

# REDBRIDGE **LIFE**



## REFUSE COLLECTION

Christmas collection  
dates

**page 22**



## COVID-19 KEEP SAFE

Important information  
and updates

**pages 18-19**



## FAIRLOP WATERS EXPANSION

250 acres of additional  
green space

**page 11**



Season's Greetings



## Looking for something to do this winter?

Sign up for the latest news

Check out some of the best events taking place in the borough on our events calendar



### Facebook

Visit [www.facebook.com/redbridgelive](http://www.facebook.com/redbridgelive) and 'like' our page. This is a great way to find out about events and community activities in the borough.



### Instagram

Follow our Instagram page for the best photos from across our borough. [www.instagram.com/redbridgecouncil](http://www.instagram.com/redbridgecouncil)



### Twitter

Follow us on Twitter @redbridgelive for the latest news as it happens and updates such as changes to services, news announcements and consultations. [www.twitter.com/redbridgelive](http://www.twitter.com/redbridgelive)

### YouTube

Keep up to date with our latest videos by subscribing to our YouTube Channel. [www.youtube.com/redbridgei](http://www.youtube.com/redbridgei)



### Email

Subscribe at [www.redbridge.gov.uk/redbridgelive](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/redbridgelive) to receive free monthly emails about local news, events and services.

# HAVE YOUR SAY AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

All meetings will be online. See our website for information and links to join.

## Council Meetings

15 December 2020 **7.15pm**  
12 January 2021 **7.15pm**  
11 February 2021 **7.15pm**  
16 March 2021 **7.15pm**

To ask a question at a council meeting, please send a written notice of your question to the council questions mailbox at [councilquestions@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:councilquestions@redbridge.gov.uk), by midday on the third working day prior to the meeting (i.e. normally midday on the Monday before a Thursday meeting).

## Cabinet Meetings

21 January 2021 **7.15pm**  
25 February 2021 **7.15pm – Budget Council**  
25 March 2021 **7.15pm**

If you would like to speak at a Cabinet meeting, please inform our democratic services officer by 5pm the working day before the meeting at which you wish to speak. Contact: Helena Tredgold, email [Helena.Tredgold@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:Helena.Tredgold@redbridge.gov.uk) or call 020 8708 2203

## Council Meetings Councillor surgeries

Due to COVID-19, there are currently no councillor surgeries. Please contact councillors by email or over the phone [www.redbridge.gov.uk/councillors](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/councillors) or call 020 8554 5000

## Scrutiny Committees

### Overview Committee

14 December 2020 **7.15pm**  
11 January 2021 **7.15pm**  
10 February 2021 **7.15pm**

### People Scrutiny Committee

7 December 2020 **7.15pm**  
8 February 2021 **7.15pm**

### Place Scrutiny Committee

8 December 2020 **7.15pm**  
8 February 2021 **5.30pm**

### Education Scrutiny Panel

26 January 2021 **7.15pm**

Public participation at meetings is welcomed. To find out more information go to [www.redbridge.gov.uk/publicmeetings](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/publicmeetings) or contact: Kalbinder Benning, tel: 020 8708 2465 or Jilly Szymanski, tel: 020 8708 2739

### Health Scrutiny Committee

14 January 2021 **7.15pm**

### Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

10 December 2020 **7.15pm**  
9 February 2021 **7.15pm**

### External Scrutiny Panel

7 January 2021 **7.15pm**

### Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

15 December 2020 **5pm**

## Customer Service opening times

**The customer face to face centre is operating a telephone only appointment service between 9am to 4pm**

**The telephone contact centre is open 8am to 6pm**

**Our call centre opening hours over Christmas and the New year:**

20-24 December 2020	8am to 6pm
25-28 December 2020	Closed
29-30 December 2020	8am to 6pm
31 Dec 2020 – 3 Jan 2021	Closed
4 January 2021	Opening times return as normal

## Produced by Redbridge Council

The editor can be contacted on 020 8708 3766 or email: [redbridge.life@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:redbridge.life@redbridge.gov.uk)

London Borough of Redbridge, PO BOX No.2, Town Hall, 128-142 High Road, Ilford, IG1 1DD.

**Distribution problem?** Contact 020 8708 2282 or email [redbridge.life@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:redbridge.life@redbridge.gov.uk)

Redbridge Life is published quarterly. Redbridge Council does not accept responsibility for any goods or services offered by advertisers. Publication of an advert does not imply endorsement of any goods or services offered.

To see advertisement rates visit: [www.redbridge.gov.uk/redbridgelife](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/redbridgelife) or call 020 8708 2282

**Next issue out in March**



# LEADER'S MESSAGE



## Dear Residents,

This year has been incredibly tough for many of us. Our ways of living and working have completely changed, and we have all had to adapt to a new 'normal'. However, despite all the difficulties and challenges of the pandemic 2020 has also been remarkable in some very positive ways as we have come together to support friends, family, and strangers in a truly humbling example of community spirit right across Redbridge.

There have been great acts of humanity and kindness with people pitching in to help each other. Whether by shopping for a neighbour, picking up a prescription, or just reaching out over the phone to help someone feeling isolated.

I've never been prouder to be the Leader of this great borough and I want to reassure you that we, your council, are here for you and will continue to provide all the help and support that we can as together we fight this virus.

At the start of the pandemic, we took swift action, working with our partners in the public sector and the numerous charities and community groups to:

- deliver 801 food parcels to those in need
- set up a Wellbeing Service which made 19,486 telephone calls to our most vulnerable residents
- help 180 people sleeping rough off the streets and into accommodation to help keep them safe

## Welcome to the Winter edition of Redbridge Life



Council Leader Jas Athwal collecting PPE from staff at Seven Kings School

- maintain recycling and rubbish collections for 108,000 homes
- keep our parks and green spaces open so residents could exercise and safely enjoy being outside

We also ensured 3,217 businesses in our borough could stay afloat by paying out more than £46.12 million of grant funding.

And we played an instrumental role in ensuring thousands of children in Redbridge could return to school safely and resume their education after six months away from the classroom.

On the subject of schools, you may have seen the fantastic campaign spearheaded by the footballer Marcus Rashford to make sure underprivileged schoolchildren have access to free food over the holidays.

We are determined that in our borough, no child should go hungry. That is why, following the government's decision to vote against a motion to provide 1.4m disadvantaged children across the country with food vouchers during school holidays, we stepped in.

Across Redbridge, almost 7,000 children rely on free school lunches. Ensuring children get the food they need over the holidays is fundamentally the right thing to do, and I'm proud that our council made the decision to provide free school meals over half term and Christmas so that no child would go hungry on our watch.

To help make this Christmas special for local children the Deputy Leader of the Council, Cllr Kam Rai has organised a Christmas float which will travel in and around our shopping centres in December. The float will be collecting money for local children's charities.

I know this festive season will seem different and slightly strange compared to what we're all used to, but I also know that we can come out of this stronger, if we continue to work together to look after each other.

So whatever this festive season brings, please remember to keep well, stay safe, and be kind.

**Councillor Jas Athwal**  
Leader of Redbridge Council



# LOCAL NEWS & VIEWS

## Mercato Metropolitano food market coming to Ilford

**Mercato Metropolitano started work in October on a new sustainable community market as part of Ilford's new cultural quarter.**

The project is part of Redbridge Council's vision for Ilford's future, which has included the opening of the SPACE artist studio area and gallery in the town hall.

Mercato will transform Ilford Town Hall's car park into a truly sustainable covered food market for the community, contributing to a more inclusive

day and night economy and providing access to natural and sustainable food for local people.

Visitors and residents will be able to participate in food education events, nutrition programmes and other entertainment and educational events. The market will include space for up to 30 stalls and generate jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities for the local area.

The project is a collaboration between Mercato Metropolitano (MM), the operator of sustainable and inclusive community food markets, Redbridge Council, and the Mayor of London. In 2018, the Council helped secure a £1.8 million grant from the London Economic Action Partnership and the Mayor of London's Good Growth Fund, a £70 million public fund dedicated to urban regeneration projects.



### Redbridge secures £4m to tackle homelessness

This money will be used to support Redbridge's rough sleepers through the coming winter. It also gives us some hope that we will achieve our goal to end rough sleeping in the borough. Much of this money has been earmarked to convert space at the Ryedale hostel into self-contained studio flats and we are looking for another site to create 'move on' supported accommodation. The funding also helps us support people to rebuild their lives to help them keep off the street for good.

#### Report a concern about someone sleeping rough

We believe everyone has a responsibility to end rough sleeping. If you see someone sleeping rough, please don't just walk by. You can help by reporting a rough sleeper through the national [www.streetlink.org.uk](http://www.streetlink.org.uk) website or by calling StreetLink on 0300 500 0914. They will arrange access to local services and support. You can also contact our housing service team at [housing.options@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:housing.options@redbridge.gov.uk) who will refer the details to the local outreach service. They will visit the rough sleeper and help them to access accommodation. If you believe a rough sleeper's health is in danger, please call 999.

### Fraudsters are taking advantage of the coronavirus pandemic

Unfortunately, thieves are using the coronavirus outbreak to extort money from residents or gain access to people's homes.

Please be aware of some recent fraudulent scams around business grants and council tax refund letters that look legitimate. If you do receive a letter which you think might be a scam, do not call the recommended number or visit the website, instead contact us at our call centre **020 8554 5000** or visit [www.redbridge.gov.uk/scams](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/scams) for more advice.



