should go in general waste, while festive leftovers can be recycled through the council's free food waste collection service.

Check your collection day

There will be changes to some waste and recycling collections during Christmas and New Year. For more information see page 2 or visit *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/rubbishandrecycling*.

Christmas trees

Between Monday 4 January and Friday 15 January, all residents can recycle real Christmas trees for free.

All decorations and pots must be removed, and trees taller than six feet should be cut in half.

For collection dates and more information, visit *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/festive-recycling*.

If you live in a flat, email *wastesupervisor@hillingdon.gov.uk* to request a collection from Monday 4 January. Trees should be placed next to your bin store or collection point for waste and not blocking access to bins.

Plan your perfect Christmas:
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/christmas

News from our partners

Keeping you safe: update from the Metropolitan Police Service

We are now roughly halfway through the performance year, making it a good time to reflect on what has been achieved so far and the work still ahead.

Compared with the same period last year, anti-social behaviour incidents have fallen by 3.6 per cent, knife-enabled crime by 11 per cent, robbery by 11 per cent, and overall neighbourhood offences by 12 per cent. Shoplifting has increased by around 10 per cent; however, this reflects growing confidence among retailers in reporting offences, supported by our strong detection rate of 20 per cent.

I am also aware of concerns about distraction thefts targeting gold chains. Thanks to proactive investigations and arrests, there have been no reported offences of this kind in Hillingdon for more than two months.

In addition, we have responded to 5 per cent more incidents than during the same period last year and have managed significant protest activity linked to international events.

These achievements are particularly notable given the challenges we continue to face. As we move into the second half of the year, there remain areas requiring continued focus. Domestic abuse continues to have a devastating impact on victims and families, and tackling it remains a key priority. If you are affected, remember the charity Refuge operates a 24-hour Domestic Abuse Helpline on 0808 2000 247 - read more about the support available on page 8.

Burglary has also increased this year, and we are now entering the period when darker evenings traditionally lead to higher levels of offending. I encourage residents to familiarise themselves with the advice available at *www.ourwatch.org.uk/burglary-WIDEN*.

Finally, if you have not already done so, I encourage you to sign up to Met Engage to stay informed about local policing activity, priorities and events in your area at *www.metengage.co.uk*.



Superintendent Jake Albon-Massey

Latest community update from the London Fire Brigade (LFB)

As the nights draw in, we want to highlight the safety issues around portable heaters, gas fires and open fires. Our website contains useful information on how to keep snug safely at *www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/the-home*.

With firework season under way, we encourage residents to attend organised displays. If using fireworks at home, choose CE or UKCA-marked products, follow the instructions and stand well back after lighting. Bonfires should be built away from buildings and trees, supervised until fully extinguished, and kept clear of flammable materials. Find out more at *www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/fireworks*.

London sees an e-bike or e-scooter fire on average every 48 hours.

Our #ChargeSafe campaign highlights the risks, particularly from second-hand or modified e-bikes, incompatible chargers and faulty batteries.

These fires can spread quickly, especially when devices are charged in communal areas or escape routes. Anyone who owns or uses an e-bike or e-scooter is encouraged to read the safety advice at *www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/lithium-batteries*.

Our Fire Safety Team helps businesses, landlords and building owners meet their legal fire safety responsibilities through inspections, advice and enforcement where needed.

Taking these simple steps can significantly reduce the risk of fire:

- keep escape routes and exits clear
- test and maintain fire alarms regularly
- complete and regularly review your fire risk assessment
- train staff in fire safety procedures
- avoid overloading electrical sockets
- check fire doors close properly and are never wedged open.

For more information, visit *www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/the-workplace*.



Daniel Johnson
Borough Commander
Hillingdon

News from our partners

Top tips to stay well this winter



With colder months arriving, taking some simple steps can help you and your loved ones stay well.

Vaccination is one of the best ways to protect yourself and those around you from serious illness. You can get a free flu vaccine if you:

- are aged 65 or over (including those who will be 65 by 31 March 2027)
- are aged 18 to 64 and have certain long-term health conditions
- are pregnant
- are aged two to three or school-aged (Reception to Year 11)
- live in a care home
- are the main carer for an older or disabled person, or receive a carer's allowance
- live with someone who has a weakened immune system.

Depending on your age and circumstances, you may also be offered other winter vaccinations, including COVID-19 or Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccination.

Book your flu vaccine online, contact your GP practice or visit your local pharmacy. Find out more at *www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/flu-vaccine*.

Look after your wellbeing by eating regular, balanced meals, keeping active where you can, keeping your home warm and checking in on those who may need extra support.

For urgent medical advice that is not an emergency, contact NHS 111 online or call 111. Your local pharmacy can also provide advice and treatment for many common illnesses without an appointment.

In a life-threatening emergency, always call 999.

For more winter wellness advice, visit *londonwinterwellness.nhs.uk*.

NHS
North West London



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.

