



# Leader of the Council Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Tony Newman October 2015

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## Latest News

This is the first Council meeting since July and there is much to reflect on as well as to look toward. The summer saw Croydon's first Ambition music and arts festival – a fantastic event that helped put people and local communities at the heart of celebrating Croydon's art and culture. We also had hugely successful festivals in Purley, London Road, Crystal Palace and South Norwood. My thanks and sincere appreciation go to the many people that make these events happen that are so important to celebrating our communities. The summer also saw the announcement of Boxpark coming to Croydon, the Banksy exhibition at the RISE gallery and many more events that reflect how art and culture will continue to be at the core of our regeneration and growth.

## Delivering our Ambitions

The Cabinet meeting on 13 July considered a number of reports that will make a real difference to Croydon life. The Corporate Plan detailed how we will continue to deliver improved outcomes. This was supplemented by our Liveability and Independence Strategies, which laid out our longer term ambitions for improving quality of life and life chances for all of our residents.

The Cabinet also agreed reports on tackling domestic abuse and sexual violence; the First Step Croydon programme; and the public health report that all detail how we can make an immediate difference to the quality of life for all in the Borough. This was supplemented by the Taberner House report which detailed our plans for greater affordable housing and protecting our local green space.

As we head into the Autumn, the Cabinet is working hard to prepare and deliver a fair budget for next year. We are continuing with our honest and open approach to the Council's finances and have taken early papers to both July's and September's Cabinet meetings and to the Scrutiny Committee. Unfortunately, our task continues to be made harder by the Government's continued cuts to local authority funding. We have already seen a 40% cut to Government grant and this has been exacerbated by in-year cuts to existing budgets and the unfair manner in which funding is allocated across Councils. The Cabinet is working hard to secure a fairer share for Croydon so that our residents and businesses receive good local services without being unfairly financially penalised. I have publicly said before and I will say it again, Croydon will not stand idly by and be victims of the cuts, we have taken and will continue to take fair decisions that allow investment in our ambitions for Croydon and I am delighted that we have delivered significant investment in culture, schools, housing and regeneration against this unprecedented financial backdrop.

The September Cabinet also considered a report entitled the 'Future of our Borough - Croydon Local Plan'. The new plan sets our growth and development vision, and planning policies for the borough from 2016 – 2036. The Plan details how we will plan for the borough's housing need, deliver necessary affordable housing, accommodate sustainable growth, regenerate the district

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centres, strengthen neighbourhood and local centres, safeguard and provide employment floor space and deliver a renewed Croydon Opportunity Area.

Two good examples of how strategies lead to firm actions were the Cabinet's approval of the Purley Business Improvement District (BID) proposals and the Local Implementation Plan (LIP). The Purley BID detailed firm proposals for how the Council and Purley Business Association will work together to drive economic growth in this key, ambitious and growing district centre. The LIP set out how we will use funding provided by TfL to support growth across the borough by delivering calmer, safer more liveable streets; delivering measures to help people move around on foot and by bike; and supporting the vitality and viability of district centres.

The Cabinet also agreed to endorse Croydon as a Flexible Working Borough. By promoting flexible working practices with the community, partners, contractors and employers across Croydon, the number of accessible working opportunities to the most disadvantaged should increase.

We also agreed two further reports that were focused on providing support to those with significant need. The decision to agree an Integrated Travel Offer and Service will provide holistic and joined up travel support that meets the needs of children and adults with different support needs and is also the most cost effective way of delivering the services borough wide.

The proposals agreed for the 9th Croydon Congress, taking place on 26 November 2015, are focused on Child Sexual Exploitation. The aim of the Congress is to raise awareness and develop actions to prevent it from happening to young people and disrupt it where it is happening by protecting children. The work of the Congress will dovetail with the Safeguarding Croydon Children Board's CSE Action Plan and the Safer Croydon Community Safety Strategy. By working together with our all of our partners, I am confident that we will be able to do even more to stop, disrupt and prevent this sickening crime.



# Culture, Leisure and Sport Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Timothy Godfrey October 2015

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## Latest News

### London Open House

London Open House is an important showcase for Croydon on the London and national stage. I am pleased that we have committed to take part in London Open House for each year of this municipal 4 year term. I was pleased to speak at the launch of London Open House and showcase our commitment with the aim of deepening our relationship with 'Open City' in the future.

This years Open House included a rare 'on site' at Ruskin Square. I was particularly keen to secure this Open House on this high quality development, as the purpose of Open House is to encourage and celebrate excellent architecture.

I am pleased to report that 112 people attended the four tours of Croydon Town Hall & Clocktower complex led by Chris Quinn (Interserve Operations Manager) on Saturday 19 September as part of the Open House London 2015 programme in Croydon. This represents a 30% increase on participation in 2014-15, which is a great result and a testament to the popularity of this event generally and the quality of the tours.

### LEGO EDUCATION in Croydon

A highly successful LEGO launch at Croydon Central Library on Monday 20 July with over 100 children and their families in attendance. All the LEGO taster sessions are underway and fully booked as are the LEGO Clubs which started in September. Feedback from residents has been phenomenal and we are incredibly excited to be working in partnership with LEGO Education

UK. [www.youtube.com/watch?v=je780FFsE3k](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=je780FFsE3k)

### DRAMATHERAPY

I'm pleased to announce Tangledfeet and the Youth Arts Team were successful in gaining another round of funding from Children in Need to run Dramatherapy sessions in Croydon. Run by qualified therapists, dramatherapy uses creative, play and non-talking based methods to help young people through difficult periods of their lives. They are looking for referrals from young people aged 11-18yrs in the following categories which will be run as separate sessions: Looked after Children, Young Carers', Young people who need intensive 1:1 support for any reason. Sessions will take place on a Monday for 20 weeks, after school in South Norwood, starting from after Oct half term.



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## Croydon Music & Arts

Croydon Music and Arts, Fairfield Halls and Croydon Council Youth Arts have been awarded funding from A New Direction, the Arts Council England Bridge Organisation, to form a local Cultural Education Partnership. Through advocacy to peers, schools, the council, third sector organisations and the business community across the Croydon, we aim to put Croydon's youth voice at the forefront of decision making as Croydon undergoes a dramatic period of regeneration. From an initial consultation with young people aged 11 – 19 regarding cultural provision in the borough, we have formed a young people's group consisting of ten core members called the 'Croydon Youth Arts Collective'. Their aim is to support the expansion of the group to include a Young Representative from each Croydon secondary school. As representatives, they will be advocates for cultural events and workshops happening locally in Croydon and will be integral to the promotion and signposting of these. We will support the council's vision of making the borough a cultural destination as Croydon is transformed into a place that can accommodate the needs of the growing population, through building creative opportunities for the younger generation and reinforcing a sense of pride in Croydon.

## Delivering our Ambitions

### Ambition Festival

You couldn't have missed the Ambition Festival marketing campaign this summer, so hopefully you didn't miss the fun! Our four day festival of music and performing arts was splashed across South London on underground stations, phone boxes, buses, and trams as Croydon declared itself open for cultural business.

And what a festival it was! Talented musicians, dancers, comedians and actors from across the country performed in venues and open spaces across the town. And whilst the sun didn't smile on the outdoor stages there were smiles aplenty on the faces of everyone who came to any of the shows. As well as using established spaces like the Fairfield we also took over less usual venues such as the Croydon Minster - where a full live dubstep orchestra rocked the pews on Thursday night and the critically acclaimed Hyde & Beast took centre stage on Friday. We even had a double decker bus converted into a comedy venue - and since Ambition it's driven all the way to Scotland where it took centre stage at the Edinburgh Fringe. Headliners Soul II Soul played to a packed house in the Fairfield concert hall and Twareg rockers Tinariwen got rave reviews for their show before they hurried off to perform at Womad. In total there were nearly 200 individual performances. We were helped out by volunteers managed by the Croydon Volunteer Centre who gave up nearly 1,000 hours of their time to steward the weekend events, and we had support from scores of people, venues and promoters who all helped to programme and manage the stages.

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Ambition Festival proves Croydon has the capacity to once again become a centre for live entertainment.

## **Ambitious Libraries**

Visits to the Croydon libraries continue to rise, during July 2015 there were a total of 176,719 visits compared to 161,345 in 2014, an increase of 9.53%. Visits have increased by 9.47% when compared with June 2015. Whilst it is usual to see an increase in figures in July it is not normally by this amount. According to recorded data, this month has witnessed the highest footfall in Croydon libraries since 2012.

We will be starting a wide ranging review of our Library service very soon. This will ask residents how the service in 10 years time should look and what it should deliver.

It is very clear that as Government Cuts continue, we must ensure that we invest and protect our Library service in the right way. Where we should increase investment, for example in the 'book fund' that buys the books, access licences etc. What services should be available, for example IT, advice, reprographics, study areas and help etc. What outreach and targeting should the service undertake.

## **Croydon Clocktower**

New signage to the exterior of the building will shortly be installed. This will restore the branding of the building as our Arts & Cultural Centre, and help signpost the building for its many uses, including David Lean Cinema, Adult Education, Central Library, Museum of Croydon and Café.

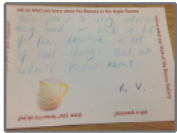
Please see the attached briefing from the Museum of Croydon

# Museum of Croydon Activity plan 2015-16: Autumn update

## Cultural events programme:

2,420 people (one third of which were children) visited the Museum of Croydon during August 2015, representing a 6% increase in like-for-like visits. This was boosted by our family events programme of 6 creative workshops attended by 243 people.

*"Such an amazing journey, especially being in our home town!"  
Feedback from our 'Wonder Wall' in the Museum of Croydon gallery*



*"This place is very interesting and we had a lot of fun. Learned a lot of new things that we didn't know about."  
Feedback card in Riesco Gallery*

*"Really enjoyed this museum. Touching exhibits giving a glimpse into the lives of local people."  
Review posted on TripAdvisor, 16 August 2015*

To begin the autumn programme, the Museum of Croydon again supported Croydon's participation in Open House London and, in particular welcomed 112 visitors on four tours of Croydon Town Hall & Clocktower complex led by Chris Quinn (Interserve Operations Manager). This was a 30% increase on the previous year and contributed to a successful programme of open buildings and events in Croydon.