#### Suspicious emails

The National Cyber Security Centre has advice on how you can protect your passwords, accounts and devices. You can report suspicious emails to them to stop coronavirus related scams [www.ncsc.gov.uk](http://www.ncsc.gov.uk)

Find more information on scams on our website [www.redbridge.gov.uk/scams](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/scams)



# LOCAL NEWS & VIEWS

## Council partner **Box Up Crime** launch brand new gym in Ilford



Box Up Gym in Ilford

**In October, Redbridge Council supported charity partner Box Up Crime to open a new gym in Ilford, offering free classes and mentorship to local young people every Thursday.**

The new state-of-the-art facility includes a professional boxing ring, in-house music studio, and a teaching classroom. It will also serve as the new home training gym for British light-heavyweight Anthony Yarde.

The gym provides free boxing sessions to young people aged 7-19, where they can learn new boxing skills, work with mentors, and engage with professional boxers and coaches. The free sessions aim to give young people focus and discipline as well as being good for their physical and mental health.

The council was able to support Box Up Crime through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), money we negotiated from developers to fund facilities which benefit our community.

The gym launch was attended by Anthony Yarde, who delivered a motivational speech to young people, Council Leader Cllr Jas Athwal and Box Up Crime founder, Stephen Addison.

Stephen Addison said: "It was a dream come true opening The Box Up gym in Ilford, creating a safe space where young people can train alongside future world champions and role models and channel their energy in a productive way.

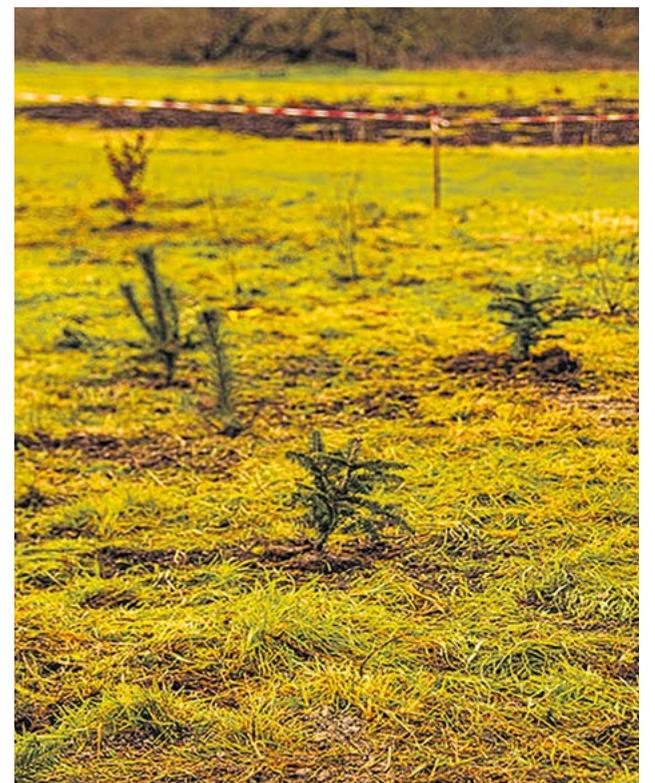
"Not being scared to dream is something this facility promotes to young people. The gym has become a refuge for the kids on the street to find hope in creating a better future from an uncertain past."

For free class details visit [www.boxupcrime.org](http://www.boxupcrime.org)



Anthony Yarde

## Brand new biodiverse woodland coming to Seven Kings Park



A new biodiverse woodland area is being created in Redbridge offering picturesque natural green space for residents to enjoy, and for wildlife to thrive.

Redbridge and its partner organisation Vision RCL have teamed up with environmental charity Trees for Cities to create the new stretch of woodland north of Seven Kings Park.

The initiative is officially laying its roots down with several socially distanced planting days at the park to home the 5000 trees which will revitalise the space into thriving woodland.

Among the different species of trees are being planted are Alder, Hornbeam, Walnut and Oak.

As the trees grow they will create a vibrant outdoor space for people to enjoy, as well as help clean the air and create a natural environment to support habitats and food for urban wildlife.

The Seven Kings Woodlands project is funded by the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).



# LOCAL NEWS & VIEWS

## COVID-19 – fines issued to the tune of £20,000

A new multi-agency taskforce set up to crackdown on local businesses flouting COVID-19 rules has already issued fines to the tune of approximately £20,000.

The 4Es taskforce, which includes Redbridge Council and the Metropolitan Police, carries out compliance checks on businesses to offer support and check they are operating safely within government guidelines. The taskforce aims to engage, encourage and educate first, but when that fails, they enforce the rules.

The Fixed Penalty Notices of £1,000 were issued to licensed premises for not complying with the 10pm curfew or the recently introduced Track and Trace system. Businesses who have failed to display the NHS QR code posters in their windows have also been fined.

The taskforce responded to reports of an illegal music event at the Basement Shisha Lounge, Goodmayes Road. They found more than 70 people inside the venue. Police officers were stopped from entering, verbally and physically abused, and fire extinguishers were fired directly at them.

The owner, Mr Ajmal Ali of 129 Neville Road, Forest Gate, was fined £1,000 and the business banned from trading from 2nd to 28th October.

Redbridge Council Leader, Cllr Jas Athwal, said: "We currently have one of the highest infection rates in London, so we've been very proactive with local businesses, ensuring they are up to speed with the latest COVID-19 regulations and know how to keep local people safe.

"The vast majority of businesses are following the rules. However, it is concerning and disappointing to hear of premises trying their luck.

"The Shisha Lounge incident was shocking and totally unacceptable. The owner completely disregarded public safety, displaying the type of selfish behaviour that will drive up infection rates. Thanks to our hardworking enforcement officers and local police, we were able to temporarily shut down the business and issue a hefty fine."

**People can report businesses that are not following the COVID-19 rules online here [www.redbridge.gov.uk/reportit](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/reportit)**

## Cabinet Office visit

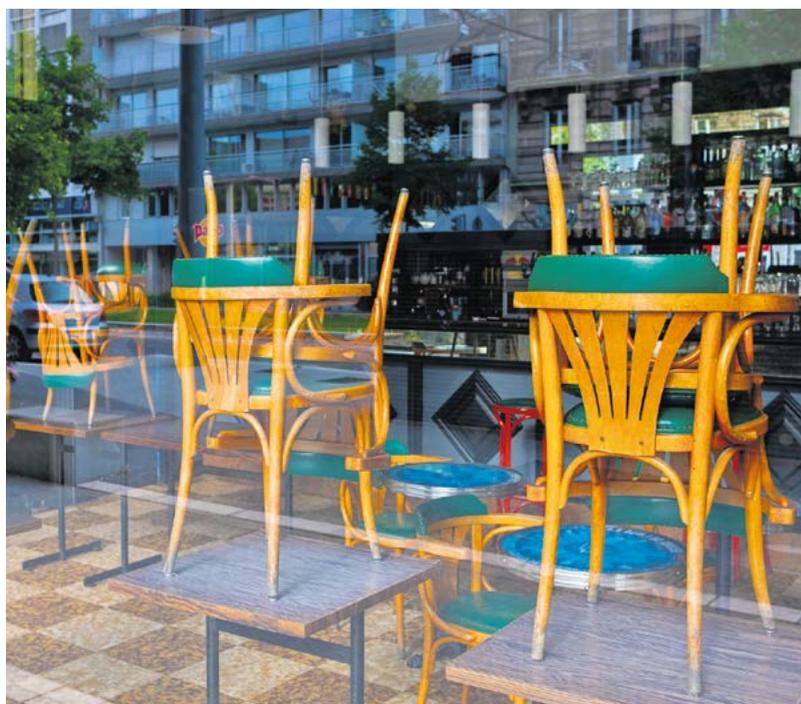
In October, we welcomed colleagues from the Cabinet Office to Redbridge.

The purpose of the visit was for senior officials in the Cabinet Office to meet our enforcement team members and get a feel for the type of work and challenges they are facing day-to-day with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Redbridge has been identified as one of the councils in London that has taken a positive approach towards educating residents and businesses about the national COVID-19 guidelines.



## Council cracks down on Woodford restaurant for flouting COVID-19 rules



Redbridge Council took swift and decisive action against the owners of a restaurant and bar in Woodford Bridge that was failing to comply with social distancing guidelines.

On Friday 28 August, officers from the council visited the premises to carry out a compliance inspection. On arrival the officers found a bustling restaurant with little to no compliance with COVID-19 social distancing guidelines.

Groups of people were seated and standing within the premises. On the first floor, where there is a second bar, open dance area, and disco lights, more than 40 people were standing with less than ten people seated. The open floor area was congested, while a DJ was also playing music.

The venue owner admitted to council officers that he had failed to adhere to the legislative guidelines to keep people safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cllr Mark Santos, Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care, Mental Health & the Ageing, said: "This should serve as a warning to other businesses that think they can defy the rules without consequences. The health and safety of people in the borough is our number one priority, and we will do whatever we can to protect them."



# LOCAL NEWS & VIEWS

## Support local good causes with a chance to win a £25,000 jackpot with the first Redbridge Local Lottery draw

**Redbridge Local Lottery is an exciting new weekly lottery that helps raise money for good causes in the area. All good causes supported by the lottery benefit our communities and its residents.**

In September we invited any community group or voluntary organisation to sign up and get involved in the Redbridge Local Lottery. The following groups are now registered as a good cause:

- Age UK Redbridge Barking and Havering
- Chadwell Heath South Residents' Association
- Kahani Arts
- Our Lady of Lourdes Wanstead, Parent Teacher Association
- Redbridge Music Lounge
- South Woodford Society
- Bin Knives Save Lives Ilford CIC

By signing up, each group is now able to secure additional funding through the lottery to help them continue to provide support and assistance. From every £1 ticket sale, 50p goes towards a good cause of your choice, double the National Lottery contribution rates. And you are in with a chance of winning up to £25,000.

### **Sumerah, Organizer at Kahani Arts, said:**

"We are a multi-disciplinary arts organisation that platforms British Asian artists who are currently under-represented in the industry.

