



Leader of the Council Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Tony Newman July 2015

Latest News

It was very disappointing news indeed that the Davies Commission recommendation was for Heathrow rather than Gatwick. However, the Commission clearly stated that Gatwick is a viable option and with the cross party political opposition to Heathrow growing, there is still all to play for.

I have called on the Prime Minister to do the right thing and back the Gatwick option, and I am delighted that call has been echoed by politicians from both sides – we all recognise what a fantastic opportunity this would be for Croydon.

Elsewhere this week I have attended the LGA Conference and it was fantastic to see Croydon's pioneering work on digital services as one of the highlights of the Conference. As London's largest Council, it is imperative to lead from the front in continuing to deliver high quality services despite the ever increasing cuts to local government funding.

On that note, as I write we await the Chancellor's revised budget on Wednesday 8 July. As local authority funding has not been ring fenced by the government, the expectation is that local public services will face a further substantial cut.

Delivering our Ambitions

At June's Cabinet we welcomed the Crystal Palace FC Foundation and they gave a fantastic presentation that highlighted the inspirational range of initiatives and support they offer. I am delighted that we are forging ever closer links with the Foundation and I look forward to even more partnership working with them in the future.

The Cabinet also agreed a report that details how we will drive even more economic growth in Croydon and increase employment for Croydon residents. As well as detailing our strategy, the report also increased the Council's investment in the Croydon Enterprise Loan Fund to £4m. This fantastic scheme is making a real difference to local businesses and I am delighted that we are in a position to offer even greater support.

The Community Ward budgets programme was also agreed. As we ask the Government for devolution, it is only right that we look to devolve some of our powers and responsibilities to the local level. This scheme will enable all local Ward Members to have a greater say in their local area and I am confident that it will be a great success.

Since taking office just over a year ago, the Cabinet has been clear that reinstating greater openness and transparency is a one of its top priorities. To that end, we invested a lot of effort in making sure that there was a clear performance framework that allowed all to see how well the Council's services are performing. The first detailed report under the new framework was considered by the Cabinet

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and gave us a clear indication of where we are doing well and where we face the challenge to improve. We are committed to being an open Council and would welcome feedback from everyone on the new performance report.

Given the scale of the regeneration in the metropolitan centre, it has been important to this Cabinet that our district and town centres do not get forgotten. The Cabinet has agreed several reports relating to the regeneration of our district centres and we have worked hard to ensure that we have a planning framework that only permits suitable development. In support of this, the Cabinet agreed a number of conservation area appraisals and management plans that will help to maintain the rich and diverse local character of several areas in Croydon.

The Cabinet also considered recommendations from our Scrutiny Committees as well as agreeing responses to recommendations previously received. The work of the Scrutiny Committees is a vital part of our decision making processes and, given the large number of recommendations that have been accepted by the Cabinet on a wide range of issues, it is clear how much value they add to the delivery of public services. It is only right that I take this opportunity to place on record my thanks to the Members of the Scrutiny Committees for their diligence and hard work.

Two of the reports that the Cabinet considered contained recommendations to Council, namely:

- that Ward members be given delegated authority to exercise non-executive powers for the limited purposes of spending the ward budget; and
- that the Beulah Hill, Church Road and Harold Road Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans Supplementary Planning Documents be adopted.

As agreed at the Cabinet meeting, these decisions are recommended to Council for approval.

The Cabinet meeting programmed for 13 July will consider a number of reports where we are making a real difference to Croydon life. The Corporate Plan will detail how we will continue to deliver improved outcomes. This will be supplemented by our Liveability and Independence Strategies, which will lay out our longer term ambitions for improving quality of life and life chances for all of our residents. Of course, it isn't all just writing strategies from the Town Hall. The reports on tackling domestic abuse and sexual violence; the First Step Croydon programme; and the public health report will all detail how we can make a difference immediately. The Taberner House report will include recommendations for greater affordable housing and protecting our local green space.

July's Cabinet will also consider the review of last year's financial performance. Last year was exceptionally challenging in financial terms. The budget was subject to significant pressures in terms of growing numbers of vulnerable children and adults receiving services and the continuing dramatic funding cuts imposed by central government. However, we have not stood idly by and been victims, we have taken fair decisions that have allowed investment in our ambitions for Croydon and I am delighted that we have delivered significant investment in culture, schools, housing and regeneration against that difficult financial backdrop.

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Finally, as this is my last report before the summer recess, I'd like to say how much I am looking forward to Summer in Croydon, with a number of local festivals having already taken place and the Ambition Festival due to start on 23 July. Have a great summer everyone.

CLr Alison Butler – Homes, Regeneration and Planning

July 2015

Latest News

Tech Hub

The Council has announced its plans for a new tech business incubator and start-up space in the heart of Croydon. The project – the first of its kind in the UK - has £2 million of backing from the council and the Greater London Authority for a new industry-leading 21,000 sq. ft. tech space in Davis House, an office building located at the centre of Croydon's digital cluster.

Due to launch in early 2016, the space will provide flexible office and working areas and offer training, courses and events, alongside investor and demo days where budding businesses can meet potential investors, industrial partners and growth specialists.

It will also house Digital Art Central, the UK's first digital art and media specialist hub, providing the leading digital artists and art entrepreneurs the same high level facilities and business building tools usually reserved for tech entrepreneurs.

Tech Hub confirms Croydon's position as London's most significant new tech cluster, and will provide a world-class facility right at the centre of our regeneration programme.

Fairfield Summer Programme

In line with the Council's ambitions for the Cultural Quarter and placing College Green and Fairfield Halls at the heart of it, Mott MacDonald with Rick Mather Architects were appointed in April 2015 to deliver a planning application for the College Green and Fairfield Halls programme later in 2015.

The team are currently working through the designs for modernising the Fairfield Halls and providing new homes, shops and restaurants in the College Green area. The scheme will provide a high quality public space and provide a through route to and from East Croydon station, quickly connecting visitors with Queens Gardens, the Clocktower, Surrey Street and Exchange Square.

Further to this we the project will deliver some works within the Fairfield Halls in the coming months through the Summer including improvements to the kitchen and improvements to the ventilation within the concert hall. The forecourt in front of Fairfield will also be transformed into a place where people can sit and eat and drink.

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July 2015

Boxpark

The Ruskin Square site, by East Croydon train station, has stood derelict for more than 30 years and, is a gateway location and effective ‘billboard’ for passengers travelling through East Croydon. The current owners Croydon Gateway Limited Partnership (CGLP) have held the site for over 13 years, and whilst productive discussions with them has resulted in a great deal of positive activity over the past year and schemes progressing in the north of the site, it is anticipated that this southern end of the site will remain vacant in the medium term.

Boxpark propose to develop an 80 unit temporary mall on approximately 0.45 hectares on the southern tip of the Ruskin Square development site. This will be arranged over two floors, with a performance space at the centre and a canopy over the entire unit enabling events to take place throughout the year.

The scheme is currently in the pre-application process and a full application is expected to come forward in Autumn 2015 (with a long stop of March 2016). If this is successful, the scheme is scheduled to be on site early 2016 and opening summer 2016 (with a long stop of March 2017) Boxpark Ltd is a pop up mall development company set up in 2011 by Roger Wade, the founder of the successful Boxfresh fashion label. It launched its first project in Shoreditch in 2011 with 60 units arranged on a piece of vacant land due for redevelopment but with no pending activity adjacent to railway lines.