## Developing our workforce:

Since 2012, we have been supported by a team of 30 - 40 Front of house volunteers who provide customer service in our galleries and Research Room. While we have always played a role in supporting a number of our volunteers with their studies and into paid work elsewhere, we were particularly delighted, in August 2015, to recruit two of our former volunteers to the role of Collections access officer within the Museum & archives team.

Simon Barnett volunteered with us for a year as a Front of house volunteer and also took on additional duties by training new volunteers. This experience helped him to secure his new role which he started on 4 August. He was joined a week later by Mandy Smith, who was one of the first batch of volunteers to be recruited in 2012 and also served as a Training volunteer. Both Simon and Mandy will bring their existing experience of working with our team of Front of house volunteers to help fulfill our ambition of making Croydon's historic collections more accessible and meaningful for local people. Natalie Conboy, who has over 10 years of experience in the cultural sector most recently at Islington Museum, also joined the team and each Collections access officer will work 3 days / week providing public access to our collections.

**Museum of Croydon**  
galleries | archives | activities

Tuesday - Saturday, 10.30am - 5pm, free entry  
museumofcroydon.com @museumofcroydon



## Upcoming exhibitions:

'Art Now...Then' finishes on Saturday 26 September and will be followed by an exhibition of works by selected members of Croydon Art Society from Tuesday 6 – Saturday 24 October.

The Exhibition Gallery (and Research Room) will then close for a two week period for a major refurbishment, re-opening to the public on Tuesday 10 November.

The first exhibition in our newly configured space, designed to improve sightlines from the Clocktower court area, will be 'Croydon Recreated', which uses three groups of material within the Museum of Croydon's collections to explore what Croydon was like at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## Croydon recreated: 3 collections, 9 locations, 100 years

Using historic paintings, photographs and maps from the period, the exhibition will recreate 9 locations around the borough, allowing visitors to visualise Croydon in the past. The exhibition will consider how the past was, and is, preserved and interpreted as well as the perceived authenticity of different types of historical evidence.

The exhibition will be displayed in the Museum of Croydon Exhibition Gallery at Croydon Clocktower from 10 November 2015 – 9 April 2016, Tuesday – Saturday, 10.30am – 5pm (except public holidays). Entrance to the exhibition is free.

## Improving access to Croydon's historic collections:

Watch out for our new online collections catalogue which will improve access to, and the learning potential of, our archives and local studies collections. We are also working to improve the organisation of our map and photographic collections, making it easier to search across these collections by area. These improvements will form part of the re-launch of the Research Room and Exhibition Gallery, when it re-opens to the public on Tuesday 10 November 2015.

## Find out more:

See all our latest projects, including our commemoration of the First World War Centenary, visit [www.museumofcroydon.com](http://www.museumofcroydon.com) or follow us on Twitter @museumofcroydon

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galleries | archives | activities

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# Economy and Jobs Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Toni Letts September 2015

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## Latest News

### Church Street

The regeneration of Church Street is progressing well and nearing completion.

The public realm improvements include 5,500 sqm of extended or replaced footways, decluttered streets, improved junction and pedestrian crossings and new street furniture. You will see that much of these improvements are now complete, with remaining works due to be completed by the end of the year

In addition, a programme of building frontage improvements is also progressing well on Church Street. Two thirds of building frontages have now been completed. This includes the shop fronts of local business along Church Street, and improvements to the uppers to significantly enhance the streetscape.

These physical improvements will enhance ease of movement and connections across Old Town and Croydon centre. They will help to create a more attractive, functional and safe place and increase footfall contributing to the vitality of Old Town.

### Croydon Business Awards

Croydon Council is a major sponsor of the inaugural Croydon Business Excellence Awards (CBEA) and this year has specifically sponsored the small and medium enterprise (SME) category. The assessments were scored against the following criteria:

- SME business that can best demonstrate the following:
  - Pro-active leadership and management
  - Commitment to the local community and green initiatives
  - Strong training and development programme
  - Strong financial growth performance results
  - A clear, concise and impactful plan for sustained growth
  - Innovation and differentiation within the business

Well over 100 businesses submitted entries across all 15 categories with eight (8) shortlisted for the highly competitive Croydon SME business of the year, sponsored by the Council.

All businesses made an initial submission and those shortlisted then submitted a detailed application that were assessed and then subject to a face to face interview

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by a judging panel at Fairfield Halls in June, Councillor Letts (and Alex Murray) formed the panel. The judging panel across all categories is meeting on Wednesday 9th June to discuss the nominations made from the interviews and the assessment completed by an independent scorer.

The awards will be made at a dinner to be held at Fairfield Halls on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October.

## Delivering our Ambitions

### Box Park Launch

Many of you will have seen the publicity following the launch of Boxpark Croydon in July. Constructed out of stripped and refitted shipping containers, this pop-up mall will be located on the site of the Ruskin Square development adjacent to East Croydon Station. Both the council and the GLA are supporting Boxpark's move to Croydon, which create around 200 new jobs.

Building on the success of the first Boxpark in Shoreditch, Boxpark Croydon will be focused on food and drink and with an emphasis very much on independent traders and small and medium sized enterprises. A number of local businesses are already speaking with the developer about taking a unit and if you are interested please contact Agee Johnson at Boxpark - [agee@boxpark.co.uk](mailto:agee@boxpark.co.uk)

Boxpark Croydon have recently submitted their planning application and subject to approval and licensing they will be open for business next summer.

### Coast to Capital

Earlier this year The Leader of the Council and I met with Tim Wates, Chair of Coast to Capital Board to discuss potential opportunities for the London Borough of Croydon with our growth plan. The Council itself has bid and sought over 120 million in various bids over a three year period, and have been successful in some areas, and continue to work with Coast to Capital to secure funding for our Growth Zone. Coast to Capital stands at the heart of business relationships across the region and acts as a broker between Whitehall and local authorities. The Borough seeks to ensure that our long term vision is supported by funding opportunities which reflects our priorities for investment, infrastructure and business support. Together we can be a force for change and a major influence for economic development across the Borough.

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## Working Together

### Croydon BID



A warm welcome, friendly smile and helpful assistance on all that Croydon town centre has to offer now awaits those coming into Croydon.

Easy to spot in their highly distinctive, pink 'I'm here to help you' uniforms, Nilupa, Josh and Michael are members of a new on-street concierge service introduced by Croydon BID. The trio is being deployed nine hours a day, five days a week, from Tuesday to Saturday, with the primary aim of meeting, greeting and assisting those in the town centre, as well as helping to promote events, what's on and what's available in the town and all that it has to offer.

They will also play a crucial role in supporting the day-to-day operational needs of local businesses, ensuring that cleanliness and safety issues are rapidly addressed to maintain the town's appearance and appeal. The three ambassadors will dovetail in perfectly with Croydon Council's new 'Eyes and Ears' programme.

### Biggin Hill Airport

As the Croydon Council's representative on the LBHA Consultative Committee I attended the tremendous 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Britain which was hosted by the airport. Over 3,000 people attended the event on a wet, windy and cold day in the midst of August, however this did not dampen the spirit of the courageous men 11 pilots present, who flew the spitfires and hurricanes on that day the 18<sup>th</sup> August some 75 years ago. All now in their mid to late 90's. For me the most poignant moment was when 19 vintage spitfires and hurricanes took to the skies in an re-enactment of that day long ago, and former Squadron Leader Roller at a young 95

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years looked the skies turned to me and stated “I am thinking of those who failed to come home”

We are still uncertain when LBHA will be able to extend its open hours, although Bromley council at both full Council Meeting where 36 councillor to 10 voted in support and an Executive members had voted 4 to 2 in favour of the extension. The whole package of extending opening hours and increasing services will mean up to 2,300 jobs over the next five years, with new businesses moving on to the site, potentially a hotel and working towards creating an engineering college. London Biggin Hill Airport ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in the UK for business aviation movements the potential extensive hangarage, support and maintenance services for all ranges of business jets. We have two aviation businesses in New Addington who provide services and parts to the engineers at the airfield and currently almost a third of the workforce at the airport live in New Addington and elsewhere in Croydon.



# Safety and Justice

## Cabinet Member Bulletin

### Councillor Mark Watson

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### Latest News

#### Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)

Croydon are currently in the process of considering the making of a **Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)** in the town centre.

PSPOs are intended to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in a particular area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life by imposing conditions on the use of that area which apply to everyone. They are designed to ensure the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour. Councils are responsible for making the PSPO although enforcement powers will be much broader meaning that council officers, the police, and any other designated authority will have the authority to take action against breaches. Breaches of the PSPO are a criminal offence and can be dealt with by way of a fixed penalty notice (FPN) of £80, or a fine of up to £1000 upon conviction at the Magistrates' Court.

Having completed a recent public engagement survey, we believe that the majority of Croydon's residents are in support of our proposed Town Centre PSPO, which will likely include prohibitions to prevent the consumption of alcohol from an open vessel within the restricted area, as well as preventing groups of people gathering and acting in a manner which could cause nuisance and/or annoyance to others. Before the PSPO can be granted a period of Public Consultation is required and we anticipate that this will be completed and the PSPO implemented in the next couple of months.

The new **Neighbourhood Safety Team**, which has brought the Area Enforcement Team and most of the Neighbourhood Warden team together rolled out on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015. The team is now located together, working in 5 area teams and to a new 7 day a week rota. New uniform is currently on order and the teams are currently undertaking an induction and training programme with the new service being fully rolled out in late October.

We have seen an increase in successful prosecutions and are expecting the new team to generate even more activity. There have 44 have been successful prosecutions with just over £23,000 worth of court fines issued by the Magistrates Court. We have recently referred a further 27 new cases to Croydon Magistrates Court for summonses to be issued. Offences include:

- Flytipping
- Litter
- Dog Fouling
- Spitting

## Delivering our Ambitions

The Council has recently begun its third statutory 3 year review of its **Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005**. The Council is the licensing authority under the Gambling Act 2005, so is responsible for processing applications, issuing licences, and has an enforcement role for premises such as betting shops, bingo halls and amusement arcades.

The Act also requires the Council to draw up a Statement of Principles (a policy document) setting out how it will carry out its functions under the Act. Once published, the Statement then has to be reviewed every 3 years, and the updated document is sent out for public consultation as part of the review.