**kahani  
arts**

As a not-for-profit community interest company based in Redbridge, we aim to bring about social cohesion and improve inclusivity amongst the local community by sharing British Asian stories, culture and history to challenge perceptions and create an open dialogue through engagement with the arts."

### Some of the good causes registered so far include:



### **Louise, the Co-Chair from South Woodford Society, said:**

"We love the idea that our supporters can choose to help us through the local lottery, plus it's great that they also get a chance to win a prize for themselves!

"The South Woodford Society is a community organisation who rely on fundraising alone, so this extra funding will help us to pursue our plans to regreen South Woodford and help with our work to create a Neighbourhood Plan."

If your voluntary sector organisation would like to get involved, please sign up.

It's free and easy to do at [www.redbridgelottery.co.uk/good-causes/apply](http://www.redbridgelottery.co.uk/good-causes/apply)



### **Rama Muraleetharan, Chairman, Chadwell Heath South Residents' Association, said:**

"We are calling on residents to please support the local lottery as our Association helps to deliver major community projects that emerge from identifying local needs".

Three major projects we are currently working on:

- Embassy Cinema Restoration Project
- Station Road Mural
- John William Sayer Statue

These projects vary in scale but complement local regeneration. All fulfil our aim of encouraging social cohesion, preserving our borough's heritage and promoting arts and culture.



## First draw on Saturday 19 December

**Purchase your local lottery tickets at [www.redbridgelottery.co.uk](http://www.redbridgelottery.co.uk) and be involved in one of our Saturday draws. Any winners will be notified via email, and if you match all 6 numbers you win the JACKPOT!**

English for every day

FREE English courses for Beginners



**FREE** English classes offered by **Redbridge Institute** at two locations and online. Come and learn English, meet new people and improve your IT skills, all in a safe and friendly environment. **We will provide you with a laptop to access learning online during your course.** 90 people in Redbridge have started their learning already.

Join us for:

- ✓ English classes for beginners
- ✓ Conversation Clubs for all levels

Classes start in January. Book your place now!

Enquire online here: [bit.ly/EnglishforEveryDay](https://bit.ly/EnglishforEveryDay)

[www.redbridge-iae.ac.uk/english-for-every-day](http://www.redbridge-iae.ac.uk/english-for-every-day)



Find out more:

020 8550 2398

[efeproject@redbridgeinstitute.ac.uk](mailto:efeproject@redbridgeinstitute.ac.uk)



Interested in a career in childcare? Places are available in January.

020 8550 2398

[enquiries@redbridge-iae.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@redbridge-iae.ac.uk)

Follow us: @rediae    

# ONLINE AND OPEN FOR LEARNING

Learn with Redbridge Institute, online or in class, choose from a range of courses to suit you and enjoy learning in a safe way.

- Lots of courses are low fee or free for eligible learners.
- Many online Level 2 qualifications available.
- Courses designed to help you get back to work.
- Basic digital skills courses to get you online.
- Arts and craft facilities have been made Covid-secure and are ready to welcome you back.
- Chromebooks available for learners who need them.

Visit our website to see our full range of courses and book online now.

[www.redbridge-iae.ac.uk](http://www.redbridge-iae.ac.uk)

London Borough of

**Redbridge**



Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

SUPPORTED BY

**MAYOR OF LONDON**





# HEALTH IN REDBRIDGE

## Still time to book your flu jab this winter

Help keep yourself, your friends and your family members safe this winter by booking a free flu vaccination. Catching COVID-19 and the flu together may cause severe complications and can be fatal.

### You or a family member are especially vulnerable to the flu if you are in one of the following high-risk groups:

- aged 65 and over
- children aged two and three
- children in reception class to Year 7
- pregnant
- people with long-term health conditions such as a heart, lung, kidney or liver disease, carers of older or disabled people, and those on the shielded list

Check to see if you, or a family member are in a high-risk group at:

[www.nhs.uk/flu vaccine](http://www.nhs.uk/flu vaccine)

If you haven't yet booked your free flu jab, contact your GP surgery or visit your local pharmacy as the flu vaccine can help to reduce the risk of co-infection.

### If you do catch the flu

- stay at home to prevent it spreading
- rest and sleep
- keep warm
- take paracetamol or ibuprofen to lower your temperature and treat aches and pains
- drink plenty of water
- contact your local pharmacy to discuss flu remedies
- call NHS 111 if you have an underlying health condition or feel very unwell.



### Why is the vaccine so important this year?

With the circulation of coronavirus, it is more important than ever to get a flu vaccination. People with respiratory diseases such as COPD, emphysema or asthma are seven times more likely to die if they catch flu compared to those that don't, and people with cardiovascular problems such as chronic heart disease or angina, or those who have had a stroke, are 11 times more likely to die or have serious issues.

Children are super spreaders of flu. Vaccinating children not only helps to prevent them falling ill with flu, it also protects members within your family and community from the spread of flu.



### Services are still open over Christmas

If you need sexual health services, please visit one of the many free Local Sexual Health Clinics.

You can contact them on **020 8924 6674**

or [www.bhrhospitals.nhs.uk/sexual-health](http://www.bhrhospitals.nhs.uk/sexual-health)

You can also visit [www.alleast.nhs.uk](http://www.alleast.nhs.uk) for further information or to contact their Stratford clinics.

You can also order an online home STI testing kit at:

[www.freetesting.hiv](http://www.freetesting.hiv)

If you are under 25, you can visit a pharmacy for emergency contraception, condom supply and chlamydia screening and treatment. See available list at <http://mylife.redbridge.gov.uk>

# Tackling rogue landlords in Redbridge

**Housing Enforcement Officers have issued 488 fines to rogue landlords caught breaking property licensing and housing laws in Redbridge.**

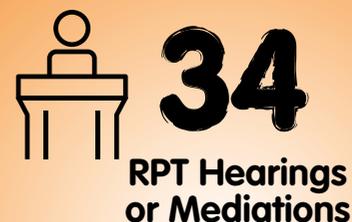
Landlords are reminded to take their legal responsibilities seriously. As well as making sure you have a property licence in place if you need one, please make sure that you are keeping up to date, and complying with all the relevant regulations.

Landlord responsibilities fall under a variety of legislation which includes The Housing Act 2004, Housing and Planning Act 2016, Homes (Fitness for Human Habitation) Act 2018, and more recent regulations under the Electrical Safety Standards in the Private Rented Sector (England) Regulations 2020 and the Energy Efficiency (Private Rented Property) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2019.

Landlords across the borough are also advised that ALL rented properties that are houses in multiple occupation (HMO) are required to be licenced and comply with mandatory HMO management regulations.

The Council has powers to issue hefty fines of up to £30,000 as an alternative to prosecution for non-compliance with legal responsibilities.

For further information and advice please contact the property licensing and enforcement teams by email [prslicensing@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:prslicensing@redbridge.gov.uk)



**LICENCE ONLINE  
AVOID THE FINE.**

## LANDLORDS!

Please check whether your rental property requires a licence. If you are found to have an unlicensed property and you do not comply within 7 days then the Council will proceed with enforcement action.

The Leader of Redbridge Council, Cllr Jas Athwal commented:

“Licensing and other housing laws help protect our most vulnerable tenants and ensure that privately rented accommodation in Redbridge is safe and of a decent standard. This is important for our residents who rent their homes as poor quality housing has a detrimental impact on health and quality of life. Our enforcement team will not hesitate to take action against rogue landlords who flout the law.”

Information on property licensing, including how to apply for a licence can be found on:  
<https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/housing/private-rentals/apply-for-a-property-licence/>



# LOCAL NEWS & VIEWS



## Have your say on Fairlop Waters

Aerial image of Fairlop Waters

Redbridge Council has announced bold and exciting plans to preserve and expand Fairlop Waters, adding 250 acres of green space to the existing park over the coming years.



Fairlop Waters is one of the largest country parks in Redbridge, home to expansive green space, two lakes, and a wide range of outdoor activities, including the Boulder Park and High Ropes.

Following a huge increase in visitor numbers to the park during the pandemic, the Council has launched an engagement exercise to find out what additional leisure, cultural and environmental facilities local people would like to see in Fairlop Waters.

In 2020, parks and green spaces have become even more valuable for our health and wellbeing, providing us with essential spaces to relax, explore, and discover during a time of restrictions, uncertainty, and loss.

We have been working with the community engagement social enterprise 'Street Space' to engage with residents, businesses, and organisations to understand what the park means to them and begin to collectively create an exciting and inspiring vision for Fairlop Waters.



Cllr Jas Athwal, Leader of Redbridge Council

This vision could include wildlife conservation areas, wildflower meadows, additional walking and cycling routes, hospitality options, and a wild swimming area, to name just a few ideas.

Through a series of on-site conversations, online workshops, and unique collaborations with local groups, the Council will be seeking views from residents.

**We're holding an online event on Wednesday 16 December at 6pm. Please join us to find out more about Our Future Fairlop and what we've learnt through our engagement with people in the local community.**

**Please join us on Facebook at <https://fb.me/e/1PXvyhrm6>**

For more information and to get involved in helping to shape the future of Fairlop, please contact us at [fairlop@wearestreetspace.org](mailto:fairlop@wearestreetspace.org) or check the dedicated Facebook and Instagram pages and online at <https://letstalkredbridge.uk/engagementhq.com/our-future-fairlop>



# CLEAN & GREEN

## We have some wheelie great news – Your new bins are coming in Spring 2021!

Redbridge streets are set to put messy, ripped bin bags behind them as most residents will be getting a new, free wheelie bin. The wheelie bins will be hitting homes across the borough from spring and will help reduce the amount of street rubbish on bin collection day.

The roll-out follows a successful pilot earlier this year which saw a reduction in household rubbish, and an increase in recycling among those involved. Feedback from the pilot also revealed that the majority found wheelie bins easier to use than rubbish sacks, and an improvement in the overall street scene with less ripped rubbish sacks and less spillage seen in collection days.