Whitgift Shopping Centre

Looking to the Whitgift shopping centre, the conjoined CPO and SUO Inquiry closed on March 13TH 2015. We hope to receive a decision from the Secretary of State in September and are planning next steps based around that. Notably, CLP, the joint venture between Westfield and Hammerson, have the purchased the Whitgift Trust’s interest in the centre. This is a significant step forward and provides CLP with Landlord control of the Whitgift Centre. CLP have been reviewing the management of the centre and starting to regularise any occupiers whose tenancy position is unclear.

North End

During January 2015, work started in North End on the early stages de-cluttering works including the replacement of uneven paving and repair of broken drainage. This will be followed by new benches and bike racks. Further feasibility work to be undertaken on wider scale de-cluttering of North End. Finally work to advance and adopt a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Croydon Town Centre and North End is about to start.

CLr Alison Butler – Homes, Regeneration and Planning

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Dingwall Loop

The creation of a new tram line along Lansdowne and Dingwall roads is under development. TfL published the report on their 2014 public consultation, which indicated 72% of respondents supporting the Loop in principle and 56% supporting Option 1 (anticlockwise Dingwall Road and Lansdowne Road). It is understood that a Traffic Works Order will be sought in October 2015, subject to a second round of consultation.

Townscape Improvements

Everyone will be aware of the significant new landscaping work which is now largely completed in central Croydon. This has made a tangible difference to the look and feel of the station approach. In addition, construction works are progressing well in George Street with almost 2,250sqm footway resurfaced, and new planters in place at junction of George St/Wellesley. This is backed with the Southend Public Realm and Shop Front Improvements completing at the end of March 2015. This area has an improved look and feel which has been achieved through decluttering and paving improvements.

Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans Supplementary Planning Documents (CAAMPs) for Harold Road, Church Road and Beulah Hill Conservation Areas for council adoption.

Three further Conservation Areas now have in place Appraisals and Management Plans which are to be submitted for adoption at the Council meeting of 13 July. The production of these CAAMPs is part of a wider project to produce for the first time, up to date consistent guidance documents for all 21 of our Conservation Areas.

Conservation Areas recognise specific areas that possess special architectural or historic interest, the character and appearance of which is desirable to preserve or enhance. Conservation areas are 'designated heritage assets', of national historic or architectural significance. Conservation areas are also subject to national planning policies under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). It is the Council's duty under Section 71 of the 1990 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act to formulate and publish conservation area documentation.

A formal public consultation has occurred on the Beulah Hill, Church Road and Harold Road Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans Supplementary Planning Documents and Croydon Council has worked closely with the local community:

- The North Croydon Conservation Area Advisory Panel was asked to complete a questionnaire about the conservation area they represent and the relevant Resident Associations;
- The Norwood Society and Crystal Palace Community Association, were also sent the short questionnaire about the conservation area in which the residents they represent reside.

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The CAAMPs provide valuable additional information used to inform development and change within conservation areas. The Appraisal contains chapters covering Context, Townscape Character, Streetscape Character, Architectural Character, Character Areas (if applicable) and Condition and Threats. The Management Plans of the CAAMPs has chapters covering Additional Considerations, Development Guidelines and Enhancement. The attributes that exist within our conservation areas frequently contain rich diversity and interest which distinguish these areas as locally distinctive and contribute to the rich cultural history and regeneration of the borough.



Clean Green Croydon Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Stuart Collins June 2015

Latest News

A van used to illegally dump waste has been crushed and displayed across the borough as part of the council's ongoing campaign against fly-tipping. The van was worth several thousand pounds, so if seized costs fly tippers dearly. The council seized this white Ford Transit on 21 February after two men were spotted tipping floor materials, windows, wood and other building waste in Lysander Road before fleeing on foot.

A fly-tipper who illegally dumped rubbish weighing the same as six elephants has been jailed by Croydon magistrates. Croydon Council officers prosecuted Gladstone Mark Buchanan for fly-tipping and illegally storing 42 tonnes of furniture and building material in Martin Crescent in Waddon between October 2011 and January 2012. On Thursday (7 May) Croydon Magistrates Court sentenced the 45-year-old, from Mantlet Close in Streatham Vale, to six months in prison and ordered him to pay court costs totalling £7,413.

Buchanan had pleaded guilty at an earlier hearing to two charges under Section 33 of the Environmental Protection Act (Amended) 1990 and to breaching Section (1) (a) and (5) of the 1989 Control of Pollution Amendment Act. All those prosecuted up to the end of July will be named and shamed via bus stops and Decaux advertising sites spelling out the message you will be prosecuted, end up with a criminal record and possibly end up in prison if you mess with Croydon.

Working Together

The council's ongoing **Don't Mess With Croydon – Take Pride campaign**, which was launched last June, combines council enforcement action with getting communities to do their bit. We now have 228 Street Champions covering all parts of the borough, carrying out different events including reporting fly tips, litter picking, identifying untidy front gardens and refuse issues. Some champions have carried larger scale events organising community action days where they have worked with neighbours to take pride in the area they live in. One group also took part in The Big lunch on the back of the clean ups. New groups are forming and planning next events to improve their area.

Combined with several visits to Roads and high streets to sign up residents & traders to anti-litter pledges, the education program to Take Pride is now well underway.



Finance and Treasury

Cabinet Member Bulletin

Councillor Simon Hall

July 2015

THIS BULLETIN HAS BEEN WRITTEN BEFORE THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE EMERGENCY BUDGET ON 8 JULY ARE CLEAR AND SO DOES NOT REFLECT THE IMPACT OF THIS

Annual Accounts

The annual accounts for 2014/15 have been prepared and are now being audited. They reflect the solid position of the Council, despite Central Government's huge reduction in local government funding and the unfair funding of Croydon.

2015/16 Finances

As outlined to Cabinet in the July Review, there are considerable in-year budget pressures, principally relating to Looked After Children, SEN Transport, Adult Care packages, CCTV enforcement income and delays in the Digital and Enabling Croydon Challenge project. Work is going on actively regarding managing those pressures.

Croydon Challenge

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

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

Assets and Facilities Management

We are continuing the work of ensuring that the Council's assets are managed efficiently and used to deliver for the borough's residents. This includes the use of the Council's own Development Company to develop its assets.

Council taking a lead role in the Borough

The Council's Development Company has been set up to allow the Council to drive forward development in the Borough, notably in respect of the Council's assets.

The first example of this is the development of the old Taberner House site which, by using the Development Company rather than CCURV, will deliver at least twice the receipts for the Council, double the affordable housing and allow Queen's Gardens to be preserved and enhanced.

The Revolving Investment Fund has been used to make a loan to Boxpark to allow an exciting development which will help the regeneration of our town centre.

Procurement, Commissioning and Contract Management

The Council has moved to a very different approach for commissioning, procurement and contract management.

The Council is taking a lead role in Co-Operative Council network and work on social value.

We have developed a new model on commissioning, which clearly moves away from the ideologically driven assumption that it would be better to outsource/ buy in of services rather than deliver them. In particular, we will be looking at a lot of partnership working, notably with other public sector organisations and the third sector.

IT

Detailed work has been undertaken to ensure that we have the right infrastructure and equipment to move the Council forward.

The MyCroydon application and MyAccount are continuing to have a growing number of users. It is notable that a number of local authorities, from the UK and beyond, are visiting us as a reference site.

Pension Fund

There has been strong performance of the Pension Fund. A strategic reallocation has been agreed in principle, which includes greater diversification. It is worth remembering that, in addition to ongoing service contributions, we currently pay in some £14 million per annum to help close the deficit and getting the asset allocation right is likely to impact on the level of these contributions in the future.



