

HILLINGDON people

Local news from your council

www.hillingdon.gov.uk

Hillingdon West ward 2024 edition



HILLINGDON
LONDON

Dowding Park

Putting our residents first in Hillingdon West

Welcome to your *Hillingdon People Local*, which highlights some of the things that the council has been doing across the borough and in your local area during the past two years.

A green and sustainable borough

Parks and green spaces

- Hillingdon has 67 Green Flag Awards – the most held by any local authority for the eleventh year running. Dowding Park retained its flag.
- During the past two years, 23,726 trees have been planted across the borough.
- Two historical information boards at Hillingdon House were replaced (pictured right).



CHRYSALIS
A new path was installed in Dowding Park

Delivering improvements to your area

- The council's ward budget scheme gives the borough's ward councillors funding annually to spend on local projects. This included funding to plant two new trees on the grass verges on Devon Way. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/wardbudgets.
- Each year, £1 million is spent on Chrysalis projects across the borough. Pupils from The John Locke Academy put forward a Chrysalis application to create a new footpath in Dowding Park to connect the north of the site to the south providing a route for them to go to and from school on foot. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/chrysalis.

Waste and recycling services

- The council continues to offer free, weekly and easy to use waste and recycling collections. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/rubbishandrecycling.
- In summer, following a successful trial, the council started to expand its food waste recycling service to council-owned blocks of flats.
- To date, 28 schools across the borough, including The John Locke Academy, have signed up to recycle their food waste.

The council's strategy outlines a commitment to putting residents first and ambition that Hillingdon is a safe, inclusive, green, more digital borough with a strong economy.

We have aligned content in this leaflet to the strategy to illustrate how the council is delivering improvements across the borough and in your ward. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/council-strategy.



Reducing our carbon footprint

- As part of the council's commitment to being net zero by 2030, last July the council approved plans to deliver hundreds of charging points in the borough to meet demand as more drivers switch to electric vehicles.
- Last October, the council introduced a new road repair method which uses 80 per cent less energy than traditional asphalt repairs, 85 per cent less carbon and halves the overall cost of repairs.
- Work took place to replace defunct, electrically lit bollards with zero-emission,



reflective versions made from recycled materials.

- A green screen was installed at The John Locke Academy.
- Hybrid wind and solar powered street lights were trialled at St Andrew's Roundabout.

Read more inside



ARTS AND CULTURE
In August 2022, the 'Dieppe 80' exhibition launched at the Battle of Britain Bunker

Safe and strong communities

Keeping residents safe

- Across the borough, the council's Trading Standards team carried out 113 covert underage sales test purchases of age-restricted products, including alcohol, tobacco and vapes. Thirteen shops sold an age-restricted product to an under-18.
- This financial year, our fraud team identified savings related to fraud and prevented the loss of more than £9.6 million. If you suspect that someone is committing fraud against the council, report it at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/report-fraud.

Improving social and private housing

- As part of the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, the council has improved the energy-efficiency of 157 homes across the borough by installing loft insulation, double glazing, heat recovery extractor fans and new roofs.
- The council's private sector housing team regularly carries out inspections to investigate disrepair in privately rented properties and to combat landlords providing potentially hazardous living conditions.

A digital-enabled, modern, well-run council

Communities celebrate and mourn

- Communities celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, with the council supporting residents to hold more than 100 street parties, including at Portman Gardens. Jubilee themed family craft sessions took place at the Battle of Britain Bunker Exhibition and Visitor Centre.
- The borough united to mourn the death of Queen Elizabeth II, with a book of condolence and space to leave floral tributes opened at the Civic Centre, Uxbridge and the Union Flag flew at half-mast at the Battle of Britain Bunker.
- Hillingdon marked the Coronation of King Charles III, with the council supporting more than 80 street parties with free public liability insurance and road closures, including at Portman Gardens.

Fighting ULEZ expansion

- Hillingdon launched a Judicial Review, alongside other councils, to challenge Transport for London and the Mayor of London's decision to expand the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) to outer London because of significant concerns about its social and economic impact. Although the challenge was dismissed by the High Court, our fight continues by lobbying government.

Cost of living support

- In response to cost of living pressures, the council continues to offer and promote a range of initiatives to support residents, including the Household Support Fund. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/cost-of-living.
- The council's Holiday Activities and Food programme supports families by providing activities for children in receipt of free school meals during the school holidays, with 2023 the most extensive yet.
- Warm welcome centres and an activities programme are in operation across the borough during winter.

Modernising services

- 153,000 residents have registered for a MyAccount and are contacting us online. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/myaccount.
- The council introduced a new voice-automated call centre system, which supports the caller by providing a digital link to make a report or to request information quickly without having to queue on the phone. Since then, digital transactions have increased by 76 per cent.
- A new digital parking permit system was introduced to help residents and businesses apply for and renew permits.
- PayByPhone launched across the borough, giving residents the added option of paying for their parking 'on the go' using an app on their phone. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/paybyphone.