The Council's statement was originally prepared in 2006 and was reviewed in 2009 and 2012. We have sent the updated document out to public consultation as part of our third statutory 3 year review. The consultation will run until 5pm on Friday 16 October 2015.

For further information, please call the Council's Licensing Team on 020 8760 5466 or at [licensing@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@croydon.gov.uk). Alternatively, the consultation documents can be found at [www.croydon.gov.uk/gambling](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/gambling)

## Working Together

### Taking pride in Croydon

Residents enjoying Thornton Heath Festival made a personal pledge to take pride in the borough, with 34 signing up to be street champions on 6 September. Croydon's clean and green champions are a network of people who have volunteered to work alongside the council and its partners to improve the environment in their local area. They encourage others to recycle more, manage their waste responsibly, and reduce environmental crime.

This commitment is all part of Pride in Croydon, which includes public engagement at the Ambition Festival and at the recent walkabouts in the town centre and New Addington. The council is listening to people's views and working to allay their concerns to make Croydon a better place to live, work and relax.

### Helping to cut burglary in Croydon

An innovative forensic property marking system aims to reduce borough burglary. On Monday 7 September, a team of specially trained Safer Neighbourhood officers started delivering free SmartWater kits to local residents, with officers on hand to explain and demonstrate the kits, answer questions and provide crime-prevention advice.

A **Back to school** safety operation was launched on 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 2015 to coincide with the start of the new school year and focus on keeping young people and their possessions safe. The police, Croydon Council and voluntary sector engaged with school children and parents, advising them on how they can keep themselves and their possessions safe as well as distributing information on the new knife and offensive weapons law. In addition Crystal Palace FC Foundation have helped to promote these important messages to the hundreds of young people they engage with through their community based sporting programmes.

### In house bailiff service

As we a further measure of our focus on supporting those with financial difficulties, whilst maximising revenue available for our key local services, we are now implementing an **in-house bailiff service** to assist council tax, business rates and other debt collection services. These services have previously been provided through contracts with external providers and we will continue to have those arrangements for some debts. However the new service, which we plan to have up and running in early 2016, will allow us to ensure the right balance of support to local people whilst protecting the councils overall financial position.



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## Stronger Communities Partnership Board meeting

The third meeting of the Stronger Communities Partnership Board, chaired by Cllr Watson, took place on 16<sup>th</sup> September. These meetings provide an opportunity for key members of Croydon's voluntary, community and faith sectors to come together to oversee and co-ordinate the development of Croydon's communities agenda.

The focus of September's meeting was on Preventing Extremism. There were presentations from Mumtaz Hassan (Board member), Imam Inaam-ul-Haq (Croydon Mosque), DC Abid Raja (Muslim Contact Unit, Met Police) and Andy Opie (Director of Safety).

An exercise relating to what can Croydon communities do to prevent extremism was conducted, and an opportunity for delegates to shared table discussions.

The next Stronger Communities Partnership Board meeting is scheduled to take place 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015 and the focus of the meeting would be Opportunity and Fairness Commission – developing a community response.

## Walkabouts

Walkabouts have taken place in London Road, Surrey Street Market, the Latham's Way traveller site, central Croydon and New Addington. The walkabouts have provided Cllr Mark Watson and the Croydon Police Borough Commander, Andy Tarrant, the opportunity to visit different areas and give people the chance to share their concerns and to learn how the council and police may be able to help them.

Future walkabouts will focus on the borough's district centres not already visited. Cllr Watson said: "The walkabouts are a great opportunity to meet people and to see the good work that is going on in the community, first hand. It's also a chance to find out if there are further ways we can help, and to see what additional support we might be able to give."



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## Eid event

In July the council, in partnership with Faiths Together in Croydon, held our annual interfaith gathering to celebrate Eid ul Fitr and Islamic culture. The event offered the public the opportunity to come together to learn more about the festival and to meet one another. Speakers included the Imam of Croydon Mosque and a local Muslim lady who was able to give her personal perspective of Eid. We also had performances from two members of the South Norwood Islamic Cultural and Community Centre and there



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was an Islamic cultural display for guests to visit. This was part of our annual programme of interfaith events.



## Active Communities Fund Grant Awards

I am pleased to announce that the Council has awarded grants from the Active Communities Fund to 15 local organisations;

| Organisation             | Project  | Summary  | Award £s |
|--------------------------|--|--|----------|
| Rising Stars Support CIC | Employability, educational and social support for young people | One to two hour group sessions of martial arts training, including 121s with individuals to help move them into employment and educational opportunities | 5,000.00 |





# Communities

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|  |                          | (and counselling if necessary).<br>One session per week, 4.30-7.30pm, at the Sir Philip Game Centre, run by DBS checked, experience qualified trainers/youth workers. For up to 552 young people aged 11-19   |          |
| Sports Active Coaching Communities CIC | Sports For All Programme | One 1.5 hour sport session per week for 150 12-25 year olds for 48 weeks, including football, quick cricket, basketball and dodge ball, leading to awards accredited through Sports Leaders UK for about 25 of them. Access to a volunteering programme for about 30 of them. Two qualified coaches and one qualified youth worker, the latter supporting the young people's personal development plans for about 70 of them. To take place at Milne Park Ball Court in New Addington   | 4,990.00 |
| Essential Skills Consulting CIC        | Youth Voice              | 16 week programme in which 10 young people (who have been given an order to the Youth Offending Team) will create, brand and market their own music CD, one 4 hour session a week at the Scream Studios. To be launched at a music showcase which they will plan and where they will perform alongside guest artists in front of industry judges. Participants will work towards a BTEC in supporting employability and personal effectiveness, using computers at the Scream Studios. They will also receive guidance about work opportunities. Led by a qualified teacher and | 3,760.00 |



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|   |  | apprenticeship training co-ordinator.   |          |
| Social Anxiety Communities Involvement (SACI) | Confronting Fear   | 12 weekly 40 minute swimming lessons, 6 two hour cycling lessons and 6 one and half hour peer support group sessions for 30 isolated women (18-65 years old) living with social anxiety disorder and living in deprived areas. Delivered from Thornton Heath Leisure Centre Transport provided for people who need it. Co-ordinated by a qualified mental health worker   | 4,938.80 |
| Turf Projects                                 | Stones of Croydon drawing tours: London Borough for 50 years | 20 two hour drawing workshops in the 20 wards where stones have been placed to represent the 50 years of the London Borough of Croydon. To take place from Nov 2015 to June 2016 on Saturday afternoons, each one led by a different artist with materials provided for about 400 participants. Drawings to be included in a publication, which will be launched. Free copies for participants.   | 5,000.00 |
| Trades Sports & Development Academy           | TSD Academy  | Little League football sessions for 40 children aged 6-14 that do not play regularly for their schools or other organisations. Involving parents and young people as volunteer coaches, sending them on FA courses. One 2 hour session every Saturday from Sept 2015 to April 2016, plus a football match, on pitches in the Duppas Hill, Wandle Park, Broad Green area. Coached by FA qualified coaches, with DBS checks and first aid | 5,000.00 |



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| Phase 1 Enterprise Training CIC       | Empower Women of Croydon                               | Training and support for 30 women, targeting those with children (especially lone parents) and from deprived areas, in three cohorts of 10 participants each, starting in September, October and November 2015. To enable them to compete more effectively in the job market. One session for 4 weeks, plus two peer to peer support groups, individual mentoring, job shadowing opportunities and 4 networking events at which they will meet potential employers. To take place at MySpace in Old Town. | 4,500.00 |
| St. Peter's School Association (SPSA) | SPSA Open Garden and Allotment (hereafter Open Garden) | Creation of an open garden to be created and maintained by 360 pupils, plus parents/carers, teachers and residents in the grounds of St Peter's Schools. Vegetables grown to be cooked and eaten by pupils. Planning and cultivation of crops to form part of a healthy diet will form part of the curriculum. Plan to break the ground in autumn 2016. Support from the Growing Schools and The School Vegetable Patch initiatives.  | 2,100.00 |
| FSE Community group                   | My Health, My Wealth                                   | Cooking and education training for up to 30 disadvantaged young people (15-21 years old), ending in preparing a three course meal for the community in a cooking competition. Young people will also work towards a certificate in personal development. One three hour evening session per week at the United Reform Church -  | 4,820.00 |



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|                              |   | theory for the first four months, practice for the next four months. Led by youth worker, fitness instructor and nutrition trainer   |          |
| UK-DRC Bridge                | Learn new skills, discover new responsibilities | Four weekly music production and performance training workshops for 5 NEET young people from different cultural backgrounds, provided by a professional DJ and a musician. The programme is repeated five times, reaching 25 young people in total. Monthly showcases. Careers advice provided.  | 4,983.00 |
| M.A.D.E ACTIVE               | The 7-UP Project                                | Seven week plan for 13-19 year olds who have problems managing their weight, including assessment, implementing an action plan and determining a plan for daily lives thereafter. Programme repeated four times (ie for 28 weeks in total). Two 3 hour sessions a week at the Charles Major Centre, including circuit training, boxercise, dance, swimming, creative writing, CV writing, job preparation techniques, nutrition. Participants will work towards a Level 1 NVQ in Sport and Active Leisure. Delivered by qualified coaches and youth workers. | 4,788.00 |
| Present Future Solutions Ltd | Home School Mentoring Project                   | 121 mentoring sessions with 10 or 20 young people with challenging behaviour in their own homes or local venues to help them deal with their issues over a 12 week period, repeated 4 or 5 times over a 12 month period (40 or 100 young   | 5,000.00 |



# Communities

## Cabinet Member Bulletin

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|  |  | people in all). To take place between after school on weekdays and 9am to 5pm on Saturdays. Mentoring provided by people with experience of teaching, supporting fostered children and running summers.  |          |
| SR Expressions                           | Tell Your Story - Introduction to oral history and video | Twice weekly training sessions for 15-20 NEET young people in oral history and video skills, at Thornton Heath Library and the Brit School respectively, delivered by qualified and experienced tutors. Production of videos on life in Croydon. Completed films to be shown in the David Lean Cinema, archived by Croydon Library Service and the London Film Archive and put on the internet.  | 4,990.00 |
| Advice Support Knowledge Information Ltd | Make that Move   | Training to support BAME (especially Turkish and Asian) women over 50 find employment, including twice weekly workshops on IT, confidence and community leadership that will be accredited by the Open College Network. Also weekend events with guest speakers and monthly drop ins to discuss becoming more involved in community life through volunteering. Delivered from the training centre on Union Road by trained and experienced teachers. | 4,000.00 |
| Red and Black Roots                      | Football Training/Coaching                               | Football training twice a week with the aim of forming a team, for at least 20 looked after young people (aged 16-19) including unaccompanied minors. To be based at Selhurst AstroTurf pitch. Run   | 4,670.50 |