Families, Health and Social Care

Cabinet Member Bulletin

Councillor Louisa Woodley

June 2015

LATEST NEWS

Improving health and social care for over 65s

Helping older people live long, healthy, and independent lives is the key aim of a joint programme by Croydon Clinical Commissioning Group and Croydon Council which will transform the way both organisations buy health and social care services for over 65s.

The new programme, Outcomes Based Commissioning, is an exciting and innovative approach that incentivises health and social care providers to achieve a set of outcomes and experiences that are important to local people.

I'm pleased we're one of the first councils in the UK to start this innovative project, but I am most pleased that older people in Croydon will get care tailored to their needs.

With London's biggest population, Croydon is planning ahead so that our local professionals work closer together to meet future demand.

This new approach can significantly improve the health and wellbeing of over 65s and help to join up health and social care services. People have already told us that what matters most is:

- staying healthy, active and independent for as long as possible
- getting access to the best quality care so people can live how they choose
- having support from professionals with specialist knowledge to understand how health and social care affects individuals
- getting more care and support tailored to individuals' needs
- being supported to manage long term conditions

Croydon CCG and Croydon Council intend to jointly commission a 10-year 'outcomes based commissioning' contract for all services for over 65s from an alliance of health and social care providers. This alliance will be expected to work with other organisations to deliver health and social care services for local people.

The following five organisations have been selected to form this new alliance following a robust selection process overseen by commissioners:

- Age UK Croydon
- Croydon Council Adult Social Care
- Croydon GPs Group (which aims to include all the GP practices in the borough)
- Croydon Health Services NHS Trust
- South London & Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust

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The initial exploratory phases of the project have involved providers, local clinicians, carers, and over 400 local residents. Providers, clinicians, carers, patients, and the public, will continue to be involved in all aspects of this work.

Contact Officer: Andrew Maskell, Head of Service, Strategic Development, Andrew.maskell@croydon.gov.uk

CarelinePlus Service - Telecare solutions for maintaining independence for your loved ones.

The Croydon CarelinePlus Service is an in-house service managed within the Adult Care Services division of the People department. It provides a home safety and personal security system, enabling people to live independently within their own home.



It's not just a monitoring system; it's a 24/7, 365 days a year service, providing assistance by our trained response team.

The service offers peace of mind for mainly older or disabled Croydon residents and their loved ones, giving them back their independence without intrusion into their life.

Our service can offer people help if they live alone, are disabled, suffer from dementia, or at risk of falling, or just in need of reassurance.

A basic package of a CarelinePlus unit and CarelinePlus button which can be worn as a necklace or wrist strap is available. When they press the button, it automatically dials the Croydon Careline control centre via their telephone line, and their personal details will appear on our computers. They will then talk to a trained operator. They will be able to do this from anywhere within their home, and without using their phone handset. They will let us know what assistance they need and our caring and professional staff will take appropriate action. Our staff may contact a family member, neighbour or their G.P as necessary, or may visit the person at home.

CarelinePlus Service will be launching an advertising campaign in the autumn of 2015. The purpose of the campaign is to increase positive awareness of the service with the public and to ensure maximum take up of the service for our most vulnerable clients. The outdoor campaign will run for two weeks on the 21/09/15 for Tramlink with large posters and on the 28/09/15 for the back of the buses. Using the bus rears, will add impact and high visibility to reach our target audience of mainly relatives and friends of those who need care and support. Also using the targeted large posters at the tramlink stops will give further details of the service so that the public can take advantage of dwelling time while waiting for their tram. We hope this will offer information for a free trial of the service and raise awareness and take up of Croydon CarelinePlus across the borough.

Contact Officer: Rosaleen Muggleton, Service Manager, Rosaleen.muggleton@croydon.gov.uk

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The Better Care Fund (BCF)

The Better Care Fund was formerly launched in April 2015, although Croydon Council and Croydon CCG have been working together well in advance of this “official” launch date with the core services in the Croydon BCF Plan already in place and operating. Some new initiatives have been added to the programme and are in the process of being launched. These include the introduction of a roving G.P service attached to the Rapid Response service to support residential homes in avoiding sending residents to accident and emergency unnecessarily, additional support to residential homes around the provision of End of Life Care, and we are also moving forward with the introduction of dementia advisors.

The Better Care Fund (BCF) Section 75 agreement has now been signed by both the Council and the CCG. A section 75 is the agreement on the pooling of health and social care funds that make up the Better Care Fund budget. This was a detailed piece of work with the Council and the CCG demonstrating the strength of our partnership relationship through working collaboratively to agree a number of complex practical issues and protocols.

The first quarterly BCF quarterly report was submitted. This covered the period January to March 2015 which although falling before the start of the launch of BCF in April has been used to benchmark progress on a BCF performance indicators and progress against BCF national conditions. There was no requirement to report on the BCF indicators, and we were able to report that we were on track in meeting the national BCF conditions.

Contact Officer: Andrew Maskell, Head of Service, Strategic Development, Andrew.maskell@croydon.gov.uk.

Homeless families housed in Concord House & Sycamore House

The council has recently leased two converted office blocks for use as short term temporary housing accommodation for families. The two blocks, Concord House (454-458 London Road CR0 9XH) and Sycamore House, (799 London Road, Thornton Heath, CR7 6AW) together offer 189 studio and one bed flats. Homeless families have from the start of the financial year, began to be accommodated here while their homelessness applications are processed by the council. The acquisition of these blocks form part of the council’s plans to move away from the use of shared bed and breakfast accommodation for families with children, and as part of a drive to secure decent accommodation for homeless families. The flats are fully furnished and managed by the landlord, Rooms & Studios Ltd, who maintain a staff presence throughout the day. These blocks are a welcome addition to the portfolio of properties used by the council to accommodate homeless families.

Contact Officer: Leonard Asamoah, Interim Director of Housing Needs leonard.asamoah@croydon.gov.uk

DELIVERING AMBITIONS

People's Gateway pilots improving lives

The first five weeks of the People's Gateway pilot showed a positive impact almost instantly.

The People's Gateway is a key element in delivering the vision for the people department, to help improve outcomes for Croydon people. The aim is to stabilise lives by preventing people from reaching crisis point.

A pilot team, made up of staff from services across the organisation, has been working on the 5th Floor since 27 April. As part of this approach we are creating personalised support packages that look at the whole family and take all of their circumstances into account.



In only five weeks the pilotees have engaged with just under 150 households. 73 customers returned budget planners, and 89 committed to action plans. 9 evictions were avoided – by either negotiating with landlords to enable customers to stay in the properties, or helping them find alternative accommodation. And 19 customers were being supported into employment. The families were also enabled to claim benefits to which they are entitled.

Pilot manager, Jayne Raper said: “For me it’s always been about building a rapport that enables the customer to maximise the support available to them, be it making the most of their money through budgeting and maximising income, providing access to suitable and affordable accommodation or finding or enhancing the scope of their employment opportunities “

It is estimated that the People's Gateway ways of working will save £1.54 million in a year, contributing to the Croydon Challenge.

Contact Officer, Marie Hardeman, Welfare and Intervention marie.hardeman@croydon.gov.uk

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

A wealth of health at the Whitgift Shopping Centre

Fun was the focus of a free three-day health event, hosted by the council and Croydon Heart Town in the Whitgift Shopping Centre in North End from Thursday 28th to Saturday, 30th May.

The public health team planned the event as part of the council's Heart Town strategy to help residents to live longer, healthier lives. Croydon Heart Town is our five-year partnership with the British Heart Foundation, tackling the risks that cause heart disease.