The new bins will store household rubbish that can't be recycled and will replace existing rubbish sacks that householders currently leave out for collection.

There won't be any changes to your collection day during the roll out of the bins in Spring. However, there may be some changes in future months – but don't worry if there are, we'll let you know as soon as possible.

Your current recycling boxes will stay the same – remember you can have as many recycling boxes as you need!

Each household will receive a 180 litre black wheelie bin which holds around three black sacks of rubbish. Please put your house number on the bin when it arrives!

Each household will receive a **180 litre grey wheelie bin** which holds around **three black sacks** of rubbish. Please put your house number on the bin when it arrives!



New  
year

To find out more  
information visit,  
[www.redbridge.gov.uk/wheeliebin](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/wheeliebin)

Spring  
2021

Wheelie bins  
delivered

We'll also be in touch with more info  
through the post in the New Year.



# OUR STREETS

Help us create great streets and neighbourhoods

You can request a smaller or larger bin based on your households requirements and if you meet the criteria.

The move to using wheelie bins is part of the borough's commitment to helping residents recycle more, and to reach a recycling rate of 50% across Redbridge.

**Residents who are exempt from the roll-out because their property cannot accommodate a wheelie bin will be provided with an alternative scheme.**

**Affected households will be contacted.**

For more information visit [www.redbridge.gov.uk/wheeliebin](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/wheeliebin)

We currently collect around **22m** rubbish sacks each year which costs



We aim to reach a recycling rate of **50 per cent** across Redbridge

## What are the benefits of your new wheelie bin?

### Cleaner streets and less mess

The new bins will store your rubbish much more securely, helping prevent animals from ripping open rubbish bags and making a mess of gardens and streets. This is unpleasant for everyone and costly to clean up.



### More recycling

The more you can recycle, the more you can maximise the space in your new wheelie bin, and do your bit to protect the environment. Need extra recycling boxes? You can order them from our website

[www.redbridge.gov.uk/waste](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/waste)



There is a **£3.50** charge for delivery – or alternatively you can collect recycling boxes free of charge from our Ley Street Depot in Ilford.

### Saves money

Wheelie bins will increase the efficiency of collections, helping to save money that could be spent on other services like schools, social care or road maintenance. We know some businesses take advantage of the current system by having their rubbish collected for free by putting their waste out in rubbish sacks for collection at the same time as households. Businesses should pay for their waste to be collected, and the wheelie bins will help to reduce any confusion on collection day.

**To keep up to date with the new wheelie bin service sign up to our email newsletter: [www.redbridge.gov.uk/signup](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/signup) or follow us on social media @redbridgelive**





# LOCAL NEWS & VIEWS

**ILLEGAL DUMPING**

Don't dump waste on the street. It's illegal and you could receive a **£400** fine!

**"It's disgusting and disrespectful"**

Find out how to dispose of waste properly: [www.redbridge.gov.uk/waste](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/waste)  
Report illegal dumping at: [www.redbridge.gov.uk/report-it](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/report-it)

## New campaign launched to tackle rubbish dumping in Redbridge

October saw the launch of a new campaign aimed at encouraging behaviour change to help tackle fly-tipping in the borough.

Our 'Illegal Dumping' campaign kicked-off in late October with a series of engagement days aimed at educating local communities on how to dispose of rubbish correctly and legally, informing about the penalties and consequences of illegal dumping, and how to report anyone spotted ditching their trash on our streets.

The engagement days targeted areas that had seen a surge in fly-tipping over the last few months, and saw council officers from Enforcement and the Neighbourhoods Team

speaking with local people, and distributing the 'Illegal Dumping' awareness leaflets.

Our 'Illegal Dumping' adverts are also running in the borough along bus routes and at locations near known fly-tipping hotspots. The eye-catching ads highlight the disgusting and disrespectful behaviour of those illegally dumping their trash, as well as directing viewers to more information on rubbish disposal and how to report illegal dumping in Redbridge.

The campaign has also gone digital via the council's social media sites, using a range of online videos focusing on educating, encouraging behaviour change, and demonstrating the harmful impact fly-tipping has on our neighbourhoods.

The 'Illegal Dumping' campaign will be running until the end of December, and supports our ongoing community engagement and enforcement work to tackle fly-tipping.

For more information about disposing of waste and recycling in the borough please visit [www.redbridge.gov.uk/waste](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/waste)



# LOCAL NEWS & VIEWS

## Community Hubs – full steam ahead

Despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Community Hubs programme has been moving forward in Gants Hill and Seven Kings, where over 100 people have been participating in online workshops to shape designs for the hubs in each area.

Redbridge Council is working with local people to design and deliver community hubs that reflect residents' priorities in areas across the borough. Hubs are physical buildings where neighbours can come together, run their own activities and access services closer to the community.

In Gants Hill, a group of 40 residents – joined by representatives from charity, business and political groups – worked with RCKa architects to develop ten 'design principles' for the Gants Hill Hub site. The group discussed the hub, green space, library, parking and housing through online workshops, engaging over 200 further residents in the process. The final report will be shared by the end of the year.

In Seven Kings, earlier in the year 50 residents and partner organisations came together with the council to decide the overall design for the Seven Kings Hub. A group of 35 residents from across the Seven Kings area – joined by a range of others – started meeting in October to

decide how the hub will run and how it will be laid out inside. This will feed into a report which will go to the Cabinet in the new year.

Find out more and how you can get involved please visit: <https://letstalkredbridge.uk.engagemthq.com/community-hubs>



## Redbridge wins top gong at National Planning Awards

**Redbridge Council's planning service has won the Local Authority Planning Team of the Year in the National Planning Awards 2020.**

Redbridge has experienced unprecedented growth, and as a result, planning application volume has grown to two and a half times the London average. The Redbridge planning service has consequently changed the way it works to meet this demand.

A rigorous effort has transformed the service. The department is now processing applications with far greater efficiency. The validation process length has fallen from five weeks to just 48 hours, and the average turnaround time to issue a decision on a household extension is five weeks.

The improvement has resulted in a reduction in caseload for each officer, from 125 applications to 25. This is compared to a national average of 35 applications per officer.

Applicants and residents now have a more responsive planning team, with officers spending more time on site visits.

Cllr Sheila Bain, Cabinet member for Planning and Planning Enforcement, said: "Well done to our planning service for winning this prestigious award. This is a testament to officers' hard work in turning the service around, and it illustrates the enormous progress made.

"We now have a planning service that is fit for purpose and one that can provide a much better service to our residents. They should all be very proud of their efforts."



## Advice and support for domestic abuse

**DON'T SUFFER IN SILENCE**



Reach Out is for any adult or child in Redbridge who either is, or fears being a victim of domestic abuse. We provide help and support, counselling and practical advice on issues such as housing, finance and benefits. If you need help, advice, or are concerned for somebody else:

- call Reach Out on 0800 145 6410
- email [reachout@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:reachout@redbridge.gov.uk)
- opening hours: Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm excluding bank holidays

### Out of hours

- call Refuge on 0808 200 0247
- opening hours: 24 hours a day, 7-days-a-week

**Remember, in an emergency, always call 999**

### Struggling to cope?

Reach Out also provides advice and support for adults who are struggling to cope with their behaviour, that may be causing a family member to be harmed or afraid.



Visit [www.redbridge.gov.uk/Reachout](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/Reachout)



# STAY CONNECTED THIS CHRISTMAS TH

Christmas might look a little different this year but there's still plenty of festive fun to be had, and lots of creative ways to stay connected to family, friends and your local community over the holidays.

Check our top tips to help keep the Christmas spirit alive, and bring you closer to the ones you love, even when you're apart.



## He's behind you! Don't miss out on the magic of panto

The Kenneth More Theatre will be spreading some socially distanced festive fun with this year's Christmas pantomime Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. The show will run from 9 December until 10 January 2021.

## Spread some kindness with the Community Advent Calendar

Start the season of goodwill with a Community Advent Calendar. This initiative is being run by antibullying ambassador Elsa Arnold, the founder of 'Spreading Kindness Through E11 Initiative'. Each day there will be a new challenge to complete on the calendar, from supporting local businesses and initiatives, to self-care days and staying connected with others. It's a great way to get the whole family involved with completing a fulfilling daily task in the run up to Christmas. For more info, or to order a printed or digital calendar contact Elsa on [elsamkarnold@gmail.com](mailto:elsamkarnold@gmail.com)



### A time for giving

One of our borough's greatest strengths has been the ability of our communities to pull together in a time of crisis. During this pandemic we've seen many wonderful and creative examples of people looking out for one another. Here are some simple ways you can help keep the Christmas spirit alive in Redbridge with an act of kindness.

#### Donate to a foodbank

Redbridge Foodbank:  
[www.redbridge.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/](http://www.redbridge.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/)

They urgently need the following items:

- Tinned goods e.g. meat, tomatoes, fruit and potatoes
- Instant Coffee and tea bags
- Sugar
- Long life juice
- Shampoo/shower gel



Fatima Foodbank:  
[www.fatimafoodbank.org/](http://www.fatimafoodbank.org/)

- **The Corner House Project:** A local initiative run by Redbridge residents to help support the homeless in East London. The group is always grateful for good, clean clothing donations (waterproof coats, warm jumpers). To offer help or for more info you can contact the Corner House Project at [info@cornerhouseproject.org](mailto:info@cornerhouseproject.org)
- **Volunteering:** Why not give some of your time to check-in on neighbours in case they are lonely this Christmas? Or offer to do a shop for vulnerable residents in your community. The NHS is also looking for volunteers to help:  
[www.goodsamapp.org/NHS](http://www.goodsamapp.org/NHS)

## Virtual Community Christmas concert

Get ready to sing along to Christmas classics from the comfort of your home thanks to a Virtual Community Christmas Concert. The concert will be held online Thursday 17 December, from 5pm to 6.30pm, and is organised by Elsa Arnold, the founder of 'Spreading Kindness Through E11 Initiative'. To watch the concert, you'll need to book your free ticket, which will provide the link to the concert.