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|  |  | by two FA qualified coaches. |  |
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We have also made offers of between £900 and £1,000 to eight other community groups from the Active Communities Fund Micro Grants Programme.

| Organisation                        | Project   | Summary   | Award<br>£s |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|-------------|
| Know my Mind                        | Know My Mind's play - So U Think I'm Crazy?                             | Performances by local community group raising awareness of mental health issues   | 1,000.00    |
| Music Relief Foundation (3Space)    | A night of transformation and empowerment                               | A series of theatre workshops targeting young women to build self-confidence and exploring issues including teenage pregnancy, domestic violence and sexual abuse, bullying and early marriage, | 1,000.00    |
| Rainbows Across Borders             | Promotion of Mental Health Project                                      | Self-help support group relating to mental health for LGBT refugees and asylum seekers  | 1,000.00    |
| Shrublands Friday Group             | Shrublands Friday Group   | Equipment to support elders' group on Shrublands estate   | 925.00      |
| SR Expressions                      | African Caribbean Cultural Heritage Festival                            | Black History Month celebration of cultural heritage of the Windrush generation   | 1,000.00    |
| Stroke action croydon CIC           | Life after stroke social support club for stroke survivors/their carers | Support group for people who have suffered a stroke and their families/carers.  | 1,000.00    |
| The New Addington Peoples' Carnival | Inclusion through fun, promoting fitness and togetherness               | Hire of equipment for New Addington Carnival 2016   | 1,000.00    |
| Thornton Heath Cricket Club         | Cricket coaching, training and match play                               | Weekly cricket coaching targeting young Afghan men in the Thornton Heath area.  | 900.00      |



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Full details of these awards will be posted on the Council's website ([www.croydon.gov.uk/acf](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/acf)).

### **Black History celebrated in Croydon**

Croydon celebrates black history all year by highlighting events and activities for all the community to enjoy. Black History Month comprises a borough-wide programme of events with contributions from the local community as well as Council services. There are opportunities for all the community to enjoy, including historical events through performance, music, storytelling and songs. Many events are free and the majority take place in Croydon. Details of events to be staged during October can be found at [www.croydon.gov.uk/ccbh](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/ccbh).

In Croydon the event is branded as 'Croydon Celebrates Black History' (CCBH), and the theme for this year is "Women in Leadership".

This year's launch event will be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> October and the key note speaker for the day is Bianca Miller second rounder up from the Apprentice TV Show. There will also be performers from Empowering Community choir and other groups.

### **Celebrating Age and Silver Sunday 2015 1<sup>st</sup> October – 8<sup>th</sup> October**

The Council and its partners will be taking part in national campaigns aimed at celebrating older people in our borough. The main objectives of "Celebrating Age and Silver Sunday" week are:



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- To enable a series of community-based and led events throughout the UK that reach out to older people and offer a day of fun for older people, their families and friends and contribute to combatting loneliness
- Participate in national celebration of the achievements and contributions that older people make to our society and to the economy. Through this we hope to start to deal with negative attitudes and outdated stereotypes.
- To celebrate the contribution older people have made to our society and thank them - they made us who we are.
- Raise awareness of the challenges and opportunities faced by older people in an aging society.

The “Celebrating Age and Silver Sunday Programme” consists of around 120 events and activities that will be held across the Borough. These include:

- Social events for older people such as tea and luncheon parties, games afternoons, reading groups, talks and seminars.
- Information technology such as IT taster sessions, computer classes, Techy tea parties and ancestry family history online sessions.
- Physical activities to promote healthy living such as yoga, pilates, aqua aerobics, 50+ Zumba, cycling sessions and swimming.
- Intergenerational activities for older and younger people such as book buddies, wiggle and jiggle, crafts, rhyme and story time.
- Information and advice around health, hobbies and activities.

Some of the highlights of the week include:

- **Tea with Music at Fairfield Halls with performances from Oasis Academy Coulsdon** - Wednesday, 7 October, 2.30p.m. - 4.30p.m.





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- **Age UK and Croydon Council Techy Tea Party** - This tablet computer taster session is aimed at encouraging Croydon residents to gain confidence in going online – Monday 5 October, 11 a.m. at Community Space, Bernard Weatherill House, 8 Mint Walk, Croydon 1EA. Book via Eventbrite <http://croydontaster.eventbrite.co.uk> or T: 0207 820 6776 or email [stynan@ageuklondon.org.uk](mailto:stynan@ageuklondon.org.uk)
- **Age UK and Croydon Council – Celebrating Older People’s Day Event** - There will be stalls, presentations and activities. Opened by The Worshipful, the Mayor of Croydon Councillor Patricia Hay-Justice – Thursday 1 October, 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at Braithwaite Hall
- **Croydon College Event** - Tea and cakes made by hospitality students, bingo, chair fitness, sing-along – Wednesday 7 October, 2:00 p.m.– 3:00 p.m., at Croydon College
- **Asian Resource Centre (ARCC) International Older People’s Day Event** – Wednesday 7 October, 11.00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m at Asian Resource Centre. Booking required via Eventbrite <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/arcc-international-older-peoples-day-celebration-tickets-18049443371>. For further information call 0208 8684 3784 or email [info@arccltd.com](mailto:info@arccltd.com)
- **Croydon BME Forum – “I have things to do and places to be”** - Discussion on overcoming isolation and loneliness followed by Caribbean Folk singing workshop. Come along and join in and find out more about what you can do with your free time. Thursday 1 October, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at Croydon BME forum. To book/for further information T: 020 8684 3719 or email: [sylvarani@bmeforum.org](mailto:sylvarani@bmeforum.org)
- **Age UK – Women in Leadership Seminar** - A seminar featuring those past and present who have inspired and changed our lives in different ways. There will be



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poetry, song, and much more, come along to this fun and captivating event, but be ready to participate. Tuesday 6 October, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Age UK Croydon - Thornton Heath. Booking £5.00 (includes luncheon). To book/for further information T: 020 8683 7100 E: [aukc@ageukcroydon.org.uk](mailto:aukc@ageukcroydon.org.uk)

- **Inclusive Cycling Session with ‘Cycle for All’** - Cycle at your own pace, with our 3-wheeled and other inclusive cycles. Enjoy the many benefits of inclusive cycling. Come for exercise or for leisure! We’ll have a range of accessible cycles (hand cycles, side-by-sides, 3 wheelers) for you to try out. Our qualified instructors, helped by volunteers are there to help and assist you. Sessions are held in safe off-road environments. Suitable if you have a disability – all welcome! Wednesday 7 October, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., Parchmore Community Centre
- **Croydon College event** - Tea and cakes made by hospitality students, Bingo, chair fitness, sing-along, tai-chi demonstrations. Wednesday 8th October 14.00 to 15.30. Booking only via Age UK, Croydon Neighbourhood Care Association and Croydon Council (0208 726 6000 ext. 63265)
- **Croydon Airport Calling Josephine Baker** - Join historian Gemma Romain to find out why performance artist Josephine Baker made a flying visit to Croydon Airport in 1928 through the exploration of virtually unknown photographs from Croydon Airport Society’s archives. Explore the cultural world of 1920s & 30s London and the often ignored integral part Black artists, musicians and activists played in creating this vibrant world. This event is being organised by Croydon Airport Society and hosted by the Museum of Croydon. Thursday 8 October, 6:00 p.m. at Museum of Croydon. Booking required via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/croydon-airport-calling-josephine-baker-tickets-17201284505?aff=es2>



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- **Croydon Commitment and Barclays Digital Eagles Tech & Tea Party -**  
Thursday 8 October, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at Holiday Inn Express. To book/for further information contact Stella Fasusi T: 0208 774 3680  
E: [info@croydoncommitment.org.uk](mailto:info@croydoncommitment.org.uk)

Please see the Celebrating Age and Silver Sunday programme for further information.  
<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/sites/default/files/articles/downloads/Croydon%20Council%20-%20Celebrating%20Age%20Brochure%202015.pdf>

## Croydon Community Civic Awards 2015

The fourth annual Croydon Community Civic Awards hosted by the Mayor of Croydon is happening on Thursday 24 September 2015.

This year the event will be held at the Fairfield Halls. We are expecting around 140 guests. The guests will consist of people from the sponsors of the awards who this year are AIG, Axiseurope, Croydon Partnership and Ahmadiyya Muslim Community; award winners, finalist and their guests; Mayor of Croydon; leader of the council, and compare of the awards Mark Watson, the cabinet member for safety justice and communities and the shadow equivalents; some councillors, senior council officers and the council support team responsible for the event.

The evening will celebrate the achievements of people who have dedicated their lives to working for their chosen charity, people who are tireless in campaigning to improve their communities and those who have made huge personal sacrifices to care for a loved one, to people who are creating a better future for young people and supporting



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them through challenges, giving local young people a voice and our young people who are making a real difference by helping and supporting their community.



# Transport and Environment Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Kathy Bee September 2015

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## Delivering our Ambitions

### 20 MPH Update

The opinion survey result for north-Croydon has recently been announced and I am pleased to see that overall, respondents backed the council proposal to lower the speed limit on residential roads to a maximum of 20mph. The next step for us is to prepare the public notices and undertake the statutory consultation which will be completed before Christmas. If the Statutory consultation is successful, the council will hope to start implementation within this financial year. The council will also be looking to seek opinion from residents in the second area soon.

## Working Together

### Fiveways Consultation Update

Transport for London concluded the consultation on the proposals for the Fiveways Croydon scheme in March and is currently finalising the consultation results report. The report is expected to be published shortly and will be available from the Transport for London website at [www.tfl.gov.uk/fiveways-croydon](http://www.tfl.gov.uk/fiveways-croydon).