A range of activities took place each day with health advisers on hand offering top tips to help you feel great. Shoppers could work up a sweat on the smoothie-making bike, get an NHS health check, receive advice from Weight Watchers, and get healthy weight pointers for children. There was stop-smoking advice, guidance on

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drinking alcohol sensibly and mental health support. People could also find out more about [Do It London](#), the campaign to increase HIV testing and promote safer sex.

The event is part of the council's continued commitment to investing in opportunities to help residents, and their local community, to look after themselves and improve their overall health and well-being.

Our other health initiatives include Croydon's role as a Food Flagship Borough, which aims to transform food culture through school food projects, community gardening initiatives and healthier food businesses. There is also the Eatwell Croydon project, encouraging shops, cafés and take-aways to use healthier cooking methods and to offer healthy food choices; and the sports and physical activity team, provide a MI Change programme to support residents to develop a personal physical activity plan.

I am grateful to the Whitgift Shopping Centre for allowing us to use their building for this important event. More health information is available at www.croydon.gov.uk/publichealth and on the health and wellbeing pages on the [intranet](#).

Contact Officer: Denise Malcolm, Senior Communications Officer – Public Health denise.malcolm@croydon.gov.uk

Are YOU Conversation Ready? – OUTLINING YOUR DYING WISHES

The importance of planning exactly what happens when you die, in order that your wishes are adhered to, is the thinking behind Dying Matters Awareness Week.

In order to get people talking about what many consider a difficult subject, Croydon Council and Croydon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) jointly hosted a range of events to mark the week which fell between 18 and 24 May.

Organised as part of the CCG's and council's agenda on End of Life Care, the week helped encourage people talk openly about dying, death and bereavement, and end-of-life issues.

The theme this year was *Talk, Plan, Live* –emphasising that people get only one chance to have their dying wishes adhered to, which is why it's vital to talk, plan and make arrangements while the opportunity exists.

The programme encouraged members of the public to take the following five simple steps to make their end-of-life experience better, both for themselves and loved ones.

- Write your will.
- Record your funeral wishes.
- Plan your future care and support.
- Consider registering as an organ donor.
- Tell your loved ones your wishes.

Some of the activities which took place during the week included; a talk to all members of staff about dying by St Christopher's, the local hospice; publicity stands on the subject in local hospitals, the council and CCG rest areas and in the Whitgift centre. The week overall

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was very successful with great comments and feedback from members of the public and staff.

For further information regarding Croydon's end-of-life care plans, contact Cynthia Abankwa, project lead, at cynthia.abankwa@croydonccg.nhs.uk and

For further information on the Dying Matters Coalition, call freephone 08000 214466, email info@dyingmatters.org, or visit www.dyingmatters.org

Link to Dying Matters video clip: <https://youtu.be/uDsGieMn8B0>

Contact Officer: Amanda Lloyd Interim Head of Integrated Commissioning long term conditions and older people Amanda.lloyd@croydon.gov.uk

Carers Information Day

The Carers Information day at the Fairfield Hall is a key event in the Carers calendar aimed at informal carers in the borough. Carers can suffer financial hardship, physical and emotional strain as a result of their caring role. To support Carers to continue providing the invaluable service they provide, Croydon Council funds and provides a variety of services operating both from within the council and in the community via the Third Sector (Registered charities). The Carers Information Day organised by the Carers Information Service funded by Croydon Council attracted just under 400 visitors with representation from the Croydon Council – People & Communities, Croydon Clinical Commissioning Group - NHS, and many third sector organisations with around 25 different services addressing a wide variety of carers and service users needs. The feedback received has been excellent, comments included, “there were so many services we were unaware of” and “I had no idea I could get so much help”.

The Council is offering a Carer's assessment for any carer of an eligible person to help identify any areas where additional support can be provided, Carer's can request a Carers Assessment from the Carers Support Centre either by visiting them in George Street (no. 24) or contacting them by telephone on 020 8649 9339. <http://www.carersinfo.org.uk/>

Further info at <http://www.whitgiftfoundation.co.uk/content/save-date-carers-information-day-3-june>
<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/healthsocial/adult-care/carers/index>

Contact Officer: Paul Cooper, Integrated Commissioning Unit paul.cooper@croydonccg.co.uk



Transport and Environment Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Kathy Bee June 2015

Latest News

Tennison Road Bridge Opening

I am pleased to say that Tennison Road bridge was officially opened by children from the nearby Heavers Farm Primary School and myself on Thursday 11 June.

The new bridge which spans the London Bridge to East Croydon main line, replaces a smaller bridge that had served the area since 1922. The new bridge is approximately 3.5 metres wider than its predecessor, with wider footpaths and carriageway, making it safer for users. Other benefits include improved lighting, removal of the 3Tonne weight restriction thus allowing the reinstatement of the bus services serving the area. Residents in the vicinity of the works have shown great patience with the disturbance from the works and will now benefit from a much improved bridge.

The bridge is the largest Network Rail structure replaced in the South East in the last decade. Network Rail worked closely with the London Borough of Croydon, Department for Transport (DfT), LoBEG (London Bridges Engineering Group) and Transport for London (TfL) who all part-funded the new bridge.



Quietways Route 5 – Waterloo to Croydon

Quietways, a Transport for London (TfL) initiative, is a network of quiet routes proposed across London for people who would rather cycle away from the busier main roads.

Quietway Route 5 will enter the borough in Norbury moving along Norbury Avenue passing through Thornton Heath and Selhurst where the route then moves along Sydenham Road and Dingwall Road to its destination of East Croydon Station. Other routes are also being planned for Croydon.

Croydon Council will be undertaking public consultations to introduce these measures over the coming months with the intention of having the Croydon leg of route delivered by Spring 2016.

More details on the proposed Waterloo to Croydon Quietway are available on the council's web page: www.croydon.gov.uk/gw".



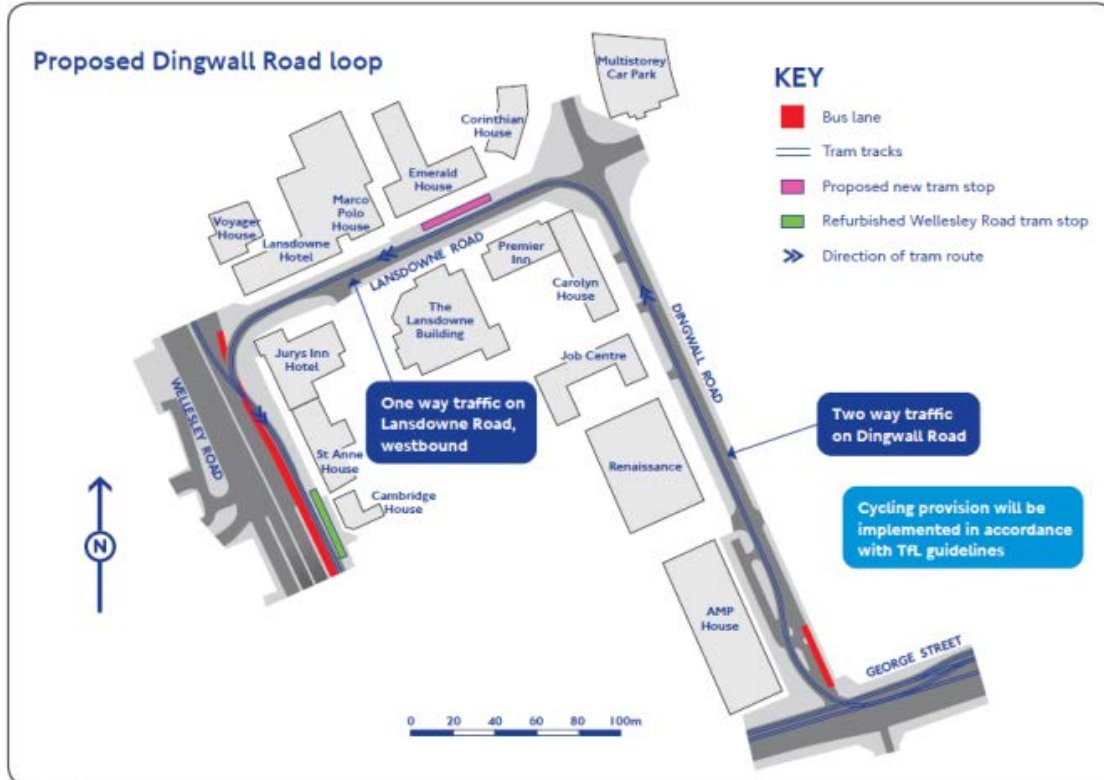
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Dingwall Road Tram Loop - Working Together with TFL

As you may have seen, TfL recently undertook further consultation on the proposed Dingwall Road Loop tram extension.

