



Leader of the Council Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Tony Newman December 2018

Latest News

Remembrance Sunday

On the centenary anniversary of the end of the First World War, I attended the special service hosted by Croydon and took part in the parade and memorial wreath laying to commemorate those who died in the two world wars and other conflicts.

I was humbled to pay my respects to the memory of the 16million+ people who died during The Great War, including more than 2,500 active-duty soldiers from Croydon, and the 60million+ people who died in the Second World War.

Tram Memorials

Although a year has passed since the incident we still mourn those who died on that dreadful day and those still recovering from injuries and the experience. The memorials gave those affected a chance to think back, remember the people who were lost, and stand together – both with survivors and with the families of those who lost their lives.



New Addington
Sandilands





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Funding from the Mayor of London

The Mayor of London has dedicated over a million to Croydon's projects for young people from the £13.2m of the Young Londoners Fund. This is fantastic news and I'm pleased that City Hall continues to recognise all the hard work going on in Croydon for our young people.

Fairfield Halls Walkabout

Earlier this month, I accompanied the Chair and Chief Executive of BHLive – our chosen operators for the Fairfield Halls – on a tour to see the refurbishment in action. Neil Chandler, the incoming venue Director, took us round and brought to life the range of programming ideas and plans that he is working on with local, national and international partners.

When the venue opens next year, it is going to be such a vibrant and exciting place for our residents and visitors – I'm really looking forward to it and there really is going to be something for everyone.



LEPs

The current consultations on LEP boundaries is nearing completion and Croydon is currently in both the Coast To Capital (C2C) and London LEP's. The Government has made it clear that they will not entertain any overlaps.

Over the last few months we have been in negotiations with both the LEP's to agree a position. The proposal is that we will continue to remain in the London LEAP but work closely with C2C on developing the regions Industrial Strategy which will no

AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON



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doubt establish the economic corridor and mean that Croydon will continue to be a major player in the C2C corridor. The proposal includes a transitional period of around 2 years. As part of the negotiations we have ensured that investment for transport, digital infrastructure and skills are picked up by the London LEAP. We will review the situation with national Government post-Brexit or any immediate local election.

Croydon's Violence Reduction Unit (VRU)

We've announced plans to create our own Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) here in Croydon as part of a public health approach to tackle the root causes of serious violent crime.

This approach is about treating crime as a public health issue and focusing on prevention rather than cure. We aim to do this by working even more closely with our community organisations and our VRU will take a personal approach to each serious violent crime, taking the viewpoint that each offence stems from a wide range of issues.

Along with our Cabinet Member for Safer Croydon & Communities, Cllr Hamida Ali, I met with Sophie Linden, Deputy Mayor of Policing & Crime, and Nick Bowes, Mayoral Director at the end of October. We had a really positive discussion about the plans and ideas we have in Croydon for our VRU, how we could work together with City Hall and the Mayor of London's vision for a London-wide VRU and of course, our excellent local police force and Borough Commander, Jeff Boothe. I'm pleased the Borough Commander was so supportive at our recent November Cabinet where he spoke on our shared plans for Croydon.

UASC Underfunding

I remain hugely concerned about the financial challenges we face in relation to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children. It took over 3 months for me to get a response from the government to my letters about the significant cost being borne by Croydon taxpayers. I have received a letter back from the Minister of State for Immigration. The response doesn't move us forward. There are some warm words



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about the role played by Croydon in supporting these children and the national system but there are is no clear timescales for concluding the review of the formula for allocation of funding and no agreement to any practical action in relation to the National Transfer Scheme that may support Croydon. I will be continuing to push for a face to face meeting so that we can get across the unfairness of the current system and agree some practical steps with the Home Office

Leader's Diary for October to November

- Clean, Green Croydon Away Morning
- Launch of Black History
- CCIN Annual Conference
- Croydon Business Awards
- Environment, Economy, Housing and Transport Board
- Youth Congress
- Mayor of Croydon Civic Awards ceremony and gala dinner
- Croydon Star Awards
- Mayoral Eid Reception
- Meeting with Sophie Linden
- Network Rail Stakeholder preview event
- NHS Unit Croydon University Hospital visit
- BH Live Tour
- Visit to new unit at Croydon University Hospital
- Tram Memorial
- Remembrance Sunday
- London Councils meetings
- Croydon College – Duke of Kent visit
- Develop Croydon Conference
- Croydon Economic Summit
- Croydon Council Awards

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