Online services and carol singing are taking place through the Holy Trinity Barkingside:





# THROUGH FESTIVE FUN AND KINDNESS

## Santa Claus is coming to town – well, Redbridge

Santa Claus and his merry band of helpers will be visiting our town centres on a whistlestop tour of the borough on Saturday 19 December and Sunday 20 December.

Please join them for festive songs along the route that will fly through Barkingside, Gants Hill, Goodmayes, Hainault, Ilford, Seven Kings, Wanstead and Woodford. Organised by Vision Redbridge Culture & Leisure and the Deputy Leader, Cllr Kam Rai, Santa, and his helpers will be collecting donations for local children's charities.

Cllr Kam Rai said: "We've had such a difficult and challenging year, so it's important that we try and bring a bit of festive cheer to people out doing their Christmas shopping. We hope this gets people into the Christmas spirit, and any little donation for our local children's charities will be gratefully received."

For further information on timings, please visit <https://visionrcl.org.uk/>



## There is always support on the end of the line

During lockdown people may find they are spending more time on their own. This can sometimes feel lonely, especially for older residents. If you know an elderly person who may be struggling, or would just welcome a friendly chat, please get them to contact:

Age UK Redbridge on **020 8220 6000**

It isn't just our elderly residents who may be feeling lonely. Any resident who may be feeling isolated, or in need of a friendly conversation this winter can contact OrangeLine on **01708 758649**. They offer a confidential helpline for local people, and can help residents make connections or start new friendships, or simply provide guidance and information.

Lastly, if you know a friend, family member or neighbour who you think may be struggling with isolation, why not pop a card through their door, drop them a line, or simply pick-up the phone and give them a call. Not everyone will be busy this Christmas, nor is everyone able to access online support, so a kind word could make all the difference.



## Stay connected with a virtual Christmas party

A virtual party is a brilliant and fun way to spend time with friends and family when you can't all be there together physically. Here are some tips to help you host your own.

### The invite

Platforms like Zoom or Microsoft Teams can host your virtual party by enabling everyone to come together online. All your guests will need is the link to your online event so they can join in when the fun starts.

### Dress code

Don't let a good Christmas jumper go to waste! Encourage everyone to dress up festive for the occasion.

### Food

If everyone has a meal prepared you could eat together online. Why not let each other know what festive treats have been cooked up for the party! It's the perfect opportunity to share recipes.

### Catching up

Use your virtual party as an opportunity to catch up with each other. You can still have quality time with face-to-face online chats – it's almost as good as the real thing.

### Games

No party is complete without games and virtual games can be so much fun! Why not host a quiz? Or get active with an online scavenger hunt. Simply pick a judge, make a list of household items, and get started. Scavenger hunt works by calling out the name of a common household item and watching your family and friends scramble to find and get back the item to you in time. The first one to get the item wins the round and gets to be the judge for the next one. There's plenty of other game ideas floating around on the internet if you're in need of inspiration.



# COVID-19 NEWS

## Protect your friends, family and neighbours

This year has been extremely challenging. **Communities in Redbridge have come together** to help each other in so many ways, all to **#KeepRedbridgeSafe**, so let's not stop now.

We know Christmas is around the corner which might make it harder, but we should all still follow the **Tier 2 HIGH COVID-19 restrictions**. Between the 23rd and 27th December you can form a Christmas bubble of up to three different households. It is important that we all look after our physical and mental health throughout the winter months. For more information please go to our Coronavirus Hub at [www.redbridge.gov.uk](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk)

### Key differences between COVID-19 Alert Levels

 	
<b>Key differences between tiers in alert system</b>	
<b>TIER 1 - MEDIUM</b>	
Follow the rule of six if meeting indoors or outdoors	
Pubs and restaurants to shut at 11pm	
People encouraged to minimise travel and work from home where possible	
Spectators allowed at sports events and live performances (limited numbers)	
Personal care including hairdressing allowed	
<b>TIER 2 - HIGH</b>	
No household mixing indoors	
Rule of six will apply outdoors	
Pubs and restaurants to shut at 11pm	
Alcohol only served as part of substantial meal	
Spectators allowed at sports events and live performances (limited numbers)	
Personal care including hairdressing allowed	
<b>TIER 3 - VERY HIGH</b>	
No household mixing indoors or outdoors in hospitality venues or private gardens	
Rule of six applies in outdoor public spaces like parks	
Pubs/restaurants closed except for delivery and takeaway	
Indoor entertainment venues closed	
Guidance against travelling in and out of the area	
Personal care including hairdressing allowed	





# COVID-19 NEWS

## Testing and Tracing for coronavirus in Redbridge

### Self-isolation

#### When to self-isolate and what to do

Self-isolation is a legal requirement. It is when you do not leave your home because you have or might have coronavirus (COVID-19) which will help stop the virus spreading to other people.

You could be fined if you do not self-isolate.

#### You must self-isolate if:

- you have any coronavirus symptoms
- you've been tested positive for coronavirus
- you live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive
- you're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or the NHS COVID-19 app
- you arrive in the UK from a country with a high coronavirus risk

More information at: [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

### What is a support bubble?

A support bubble is made up of a close support network of one adult in the home (known as a single-adult household) and one other home of any size. More information at: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

### A SUPPORT BUBBLE

A support bubble is made up of a close support network of one adult in the home (known as a single-adult household) and one other home of any size.

Once you're in a support bubble, you can think of yourself as all being residents within the same home. This means you can have close contact with each other as one home but once you make a support bubble, you should not change who is in your bubble.

### Protect your loved ones: download the NHS COVID-19 App

More than 19 million people, 40% of all over-16s in England and Wales, have now downloaded the NHS COVID-19 app since it launched on the 24 September 2020.

#### On the app you can:

- check the risk alert level in your area by using the first half of your postcode
- find out more about coronavirus symptoms in a click of a button
- get assistance with booking tests
- check into hospitality venues with the QR venue check-in scanner

Any data shared within the app is held on the user's phone.

[www.covid19.nhs.uk](http://www.covid19.nhs.uk)

You can download the app in **Apple App Store** or **Google Play**.



## Get tested

It is important to get tested to help stop the spread of coronavirus.

Residents can do this by booking an appointment via the government testing portal to attend one of the three testing centres located throughout the borough, ordering an at-home testing kit or by calling 111.

**REMEMBER: Self-isolate as soon as you have any coronavirus symptoms (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough and/or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)**

#### Mildmay Road Car Park

1 Mildmay Rd  
Ilford, IG1 1HW

#### Gants Hill Library Car Park

Cranbrook Rd  
Ilford, IG2 6SX

#### Charteris Car Park

Charteris Road  
Woodford, IG8 0AL

All Testing Centres are opened 7 days a week, 8am – 8pm  
[www.redbridge.gov.uk/gettested](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/gettested)

Got time  
for a  
bedtime  
story?

London Borough of  
Redbridge



# Foster with Redbridge Council and change a young person's future

**Redbridge Council is encouraging residents to change a child or young person's future by becoming a foster carer.**

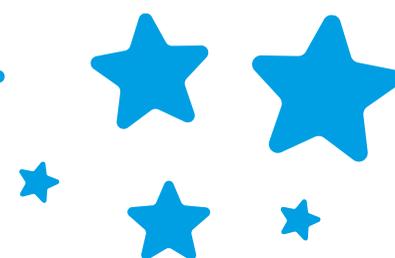
Fostering offers children and young people a much-needed home and provides a stable, safe environment until the time is right for them to return home or move into a permanent family. Many children in our area need the support and care of foster families. They come from all backgrounds and cultures and that's why we need a wide range of foster parents that reflect the diversity within our community to provide homes where children will fit in and feel part of a family.

If you are interested in becoming a foster carer, visit us at [www.redbridge.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/fostering) or get in touch on 020 8708 7528 | [fostering@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@redbridge.gov.uk)



# LOCAL NEWS & VIEWS

## Make this Christmas the most memorable yet. Change a Life. Foster for Redbridge.



Christmas is a time for celebrating with families but for some children this is not possible. More than 200 children currently need foster carers in Redbridge. You could make Christmas the most memorable yet for a child or young person by giving them the stable and loving home they deserve in 2021.

Sarah, 47, and her husband have been doing just that for the past 12 years whilst fostering for Redbridge Council. In that time, they have supported three children for many years.

Sarah said: "I love watching the difference I can make to a child. I love watching them succeed in life."

"I recommend fostering to everyone, but I do want people to understand that fostering is full time. You don't always know much about the child, initiative is key, treat them like family, set boundaries and most important love and praise the child."

"I always feel supported by the fostering team, they have been nothing but amazing. I have a great supervising social worker who always supports me and I am continually able to access training, which I can juggle around my foster children as lots of it is online."



One of Sarah's foster children has lived with the family for more than ten years, and with their help the young person has flourished in school. This year they achieved outstanding A-Level results and gained one A\* and two AAs. They are now embarking on a medical degree at university.



Another dedicated foster carer is Tracy, 52, who with her husband has been fostering for three years. In this short period, they have supported five children, and supported other families with respite care.

Tracy said: "We decided to foster because we wanted to make a difference to children and young people's lives. Every child matters and we wanted to become part of the solution for children and young people who were unable to live with their parents."

"The thing I love most about fostering is seeing the progress children and young people make during the time they are with us. From surviving to thriving."

"The best experience to date has been seeing a child in our care go from not being able to read, to helping them to finish a book."

"There is nothing that can really prepare you for the first child that comes into your home, but you soon learn, adjust and navigate your way. It is a rewarding job, tough at times, but that is all outweighed by the difference you see in a child over time."