November

20 Junior Youth Session
Also on 27 November and 4, 11 and 18 December
Harlington Young People's Centre

20 Senior Youth Session
Also on 27 November and 4, 11 and 18 December
West Drayton Family Hub

20 Senior Youth Session
Also on 27 November and 4, 11 and 18 December
Ruislip Young People's Centre

20 Children's Takeover Day*
Manor Farm



22 Christmas Festival
Manor Farm

23 In Conversation with Paul Waters*
Botwell Green Library

27 Hazel Coppicing Workshop*
Cranford Park

28 Wreath Making Workshop and Christmas Talk
Eastcote House Gardens

28 Tree Dressing*
Eastcote House Gardens

December

1 What the Dickens
South Ruislip Library



2 Victorian Christmas: Bobbin Lace Making Workshop
Also on 12 December
Hillingdon Museum

2 Parents' Information Session*
Yiewsley and West Drayton Community Centre

3 Tea Dance*
Winston Churchill Theatre

3 Jack and the Beanstalk
Runs until 31 December
Compass Theatre

3 Festive wellbeing with Mind*
Northwood Hills Library





3 Live Literature: A Christmas Carol*
Ruislip Manor Library

5 Keep Calm it's Christmas
Battle of Britain Bunker

8 Light-up Christmas Card Workshop*
Botwell Green Library

9 Jack and The Beanstalk
Runs until 31 December
Beck Theatre

12 Spooky Christmas stories
Hillingdon Museum

12 Victorian Christmas: Ghost Stories
Hillingdon Museum

13 Rudolph's Runny Nose: The Santa Show 2026
Also on 20, 22, 23 and 24 December
Compass Theatre

13 Royal Air Force Squadronaires Christmas Concert
Winston Churchill Theatre

14 Tea Dance*
Christ Church

16 Christmas Quiz*
West Drayton Library

18 Christmas Coffee Morning*
Manor Farm Library

18 Tea Dance*
Botwell Leisure Centre

Community events

Regular events

Yoga with Dinta
Saturdays, 11am to midday
Cost: £13 per class.
Find out more: Email *yogawithdinta@aol.co.uk* or call 07870 981885.
St Lawrence Church, HA5 2SJ

Yoga with Nikky
Tuesdays, 7.30pm to 8.30pm and Sundays, 8am to 9am
Cost: First class £7. £12 drop-in or £100 for a 10-class pass.
To book: Visit *www.yogawithnikky.com*.
Eastcote House Gardens, HA5 2FE

November

14 Amici Chamber Choir
7.30pm
Cost: £20, including a glass of wine or juice. Under-18s £5.
To book: Visit *ticketsource.com/amici-chamber-choir* or pay on the door.
St Lawrence Church, HA5 2SJ

14 Eastcote and Ruislip Choral Society Autumn Concert
3.30pm
Cost: £17 on the door or from a choir member. Under-12s free.
Find out more: Visit *www.eastcote-ruislip-choral.org*.
Ickenham United Reform Church, UB10 8BE

21 Uxbridge Choral Society Come and Sing
10.30am to 3.30pm
Cost: £18, including tea, coffee and cake.
Find out more: Email Angela Strach at *astrach62@gmail.com* or call 07946 331210.
St Andrew's Church, UB10 0AE

28 Hillingdon Choral Society: Haydn's *The Creation*
7.30pm
Cost: £18, under-16s free.
To book: Visit *ticketsource.co.uk/hillingdon-choral-society* or email *hillingdonchoralsociety@gmail.com*.
Douay Martyrs Catholic School, UB10 8QY


Harrow Choral Society

28 Christmas Craft Market
10am to 4pm
Southlands Arts Centre, UB7 7PW

December

4 Duck Pond Christmas Market
Also on 18 December
10am to 3pm
Manor Farm, HA4 8BD

5 Northwood Craft Market and Santa's Grotto
10am to 3pm
Cost: Market admission free. Santa's grotto £5.
Find out more: Visit *www.northwoodcraftmarket.co.uk* and Facebook/Instagram @ northwood_craftmarket.
Methodist Church Hall, HA6 3AA

6 Hillingdon Chamber Choir Christmas Concert
6pm
Cost: £15 in advance or £17 on the door. Under-18s £5.
To book: Visit *ticketsource.co.uk/hillingdon-chamber-choir*.
St Lawrence Church, HA5 2SJ

12 Harrow Choral Society Christmas Concert
5.30pm
Cost: £25 in advance, £28 on the door. Under-18s £2.
To book: Visit *www.harrowchoral.org.uk,* email *boxoffice@harrowchoral.org.uk* or call 07794 253463.
Harrow School Speech Room, HA1 3HP

12 Uxbridge Choral Society Christmas Concert
3.30pm
Cost: £18. Under-16s free.
To book: Visit *www.uxbridgechoralsociety.org.uk* or buy on the door.
St Margaret's Church, UB8 1AB

19 Duck Pond Christmas Artisan Craft and Food Market
Also on 20 December
10am to 3pm
Manor Farm, HA4 7QL

Are you looking for good quality furniture or electricals?