### Road Safety for Young Drivers

During the summer term a new road safety production from the Box Clever theatre company called 'The Passenger' was showcased to pupils, representatives from other boroughs and Transport for London at Riddlesdown Collegiate. The production was well received and delivered a strong effective message about some of the dangers faced by young drivers and their passengers involving social situations and peer pressure. Having seen and been impressed by the production, TfL have agreed to supply funding for 2016, which will enable the production to go out to several schools throughout Croydon, bringing great benefits to the borough.

This was then followed in July by the Croydon Young Driver programme. The programme took place at Royal Russell School, which saw around 250 young people gain practical experience driving a car in a safe environment and gain valuable experience of various simulated conditions such as the effects of drink or drugs, or distractions from mobile phones and passengers.





# Transport and Environment Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Kathy Bee September 2015

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## Latest News

### Summer Torrential Rain – 24 August 2015

The borough experienced significant rainfall on 24 August 2015 with over 45mm of rain falling within a few hours. The amount of rainfall equates to about 3-4 weeks' worth of rain for this time of year and had a severe impact on the Thames Water surface water mains which become overwhelmed due to this volume resulting in a number of locations surcharging out of the covers and in some cases pushing drain covers off.

Our team visited a number of locations to replace manhole covers, clear flooding roads and provide sandbags to properties at risk. The team also provided support to Transport for London following problems they were experiencing on the section of their road at Purley Cross.

Once the rain subsided, water quickly flowed away through the main sewer systems.





# Transport and Environment

## Cabinet Member Bulletin

### Councillor Kathy Bee

### September 2015

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#### New Road Watch Team

The Metropolitan Police have decided to set up a dedicated team to deal with RoadWatch across the borough. This team, based at Croydon Police Station, will utilise the information provided by the Council's speedvisor equipment to effectively target these important road safety speed monitoring exercises. Further information can be gathered from our six ANPR camera sites and officers of the council can provide additional speed survey data if required to help identify those sites most in need. The intention is that this team will carry out around ten RoadWatch visits each week, which should greatly assist in meeting local residents requests, and help address the road safety problems caused by excessive speed and poor driver behaviour on our roads.

**Download the free app | 020 8604 7000**





# Children, Young People and Learners

## Cabinet Member Bulletin

### Councillor Alisa Flemming

#### September 2015

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#### Latest News

##### **Ambitious for education – Croydon school children celebrate exam success**

Secondary pupils celebrating GCSEs and A-Level success across the borough have ramped up Croydon's performance in exams.

Nationally, the A-level pass rate from A\* to E grade rose by 0.1% to 98.1%, while in Croydon 98.2% of 3,340 sixth-formers achieved the same target. This was better than 2014, when the Croydon pass rate was 97.23%.

Croydon schools collectively also got 69% at A\*-C grade, which compares to 63% last year. And while nationally there was a slight decrease in A\*/A grades by 0.1%, Croydon's students improved at this level by more than 1%.

There was a significant improvement in GCSE results announced on Thursday too. Whilst performance data has still to be validated and subject to change, figures from Croydon's schools indicate that 61% of pupils achieved 5 A\*-C GCSEs including English and Mathematics this year compared to 56.3% in 2014, and a 2014 national average of 52.6%.

Croydon schools are on the up, and I'm delighted that the borough's pupils did so well this year.

Results like these, and with the council investing in 2,000 new school places and huge regeneration on the horizon, means that we can look forward to even better exam results in future years. There's no doubt that this borough really is ambitious for education.

##### **More support for child sexual exploitation work from railway children**

The International NGO the Railway Children announced in April 2015 that they would fund, via the specialist Child Sexual Exploitation and Missing charity, Safer-London a project to support and assist Croydon Safeguarding Children Board and Croydon Children Social Care and Family Support implement its three pronged strategy Prevent, Protection and Disrupt Child Sexual Exploitation in Croydon.

Young people in Croydon have told us that they will seek support at a time and place that is convenient to them. They have also told us that they are unlikely, in the first instance, to seek support from a police officer or social worker. We have listened to these messages and have developed and recruited specially trained support workers to engage vulnerable young people either at risk of or subject to child sexual exploitation. These support workers are co-located with Children Social Care, police services and the local PRUs (pupil referral units), sexual health clinics and the NSPCC and will undertake direct work with young people to reduce risk taking behaviours, divert them from exploitation as well as contribute to intelligence so we can target other vulnerable young people but also possible perpetrators.

The Railway Children funding also supports the Council's work to better coordinate CSE prevention programmes in Croydon schools, complete return home interview for children who are returning from going missing, train social workers and others working with vulnerable adolescences as well as engage with young men who may have learnt sexually

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# Children, Young People and Learners

## Cabinet Member Bulletin

### Councillor Alisa Flemming

#### September 2015

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harmfully behaviours as our research indicates that vulnerable adolescents are much more likely to be exploited by their peers than older males.

We would like to thank the Railway Children charity for their support to Croydon and its young people

#### **Frontline – growing our own graduate social workers**

Frontline is a graduate social work training programme that is specifically aimed at the training of high calibre child protection social worker. The programme offers graduates the opportunity to train on the job whilst working for a year in a local authority child protection team. Croydon is pleased to be one of Frontline's biggest local authority partners having taken on 12 Frontline Students in September 2014 who have all successfully completed their qualifying year and have now joined the local authority as newly qualified (ASYE) social workers. We have on the back of this first year, signed up for a further year and have recently had a further 12 new students join our Children in Need Service.

Croydon has also signed up as a partner on Frontline's management training programme for social work managers, 'Firstline' which is being piloted from October with 9 managers having successfully secured placements on this programme; this is equivalent to 23% of the places available on the programme making Croydon the biggest partner in this project.

### **Delivering our Ambitions**

#### **School places planning and admissions**

The School Admissions service has offered a school place to 4938 children starting school in reception in 2015. They offered a school place to 4128 children starting secondary school.

#### **New places for 2015**

To ensure that every child of statutory school age living in Croydon has access to a school place we have delivered an additional 11 forms of entry (FE) – 330 reception places; and 6FE – 180 year 7 places across the borough.

Of the additional places provided:

##### Primary

- 4FE (120 places) are in existing schools as fixed term expansions
- 2FE (60 places) are permanent expansions in existing schools
- 5FE (150 places) are in new schools;

##### Secondary

- 6FE (180 places) are in a new school.



# Children, Young People and Learners Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Alisa Flemming September 2015

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## Online admissions

Applicants will shortly be able to complete an 'in-year' application online. We are delighted to offer this facility to all applicants, which has already proven so popular with parents applying for a reception and secondary place. As in previous years, parents can apply online at [www.croydon.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/admissions) or at [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk) for

- a reception place for 2016 or
- a junior place for 2016 or
- a secondary place for 2016

All the information a parent needs to apply can be viewed online.

## Croydon best-improved in national table on young people not in education (NEET)

The number of youngsters in training, jobs or education has risen by over 10% in Croydon – the highest increase nationally.

Figures released in July by the Department for Education show that 8,343 of the borough's 9,010 youngsters aged 16-17 were in education, jobs or training (92.6%) in March – up 10.2% from 2014.

Croydon's rise comes after the council invested in more staff to work on improving its success rate, and next steps include setting up a link between local businesses and youngsters wanting to know what skills they need to succeed in their chosen career.

Croydon has London's biggest and youngest population, so improving our number of youngsters in work, education or training by over 10% is huge. We're using this as a springboard to do even more – from big employers mentoring local young people on future careers to making sure every school or college leaver has a job, training or education to go to.

## Working with Partners

### Funding for children and young people's mental health and wellbeing

In response to growing evidence of the difficulties faced by CAMHS nationally, the Department of Health (DH) and NHS England (NHSE) established a Children's and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Taskforce which reported in March 2015, with the aspiration for driving tangible improvements in services by 2020. The Taskforce report gave rise to the Future in Mind strategy in April 2015, and this has led to a nationwide requirement for the development of a Local Transformation Plan (LTP) for CAMHS in each CCG area.

Local Transformation Plans are five year plans which should cover the whole spectrum of services for children and young people's mental health and wellbeing from health promotion and prevention work, to support and interventions for children and young people who have existing or emerging mental health problems, as well as transitions between services.



# Children, Young People and Learners

## Cabinet Member Bulletin

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In addition to meeting local objectives, there is an expectation that this additional funding will:

- Build capacity and capability across the system so that we make measurable progress towards closing the health and wellbeing gap and securing sustainable improvements in children and young people's mental health outcomes by 2020;
- Roll-out the Children and Young People's Improving Access to Psychological Therapies programmes (CYP IAPT) so that by 2018, CAMHS across the country are delivering a choice of evidence based interventions, adopting routine outcome monitoring and feedback to guide treatment and service design, working collaboratively with children and young people. The additional funding will also extend access to training via CYP IAPT for staff working with children under five and those with autism and learning disabilities;
- Develop evidence based community Eating Disorder services for children and young people with capacity in general teams released to improve self-harm and crisis services;
- Improve perinatal care. There is a strong link between parental (particularly maternal) mental health and children's mental health. Maternal perinatal depression, anxiety and psychosis together carry a long-term cost to society of about £8.1 billion for each one year cohort of births in the UK – nearly three quarters of this cost relates to adverse impacts on the child rather than the mother. Allocation for this will be made separately and commissioning guidance will be published before the end of the financial year;

Funding has been released alongside the Local Transformation Plans to enable the necessary step change in the delivery of local services. The initial allocation of funding for eating disorders and planning for Croydon in 2015/16 is £209,411, with this being released on 3rd August alongside the LTP guidance. Additional funding available to Croydon for 2015/16 when Croydon's Transformation Plan is assured will amount to £524,178. The minimum recurrent uplift for 2016/17 if plans are assured (i.e. sum of the two tranches of money for 15/16, including ED monies is £733,589).

The Local Transformation Plan guidance was published on 3rd August by NHS England, and Plans must be submitted by 16th October.