"We feel very supported by Redbridge through our social worker and the wider fostering team and the training courses are varied and relevant."

"I wish I was told what fun fostering was, and sense of community you get from other foster carers who all offer support, friendship and advice. You aren't on your own."

Redbridge Council offers generous allowances as well as fantastic support and training. Foster carers can receive up to £457 per child, per week. On top of this, additional allowances are provided for uniform, Christmas/ festivals, birthdays and holidays. There is also a 60 per cent council tax discount.

  For more information visit [www.redbridge.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/fostering)  



# CLEAN & GREEN

## OUR STREETS

Help us create great streets and neighbourhoods

# Happy Recycling this Christmas

### Change to collections

Your normal rubbish and recycling collection dates may change over the Christmas and New Year period.

#### Christmas 2020 and New Year 2021

Due on

Collected on



Monday 21 December	→	Normal collection
Tuesday 22 December	→	Normal collection
Wednesday 23 December	→	Normal collection
Thursday 24 December	→	Normal collection
Friday 25 December	→	Monday 28 December
Monday 28 December	→	Tuesday 29 December
Tuesday 29 December	→	Wednesday 30 January
Wednesday 30 January	→	Thursday 31 December
Thursday 31 January	→	Saturday 2 January
Friday 1 January	→	Monday 4 January
Monday 4 January	→	Tuesday 5 January
Tuesday 5 January	→	Wednesday 6 January
Wednesday 6 January	→	Thursday 7 January
Thursday 7 January	→	Friday 8 January
Friday 8 January	→	Saturday 9 January

### Recycle your Christmas tree

We'll be collecting Christmas trees for recycling. Just leave them at the boundary of your property free of decorations and **clearly visible, by 6am on Wednesday 6 January and they will be collected between that date and Friday 22 January**. Alternatively, you can take your Christmas tree to Chigwell Road Re-use and Recycling Centre.



### Chigwell Road Reuse and Recycling Centre

Over 30 types of rubbish are reused and recycled at the Chigwell Road Reuse and Recycling Centre. For the whole list of the items you can recycle, as well as the centre location and opening times over the holidays, visit

[eastlondonwaste.gov.uk/chigwell](http://eastlondonwaste.gov.uk/chigwell)

### Green Garden Waste Collection

Kerbside green garden waste collections have stopped for the winter. Until the free fortnightly service resumes in the spring, you can take your garden waste to the Chigwell Road Reuse and Recycling Centre.



### New Recycling & Waste Policy Charter launched

As part of our commitment to giving residents a high-quality recycling and waste collection service we have launched our new Recycling & Waste Policy Charter.

It sets out the policies and principles underpinning the borough's work to improve recycling and waste collection in Redbridge.

To find out more about the charter, how it affects you, or to download it, search for Recycling & Waste Policy Charter on our website:

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



## OUR STREETS

Help us create great streets and neighbourhoods

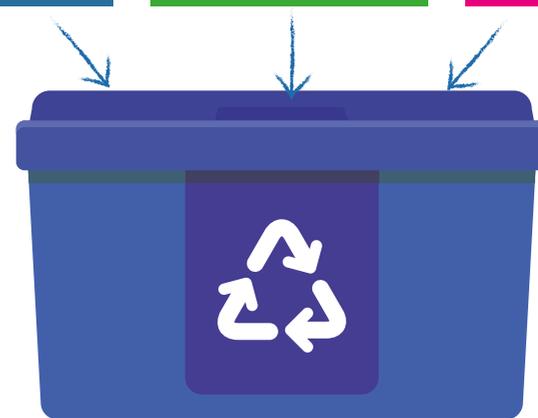
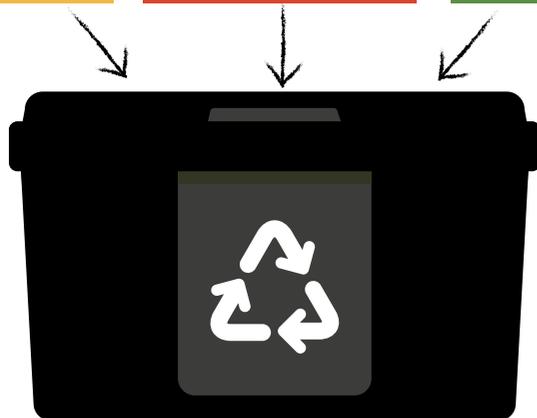




# CLEAN & GREEN

## What can you recycle?

Use our recycling services to the max this festive season for cards, cardboard boxes, paper wrapping (no glitter or foil wrap please) and much more.



## Where to leave your recycling and household waste

Recycling and refuse is collected on the same day from front gardens. Place your waste out so that it is clearly visible from the road and inside the boundary of your property as close to the roadside as possible by 6am on the day of your collection.



## Let us collect your clutter... for free

Our bulky waste collection service is a simple and responsible way of getting rid of everything from TVs to sofas. You are entitled to receive one free collection every six months for a maximum of three items. If you need extra items collected you can add them on at the time of booking at a cost of £10 per item.

Book a collection at [www.redbridge.gov.uk/waste](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/waste)

Please do not put bulky items on the roadside in the hope that others may take them away. It makes our borough messy, is illegal and could land you with a £400 fine for fly-tipping.



# COVID-19 memorial garden – tell us your ideas

This year has been a difficult one for everyone. At the time of writing, 319 lives have been lost in Redbridge to COVID-19 touching many thousands of our residents directly.

Sadly, many others died from indirect causes. We know it is important for our communities to recognise and remember this pandemic. So we are proposing to create a memorial garden specifically for those who have passed away due to COVID-19.

Cllr Kam Rai, Deputy Leader of Redbridge Council, said: "We're consulting on ideas for a permanent memorial garden, which will be installed at an outdoor site in the borough. The memorial garden will serve as a fitting and poignant commemoration of those in Redbridge who sadly lost their lives during the pandemic. We look forward to working closely with local people and hearing your ideas."

To put forward your ideas, please visit:

[www.redbridge.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/consultations)



# New rules for business with Europe start on 1 January 2021



**It isn't long until the end of the transition period and the current rules on trading with the EU will no longer apply.**

There will be no extension. Businesses will see changes whether we reach an agreement with the EU or not.

**Regardless of whether we reach a trade agreement with the EU, from 1 January there will be guaranteed changes to:**

- the way your business can import and export goods
- the process your business follows for hiring people from the EU
- the way your business will be able to provide services in EU markets

**Help is available. To best prepare your business you can:**

- 1 Check what actions you need to take by visiting [www.gov.uk/transition](http://www.gov.uk/transition)
- 2 Sign up for updates.
- 3 Attend government webinars for additional support, you can sign up to attend BEIS webinars now.

Unless you take action, there is a risk your business operations will be interrupted. You should also check with your suppliers and customers that they are taking action.

Businesses will play an essential role in ensuring a smooth end to the transition period and government will be there to support you.

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

## prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men in the uk

but the condition is responsive to treatment if detected soon enough.

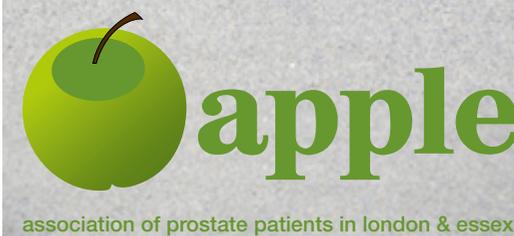
The most common symptoms of Prostate Cancer are:

- Having to rush to the toilet to pass urine
- Difficulty in passing urine
- Passing urine more often than usual - especially at night
- Pain on passing urine, but this is rare
- Blood in the urine or semen, but this is very rare

Please seek medical advice early if you, or somebody you know, is experiencing these symptoms.

APPLE is a locally run charity. If you would like more information about us and our monthly support group meetings, please visit our website [www.appleprostate.co.uk](http://www.appleprostate.co.uk) or contact us on:

E: [info@appleprostate.co.uk](mailto:info@appleprostate.co.uk) T: 07505 816973. Charity No. 1086824





# COMMUNITY SAFETY

## HAVE YOUR SAY ON CRIME

► Complete our online survey



## How do you feel about crime and safety in your area?

We want to know if crime issues are bothering you, or have impacted your life in the last 12 months. The council is working closer than ever with the police to reduce crime in Redbridge but we need to hear directly from you on what you think our crime priorities should be for 2021.



Our survey takes less than 10 minutes to complete and is a simple way for you to share your ideas on how to reduce crime in your local area.

Simply scan the QR code or visit <https://engagement.redbridge.gov.uk/strategy/redbridge-crime-survey/>

By completing the survey you will help us to accurately understand your concerns which will help us to deliver a better service for Redbridge.

### Redbridge resident Sharna, aged 22, shared why she completed the crime survey:

"I feel it is important to contribute towards the development of my local community: Woodford.

"I am passionate about reducing crime and think this is a great way to influence the council's decision making and priorities.

"I will be sharing it with my friends and family and encouraging those close to me to get involved so they can have their say, too!"

### Support is always available for victims of domestic abuse, especially at Christmas.

Sadly, domestic abuse incidents increase between November and January. This may be because:

- people spend more of their time with family
- people drink more
- financial strains increase, including reduced work hours, Christmas spending
- COVID-19 regulations meaning we are home more

### If you are concerned for your safety, or that of a loved one, please contact the following for help and support in Redbridge:

- **Refuge** – 0800 169 7759 email [redbridgevawg@refuge.org.uk](mailto:redbridgevawg@refuge.org.uk) – Monday-Friday 9am-5pm,
- **Reach Out** – 0800 145 6410 email [reachout@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:reachout@redbridge.gov.uk) (They also provide support to those perpetrating the abuse).