The Loop is an additional section of track running along Dingwall Road and Lansdowne Road that will enable some trams from the east to avoid having to use the existing loop that takes them around the entire town centre. By turning around quicker, more trams will be able to run – TfL are hoping to be able to run 24 trams per hour to the centre of Croydon, up from the 22 trams per hour at present. This additional capacity, which includes a new stop on Lansdowne Road, are much needed to help meet the increasing demand arising from growth and development in the town centre. Not all trams will use the Loop, and everyone from the eastern branches would have a direct service to Church Street and beyond.

The Council is working with TfL to make sure that the interests of all road users are considered in these plans, particularly pedestrians and cyclists. This means good quality public realm and safe cycle routes. We are also emphasising to TfL that they need to minimise the impact on local businesses when the Loop is built between 2017-2019.





Transport and Environment Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Kathy Bee June 2015

Cycle Race

Thousands of people lined the streets of Croydon as the town hosted a highly successful round of cycling's elite team competition on Tuesday, June 2.

The town was the subject of an hour-long highlights package on ITV4 and worldwide on Eurosport after hosting round three of the women's Matrix Fitness Grand Prix and round seven of the men's Pearl Izumi Tour Series.

The event got people talking about Croydon in a fresh light as, what the experts described as a "hugely-technical" circuit produced a thrilling evening's racing over multiple laps of the 1 km circuit, taking in North End and Surrey Street and crossing the tram lines in two places.

An action-packed day began with local schoolchildren pitting their wits on two wheels on a section of the course in North End, and which has kick started an official kid's bike club in Croydon.

There were also cycle-themed activities throughout the afternoon with Croydon Council hosting a Heart Town stand and sponsors such as Keltbray, Decathlon and AIG helping to add to the sense of occasion with stands and activities.

Leader Tony Newman and Mayor of Croydon Councillor Patricia Hay-Justice were among the presentation teams on an evening when the Croydon crowds generated a tremendous atmosphere.

It was fantastic cross departmental team effort to bring the race to Croydon and ensure its successful delivery. Discussions are now ongoing about repeating the event next year.



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Transport and Environment Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Kathy Bee June 2015

Delivering our Ambitions

20 MPH Update

The council's 20mph consultation with residents and businesses in the north of the borough closed on 25th June 2015. Under this consultation, every residential street in South Norwood, Selhurst, Bensham Manor, Thornton Heath and Upper Norwood except major through roads will get the new limit if enough local people back the plans. It is anticipated that the results will be ready for reporting by around the 10th of July.

If the consultation finds enough residents want a 20mph speed limit in their part of the borough, the council will start the formal process of implementing this.

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Children, Young People and Learners

Cabinet Member Bulletin

Councillor Alisa Flemming

June 2015

Latest News

Anti-Bullying

Earlier this year the Council's LDD project was contacted by the Council for Disabled Children about making an anti-bullying film by young people with SEND for young people with SEND. This was to be part of our ongoing partnership with the Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA).

The LDD lead officer, for the Early Intervention and Support Service, used one of our after school youth clubs at Bensham Manor to see if any of our young people would be interested in taking part.

The film is about 5 minutes long and it's brilliant. The young people involved sum all the issues up in a way we could never do ourselves. Talking about bullying, giving safety messages and sign posting to support organisations. I think it's going to help lots of disabled young people to speak up about bullying and know that they don't have to put up with it.

View Film here - <https://youtu.be/zq0V1O6AOrI>

Contact Officer: Paul Funnell, Learning Difficulties and Disabilities Lead
Officer paul.funnell@croydon.gov.uk

Croydon Best Start to include a PIP – Parent Infant Partnership. Making psychotherapeutic support available to all families who are struggling to form a secure attachment with their baby

Anyone who is a parent will know that bringing up a child is a difficult job and perhaps the hardest period to adapt to, is the first two years. Suddenly you are responsible for a precious child and its development into a society full of opportunity, but equally of potential threats. Not all parents are equipped to be the protector and teacher that all babies need.

Parent Infant Partnership (PIP) UK supports organisations and practitioners who want to set up an infant mental health service structured as a Parent Infant Partnership in their local area, offering psychotherapeutic services to parents and carers and their under twos. The service is intended for all those caring for a child, whether natural parent, foster parent, adoptive parent or grandparent. PIP UK Vision

Putting universal and targeted support for parent and baby attachment and bonding at the heart of Best Start is essential so becoming part of the PIP UK network is well timed in the development of the programme. The PIP UK Board are impressed with the systems



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approach Best Start is taking and have asked Croydon to develop a flagship service that others can learn from. Being part of the PIP UK network ensures that Croydon has access to research and excellent clinical supervision and direction, as well as to training for the Best Start workforce and all partners.

The work will be developed with Croydon Drop In as the lead voluntary sector partner together with Health Visiting and Midwifery maternal mental health specialists. PIP UK will provide £100k funding over 3 years to support the development and sustainability of the programme and there is further funding available to develop clinical expertise within the borough.

Clair Rees – Executive Director, Parent Infant Partnership UK said

“Croydon will be a pioneering locality for implementation of the 1001 Critical Days Vision UK wide, beginning in the antenatal period. Ensuring universal and targeted support to give every baby the best possible start in life should be an aspiration for every locality. PIPUK is delighted that the importance of relationships is a central theme to transforming local communities in Croydon, beginning with the parent-infant relationship. We look forward to working together for future generations”.

For more information please contact Debby.maccormack@croydon.gov.uk or visit <http://www.pipuk.org.uk/Home.aspx>

Pupil Premium Awards – 2015

Nine Croydon schools received a letter of congratulations recently from the Minister for Schools David Laws for the excellent results of their disadvantaged pupils and, as a result, have been identified as qualifiers for the 2015 Pupil Premium Awards. The schools are: Coulsdon C of E Primary, Elmwood Junior, Fairchildes Primary, Oasis Academy Byron, West Thornton Primary, Coloma Convent Girls' School, Harris Academy Purley, Harris Academy South Norwood and Oasis Academy Shirley Park.

To receive a letter of congratulations, key stage 2 (KS2) schools had to show:

- consistent high attainment of their disadvantaged pupils between 2012 and 2014 in reading, writing and maths.
- that high proportions of their disadvantaged pupils are making the expected progress in reading, writing and maths
- consistently high or improving attainment for other pupils
- that they got a 'good' or 'outstanding' rating in their latest Ofsted inspection.

To receive a letter of congratulations, Key Stage 4 (KS4) schools had to show:

- consistent high attainment of their disadvantaged pupils between 2011 and 2014 in English and maths.