Lead officers: Sam Taylor  
Joint Head of Integrated Commissioning  
[Sam.taylor@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:Sam.taylor@croydon.gov.uk)

Clare Brutton  
Senior Pathways Redesign Manager  
[Clare.brutton@croydonccg.nhs.uk](mailto:Clare.brutton@croydonccg.nhs.uk)



# People and Communities

## Cabinet Member Bulletin

### Councillor Louisa Woodley

#### June 2015

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## LATEST NEWS

### CAHMS Transformation

The ICU is currently developing a CAMHS Transformation Plan which will deliver locally, ten national ambitions set out in the Government taskforce report “Future in Mind”. There is £700,000 pa new government funding for Croydon for at least five years. The plan will identify how this will be invested to reduce waiting times, and improve quality and access to services, and deliver improved resilience for children and young people in the borough. The plan will be published in late autumn, when it has been approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board, and then by NHS England.

For further information please contact Amanda Tuke, Head of Children’s Integrated Commissioning and Children and Families Partnership, Universal People Services in ICU on [Amanda.Tuke@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:Amanda.Tuke@croydon.gov.uk)

### Older People, Long-term conditions and End of Life Care

Croydon’s joint approach to improve people’s experience of care and support at the end of their lives recently went to the Health & Wellbeing Board. There was much thoughtful discussion on how we could work across organisations and sectors to bring about real improvements. At the moment Provision of services can be fragmented, care uncoordinated, and outcomes are not always meeting people’s expectations e.g. whether they wish to die in hospital or at home. We are working together to ensure that individuals and their families are treated with dignity and compassion. A few examples of this include

- Ensuring assessments and Advanced Care Planning (ACP) for the individual person are in place including their preference as to where they wish to die
- Working with St. Christopher’s, Marie Curie and Respite services to make improvements in care homes (residential and nursing homes) and individual’s homes
- Training & Development for GPs, District Nurses and Social Care on ‘Dying Matters, how to have difficult conversations’
- Training volunteer End of life Doulas

For further information please contact Lucky Hossain, Commissioning Manager; Falls & Older peoples initiatives in Integrated Commissioning Unit, Croydon Council and Croydon CCG on [Lucky.Hossain@croydonccg.nhs.uk](mailto:Lucky.Hossain@croydonccg.nhs.uk)

### Croydon’s Outcome Based Commissioning (OBC) project for over 65s

In May this year, five local organisations were invited by the CCG’s and Council’s commissioners to come together to form a single “Accountable Provider Alliance” (APA). The overarching vision is for these organisations to deliver all of Croydon’s health and social care to older people over a 10 year contract, starting in April 2016. The difference between our current way of doing business and the future is that the APA will be

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incentivised to focus on outcomes – the things that matter to local people in the short and longer term to lead healthier and more fulfilling lives.

Over the summer the Adult Social Care Services division have been working closely with Age UK, Croydon Health Services, South London & Maudsley Mental Health Foundation Trust and our local GPs to respond to the Council's and CCG's Commissioners' requirements. We are now at the point when a structured programme of "collaborative dialogue" is due to start between Commissioners and the Provider Alliance which is due to run until November. This dialogue process will test out a range of service, legal, commercial and financial aspects of the OBC model and its implications, and is a key part of our journey towards next April's planned start-date"

## **DELIVERING AMBITIONS**

### **Adult Mental Health**

Mental Health is a key priority for Croydon and the ICU is working to deliver joint changes and service improvements across health and social care.

A recent example is the Early Detection service, (called Oasis), commissioned to support people who are at risk of **developing** psychosis. This service offers advice, support and treatment to people who may be having psychological or emotional problems. It is a service that has proven to be effective in Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark and is now operational in Croydon since Easter 2015. The service has a growing caseload and also acts as another way into early intervention services reducing the duration of untreated illness, which can improve the recovery time.

For further information please contact Susan Grose, Head of Integrated Commissioning – Mental Health and Substance Mis-use in Integrated Commissioning Unit, Croydon Council and Croydon CCG on [susan.grose@croydonccg.nhs.uk](mailto:susan.grose@croydonccg.nhs.uk)

For older people we have also commissioned a pilot for 4 Dementia Advisers through the Alzheimer's Society to provide post diagnosis support. This will begin in October 2015 and will provide people with support to care plan, use and understand community resources, access advice and will benefit from an ongoing 'point of contact'.

For further information please contact Neil Turney, Mental Health Service Redesign Manager in Integrated Commissioning Unit, Croydon Council and Croydon CCG on [Neil.Turney@Croydonccg.nhs.uk](mailto:Neil.Turney@Croydonccg.nhs.uk)

### **Sustainable Communities Team Serving Residents**

The Sustainable Communities Team carry out a range of community engagement activities for Croydon residents e.g. working with disengaged young adults; people with disabilities; supporting community and family safety challenge sessions and signposting individuals to advice and training. We engage with local residents to tackle isolation, help them get involved in local community events, access services and develop community groups.

During April to June 2015, we ran money management workshops to help residents make their money go further and increase their income. Sessions were run at the Town Hall, Fieldway and Thornton Heath with more planned for Shirley, New Addington and Waddon.

Our access work officer, who helps tenants seeking work, helped 11 residents into work and 9 into training. In August, we held a joint event with housing associations, voluntary

## **AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON**

organisations, training and employment providers to promote opportunities for residents with support needs. 62 residents attended, with 10 people registered for training and 4 offered work placements.

We delivered a packed programme of summer events including play days, summer schemes and parks projects all aimed at engaging children, young people and their parents.

Weekly health and wellbeing exercise classes for the over 50s at Fieldway remain popular with 15 residents attending. Feedback is positive e.g. "great fun, real social event with fitness thrown in!"

We also work with residents to help them apply for funding to put on local community activities and events such as Big Lunches.

## **WORKING WITH PARTNERS**

### **Autism**

Councillor Andrew Rendle is the Autism Champion for the council, a major part of The Autism Champion role is to work with the leader and cabinet to make sure those with autism are considered when they are developing policy within their own portfolios. Also it gives those with autism, their families and carers and those working in the field a strong voice and political lead. Cllr Rendle has been able to work with many individuals and groups such as The National Autistic Society and Croydon Care Solutions to promote and support their work in Croydon and offer support, advice and practical solutions.

This work has included the re-launch of the Autism Partnership Board (APB) as we are directed to do under the Autism Act. The group brings together commissioners, NHS, educators, council officers and carers. The board will also be inviting others when to discuss different issues such as employment and the criminal justice system.

The aim of the APB will be to improve the service provision for people of all ages with autism by:

- Ensuring that services are 'autism competent' and 'autism' aware,
- Minimising inequalities and the risks to social exclusion,
- Influencing commissioning and how services respond, and
- Supporting those providing services to people of all ages with autism, in order to achieve these goals.

The APB will achieve this by gathering together representatives from a range of partners including user groups. It will pool expertise, perspectives, commitment, and resources (where possible), and plan and act in a manner consistently with becoming a fully inclusive borough where people of all ages with autism can thrive.

The board has the online support at [www.croydon.gov.uk/autism](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/autism) and [www.facebook.com/autismcroydon](https://www.facebook.com/autismcroydon) The Facebook page is proving to be very popular and provides people with information about council services and charities in Croydon. It also offers advice and help such as the "What Is Autism" translations for those going abroad; the pages also have many videos from world renowned experts. Importantly it is hoped the online presence will create an online community for people to share experiences, support and advice.

Cllr Rendle recently presented a "What Is Autism" session to councillors, staff and the public and it can be seen at [http://www.croydon.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast\\_interactive/185017](http://www.croydon.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/185017). That night we were also lucky to hear from a young man with autism who explained how ASD affects him in everyday life and how important employment is to his wellbeing. The presentation has also been given to Hear Us and the coaches of The Crystal Palace Foundation and has offered to do it for the Met Police in Croydon.

## **AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON**

Also Cllr Rendle is presently working on a policy with Cllr Toni Letts and other officers to help adults with autism into work. The National Autistic Society tells us only 15% of adults in the spectrum are in full time employment. The autistic mind is an incredible untapped resource and the policy will help not only the individual on the spectrum but also explain to employers how brilliant autistic employees can be and to offer long term support to businesses.

Cllr Rendle has met with civil servants from the Department of Health concerned with both adults and children with autism. This initial meeting was to form a relationship with central government, take concerns that have been raised to the decision makers and bang the drum for Croydon. The department for health now know that Croydon has a strong political lead and will be in a position to work with them on new projects, initiatives and hopefully gain further funding. On the back of this meeting Cllr Rendle was asked to join the Autism Alliance National Champions Network. Other National Champions include Baroness Hillary Armstrong, Jane Asher, President of the National Autistic Society, Dr Carol Buckley, Royal College of GP's, clinical Champion for Autism and Matthew Flett, Managing Director, Goldman Sachs. More information can be found at <http://autism-alliance.org.uk/Connect-to-Autism/champions-networ>

One of our most successful and innovative events was run by Croydon Care Solutions (CCS), the Autism Dining Event hosted by the students of Croydon College and was for those with ASD and their carers to enjoy an excellent meal out in a relaxed environment. It was a great success and had good coverage in the press. Croydon Care Solutions gave the catering students autism awareness training so when the students are managing or owning restaurants in the future they will have an understanding of the needs of disabled people who will want to use their business. Simple changes were made to table layouts, music and the menu and as a result they were completely sold out. I work closely with CCS and hope to make this a more regular event.

### **Croydon People First**

Croydon People First is a local service user led organisation for people with learning disabilities. They have successfully bid for a 3-year Reaching Communities grant from the Big Lottery for a project called "MAKING IT HAPPEN" for Adults with Learning Disabilities in Croydon.

The aim of this project is to enable people with learning disabilities to be more active in their local community and support each other to learn new skills and try new things. It is about building confidence in people through meeting up with, and getting to know, other people with similar interests. The project consists of a series of learning and leisure activities which are run by Peer Supporters from Croydon People First. The official launch of this project is on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October in central Croydon.

Three new paid staff with learning disabilities have been recruited to join Croydon People First to run this project – a Project Manager and two Project Officers.

For further information please contact Alan Hiscutt, Head of Integrated Commissioning – Working Age Adults & Contract Support Services in Integrated Commissioning Unit, Croydon Council and Croydon CCG on [Alan.Hiscutt@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:Alan.Hiscutt@croydon.gov.uk)

### **South London YMCA rebrands as Evolve Housing and Support**

One of our major local partners, South London YMCA is now known as Evolve Housing + Support.