Outside of these times or for translated services, contact the **24/7 National Domestic Abuse Helpline on 0808 2000 247**

**In an emergency, call 999**

## Deter the burglars this winter

Whenever you go out, it's important to leave your home secure, especially with the darker evenings. Sgt Ken McNish recommends you should do the following before going out:

- always **lock your doors** and windows before leaving for work, and going to bed
- **double lock any door**
- keep **valuables** out of sight
- keep handbags and keys **away from the letterbox or cat flap**
- in the evening, **shut the curtains** and **leave lights on**
- if you're out all day, **use a timer device** to automatically turn lights on in the evening
- **set your burglar alarm**
- make sure the **side gate is locked**
- if possible, **invest in a smart doorbell**



# Planning any building work?

Why not use our Award Winning **Building Control Team** here at Redbridge Council

Using our technical knowledge and local expertise we can help make sure your building project meets building regulations and relevant standards, when you make your building control application through us.

## Email us

[buildingcontrol@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:buildingcontrol@redbridge.gov.uk)

Call us 020 8708 2529

[www.redbridge.gov.uk/planning-and-building](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/planning-and-building)

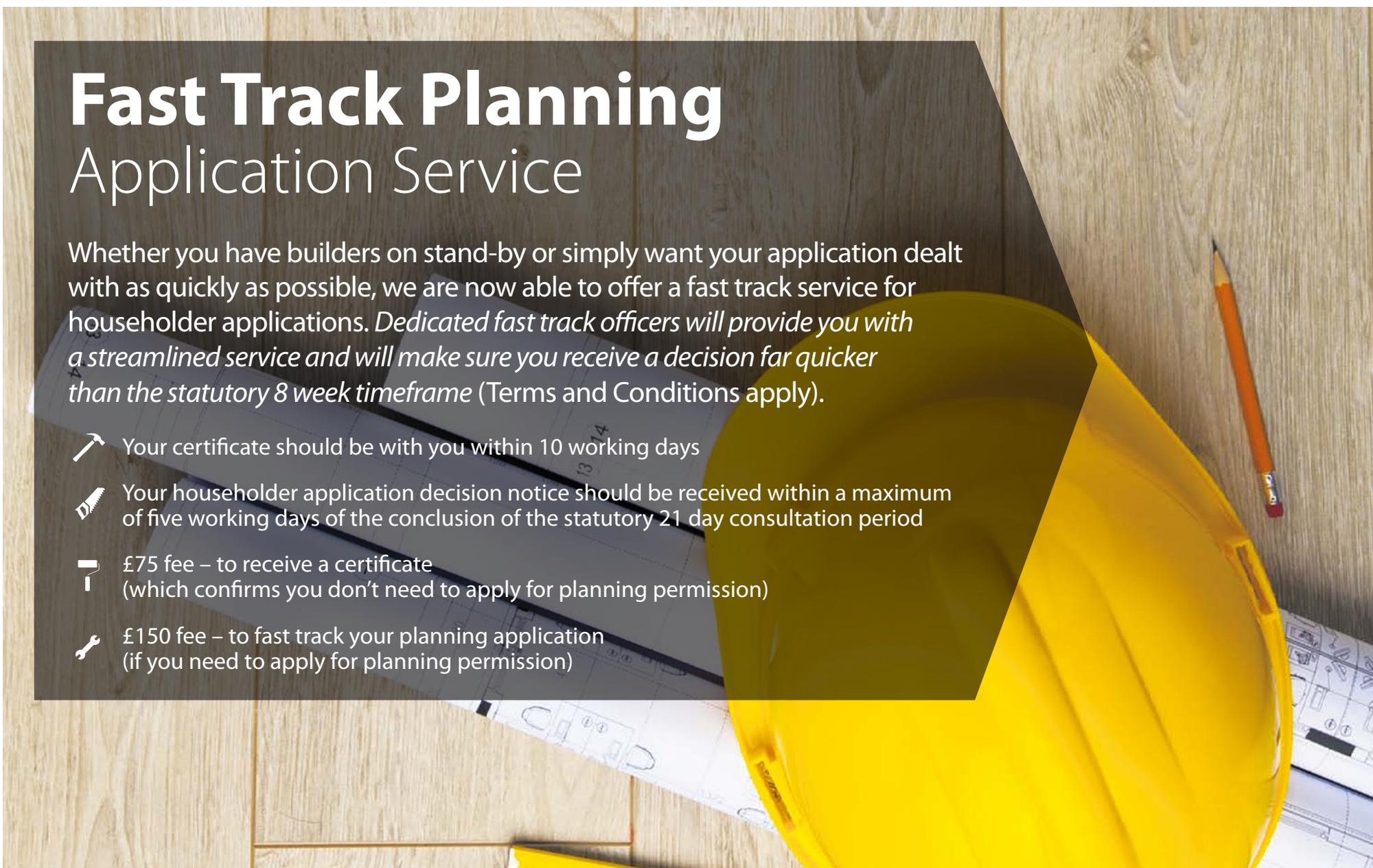


**Affordable-reliable and exceptional – it's what we stand for**

## Fast Track Planning Application Service

Whether you have builders on stand-by or simply want your application dealt with as quickly as possible, we are now able to offer a fast track service for householder applications. *Dedicated fast track officers will provide you with a streamlined service and will make sure you receive a decision far quicker than the statutory 8 week timeframe* (Terms and Conditions apply).

-  Your certificate should be with you within 10 working days
-  Your householder application decision notice should be received within a maximum of five working days of the conclusion of the statutory 21 day consultation period
-  £75 fee – to receive a certificate (which confirms you don't need to apply for planning permission)
-  £150 fee – to fast track your planning application (if you need to apply for planning permission)





# LOCAL NEWS & VIEWS

## Winners revealed for Mayor's Community Awards



We had some brilliant nominations for this year's Mayor's Community Awards, and we can now reveal the winners for 2020.

The annual awards recognise individuals or groups who have gone that extra mile to give back to their local community.

### This year's category winners and finalists are:

#### Best Business Contribution to the Community

**Winner:** Tangerine Catering

**Finalists:** St Francis Hospice Shop, (Ilford), Sainsburys (Woodford) and Cambridge Nursing Home

#### Caring for others in Redbridge

**Winner:** Individual award – Pooja Parmar

**Finalists:** Aida Iqbal, Elsa Arnold

**Winner – Organisation award:** Jewish Care – Redbridge Supportive Community Tea Parties

**Finalist – Organisation award:** Redbridge Food Bank

#### Contribution in Support of Young People

**Joint Winners:** Individual award – Denise Taylor & Faheem Khan – (two trophies)

**Finalists:** Nicki Moroney, Cara Jane Lynch, Kenny Elliott

**Winner:** Organisation award – Frenford Club

#### Creating a Safer Redbridge

**Winner:** David Landau

**Finalists:** Clare Patterson, Kartik Parekh, Eamonn Lorrimer, Ruthba Amin

#### Taking Pride in Redbridge

**Winner:** Organisation award – Chadwell Heath South Residents' Association

**Winner:** Individual award – Shilpa Patel

**Finalists:** Sue Bass, Sue Brunger

#### Neighbourhood Community Champion

**Winner:** Individual – Bushra Tahir

**Finalists:** Shamik Ghosh, Graham Nygate, Suzie Harnett

**Winner:** Organisation award – Loxford & Clementswood Residents Association

**Finalists:** Sub officers Jim Jobson, Ally Warnock & Casey Moroney

#### Young Citizen Award

**Winner:** Hannah Chowdhry

**Finalists:** Adarsh Ramchurn, Rosie Cassidy, Aaiza Arshad, Vanessa Madu

#### The Mayor's Special Award

**Winner:** Loxford and Clementswood Residents Association

Find out more about each of our winners and finalists here [www.redbridge.gov.uk/mayorsawards](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/mayorsawards)

## Crowdfunding at Redbridge



We are pleased to have launched Community Crowdfunding, Redbridge Council's new crowdfunding programme with Spacehive.

Local community groups and organisations in Redbridge can create and fund projects which celebrate and improve their local areas.

The council will have some match-funding available to pledge towards local crowdfunding projects through the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), as long as projects meet the selection criteria and there are sufficient available funds.

Local community groups can bid for projects that vary in pledge scale from under £1,000 for smaller projects, up to £20,000 for larger projects.

Members of the public can show their support for projects by 'liking' them, and by pledging financial donations and/or volunteering time in project wishlists.

Join the free online workshop with Spacehive on **14 January 2021 at 12pm to 1pm** to find out more and discuss your project ideas.

To register for the event, please see here: <https://www.spacehive.com/movement/redbridge/news>

### Mayor's charities

The Mayor has chosen to support two charities in Redbridge this year. The Healthy Living Project based at the Welcome Centre in Ilford and the second charity he has chosen to support is Imagine Independence Mental Health.

If you want to make a donation then visit our Just giving page [www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/lbrmayors-appeal](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/lbrmayors-appeal)

## Community Infrastructure Levy

Make a difference in Redbridge



# WINTER READINESS

## Do you know who your vulnerable neighbours are?

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us just how important it is to take care of our vulnerable neighbours, especially during difficult times. In England there are over five million homes at risk of flooding, many of which are home to vulnerable people who may be worse affected during and after flooding.

We know the effects of flooding, physical and/or mental, can last for years after a flood has happened so by looking out for your neighbours you can help your loved ones and the community recover more quickly.

## As winter nears, here is a reminder of some positive actions you can take:

**Create a personal flood plan** to help protect you, your loved ones and your possessions.

**Help us establish a flood action group** to talk about local flooding issues and form a proactive community group of residents that can support each other during a flood.

It doesn't matter if you're at work, retired, need additional mobility help or just generally have limited time – it's great to get involved in any way you can. Even if you don't live in a flood risk area, your help can be valuable in helping others respond without the worry that your own property is in danger.