Or do you have some you want to donate?



We recycle quality unwanted furniture and electricals. We provide paid employment and training to disadvantaged people and excellent quality furniture at fantastic prices to you. Visit our stores today!

Uxbridge: 01895 256655
Hayes: 0208 797 9505
www.WeAreTrinity.Org.Uk
facebook.com/TrinityHomeless

tRinity

NOTARY PUBLIC

MIHAIL FLORIN GAVRILA

Power of Attorney

Affidavits

Sponsorship Declarations

Apostille

Translations

Educational Documents

Same Day & Weekend Appointments Available

Unit 1, The Gatefold Buildings,
36 Blyth Road, Hayes, UB3 1AG

WWW.MIHAIL.CO.UK
INFO@MIHAIL.CO.UK

Tel – WhatsApp: 07853 430310

Regulated by The Faculty Office of the Archbishop of Canterbury

LEARN TO SWIM IN HILLINGDON

FOR ALL AGES

Gain water safety skills to last a lifetime, whatever age you're starting at.

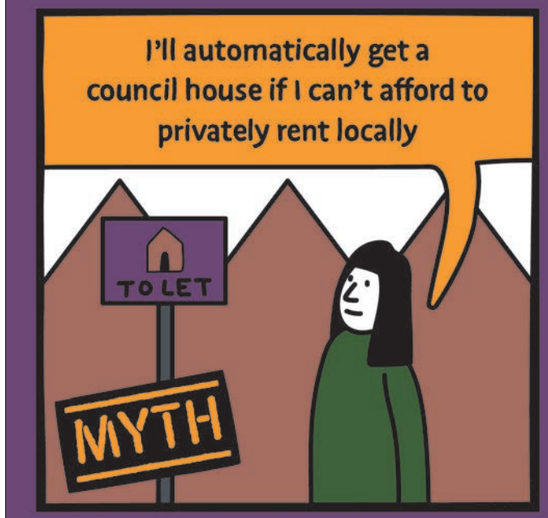
better.org.uk/hillingdon



HILLINGDON LONDON

www.hillingdon.gov.uk/leisure

I'll automatically get a council house if I can't afford to privately rent locally



Housing myths can lead to homelessness.

If you're worried about your housing situation, get support at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/housing-advice

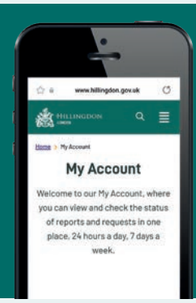
HILLINGDON LONDON

Need to contact us? Join the thousands choosing to do it online

It's quicker and easier to report issues to us online.

By registering for a Hillingdon My Account, you can view and check the status of your reports and requests in one place.

Sign up today at
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/myaccount



USEFUL CONTACTS

Adult education
www.hillingdon.gov.uk/adultlearning

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

Health support

Hillingdon Advice Partnership
www.hillingdonadvicepartnership.org.uk
020 8044 5676

Hillingdon Mind
01895 271559

Samaritans
116 123 (freephone)

THE GIANT PANTOMIME ADVENTURE!

Jack and the Beanstalk

3 - 31 DECEMBER 2026

Images of previous cast

COMPASS THEATRE, ICKENHAM
BOX OFFICE 01895 250615
HILLINGDON.GOV.UK/THEATRES

SCAN ME

dk productions

HILLINGDON LONDON

The Santa Show
Rudolph's Runny Nose



COMPASS THEATRE
GLEBE AVENUE, ICKENHAM, UB10 8PD
Sun 13 / Sun 20 / Tue 22 / Wed 23 / Thu 24 Dec
10am show
£15 adults / £13 under 16s
BOX OFFICE: 01895 250615
HILLINGDON.GOV.UK/THEATRES

SCAN ME

dk productions

HILLINGDON LONDON

START YOUR FUTURE HERE



LOOKING BEYOND SCHOOL?

Explore the opportunities available at Uxbridge College. We offer an exciting alternative to sixth form and a fantastic college experience, preparing young people to develop the future-ready skills they need for their next steps.

OUR STUDENTS:

- Achieve great results - we have some of London's highest college achievement rates
- Learn from industry-experienced teachers
- Study in amazing spaces & specialist facilities
- Benefit from the latest technology, including AI and VR
- Build confidence and career-ready skills
- Gain valuable industry experience with our strong employer connections
- Progress to higher-level courses, top universities, apprenticeships or employment
- Thrive in a safe, supportive and inclusive community.

DISCOVER MORE

With a wide range of courses and subjects to choose from including A-Levels, vocational courses for careers, T-Levels and apprenticeships, the next step is right here.

SCAN HERE

UXBRIDGE COLLEGE