

# HILLINGDON people

Local news from your council

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk)

## Uxbridge ward 2024 edition



HILLINGDON  
LONDON

# Putting our residents first in Uxbridge

Welcome to your *Hillingdon People Local*, which highlights some of the things that the council has been doing across the borough and in your local area during the past two years.

## A green and sustainable borough

### Parks and green spaces

- Hillingdon has 67 Green Flag Awards – the most held by any local authority for the eleventh year running. Rockingham Recreation Ground and Hillingdon House Farm were awarded their first Green Flags in 2022 and retained them in 2023. Uxbridge Common and Fasnidge Park retained their flags.
- A new waterway and wetlands flood defence scheme opened at Hillingdon House Farm.

- A council-led 'Great British Spring Clean' event took place at Hillingdon House Farm and Uxbridge Common.

### Delivering improvements to your area

- The council's ward budget scheme gives the borough's ward councillors funding annually to spend on local projects. This included Uxbridge Boys Brigade to fund a weekend trip on a narrowboat and two new laptops. Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/wardbudgets](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/wardbudgets).



### PARKS AND GREEN SPACES

Cllrs Choubedar, Ahmad-Wallana, Lavery and Burrows open the refurbished playground at Fasnidge Park as part of the council's four-year £1.6 million playground refurbishment programme

The council's strategy outlines a commitment to putting residents first and ambition that Hillingdon is a safe, inclusive, green, more digital borough with a strong economy.

We have aligned content in this leaflet to the strategy to illustrate how the council is delivering improvements across the borough and in your ward. Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/council-strategy](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/council-strategy).



- Each year, £1 million is spent on Chrysalis projects across the borough. At Uxbridge Tennis Club, the council's contractor refurbished the path leading to the tennis courts to make the route more accessible. Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/chrysalis](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/chrysalis).

### Waste and recycling services

- In summer 2023, following a successful trial at Cochrane House and Cowley House, the council started to expand its food waste recycling service to council-owned blocks of flats.
- Pink collection bins have been rolled out in libraries to offer residents another way to recycle their small electrical items, including Uxbridge.
- In May 2022, the council introduced three new street cleaning barrows to keep Uxbridge's high streets clean.

### Improving air quality

- As part of the council's commitment to being net zero by 2030, last July the council approved plans to deliver

hundreds of charging points in the borough to meet demand as more drivers switch to electric vehicles.

- Last October, the council introduced a new road repair method which uses 80 per cent less energy than traditional asphalt repairs, 85 per cent less carbon and halves the overall cost of repairs.
- Hybrid wind and solar powered street lights were trialled at the Civic Centre, St Andrew's Roundabout and the Grainges car park.
- Works are currently underway at Uxbridge Civic Centre to make the building more energy-efficient.
- The Grainges, Cedars and Civic Centre car parks received a new energy-saving lighting system.
- A green screen was installed at St Mary's Catholic Primary School.
- The council has installed an additional 10 cycle stands outside Uxbridge station.

Read more inside



**COMMUNITIES CELEBRATE**  
Residents of Kings Road and Queens Road celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

## Safe and strong communities

### Keeping residents safe

- The council issued an injunction to stop the owners of a protected art deco building from doing any further building work.
- An Uxbridge mechanic was ordered to pay more than £5,800 after failing to demolish a single-storey extension built without planning permission.
- A sandwich business and its owner that seriously breached food hygiene regulations was ordered to pay more than £60,000.
- The council's CCTV team installed a network of CCTV cameras at Arundel House, Heritage House, Little Britain Lakes and the main arterial routes to Uxbridge town centre to combat fly-tipping and drug misuse.
- In Uxbridge town centre, the council held three disabled parking Blue Badge fraud action days, seizing 24 for misuse.
- This financial year, our fraud team identified savings related to fraud and prevented the loss of more than £9.6 million.

### Improving social and private housing

- As part of the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, the council has improved the energy-efficiency of 157 homes across the borough by installing loft insulation, double glazing, heat recovery extractor fans and new roofs.
- The communal boiler at Darrel Charles Court was replaced with an energy-efficient unit.
- New sprinkler systems were installed at high-rise blocks Fairlie House and Rabbs Mill House and The Gouldings sheltered housing scheme.

### Delivering new homes

- The Gouldings sheltered housing scheme will be decommissioned and turned into accommodation for homeless people following a review which revealed a surplus of council homes for older people.
- As part of the council's homes expansion project, a property on Manor Way is being extended from a three to four-bedroom home.

## A digital-enabled, modern, well-run council

### Communities celebrate and mourn

- Communities celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, with the council supporting residents to hold street parties at Hamilton Road, Kent Close, Queens Road and Kings Road, Bawtree Road and Lanresse Close. The Mayor's Platinum Jubilee Picnic in Fassnidge Park was enjoyed by hundreds of residents.
- The borough united to mourn the death of Queen Elizabeth II, with a book of condolence and space to leave floral tributes opened at the Civic Centre.
- Hillingdon marked the Coronation of King Charles III, with the council supporting street parties at Kent Close, Water Tower Close, Myddleton Road, Queens Road and Kings Road.

### Fighting ULEZ expansion

- Hillingdon launched a Judicial Review, alongside other councils, to challenge Transport for London and the Mayor of London's decision to expand the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) to outer London because of significant concerns about its social and economic impact. Although the challenge was dismissed by the High Court, our fight continues by lobbying government.