**Create a community flood plan** to help you decide what practical actions to take before, during and after a flood, ultimately reducing the damage the flooding can cause. This requires your help and local knowledge.

**Get involved to help your community prepare for flooding.** Are you part of a local group? Whether that be a religious group, running club, dog walking group, book club or more... **could you help share our messages?**

## DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO IN A FLOOD!

**FLOOD ALERT**

**PREPARE**



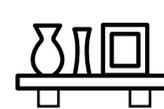
Pack medicines & insurance docs



Visit the flood warning information service

**FLOOD WARNING**

**ACT**



Move things upstairs or to safety



Turn off gas, water & electricity



Move family, pets & car to safety

**SEVERE FLOOD WARNING**

**SURVIVE**



Follow emergency services' advice



Immediate danger? Call 999



Stay safe

## Staggeringly, only a third of people who live in areas at risk of flooding believe their property is at risk!

And with climate change already causing more frequent, intense flooding, we all need to know what to do in a flood. Even small actions like encouraging your neighbours to sign up to flood warnings can be a massive help and save lives.

If you have any ideas, big or small, about how we can raise awareness of flood risk in your local community please get in touch. Or, if you'd like to find out more information about how you can help, please contact [HNL-PSO@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:HNL-PSO@environment-agency.gov.uk)

## River Roding Project Update

The River Roding Project team is busy progressing the detailed designs for the proposed flood storage area that will protect lives and livelihoods in Woodford and Ilford. The team recently visited a neighbouring Environment Agency flood storage area to capture best practise and valuable lessons to share with those looking after the structure and design work.

We have been preparing the Flood Risk Activity Permits to start digging archaeological trial trenches at the upstream site in Essex. This will help us to explore the site in more detail to see if there are any historic environment assets on site. By doing these investigations, we can ensure that any archaeological heritage is preserved at the site.

**Please visit our webpage for more information:**

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/hnl/the-river-roding-project-information-page/>





# LOCAL NEWS & VIEWS

## Community Engagement Have you seen us out and about?

Recently, our Public Health Street Engagement team have been working across the borough, providing residents and businesses with general coronavirus safety messages and handing out COVID-19 safety packs.

### Become a Community Ambassador

Do you want to make sure your community groups are consistently informed on COVID-19 rules and regulations? Then become a Community Ambassador.

All you need to do is share the WhatsApp message we send out within your community, family and/or friends WhatsApp groups.

### Interested?

Sign up here [www.redbridge.gov.uk](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk) and search Community Ambassadors.



## Exciting plans to renovate and reopen beloved Woodford Green Library

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, libraries across Redbridge have had to close temporarily. However, following the loosening of government guidelines, Redbridge Council's partner, Vision RCL, has begun a phased reopening of local libraries.

We've managed to keep a service going throughout the pandemic by relying on the established branch network across the Borough.

Fortunately for residents in Woodford, the Woodford Green Library has been selected for a makeover. This will include redecoration, refurbishment and rewiring throughout, bringing the library up to the standard of the other refurbished libraries in the borough. Plans are still in development, but there is a possibility of additional services opening.

The newly decorated library is expected to reopen in the New Year. In the meantime, residents are advised to either visit nearby South Woodford Library or use the online library service.



## Are you a business owner? Join Redbridge's COVID-19 Assurance Scheme

Redbridge Council has partnered with the Ilford Business Improvement District (BID) to support businesses across the borough with COVID-19 safety guidelines. The scheme provides Redbridge businesses with a consumer mark award of up to level five to show their customers that they are a safe and responsible business.

Businesses will also receive a 'COVID Safe Standard' certificate and sticker for their premises to show customers that they have received COVID-19 safety accreditation from the Council.

Businesses can apply for a COVID-19 Safe Standard at

[www.redbridge.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/coronavirus)





# LOCAL NEWS & VIEWS

## Council makes positive inroads with resurfacing programme



The £6.7million highways capital programme planned for 2020/21 will deliver vital improvements to about 80 roads in the borough, removing potholes and storing surfaces.

The work was delayed until June because of Covid-19, but is on schedule to be completed by April. More than 20 roads have already been resurfaced.

Leader of Redbridge Council, Cllr Jas Athwal, and Cllr John Howard, Cabinet Member for Civic Pride, visited Princes Road, Barkingside, to view recent resurfacing work. Cllr Athwal said: "Despite COVID-19, we've progressed these vital works in a safe and efficient way improving roads across the borough. We know people detest potholes, and we've been using the latest technology and equipment to ensure these are filled before we encounter the cold winter weather.

I was very impressed by result of the work at Princes Road, this will create a safer environment for motorists and cyclists.

Cllr Howard said: "It's great news these works are fully underway and have already delivered significant improvements across the borough. We've made £6.7million available to improve the highways and we've taken advantage of the roads being quieter this summer to make considerable progress without impacting on residents. We look forward to seeing the programme progress and delivering further improvements to our roads network."

## Launch of Street Tag

Street Tag launched for borough schools and residents to encourage active travel and lifestyle.

Redbridge schools and residents are invited to join in the fun by downloading Street Tag, a free new smartphone app that offers rewards for being active.

Street Tag turns physical activities such as walking, running, or cycling into a game where schools or community teams generate points by scanning virtual tags dotted around the borough using their smartphone.

Progress is then monitored through either a community or school leader board, with the most active residents winning either cash prizes or vouchers.



School teams have their own leader board and are encouraged to compete against other borough schools, where they have the chance of winning a range of fantastic prizes, such as:

- £150/£100/£50 towards School PTA
- Prizes for families may include free swimming vouchers and shopping vouchers

For more information or to learn how to set up a community team, visit [www.streettag.co.uk](http://www.streettag.co.uk)

## The Ultra Low Emission Zone is expanding from 25 October 2021

Have you checked your vehicle?

Air pollution is not just a central London problem, with many areas still exceeding the legal limits for pollution across the city. That is why from 25 October 2021, the central London Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) is expanding to create a single, larger zone up to the North Circular Road (A406) and South Circular Road (A205). The North and South Circular Roads themselves are not in the zone. This is part of the commitment by the Mayor and TfL to help every Londoner breathe cleaner air.

The ULEZ will continue to operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including weekends (except Christmas day), with a £12.50 daily charge for vehicles that do not meet the required emissions standards.

Cars, motorcycles, vans and other specialist vehicles (up to and including 3.5 tonnes) and minibuses (up to and including 5 tonnes) will need to meet the required ULEZ emissions standards when driving within and into the expanded zone, or pay a daily charge.

Four out of five cars already meet the ULEZ emissions standards, but we need owners of the remaining older cars, motorcycles, lighter van and minibuses to take action.

Check your vehicle meets the ULEZ emissions standards and the interactive map of the zone. Visit [tfl.gov.uk/ulez-2021](http://tfl.gov.uk/ulez-2021)

To find out more, search low emissions [www.redbridge.gov.uk](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk)



Funeral Plans from your local, family run funeral director

**Harold Wood**  
Funeral Services  
Plans & Stonemasonry  
Est 1958

PROUD TO OFFER  
**Golden Charter**



**FREE PLAN UPGRADES**  
APPLY BEFORE 31 MARCH 21

## A thoughtful way to plan ahead

Save your family worry and expense with a Funeral Plan from Harold Wood Funeral Services. It's an easy, thoughtful way to plan ahead and beat rising costs.

- ✓ **Peace of mind for you and your family**
- ✓ **Specify your wishes in advance**
- ✓ **Protection against rising funeral costs**

Chigwell & Hainault  
45 New North Road IG6 2UE  
020 8501 1735

Harold Hill & Brentwood  
64 Chippenham Road RM3 8HX  
01708 376472

Or

Or

Collier Row & Havering-atte-Bower  
309 Collier Row Lane RM5 3ND  
01708 724064

Harold Wood & Hornchurch  
43 Station Road RM3 OBS  
01708 343286

GC-LIFT 26473 - 0820

Call 0800 731 1855 • Home or Office Appointments • [www.hwfunerals.co.uk](http://www.hwfunerals.co.uk)

# Pest Control Service



### What we do

- we offer advice to residents and businesses about how to get rid of insects or rodents
- we have effective treatments for certain types of pests and can help with identifying pests and information about what to do

### What pest control officers do

- we investigate the cause of infestations and recommend a treatment
- we will give you safety information, offer proofing advice and tell you roughly how long the treatment may take

### Pests we treat and cost

Rats .....	£125.00
Mice .....	£125.00
Cockroaches .....	£156.00
Bedbugs .....	£215.00
Pharaoh Ants .....	£165.00
Garden Ants .....	£97.00
Wasps .....	1 nest 69.00
Wasps .....	subsequent nests £40.00
Fleas .....	£133.00
Commercial premises starting from (non-food premises only) .....	£180.00

**Book an appointment online at [www.redbridge.gov.uk/book-it](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/book-it) or contact us on 020 8554 5000 (contactable Monday to Friday 8.30am-6pm – except bank holidays when we are closed)**

London Borough of  
**Redbridge**



# WORK OUT to help out

## DECEMBER OFFER

Purchase an annual membership and get 14 months membership for the price of 11.

## JANUARY OFFER

Pay nothing upfront when you join. First direct debit will be first payment required.



To receive either of these promotions please take this coupon to your local leisure centre



For more details email [membership@vision-rcl.org.uk](mailto:membership@vision-rcl.org.uk)



ALSO  
AVAILABLE TO  
LIVESTREAM  
AT HOME!

# KENNETH MORE THEATRE

9 December - 10 January

Vision Redbridge  
Culture and Leisure  
presents



# Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

Starring

NIGEL ELLACOTT   ELIZABETH BRIGHT   DARREN HART  
ROBERT ANTHONY   KARL GREENWOOD   MICHELLE BISHOP

**Vision**  
Redbridge Culture & Leisure