Enhancing digital connectivity

- Investment was secured from Openreach for 10 exchanges which will connect thousands of homes and businesses with 'Full Fibre' broadband.
- The council partnered with the Good Things Foundation through the National Databank Project to provide residents on low incomes with free SIM cards and/or monthly top-ups.



Thriving, healthy households

Investing in leisure facilities

- The council created a new group cycle studio, activity room, expanded gym space and introduced new fitness equipment at Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Complex in neighbouring Uxbridge ward as part of a £2.25 million council leisure centre investment programme.

Supporting young people and families

- Family hubs will be expanded boroughwide, building on existing services, such as children's centres, to offer enhanced and joined up support for families from pregnancy to adulthood within their local communities.
- A new Youth Offer was agreed, which will launch in April and reflect the diverse needs of today's young people by offering a more flexible format, delivering services locally using existing council buildings, family hubs and digital services.

- The council's Summer Activity Programme was a chance for young people to have fun, make friends, learn skills and build confidence.
- Hillingdon's Children's Services were judged one of the best in England, following an 'Outstanding' Ofsted report.
- The Tashan Daniel Award scheme continues to nurture the ambitions of talented young people. To date, 23 residents have received grants which can be used to pay for sports equipment, competitions, qualifications in art and culture and vocational courses. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/tashan-daniel-award.

Supporting older residents

- Over-65s can benefit from free swimming and swimming lessons, free allotments, a winter heater loan scheme and MOVES exercise classes. Over-75s can also receive the TeleCareLine service for free.



ARTS AND CULTURE
Restoration works are taking place at the Battle of Britain Bunker

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS
Christmas lights in Crescent Parade



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- The council launched a falls prevention toolkit to help older people identify risks that could affect them as well as offering practical steps to reduce them.
- Residents and carers living with dementia can access a range of council support and activities, including reminiscence sessions, chair exercise, bingo and music.

Promoting health

- Yoga sessions began at the Battle of Britain Bunker.
- There are 37 outdoor gyms across the borough, including at Dowding Park.
- The council's commissioned smoking cessation, substance misuse and sexual and reproductive health services, NHS Health Checks, Health Lifestyle Action programme and the NHS Healthy Start scheme are providing health support to residents. For more details visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/health.

Could you foster a child?

- The council has more than 40 years of experience in fostering, and is proud to work with our exceptional foster carers to make sure that children in need of care receive love and care in a safe family home. Watch our new film, find out more and register your interest in becoming a carer at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/fostering.

Arts and culture

- In August 2022, the 'Dieppe 80' Operation Jubilee exhibition launched at the Battle of Britain Bunker. It celebrated the astonishing exploits of a Jewish radar expert during Operation Jubilee which proved a vital contribution to the Allied Forces' Second World War efforts.
- In September 2023, works started at the bunker to repair water leaks in the shafts that form part of the air ventilation system. The specialist work involved digging five-metre deep excavations around each ventilation shaft to the roof of the bunker itself.

A thriving economy

Roads, footpaths and street lighting

- Part of the footpaths on Vine Lane and Court Drive were resurfaced.
- Parts of the carriageway on Hillingdon Road and Park Road were resurfaced.
- Christmas lights were installed on lamp columns on Crescent Parade and Uxbridge Road.
- Our street lighting replacement programme replaces street lighting columns at the end of their life, gullies on highways are cleaned either annually, six-monthly or three-monthly, and faded line markings are repainted as necessary.

Uxbridge town centre masterplan

- A new masterplan is being developed by the council to help revitalise nearby Uxbridge town centre. The masterplan will look to enhance the town centre's economic and environmental sustainability, and accessibility. Part of the plan will look at improving connectivity of residential areas to the town centre and the St Andrew's Park development to the High Street.

Learn with Hillingdon

- The council offers hundreds of part-time day, evening and weekend adult education courses at centres and virtually. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/adultlearning.

Contacting your Hillingdon West ward councillors



Cllr Adam Bennett (Conservative)

📞 Democratic Services:
01895 250636

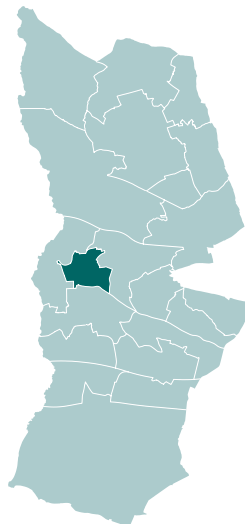
@ abennett@hillington.gov.uk



Cllr Reeta Chamdal (Conservative)

📞 Democratic Services:
01895 250636

@ reeta.chamdal@hillington.gov.uk



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