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- significant improvement between 2011 and 2014 in the proportion of disadvantaged children getting A* to C in English and maths GCSEs
- a high 'best 8 value added score' for disadvantaged pupils – this score looks at how much progress pupils have made from KS2 to KS4
- Consistently high or improving attainment for other pupils
- That they got a 'good' or 'outstanding' rating in their latest Ofsted inspection.

Contact Officer: David Butler, Head of School Standards and Commissioning david.butler@roydon.gov.uk

Delivering our Ambitions

More of Croydon's children and young people attend a good or outstanding school than ever before

Over the past year the improvement in the quality of schools in Croydon has continued apace. Just 3 years ago 64% of Croydon's schools were judged good or better. At the beginning of June this year 91.4% of primary schools, 67% of secondary schools, 100% of pupil referral units and 100% of special schools are judged good or outstanding, meaning that overall **86.4%** of our schools fit in to this category which is better than both the England (82.2%) and Outer London (85.7%) average. Huge thanks are due to the hard work of senior leaders and all their staff in Croydon's schools, the pupils themselves, the expertise of staff within the Council and our colleagues in the Octavo Partnership. The strong team work of all concerned is helping to ensure Croydon's children and young people will have improved outcomes and life chances.

Contact Officer: David Butler, Head of School Standards and Commissioning david.butler@roydon.gov.uk

Working with Partners

Developments to combat child sexual exploitation in Croydon

I am delighted that as a follow up to the Council's response to Operation Raptor and our newly agreed Child Sexual Exploitation Action Plan (March 2015) we have just received formal confirmation from the international donor the Railway Children; <https://www.railwaychildren.org.uk/> that they will provide £150K funding to combat CSE in Croydon. The money will be directly paid to a 'preferred provider' in this case the SaferLondon Foundation; <http://www.saferlondonfoundation.org/> who are currently based in our Youth Offending Service, (funded via MOPAC), and have demonstrated a significant impact in over 300 cases of child sexual exploitation in the past 3 years.

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This additional funding will allow SaferLondon the capacity to extend their offer by providing Croydon Children & Families Early Intervention and Children Social Care with two practitioners who will undertake direct work with survivors as well as provide training, consultation and support to social workers and others. Subject to internal negotiations the intention is to base the workers in MASH, Children Social Care and the PRUs / Alternative Education and Ruskin College and externally in the GUM Clinic as well as link them systemically with the NSPCC's Return Home Interview Project. This will effectively give us a Missing and CSE team structured in a partnership arrangement with two respected NGOs and will go some way to ameliorating two CSCB priority areas; Missing and CSE. However, in terms of the operating model nothing is fixed as we will want to reflect on how best to allocate this important resource across the entire service. This is an exciting partnership model that will increase our capacity. At present our thinking is that the project will be coordinated by the Missing and CSE co-ordinator although this is again subject to reflection.

We have developed this model by applying the current best practice research. The project will commence in June 2015 and is funded initially until December 2016. If we evidence improved outcomes for young people affected by CSE, in that time, then we believe we can expect an extension of this funding and therefore the reach of the model.

We have developed a good working relationship with SaferLondon who have a proven track record of success here in Croydon.

Contact Officer: Gavin Swann, Head of Quality Assurance and Children's Safeguarding gavin.swann@croydon.gov.uk



Economy and Jobs Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Toni Letts June 2015

Latest News

Croydon Awarded Social Enterprise Status

As part of a launch event held on 28 May, Croydon was celebrated as the first London borough to receive social enterprise place status, in recognition of the number of businesses in the borough that are run for the benefit of the community.

There are currently 13 towns and cities across the country with social enterprise place status.

There are more than 120 registered social enterprise businesses in Croydon with hundreds more operating in the wider voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector.



Delivering our Ambitions

CELF Funding Investment

Proposed extension of the Croydon Enterprise Loan Fund to £4m with an additional £2.75 funding investment to introduce tailored financial service to support the Growth Plan.

End of 2014-15 financial year results on economic development delivery:

- Over £5.78 m supply contracts raised for Croydon based businesses
- £388k loans to businesses to support start-up & growth
- Over 772 gross jobs overall

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Economy and Jobs Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Toni Letts June 2015

- 10.1 % reduction in vacant office space in Town Centre.
- Over 500 businesses supported
- £1.27m enterprise support funding from the Mayor of London, Council and delivery partners for the London Road residents, independent traders, and local employers. This has achieved intensive support to over 100 local traders, helped to create over 200 jobs and 60 start-ups.

Working Together

Two important Disability Confident events for employers and people with a disability

- **Seminar to examine and address the Pathways to Employment for people with disabilities in Croydon**

More than 40 companies attended the Disability Confident event at Fairfield Halls on 20 May.

This seminar examined the barriers and challenges people with disabilities face in employment and the actions that businesses and the borough can take to address these.

The seminar offered all participants an opportunity to find out how organisations can remove barriers that prevent people with disabilities from getting into the work place and learn more about the financial, operational and social benefits of being a Disability Confident Employer.

The seminar included guest speakers from a number of organisations who shared their experiences.

- **Disability Confident Careers Fair**

The seminar session in the morning was followed by a 'Disability Confident Careers Fair', aimed at those job seekers who have a disability and are looking for work. Companies were encouraged to use this opportunity to promote any firm opportunities to offer paid employment, apprenticeships, traineeships, work experience or work placements.



Communities Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Mark Watson June 2015

Stronger Communities Board meeting

The third meeting of the Stronger Communities Partnership Board, chaired by Cllr Watson, took place on 19th May. These meetings provide an opportunity for key members of Croydon's voluntary, community and faith sectors to come together to oversee and co-ordinate the development of Croydon's communities agenda.

The focus of May's meeting was the Croydon Opportunity and Fairness Commission. The Campaign Company, the independent company hired to support the Commission, conducted an exercise relating to perceptions of Croydon. There was also an opportunity for delegates to hear about the outcome of the Stop and Search meeting that took place on 12th March.

The next Stronger Communities Partnership Board meeting is taking place on 16th September and will focus on preventing extremism.

Creating Pathways to Employment for People with Disabilities

On 20th May, the Council in partnership with Department for Work and Pensions, Shaw Trust and Croydon Care Solutions held a seminar to explore Pathways to Employment for People with Disabilities. The seminar was attended by more than 140 delegates including local MPs, representatives from central government, businesses, disability organisations and people living with a disability.

The seminar examined the barriers and challenges people with disabilities face in accessing employment and the actions businesses and the borough could take to address these. The seminar included presentations on the 'Disability Confident Campaign' and Access to Work Programme. Guest speakers from Sainsbury's and Interserve shared their best practice in recruiting and retaining staff with a disability. Staff members with a disability from Croydon Council and Croydon Day Opportunities Ltd shared their personal experience of the opportunities and challenges that work offers them and the support that their employers have provided.

The seminar concluded with a pledge session that gave organisations the opportunity to commit to taking action to creating pathways to employment for people with a disability.



Communities Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Mark Watson June 2015

The feedback from the seminar will be used to develop an action plan that partners will take forward to create pathways for employment for people with a disability. One to one support will also be offered to organisations that made a specific pledge or declared an interest in supporting the Disability Confident Campaign.”



BIG LUNCH 2015

Croydon residents once again showed their community spirit by putting on street parties on Sunday 7th June 2015.

Every year the Big Lunch sees communities from all corners of the borough sitting down to eat and chat with their neighbours.

A huge thank you to all our Croydon Big Lunchers that showed their support this year! Thanks to our residents, approximately, 90 Big lunches took place this year, which nearly twice the number that took place in 2014. The Mayor of Croydon was also delighted to pop along to support as many parties as she was able to attend.