### Cost of living support

- In response to cost of living pressures, the council continues to offer and promote a range of initiatives to support residents, including the Household Support Fund. Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/cost-of-living](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/cost-of-living).
- The council's Holiday Activities and Food programme supports families

by providing activities for children in receipt of free school meals during the school holidays.

- Warm welcome centres and an activities programme are in operation across the borough during winter.

### Modernising services

- 153,000 residents have registered for a MyAccount and are contacting us online. Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/myaccount](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/myaccount).
- The council introduced a new voice-automated call centre system, which supports the caller by providing a digital link to make a report or to request information quickly without having to queue on the phone.
- A new digital parking permit system was introduced to help residents and businesses apply for and renew permits.
- PayByPhone launched across the borough, giving residents the added option of paying for their parking 'on the go' using an app on their phone. Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/paybyphone](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/paybyphone).

### Enhancing digital connectivity

- Investment was secured from Openreach for 10 exchanges which will connect thousands of homes and businesses with 'Full Fibre' broadband.
- The council partnered with the Good Things Foundation through the National Databank Project to provide residents on low incomes with free SIM cards and/or monthly top-ups, including Uxbridge Library.

## Thriving, healthy households



### Investing in leisure facilities

- The council created a new group cycle studio, activity room, expanded gym space and introduced new fitness equipment at Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Complex as part of a £2.25 million council leisure centre investment programme to modernise equipment and surroundings for residents to get fit in.

### A new chapter for libraries

- The council agreed a five-year Library Strategy, setting out its commitment to providing a first-class service and ensuring it is efficient and sustainable for the future.
- The council is proposing to relocate Uxbridge Library to the Civic Centre (subject to planning approval), to enhance facilities, improve access, deliver carbon efficiencies and reinvigorate the High Street. The move will also help to centralise the facility alongside other services which have also recently been brought into the Civic Centre, including Uxbridge Family Hub and Learn Hillingdon, our adult education service.

### Supporting young people and families

- Family hubs will be expanded boroughwide, building on existing services, such as children's centres, to offer enhanced and joined up support for families from pregnancy to adulthood within their local communities.
- A new Youth Offer was agreed, which will launch in April and reflect the diverse needs of today's young people by offering a more flexible format, delivering services locally using existing council buildings, family hubs and digital services.
- The council's Project SEARCH supported internship scheme provides work experience for young people with a learning disability or autism at the Civic Centre.

### More school places

- Works are underway at Meadow High School to expand it in two phases, creating a satellite school in Harefield with 90 extra places and building a new classroom block at the existing site.

### Supporting older residents

- Over-65s can benefit from free swimming and swimming lessons, free allotments, a winter heater loan scheme and MOVES exercise classes. Over-75s can also receive the TeleCareLine service for free. Tea dances for over-65s are held at Christ Church.
- The council launched a falls prevention toolkit to help older people identify risks that could affect them as well as offering practical steps to reduce them. Weekly strength and balance classes take place at Uxbridge Library.
- Residents and carers living with dementia can access a range of council support and activities, including reminiscence sessions, chair exercise, bingo and music. A weekly dementia-friendly coffee morning takes place at Uxbridge Library.
- The council held Older People's and Disability assemblies at the Civic Centre.

### Promoting health

- The council organised more than 100 events in local libraries to mark February's National Heart Month, including health checks, talking therapy sessions and free activities to improve fitness. It included a guided bike ride from Uxbridge Library to Cranford Park.
- Each week, two led walks start at Uxbridge Library and tour Hillingdon's green spaces. Find out more at [discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/led-walks](http://discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/led-walks).
- In November 2022, a men's health event was held at Uxbridge Library.



**REVITALISING UXBRIDGE TOWN CENTRE**  
A parquet (outdoor seating area) introduced at Bar Italia during the COVID-19 pandemic was made permanent



**SUPPORTING OLDER RESIDENTS**  
An International Day of the Older Person event was held at the Pavilions shopping centre in 2022 and 2023



**LEARN WITH HILLINGDON**  
Uxbridge adult education centre was relocated to the Civic Centre

## A thriving economy



### Roads, footpaths and street lighting

- Part of the footpaths on Honeycroft Hill and Station Road were resurfaced.
- Christmas trees were erected outside Uxbridge Tube station and on the Civic Centre forecourt. Christmas lights were installed on lamp columns and in trees in Belmont Road, High Street, Vine Street and Windsor Street.
- Our street lighting replacement programme replaces street lighting columns at the end of their life, gullies on highways are cleaned either annually, six-monthly or three-monthly, and faded line markings are repainted as necessary.

### Revitalising Uxbridge town centre

- A new masterplan to help revitalise Uxbridge town centre is being developed by the council. The masterplan will look to enhance the town centre's economic and environmental sustainability, and accessibility. Part of the plan will look at improving connectivity of residential areas to the town centre and the St Andrew's Park development to the High Street.

### Learn with Hillingdon

- The council relocated its Uxbridge adult education centre to the Civic Centre creating a £875,000 purpose-built new facility in the heart of Uxbridge. Learn Hillingdon offers hundreds of part-time day, evening and weekend adult education courses at centres and virtually. Find out more at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/adultlearning](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/adultlearning).

# Contacting your Uxbridge ward councillors



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For more information about council services, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk)

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**It's quicker and easier to report issues to us online.**

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