Having seen major growth and expansion over the last few years from its base in Croydon, the organisation now work both north and south of the Thames with a rich diversity of customers including people of all ages, faiths and backgrounds. Last summer they consulted widely on their brand and name to ensure it truly represents their current work and

**AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON**

values. The consultation confirmed it was time to move to an inclusive brand which better encapsulates all of work.

After a 154 year history as a YMCA although they have disaffiliated from the National Council of YMCAs, they will continue to work with neighbouring YMCAs for the benefit of the local community.

Their new website can be found at - [evolvehousing.org.uk](http://evolvehousing.org.uk) - to read more about their services.

For further information, please contact Alan Hiscutt, Head of Integrated Commissioning – Working Age Adults & Contract Support Services in Integrated Commissioning Unit, Croydon Council and Croydon CCG on [Alan.Hiscutt@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:Alan.Hiscutt@croydon.gov.uk)





# Finance and Treasury Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Simon Hall Deputy: Councillor Hamida Ali October 2015

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## Emergency Budget and other Government actions

The Government has continued its onslaught on local government generally and Croydon specifically.

In the last few months, we have seen:

- Unilateral cut to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children funding – in excess of £4m (in addition to failure to fund No Recourse to Public Funds of c. £5m.
- In-year cut in Public Health Grant –c.£1.3m.
- In-year cut to CALAT funding – c. £0.8m.
- Announcement on benefit cap reduction, affecting some 1,000 families in the borough
- Tax credit changes which will affect thousands of families , notably working families on low income, a lot by over £25 per week, as well as putting in a council tax support pressure in excess of £1m.
- Continued failure to fund major population growth and demographic change
- Continued failure to correct imbalance on Local Housing Allowance rates
- Continued failure to fund other public services in the borough (notably Health) properly, leading to pressures on council services.

The administration has been lobbying at all levels and will continue to do so.

The auditors recognised in their value for money report the hard and radical work the Council is doing but also the risks and challenges we are facing

## 2015/16 Finances

As outlined to Cabinet in September, there are considerable in-year budget pressures, principally relating to Looked After Children, SEN Transport, Adult Care packages, CCTV enforcement income and delays in the Digital and Enabling Croydon Challenge project. Work is going on actively regarding managing those pressures, as well as looking at other areas of the Council's income and spend. Specific short to medium term actions were outlined at the September Cabinet meeting in my presentation. This is being done whilst ensuring that the Administration's ambitions are being met.

## Budget

The work on the budget for next year and rolling three years is well underway. Clearly there will be tough choices. We are looking at every aspect of the Council's services and operations as part of this.

## **Croydon Challenge**

There is very good progress being made on the genuinely transformational and innovative Croydon Challenge projects.

The Digital and Enabling Programme has taken longer to design than originally expected, so as to ensure that it will deliver. It seems clear that, long term, it will be able to deliver more than originally anticipated.

## **Procurement, Commissioning and Contract Management**

There is good progress on contract management transformation, which will ensure that we have the right relationships with suppliers and partners.

Moving to the new make-or-buy framework is really allowing a focus on the right way to deliver to our residents. The fact of in-housing part of SEN transport, the new approach on facilities management and the continued progress on Outcome-based commissioning for over 65s are examples of how this is delivering better outcomes and better value.

The Council is taking a lead role in Co-Operative Council network and work on social value. We were privileged to host a delegation from Finland looking at best practice.

## **IT**

Detailed work has been undertaken to ensure that we have the right infrastructure and equipment to move the Council forward. The roll-out of this will allow real improvements in productivity and reductions in back-office costs, as well as better more joined up services for residents.

## **European Investment Bank**

We are the first local authority in the UK to obtain a loan facility just for schools. The £102m. loan facility will enable us to limit the costs of Central Government's inadequate funding of the expenditure needed for schools places.

Other local authorities are contacting us to learn the lessons and we are already looking at whether European Investment Bank could be a source of funding for infrastructure and housing, as part of our ambitions.

## Delivering our Ambitions

### Latest News - Regeneration

#### **Crocus/Saffron**

As we make preparations for the development of the Taberner House site we have put the land to good use by making it available for use as a pop up Saffron Farm. The idea is the brainchild of Ally McKinlay, an officer at the Croydon Youth Offending Service and DJ on Croydon Radio, and some 21,000 Crocus Sativus Corms have now been planted in raised beds on the vacant site with the help of local volunteers including the Croydon Women's Institute and the 2nd Selsdon and Addington Scout Group. Ally has secured funding for the project through the civic crowdfunding platform Spacehive, and the donations have paid for the corms, earth, gravel and scaffold boards, whilst council officers have made the site safe for the team and supervised the construction of the temporary growing space.

As I'm sure you'll know, Croydon takes its name from the Anglo-Saxon Croh Denu (which means 'Crocus Valley') and the project seeks to raise awareness - and a taste - of local heritage across the borough. Once the saffron from the plants has been harvested in late October / early November the crocuses will be gifted to community groups and schools so that each can start their own saffron farm next year. We congratulate Ally for not only having the dream, but making it happen.

#### **Local Plan (out to consultation)**

I am pleased to announce that the council has prepared two key Local Plan documents for consultation which focus on making Croydon a great place to live.

The new plan has particular emphasis on making sure neighbourhoods flourish and support existing and future communities in daily life. By identifying "neighbourhood centres", it provides the opportunity to go beyond recognising centres solely for their retail function but for the wider role they play in supporting local communities and improving your neighbourhood and improving the places where you live. It is about changing the appearance of areas the moment you walk out of your front door.

The documents are The Croydon Local Plan: Strategic Policies – Partial Review or CLP1.1 and Croydon Local Plan - Detailed Policies and Proposals (Preferred and Alternative Options) or CLP2.

CLP1.1 contains important proposed alterations to the borough's statutory development plan which was adopted in April 2013. CLP1.1 sets the planning policies, objectives and level of growth to be accommodated within the borough over the plan period 2016 - 2036.

# CLr Alison Butler - Homes and Regeneration

## September 2015

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The Partial Review proposes changes to the Strategic Policies to ensure conformity with the London Plan, particularly in terms meeting London's and Croydon's housing need within the borough's existing urban area. Increasing the supply of homes through sustainable growth, including affordable homes, is also a key element of Ambitious for Croydon.

The Partial Review will continue to frame much of the renewal and regeneration planned for the Croydon Opportunity Area and the borough's district centres, particularly in terms of setting the parameters for the scale and nature of development. Critically, the Partial Review is the statutory strategic development plan document to CLP 2. CLP 2 allocates land for development to meet the growth set out in the CLP1.1 and sets out detailed planning policies to guide development. These detailed policies will supersede the saved Unitary Development Plan policies on their adoption.

CLP 2 is a positive approach to enable required development in the borough, to respond to the population growth, meet the need for new homes, encourage job creation and economic development, and facilitate the provision of essential infrastructure, key components supporting Ambitious for Croydon. It has a greater focus on complementing and enhancing the character and environmental quality of each Place within Croydon than the existing Unitary Development Plan which it will replace. It sets the context for sustainable growth with concern for the built and natural environment in the borough. It provides the detailed planning policies that will enable the growth strategy and targets of the draft CLP 1.1 to be realised. It also sets out the proposed development sites that will be allocated for development (where those sites are over 0.25ha in area).

The draft CLP2 proposes an innovative approach to meeting the needs of the borough for new homes and associated infrastructure. The Plan sets out an approach that will encourage higher density development within the urban area of the borough with sustainable development of the suburbs throughout Croydon to enable more sustainable growth and development, more mixed use development, particularly along the A23 and in the Croydon Opportunity Area and a higher quality residential accommodation with new rigorous standards for private amenity space in flatted developments to encourage the provision of family homes in areas which to date predominantly have seen development of smaller homes.

The drafts of CLP1.1 and CLP2 are the basis for consultation and whilst highlighting the preferred option in all cases (for both policies and proposals), it could be subject to change as a result of the outcomes of public and stakeholder engagement. Consultation on the two documents is to take place from 06 November – 18 December. Following this consultation there will be one further stage of consultation, followed submission to the Secretary of State, an Examination in Public into the soundness of the CLP1.1 and CLP2, and subject to approval, adoption of the new Local Plan in 2017.

The Proposed Submission drafts of CLP1.1 and CLP2 (the final drafts) will be presented to Cabinet in summer 2016 and will be prepared following consideration of each comment

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made during the forthcoming consultation. Subject to a successful Examination by the Planning Inspectorate, adoption will follow in 2017.

The local plan is a massive piece of work that sets out how we will deliver the growth of Croydon's metropolitan centre, district centres and the suburbs. This is a 20-year plan that sees the council delivering for Croydon's children by ensuring our suburbs don't freeze in time and that our district centres thrive.

### **Permitted development (Article 4)**

An Article 4 Direction, which brings changes of use from offices to residential back into planning control within the Croydon Metropolitan Centre, comes into force on 10<sup>th</sup> September, after which time such development would require planning permission and would need to be considered in accordance with the Council's adopted planning policies. Such development would be required to comply with the Council's affordable housing and employment policies as well as ensuring high standards of residential accommodation (in terms of unit sizes and amenity space requirements).

### **Update on College Green**

The Council is in the process of preparing a hybrid planning application following the appointment of the team led by Mott MacDonald & Rick Mather Architects. The scheme will deliver:

- A scheme of national architectural significance.
- A unique and vibrant mix of uses including new homes, cultural spaces, offices, shops, and restaurants
- A modern flexible Fairfield Halls which is sympathetic to the architectural and heritage qualities of the building including new public facing food and beverage spaces and improved integration with the wider area.
- Provision of new Fairfield Halls entrance to College Green
- A very high quality new public space suitable for both transition and rest, alongside other amenity provision for residents and visitors alike.
- A variety of public art and opportunities for creative expression – a modern, attractive and culturally flexible space for Croydon.
- A new high quality, animated, step free through route to and from East Croydon station, the town centre and wider borough.

As part of phase 1, the Council will deliver new homes on the site of the multi-storey car park at the back of College Green as well as the modernisation of the Fairfield Halls.

The design of the Fairfield Halls will be high quality to enable a transformation of the building and commercial abilities of the operation, whilst being sympathetic to the original design and heritage. The aim is to create a flexible building which is self-sufficient. The project is currently in pre-application stage and the intention is to submit a planning application by December 2015.