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Here is a sampling of some of the very many parties that took place:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/yourcroydon/albums>



Croydon Congress

Croydon Congress was held on 11 June and focused on changing attitudes and behaviours towards domestic abuse and sexual violence. The event was attended by over 180 representatives from the public, business, community, faith and voluntary sectors and provided an opportunity for delegates to come together to discuss the key issues and look at what can be done to change attitudes and behaviours in Croydon.

Delegates heard from Seema Malhotra MP, the Shadow Minister for Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls, Vera Baird QC, the Police and Crime

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Commissioner for Northumbria and former Solicitor General (via a recorded message), and Fiona Bowman, a former Croydon Council staff member who gave her own personal story about leaving an abusive relationship. As well as presentations, a hard hitting film 'Leaving' was screened. The film portrayed some of the issues involved in trying to leave an abusive relationship.

As part of the event delegates were asked to make a pledge, either a personal one or one on behalf of an organisation, and 89 delegates did so. Specific pledges range from a mosque committing to organise sessions on domestic abuse and sexual violence and a housing association volunteering to develop training courses for younger residents to larger pledges such as Croydon Health Services committing to develop a domestic abuse and sexual violence HR policy to cover their 4,000 employees.

Feedback from the event has been incredibly positive, with delegate satisfaction levels increased considerably from the last Congress event. The actions and discussion points will be written up into a formal report over the next month.



Inter-faith bike ride and Big Picnic

Faiths Together in Croydon (FTIC) and the Council hosted an Inter-faith bike ride and Big Picnic on Sunday, 14 June 2015. Nearly 30 riders took part in this unique bike ride through Croydon which involved visits to our diverse faith centres and finally concluded with a picnic in Park Hill Recreation Ground.

It was a fun day out for everyone - young and old - and a great way to celebrate the diversity of Faith in Croydon. On the day, many residents who were not cycling took the opportunity to both visit the faith centre visits at the scheduled times and also join the Big Picnic at the finish line.



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Croydon Voluntary and Community Fair

The inaugural 2015 Croydon Voluntary and Community Fair was launched by the Mayor of Croydon, Patricia Hay-Justice and Cllr Matthew Kyeremeh on 18 June 2015. The Fair was a successful one and was well attended.

The theme of the Fair was about working in collaboration with the voluntary and community sector. This is a key element of promoting the principles of Value Croydon

Value Croydon represents a different way of doing business for the Council and the borough as a whole. The ethos is about inspiring social partnerships with businesses, the community and other public sector agencies to promote social value in Croydon.

This is a strategic framework that builds a culture of cross sector collaboration to stimulate a social value economy in Croydon. As Value Croydon partners, we will develop social and economic benefits that enhance the quality of life of Croydon's communities by investing in Croydon residents, business and communities creating employment, business growth and community resilience

There were 38 voluntary and community stalls, 2 stalls from the council and 1 from Croydon Partnership. Over 200 hundred front line council staff, plus some staff from the CCG and private sector attended the Fair.

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We have had great verbal feedback from exhibitors, external visitors and council staff. There were very positive comments from CCG colleagues as the Fair was a great opportunity for them to meet Croydon Voluntary and Community Sector.



Croydon Council's new Equality and Inclusion Policy

Croydon Council's has published its new Equality and Inclusion Policy that sets out our commitment to creating a fair, inclusive and cohesive society through our role as a community leader, a provider and commissioner of services and an employer.

The Policy sets out our vision to work in partnership with our communities, the voluntary sector and statutory organisations to make the borough a place where people want to live and work - a place where everyone has fair and equal opportunities and life chances. The policy focuses on the following priorities that will enable us to deliver better outcomes for local people:

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- Make Croydon a place of opportunity and fairness by tackling inequality, disadvantage and exclusion.
- Foster good community relations and cohesion by getting to know our diverse communities and understand their needs.
- Encourage local people to be independent and resilient by providing responsive and accessible services and offering excellent customer care.
- Improve empowerment and participation by strengthening partnership work with community, faith and voluntary sectors.
- Provide strong leadership, partnership and organisational commitment by enabling staff and communities to find solutions to the things that matter most to them.
- Become an employer of choice by recruiting, developing and retaining an efficient, talented and motivated workforce that broadly reflects the communities that we serve at all levels.

Everyone who delivers or receives a service from or on behalf of the Council is expected to share our commitment to equality and inclusion.

We will monitor the delivery of our equality and inclusion priorities and take decisive and appropriate action against those found to be in breach of this policy.

You can review a copy of the policy by [clicking here](#)

Armed Forces Community Covenant

Armed Forces Community Covenant meetings took place on 17 March and 14 May. The meetings which will now be held quarterly are Chaired by Cllr Emily Benn, Croydon's Armed Forces Champion, and Col. Ian McRobbie, Croydon's Deputy Lieutenant, and provide an opportunity for the Armed Forces community, the council and local service providers to come together and explore relevant issues.

Different council departments are represented at the meetings, alongside local stakeholders such as the Jobcentre Plus and Citizens Advice Bureau. Representatives from our 5 local Armed Forces Reserve Units attend the meetings, as do local and national Armed Forces support organisations.



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Presentations at the last two meetings have come from the Public Affairs and Campaigns Manager at the Royal British Legion, the Reserve Forces Liaison Officer at Combat Stress and caseworkers at SSAFA.

More information on the Armed Forces Covenant can be found here: <https://www.croydon.gov.uk/community/community-covenant>

Meetings with staff working with the young Albanian community

Following on from the issue of young Albanian people having problems accessing services being raised by internal colleagues at a Joint Agency Meeting, our team arranged meetings with relevant internal officers and a representative of an Albanian support organisation, Shpresa.

The first meeting took place on 5 March and highlighted that young Albanian people were having difficulty finding somewhere safe and secure to meet and that many were isolated and some were getting into trouble in the town centre. Shpresa were keen to conduct outreach work in Croydon but were struggling to find locations.

At the second meeting on 21 May we found out that things had got a lot better and suitable venues had been secured for outreach work with the community. Whilst the issue with young Albanians in the town centre causing trouble and being isolated has not gone away completely, Shpresa has had success with securing the Carers Centre for ESOL language classes and drop in sessions and Waddon Youth Hub for further outreach work. This had largely improved the situation and a number of young Albanian people were being engaged with.



Communities Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Mark Watson June 2015

Latest Micro Grant Awards

I am pleased to announce that five new Micro Grants awards were made in May.

Name	Project Title	Amount £
Croydon Writers	Celebrating Croydon Writers 70th Anniversary	400
Nelson's Community Enterprise CIC	Live Like A Student, Eat Like A King	1000
Oval Road Big Lunch	Oval Road Big Lunch	500
Streatham St Barts Chamber Orchestra	Joint musical evening with St James the Great School choir	495
Elm Park Estate Residents Association	South Norwood Library Mosaic Project	900
Turf Projects	Stones Of Croydon drawing tours in and around Croydon's Libraries	600

For more information, please go to www.croydon.gov.uk/acf



Safety and Justice Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Mark Watson June 2015

Latest News

A man has been sentenced after pleading guilty to multiple courier fraud offences across south London. Hayden Gabay was sentenced to 16 months' imprisonment, suspended for two years, after pleading guilty to 37 offences of dishonestly making false representation at Croydon Crown Court on 14 May. The court ordered a further five counts to remain on file. Members of the public across south London, including a 93-year-old war veteran from Bromley who was held prisoner of war for three and a half years, lost tens of thousands of pounds after a series of courier frauds last year. Gabay pleaded guilty to committing the offences between March and October 2014.

