

News

Windrush Celebration

I was delighted to be part of the opening for the series of amazing events both to celebrate the Windrush generation and to highlight the on-going injustices. I want to personally thank Cllr Cummings and all the council officers who worked so hard to make it such a success.



The MJ Achievement Awards 2019



Our fantastic Gateway team won the well-deserved "Delivering Better Outcomes" national award at the recent MJ achievement awards. I'd like to congratulate our staff on the outstanding services they provide to some of the Boroughs most vulnerable residents.



Croydon Mela and Pride

As leader, I am proud that we have committed to supporting both permanently on an annual basis both the Mela and Pride events as we continue to represent the diverse community of our borough.





Sustainable Croydon Summit 2019

Last week, we hosted the first, ground breaking Sustainable Croydon Summit. It was a fantastic event with incredible turnout from our young people, residents and businesses. The event was opened by Shirley Rodrigues, the London Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, who is hugely supportive of the work we are doing here in Croydon and our ambition to do more.



Sustainability is an issue that involves every one of us and I was proud to see so many in our borough come to join the conversation to make Croydon a sustainable, green borough together as a community.

As Council Leader, I took the opportunity to declare a "Climate Emergency" in light of the seriousness of the situation. Croydon is making good progress with a 9% increase in recycling rates, a commitment to 400 charge points by 2022, our emissions based parking charges and so much more.

We are reviewing the local plan to ensure it is sustainable, we know there is a lot more work to do and we want to hear from and work together with everyone in Croydon.



Culture at the Heart of Regeneration

The Croydon culture plan has been agreed for the next 5 years, setting out our ambition of seeing culture on every doorstep; in every locality, in every community, and in every life. The Creative Enterprise Zone is delivering support to small scale venues, discounts for studio spaces for under 25s and looking to raise our profile as a place to do creative business.

The Fairfield Halls is due to reopen this September starting with an open day for the public on Monday 16th September. Public realm improvements will also be delivered around the reopened venue, ensuring it is a destination location for all.

Croydon welcomes the staging of new festivals such as Cro Cro Land and The Ends playing in our local venues and parks. These events have attracted a huge amount of interest from festival makers and goers and so we can expect that Croydon will be seen as the place to go for music in the near future.



UASC

Croydon is proud of its long track record in welcoming and caring for these vulnerable young people, having looked after more than 5000 children in the past ten years. However, Croydon still suffers a chronic underfunding to adequately consider the volume of UASC given we are a point of entry authority and have six times the National Transfer Scheme threshold. The failure of central Government has left us with a funding deficit of £10.6m.

We continue to work with Croydon MPs, London Councils and the LGA to raise awareness of the unfair costs facing Croydon Council and campaign for a fairer approach. We shall be meeting with Rt. Hon. Caroline Nokes MP, Minister of State for Immigration in the next few weeks.



Leader's Diary for April – July

Croydon CCG Governing Body Meeting in Public with CHS Board

London Councils AGM and Leader's Committee

Croydon's Got Talent

London Pensions Fund Authority Board

Legacy Onside Visit

Cabinet Member's away day

Scrutiny and Overview Committee

Launch of PrideFest 2019

SLP Leader's Board

Croydon and Network Dinner

MJ Awards

LGA Conference

Coast to Capital Board

Clir Tony Newman

Leader of the Council