

Putting our residents first in Uxbridge South

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 2 years.

Improving your local area

Town improvements

- The second phase of the £2 million Uxbridge town centre regeneration project saw new paving stones laid in Vine Street and the Civic Centre end of the High Street. Vine Street also received a new bus shelter.

Roads, footpaths and parking

- Part of Harefield Road was resurfaced. The footpath on Elthorne Road was also resurfaced.
- The Grand Union Canal towpath between Rockingham Road and Culvert Lane was reconstructed, resurfaced and increased in width where possible to provide an improved and level surface for people to walk or cycle.
- Brand new pay and display parking machines were installed across the borough, giving residents and visitors the added option of paying by credit or debit card.
- At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the council suspended parking charges and time limits in council car parks and pay and display bays and also offered free emergency parking permits in residential areas.

- In 2020 and 2021, Cedars and Graingess car parks retained their Park Mark Safer Parking Awards.

Keeping green

- Cowley Recreation Ground, Fasnidge Park and Little Britain Lake retained their Green Flags in 2020 and 2021. For the ninth year running, Hillingdon was awarded more Green Flag awards than any other local authority with 63.
- Hillingdon won the 'Large City' category and received an overall Gold award at the 2021 London in Bloom competition.
- Pathways at Rockingham Recreation Ground were repaired, where they had been damaged by tree roots, to allow park users to safely access the site.
- 12 new trees were planted in Uxbridge South.
- A wildflower meadow was planted in Cowley Recreation Ground. Wildflower verges were planted at St John's Close and Cowley Road.
- A range of displays bloomed in Uxbridge South, including barrier baskets at Mahjacks Roundabout, Oxford Road and The Lynch; half baskets at Windsor Street; and hanging baskets at Mahjacks Roundabout, High Street and Fasnidge Park.



CHRYSALIS
The playground at Cowley Recreation Ground was refurbished to provide young people with a range of play equipment

- The council continues to offer easy-to-use weekly waste and recycling collections. These have been improved with a new separate food waste collection process and an enhanced textile recycling service.
- 2 recycling roadshows were held in Uxbridge for residents to find out about recycling in Hillingdon.
- Following our Climate Emergency declaration in 2020, residents have been consulted on a draft action plan for the council's operations to become carbon neutral by 2030.
- Uxbridge South has 31 Street Champions. To find out more or sign up visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/streetchampions
- The council offered a free street marking service to businesses in Uxbridge South to support with social distancing.
- An alley gate was installed at Singret Place via our alley gating scheme to deter anti-social behaviour and fly-tipping.
- Electronic gating has been installed at Cobden Close sheltered housing scheme to deter anti-social behaviour and vehicle access gating has been installed at the entrance to the car park at Station Road to prevent anti-social behaviour. Both are being installed using Better Neighbourhood funding.
- The council issued 4 planning enforcement notices in Uxbridge South for unauthorised boundary fencing, extensions, use of land for commercial storage and roof extensions.
- 83 per cent of food premises within the ward are rated 4 (good) or 5 (very good) under the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme.

Read more inside



WELCOME BACK
There were activities for all of the family at The Heritage of Uxbridge Festival

Supporting the local community

- The council has continued to support low-income families during the pandemic with food (free school meals vouchers) and utility costs.
- As part of our Welcome Back campaign to support businesses in the retail and hospitality sector to recover from the impact of COVID-19, 2 events were organised for Uxbridge town centre in partnership with Uxbridge BID and Hillingdon Chamber of Commerce. The first was The Heritage of Uxbridge Festival, featuring a treasure trail and children's comedy club. The second is an activities day during February half-term.
- Temporary street furniture, including planters and foldable tables and chairs were provided to hospitality businesses to support outdoor eating.
- Free pavement licences have been issued to 6 hospitality businesses in Uxbridge South.
- Since the start of the pandemic, the council has paid more than £80 million in support grants to businesses in Hillingdon to help them to bounce back.
- Christmas trees and lights were on display in Uxbridge town centre.
- The council offers a variety of adult learning courses at its centres, at community venues and online. For more information visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/adult-courses

Your local councillors gave ward funding to:

- The Uxbridge Centre for a CCTV upgrade.
- Whitehall Infant School to assist with remote home learning.
- St Andrew's Church of England Primary School for a new database, bookshelves and a storage unit.
- Our Lady of Lourdes and St Michael Catholic Church to upgrade their kitchen, purchase kitchen appliances and to assist with live streaming facilities.
- St Margaret's Church towards refurbishing their kitchen and providing kitchen equipment.