A Croydon man has been issued with a five year Criminal Behaviour Order, after committing a string of offences across the borough. Aaron Arnold, 28 (27.11.86), of Purley Way, Croydon, who has 45 convictions since 2004, was most recently sentenced to nine weeks' imprisonment at Croydon Magistrates' Court on 20 February for using threatening words or behaviour, has had a restraining order issued against him until 20 February 2017 and was required to pay £50 compensation to his victim. Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs) were introduced in October 2014. They directly replace the Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs).

Two years' continuous noise nuisance, making life unbearable for a neighbour undergoing chemotherapy, has ended with a **three-month closure order on an Upper Norwood flat.**

Croydon magistrates ordered the Sylvan Road premises closed after hearing of failed attempts by council officers and the police to bring about an amicable agreement between the landlord, tenants and neighbours. The court heard that in September 2013, the residents of a neighbouring flat made the first of a number of calls to the police complaining about the level of noise coming from the flat. Failed attempts at mediation saw the police contact the council for assistance, leading to the signing of an agreement by all parties in February 2014. The agreement, however, was quickly breached and further complaints were made to the council, documenting continuing noise nuisance.

In July 2014, Bianca Adrianna Vitan and Bogdan Bulte took tenancy of the flat, but the previous tenants made regular visits to the property and further noise was documented.

The following winter, one of the neighbours was diagnosed with cancer, undergoing intensive chemotherapy. The tenants responded to a request to quieten the loud music, in order to give the neighbour much-needed respite.



Safety and Justice Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Mark Watson June 2015

However, when it appeared the neighbour had recovered, the noise resumed, leading to the issue of a noise-abatement notice in February 2015, along with arrests by police for harassment and obstruction.

The following month, nearing breaking point, the neighbours approached the council, seeking effective intervention. The history of continued nuisance led the council to decide to take formal action. Repeated requests to meet the landlord and tenants were ignored, and, four days before a premises closure order hearing, the landlord told the council that notice to quit by 20 May had been served on the tenants. They failed to quit, and continued noise nuisance led to a further closure notice being served on 1 June. The landlord did not attend court, nor did he oppose the application.

Working Together

The Croydon Safer Neighbourhood Board ran a series of **Business Crime Prevention Workshops** during an awareness week. The workshops included an overview on crime prevention for retailers, identifying and combating counterfeit currency, and conflict management / personal safety training.



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

Latest News

Ambition Festival

23 – 26 July

The work of organising the first Ambition Festival continues. A diverse and eclectic programme is on offer including free stages alongside the main headline shows in a range of venues. It has already been put on several ‘ones to watch’ lists of top UK festivals.

If music isn't your scene there will be ample chances to laugh the night away on the pop-up comedy ‘Blundabus’ or settle in for some theatre or a contemporary dance show.

There's also a large family area in the heart of the old town with loads of fun planned for the kids.

Fairfield Halls

The redevelopment of Fairfield Halls has moved a stage closer. Croydon-based consultancy Mott MacDonald and architects Rick Mather, renowned for working on some of the biggest theatres in the country, will oversee the design of the redevelopment of College Green, at the heart of which will be Fairfield Halls.

“It is fantastic that they are also a Croydon-based company, and bring with them local knowledge and expertise”.

The team are currently working through the designs for modernising the Fairfield Halls and providing new homes, shops and restaurants in the College Green area. The scheme will provide a high quality public space and provide a through route to and from East Croydon station, quickly connecting visitors with Queens Gardens, the Clocktower, Surrey Street and Exchange Square.

Further to this we the project will deliver some works within the Fairfield Halls in the coming months through the summer including improvements to the kitchen and improvements to the ventilation within the concert hall. The forecourt in front of Fairfield will also be transformed into a place where people can sit and eat and drink.



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

Museum of Croydon

The Museum of Croydon's '**Moving to London**' exhibition, opened on 1 April 2015 to mark the 50th anniversary of the formation of the London Borough of Croydon. The exhibition explores, through objects, photographs and personal stories, the regeneration of the 1960s and its impact on the County Borough of Croydon and Urban District Council of Coulsdon & Purley, prior to their amalgamation to form the London Borough of Croydon in 1965. Visitors can also see a visualisation of how Taberner House was built to serve as the headquarters for the new Council and find out about the growth and development of the new borough, which continued into the early 1970s, and its legacy today.

To complement the 'Moving to London' exhibition, and further our commitment to displaying selected works from the Croydon Art Collection in the Exhibition Gallery at Croydon Clocktower, '**Art Now...Then**' opened on 5 May 2015. In the 1950s and 60s, the Council's Education Department collected a number of works by leading contemporary artists, such as Patrick Caulfield, John Hoyland and Howard Hodgkin, as well as students of Croydon College of Art. This exhibition showcases 12 prints, which have been selected to represent a range of abstract styles practiced in the 1960s at the time of the Borough's creation.

Delivering our Ambitions

Queen's Gardens

The disused fountain in Croydon's Queen's Gardens has been given a temporary new lease of life as a lunchtime performance space over the summer.

Croydon Clocktower

Over the last year I have worked closely with officers to ensure the Clocktower complex is in tip top condition from a resident's point of view.

Regular users should have noticed that the lighting throughout the complex has been cleaned and the number of unlit bulbs reduced to as close to zero as possible. The remaining issue of the stylish column uplighters that seemingly haven't worked for a number of years should be resolved through an energy efficient upgrade in the next few months.

Carpets have been cleaned for the first time in a long time. The Main entrance has had a lot of work done on refurbishing hand rails and the display cabinets. The public toilets have all

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

been fully refurbished. Over the summer a new signage scheme should be introduced to remove the current confusing situation.

Officers have also worked to continue these improvements to ensure a programme of painting and decorating over the next few years is scheduled. The flooring in the Café will also see improvements this year.

Many thanks to officers in Facilities Management and the Councils Contractor Interserve for their support in this endeavour. The Clocktower was an award winning building when it opened and it is great to see it looking so good once again.

Working Together

LEGO comes to Central Library

In collaboration with LEGO Education, we are introducing a new interactive and exciting creative hub in the Children's library at the Clocktower.

With the traditional library business of book lending in decline library services need to diversify and offer something different to the community. I am constantly looking at using the asset of the library building more creatively and seeking innovative use of the space to encourage people to use the range of services on offer.

This LEGO branded innovation studio for school children from primary age upwards forms a dynamic creative hub at Croydon Central library and a fun area to be in for all.

Croydon Art College in the David Lean cinema

On Friday 19th June the BA Hon. Filmmakers of Croydon Art School showed their final degree work in the David Lean cinema. In the past they have used The Prince Charles cinema in Leicester Square but they were really excited to bring their films to the influential cinema of David Lean. It means a lot that our degree filmmakers can screen in such a well-known venue in the heart of the Croydon community where such diversely rich films are being shown.

Croydon Free Street Table Tennis Festival

Croydon will be going batty this summer when Ping! - The free street table tennis festival - bounces into town. The ping pong extravaganza will see over 15+ ping pong tables springing up across Croydon's landmarks locations – from shopping centres and cafes to shopping parades and



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even outside East Croydon station. The tables will pop up from 22nd June to 21st August; to join in the fun, simply grab a bat from the side of the table and play – absolutely free of charge!

Ping! Croydon locations include: The Whitgift Centre, The Platform (Ruskin Square), Matthews Yard, RISE Gallery (St Georges Walk), Centrale Shopping Centre, The Healthy Living Hub, Croydon Arena and some of Croydon's parks and gardens.