

HILLINGDON people

Local news from your council

www.hillingdon.gov.uk

Ickenham and South Harefield ward 2024 edition



HILLINGDON
LONDON

Swakeleys Park

Putting our residents first in Ickenham and South Harefield

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 open spaces

- Hillingdon has 67 Green Flag Awards – the most held by any local authority for the eleventh year running. Moorhall Recreation Ground received its first Green Flag Award in 2022, which it retained in 2023. Swakeleys Park retained its flag.
- A new high quality, water sports and outdoor activity centre at Broadwater

Lake is being proposed by the council as the new location for Hillingdon Outdoor Activity Centre.

- Partnerships with organisations such as Trees for Cities and Trees for Streets are an integral part of the council's tree strategy to create greener communities. During the past two years, 23,726 trees have been planted across the borough.



GREEN FLAG AWARDS

Cllr Becky Haggar, Marios Kaikitis and Cllr Eddie Lavery in Moorhall Recreation Ground

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.



- An overgrown area near to the Coach & Horses was cleared of vegetation and litter.

Delivering improvements to your area

- Each year, £1 million is spent on Chrysalis projects across the borough – from buying new playground equipment to the refurbishment of community buildings on council-owned land. The scheme funded improvements to 150 metres of pathway at Stafford Road Open Space which leads to Ickenham Marshes. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/chrysalis.
- The council awarded a grant of £30,000 to Ickenham Village Hall Association Ltd to put towards their new extension.

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.

- Pink collection bins have been rolled out in libraries to offer residents another way to recycle their small electrical items, including Ickenham.
- The council runs regular recycling roadshows across the borough, including at the Ickenham Festival, outside Ickenham Hall and on the High Street.

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.

Read more inside

Safe and strong communities



Keeping residents safe

- A West Drayton resident was jailed for dumping more than 11 tonnes of commercial waste at Harefield Civic Amenity Site on numerous occasions without paying the required fees.
- A planning inspector threw out an appeal by a developer to build 47 one-bed homes in the grounds of Grade I listed Swakeleys House after the council refused planning permission.
- The council's car park at Community Close has retained its Park Mark Safer Parking award status for demonstrating rigorous safety standards. In 2023, 29 council-owned car parks received the award.
- Following reports from residents of anti-social behaviour, cameras have been installed at Dovedale Close and on Moorhall Road.
- The council's planning enforcement team served a notice for an unauthorised overly large new roof on Thornhill Road which was out of keeping with the original bungalow and surrounding area.

The owner was ordered to lower the roof to its original height.

- 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 our social and private housing

- Across Hillingdon, 2,619 energy-efficient gas boilers were installed in council homes.
- To improve fire safety, 516 council flats across the borough had their front doors replaced and 268 communal fire doors were replaced.
- The warden call systems at The Buntings sheltered housing scheme were upgraded to ensure residents can call for help when they need it.
- 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.



COMMUNITIES CELEBRATE
Residents of Stedman Close celebrate the King's Coronation

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 street parties at Almond Avenue, Ivy House Road, Milton Court, St Giles Avenue, Glebe Avenue, Derwent Avenue and Elgar Close, Kenbury Close, St Georges Drive, Copthall Road East, Stedman Close, Halford Road, The Mead, Parkfield Road, Bellamy Close, The Mallows and Campden Road. At Ickenham Library a royal-themed quiz took place with refreshments.
- The borough united to mourn the death of Queen Elizabeth II, with a book of condolence and space to leave floral tributes opened for residents at the Civic Centre, Uxbridge.
- Hillingdon marked the Coronation of King Charles III, with the council supporting street parties at Stedman Close, Halford Road, Thornhill Road, Broadacre Close, The Mallows, Campden Road, Derwent Avenue, St Georges Drive, Almond Avenue, Milton Court, Ivy House Road, Glebe Avenue, Austins Lane, St Giles Avenue and Copthall Road East.

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.

SUPPORTING OLDER RESIDENTS

A monthly daytime disco takes place at the Compass Theatre for residents living with dementia



Thriving, healthy households



A new chapter for libraries

- The council agreed a five-year Library Strategy, setting out its commitment to providing a first-class service and ensuring it is efficient and sustainable for the future.
- During Christmas 2022 and 2023, Hillingdon libraries hosted more than 140 events and activities for residents of all ages, including a light-up Christmas card workshop and quizzes and activities at Ickenham Library as part of Ickenham Festival.

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.
- Hillingdon's Children's Services were judged one of the best in England, following an 'Outstanding' Ofsted report.
- Nearby Harefield Children's Centre delivers a range of groups and activities to support families with babies and young children, and provide access to advice on topics such as parenting, weaning, oral health, and children's learning and development.
- Schoolchildren at The Breakspear School in Ickenham put their artistic skills to the test by taking part in a road safety banner competition to reinforce the school's voluntary one-way system on Hoylake Crescent and Bushey Road.



A thriving economy



Roads, footpaths and street lighting

- Christmas lights were installed on street lamp columns in Swakeleys Road, High Road and Long Lane. There were also tree lights in High Road.
- Part of the footpath on Swakeleys Drive was resurfaced and parts of the carriageway on Burnham Avenue, High Road and Breakspear Road South were resurfaced.
- Our street lighting replacement programme replaces street lighting

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.
- 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.
- Cottesmore House extra-care housing continues to offer over-65s the opportunity to live a fully independent life, but with care staff to support with any assessed care needs and an in-built call system in case of an emergency.
- Dementia Friends held virtual reality sessions at Ickenham Library as part of Dementia Action Week 2022.

Promoting health

- The council organised more than 100 events in local libraries to mark last February's National Heart Month, including health checks, talking therapy sessions and free activities to improve fitness. It included reflexology and mindfulness still life drawing sessions at Ickenham Library.
- A free led walk takes place on Tuesdays outside Ickenham Library. Find out more at discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/led-walks.
- In May, thanks to the council and the Lawn Tennis Association, improvements were made to the tennis courts at Swakeleys 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.

Supporting the performing arts

- The council's Compass Theatre is a high-quality performance venue, offering a varied programme of amateur and professional shows which regularly attract large audiences.

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.

- In summer 2022, 10 new Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) were installed by the council on roads most likely to be affected by HS2, including Harvil Road (near The Drive) and Moorhall Road (near Widewater Place). This was part of a wider speed reduction scheme to enhance road safety.

Contacting your Ickenham and South Harefield ward councillors



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



Sign up for our e-newsletters

Be in the know and join the 48,000+ residents who have registered to receive our online updates on a range of topics.

Sign up now at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/enews