Supporting young people and families

- The council's £270 million school building and expansion programme continues to ensure that every child in Hillingdon is offered a primary or secondary place.
- We supported schools during the pandemic to ensure they could be kept open for vulnerable children and those of key workers during lockdowns, provide remote learning and offer a safe return for all young people and staff.
- The Tashan Daniel Award bursary was launched in 2020 to support young residents to achieve their ambitions in sport, culture and education.
- To improve air quality within school grounds, pollution screening was installed at Whitehall Infant and Junior schools. Screening will be installed at St Mary's Catholic Primary School.
- Uxbridge Family Hub provides support to families through a range of groups and activities, including 'Step by Step', a group that provides information, advice and support with parenting strategies for those with young children.
- During the pandemic, the council provided a programme of online activities for young people. The council's FIESTA programme returned to offer young people a range of activities to participate in during the summer holidays in 2021 and a free activities programme for children eligible for free school meals took place in venues across the borough during the Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays in 2021. Summer Action sessions took place at Fountain's Mill Young People's Centre.
- The centre provides a variety of activities to support young people in a youth club setting, including the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
- Bikeability sessions have resumed at Hillingdon primary schools to enable Year 6 children to improve their cycling and be safer cyclists on the roads.
- The council's Adolescent Development Services offered vulnerable children and adolescents the chance to participate in outdoor activity programmes at Fasnidge Park.



POLLUTION SCREENS
Screens have been installed at Whitehall Infant and Junior Schools

Supporting older residents

- Over-65s can benefit from free swimming and swimming lessons, free allotments, the free burglar alarm scheme, a winter heater loan scheme, priority parking with Brown Badges and activities at dining clubs, associations and community groups. Over-75s can also receive the TeleCareLine service for free.
- Between April 2020 and December 2021 we issued a total of 1,802 new Brown Badges boroughwide.
- Between April and June 2020, the council carried out welfare calls to older residents who attend our healthy walks, tea dances or chair-based exercise sessions.
- Online exercise classes are now offered for over-65s.
- The Leader's Initiative for Older People provided funding in 2021 to Mandela Court sheltered housing's Diamond Club for a Christmas party.



UXBRIDGE FAMILY HUB
A new facility for children and young people has been created at the council's Civic Centre

Health and wellbeing

- The council worked with H4All to create a COVID-19 community support hub to provide support to those self-isolating or unable to leave their home. We also supported NHS Test and Trace by creating a localised contact tracing service and ensured that social care providers had enough PPE, carers and were trained in infection control.
- The council worked in partnership with the Department for Health and Social Care to create a COVID-19 community testing site for those without symptoms at its Civic Centre.
- Monthly virtual engagement meetings have been held with voluntary, community, faith and resident groups throughout the pandemic and a Community Champions programme was created in collaboration with H4All to share COVID-19 updates and guidance as widely as possible and support vulnerable groups.
- The council supported the COVID-19 vaccination programme by ensuring that residents had vaccine locations in their local community, preparing suitable accommodation with signage and road traffic management, and encouraging take-up through publicity.
- During the lockdowns, all of our parks and open spaces remained open to allow residents to exercise outdoors while adhering to social distancing guidelines.
- You can book to play tennis at Fasnidge Park for only £5 an hour at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/tennis
- There are 2 free weekly healthy walks in Hillingdon that take you through green spaces in Uxbridge South. A stroller walk takes place on Tuesdays meeting at 11am and a longer walk on Fridays at 11am, both meeting on Vine Street. For more information visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/walking

Contacting your Uxbridge South ward councillors



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