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### **Feedback on Housing meeting at Shrublands**

A Your Housing, Your Questions event took place in August on the Shrublands estate, Shirley.

The event was attended by around 30 residents from the local area who were able to ask questions of a panel of decision makers. Councillor Alison Butler (Cabinet Member for Homes and Regeneration) and Councillor Stuart Collins (Cabinet Member for Clean & Green Croydon) joined senior managers from the council's housing and highways services.

Questions were asked on a broad range of subjects from charges for communal repairs and flytipping to estate regeneration and rehousing. The meeting has sparked renewed interest in resident involvement at a local level and a number of residents have expressed an interest in starting a resident group on the estate.

A public meeting is being arranged for 29 September 2015 when it is hoped to launch a new residents' association.

### **Neighbourhood wardens (over the summer months)**

#### **A new neighbourhood safety service**

Our street based officers will continue to have a strong focus on working with the community to tackle and reduce antisocial behaviour (ASB) and improve the local environment. But, under the new structure, they will be provided with the training and tools to carry out a broader range of problem solving activities as the first point of contact, making this a faster and more resilient service.

This new service will be officially **launched to the media in November**, with a press release – timed to coordinate with the issuing of new uniforms for the service. In the meantime we have updated Croydon.gov.uk to reflect the changes and signpost future enquiries – and advised council staff via our internal communication channels. We also have planned targeted communications to reassure tenants and leaseholders that, although the way we deliver is changing, they will continue to receive the same level of service.

#### **An enhanced outreach service**

To ensure non-enforcement services delivered by existing teams are not diminished or lost, several officers transferred into the people department, with the skills, knowledge & experience to enhance the provision of outreach services for play and youth, and sustainable communities teams.

#### **A more coordinated approach**

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All other enforcement teams have already been brought together under the safety division, including environmental enforcement, housing enforcement and regulatory enforcement; and parking enforcement will also be brought into the division in October 2015.

### **Tech Hub**

Davis House is being transformed into a new tech business incubator and start-up space, providing 21,000 sq.ft tech space contributing to a new digital cluster in the heart of Croydon. The project has £2 million of backing from the council and the Greater London Authority. Tech Leaders Capital, a leading specialist tech property firm have taken on the lease on the ground and first floor of Davis House, with a design team recently appointed to carry out the fit out to transform it into a state of the art, high quality tech incubator space.

The scheme will start on site at the start of October with the launch early next year. The hub will include a public café and flexible working space on the ground floor with a large events space, and flexible office and working areas on the first floor. Tech Hub will offer training, courses and events alongside investor and demo days where budding businesses can meet potential investors, industrial partners and growth specialists. Tech Hub will reaffirm Croydon's position as London's most significant new tech cluster.

### **Meanwhile Uses**

We now have planning permission to locate a meanwhile use on a vacant council-owned site opposite Reeves Corner. This will site two new enterprises to help improve the vibrancy of the area. This includes a bike recycling enterprise, repairing disused bikes to sell on or give away to low income families. A programme of training courses and workshops will also be delivered on bike maintenance. The second is a mushroom growing enterprise, collecting used coffee grounds to grow oyster mushrooms to sell on to businesses and residents locally.

The construction of the new workspaces – which will be made from recycled shipping containers – will start on site in October and should be ready to operate from by the end of November. Local NEET young people will be recruited to support the construction phase as part of a traineeship programme.

Plans to provide additional meanwhile uses at Reeves Corner and London Road are progressing, including a proposal to provide a learning and activities hub for young people.

The Meanwhile Uses project is MRF funded, with the aim to provide opportunities to local people in the way of jobs, training and volunteering, to improve community cohesion and change perceptions locally.

### **South End launch**

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A launch event is being planned to mark the completion of the Connected Croydon South End public realm and building frontage improvements. As Croydon's restaurant quarter, the launch will form part of a cultural food festival being planned by the council towards the end of November. Colleagues from LBC and the GLA will be invited to join local businesses and residents to celebrate the improvements and new public spaces.

The works were successfully completed this summer with extended footways, decluttered streets, new street furniture and public art installations. 47 businesses also had their building frontages improved.

This is the first project to be completed from the £50m Connected Croydon programme of co-ordinated public realm projects, transport investment and shop front improvements that will transform Croydon town centre into a more walkable and liveable place.

## Homes

### Landlords licensing

For many years there have been issues with estimated 30,000 privately rented properties in Croydon relating to landlords who fail to carry out repairs, fail to ensure that clauses in tenancy agreement are being complied with by the tenants, and who fail to deal with anti-social behaviour perpetrated by their tenants. We have also found some cases of totally inappropriate accommodation being rented out (for example poorly converted garages or other outbuildings) and are aware of a significant number of landlords who allege they do not have any money to carry out repairs or who have criminal convictions.

Under the housing act 2004 a scheme of licensing can be implemented which can help local authorities deal with all these issues. When licences are issued they include licence conditions, which put the responsibility on landlords to take action to address anti-social behaviour by their tenants, and also to ensure that the gardens etc. of their properties are kept in good condition, with no accumulations of rubbish or unsightly items. Each landlord must be a 'fit and proper' person to hold a licence, and landlords who cannot financially maintain their businesses, or who have relevant criminal convictions, cannot be granted a licence. As each property is inspected as part of the licencing process the scheme can also lead to disrepair or overcrowding issues being addressed by the housing enforcement service, and this will lead to housing conditions being improved for many residents of Croydon.

Following an extensive period of public consultation relating to landlord licensing, at Cabinet in March the decision was taken to implement a licensing scheme for the whole borough from 1 October. We have been operating an 'early bird' discounted fee application period from 1 July and, at the time of writing, we have had 9,500 completed and paid for applications with just over a week of the early bird period left to run. From 1 October the



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fee will increase from £350 to £750 and landlords who have not applied by then face enforcement action to ensure that they do – there are various penalties, ranging from between £5,000 and £20,000 in fines, which may be handed out to landlords if they do not comply with the scheme and are successfully prosecuted.

The income that we will receive from licence fees will be used to ensure that all aspects of the scheme – from application to enforcement – are carried out effectively. We are confident that over the 5 year period of the scheme all privately rented properties will be licenced and inspected, rogue landlords will find they cannot continue to operate in our borough, and Croydon will become a much better place to rent.



# Clean Green Croydon Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Stuart Collins October 2015

## Latest News

### Fly-tipper prosecuted as part of council clampdown

A New Addington man has been fined £330 for dumping building waste as the council continues its Don't Mess With Croydon – Take Pride campaign.

Patrick Barrett, of Cleves Crescent, pleaded guilty to two counts of dumping waste without an environmental permit last year.

The 52-year-old left a total of around 18 bags of building rubble and pipes in a communal bin area in his block of flats.

<http://news.croydon.gov.uk/flytipper-prosecuted-under-council-clampdown/>

### Green waste

The current free garden waste collection service will come to an end from 27th November 2015. Resident's will be encouraged in the coming months to express an interest in a new chargeable garden waste collection service. Details of the service will be released by November 2015.

The new scheme brings the council in line with other local authorities that charge for garden waste collections and is a means **to help offset operational costs amidst budget cuts from central government**. In an effort to maintain other council services, the free collection of green waste is considered to no longer be affordable in the current financial climate of austerity set by central government.

| Item  | Price |
|---|-------|
| 240 litre* bin (80 sacks)                   | £60   |
| 240 litre* bin with early bird discount     | £50   |
| 140 litre bin                               | £55   |
| 140 litre bin with early bird discount      | £45   |
| 240 litre* bin x 2                          | £105  |
| 240 litre* bin x 2 with early bird discount | £95   |

**New street recycling/landfill containers** have been presented in strategic parts of Thornton Heath High Street and will provide local residents with an additional way to recycle whilst non-recyclable items can be placed within the refuse section of the bin. These containers have already been successfully introduced into the Crystal Palace Triangle, Portland Road and Norbury High Street, with London Road due to be the next area selected for delivery of the bins. Feedback has been received from members of the public regarding the positive affect of the bins particularly with the reduction of street litter and providing residents and pedestrians with an extra opportunity to recycle. The containers will be emptied on a daily basis.

### Delivering our Ambitions

**There have been 44 successful, enviro-crime cases prosecuted** since September last year. Just over £23,000 worth of court fines and costs have been ordered by the Magistrates Court.



# Clean Green Croydon Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Stuart Collins October 2015

## Village System

The new village system went live on 1 June, which saw a significant change for the waste collection service with 83% of properties seeing a change to the scheduled collection dates. Veolia have introduced this system in several other Boroughs in response to Council budget challenges with the aim of improving the service when it settles in.

In the average month, the service undertakes approximately 1.9 million collections across the borough. During the bedding-in period whilst crews got used to their new rounds, the service did see a rise in the number of reported missed collections, the same occurred in nearby Bromley, so additional resources were put in place to manage them.

Before the system was introduced there were 530 missed collections per week, I am pleased to say there has been a greatly reduced 364 as I write and this is now on a downward trend. Officers and I have been in regular contact with Veolia managers and staff changes have been made where repeat missed collections have occurred. Veolia have also agreed to discuss community payback in areas that have been inconvenienced with repeat missed collections that the Council had identified.

Over the coming months, officers and Veolia are developing initiatives to enhance the service further to deliver the Clean and Green Agenda and for their employees to focus on customer service issues.

I will also be leading a campaign through local Government to urge Central Government to make refuse & environmental services statutory and therefore not at the mercy of continual cuts in local Council budgets.

## Working Together

**Don't Mess With Croydon: Take Pride Clean and Green Street Champions** continue to grow in number and we have over 260 residents who have signed up to do their bit and Take Pride around the borough. There have been some great clean ups in the last couple of months including residents from Parry Road, Michael Road and surrounding roads who have continued with their 'Taking Pride activities by working in Whitehorse Meadow by removing flytips, litter, and brambles. Their aim is to turn the meadow back into a conservation area and to re-install the football pitch for local children to use. Thornton Heath Community Action Team carried out more of their great work by painting railings, installing two planters, and litter picking around the Thornton Heath Clocktower. The group continue with their small wins and in turn recruiting others to join the group. Friends of Church Alley carried out an action day clearing a cage-load of litter and shrubbery from Church Alley, and new bins will be installed to capture litter. We have had over 40 under 18s litter picking in parks whilst engaging with local residents.