



# Leader of the Council Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Tony Newman November - December 2016

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## Latest news

The residents of Croydon have come together and supported one another in their grief following the devastating **tram crash** that took away the lives of Dane Chinnery, Donald Collett, Robert Huxley, Philip Logan, Dorota Rynkiewicz, Philip Seary and Mark Smith, and left so many others seriously injured. All will remain in our prayers and thoughts.

I have been inspired by how, in one of our darkest moments, Croydon as a community and a town has come together, to stand in solidarity with all the victims and their families. I would like to take this opportunity to not only thank once again the bravery and dedication of all the emergency services, but the volunteers and community groups who have worked alongside our dedicated council officers to support both the victims of the crash and the local community in places like New Addington and across Croydon.

Working with Mayor of London Sadiq Khan and our local MPs, we have asked the tough questions regarding the safety of our tram network and demanded that the full investigation report is published sooner, rather than later. I will ensure we keep everyone informed of how those issues progress.

In the meantime our thoughts remain first and foremost with the victims, so thank you to all who have donated to our JustGiving page, not least the incredibly generous Addington fire crews who have donated the wages they earned while working to save the lives of passengers. Over £15,000 has been raised so far, which is testament to the love and support of our Croydon community.



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We welcomed the announcement a new police borough commander for Croydon. **Chief Superintendent Jeff Boothe** will take up the role on 10 December 2016, when current borough commander Andy Tarrant retires.

The 51-year-old, who has been the borough commander at Bexley since March 2015, lives in Croydon and joined the Metropolitan Police after 24 years' service with British Transport Police.

Having a borough commander that lives in Croydon will ensure the town's best interests are at heart. Jeff comes with a fantastic reputation and we look forward to working very closely with him and helping to keep Croydon a welcoming, safe and inclusive 24-hour borough.

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As Leader, along with our Health and Well Being Board Chair, we have made clear our concern regarding the **NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plan**. This further round of NHS reorganisation does little or nothing to address the growing pressure on services and lack of funding in Croydon.

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It has been great to welcome **Boxpark** to the borough. A two-day sell out music festival was how it officially opened its doors in October. It's a key part of our plans to help transform the borough, bringing growth, new jobs and prosperity.



**AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON**



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I hope that all residents can enjoy Boxpark and no doubt the two million passengers at East Croydon will do so.

It has more than 30 food traders, including Croydon's Wine and Deli, Cronx Brewery and Yumn Brasserie. Croydon Council's Croydon Works scheme has also helped 41 local people secure jobs at the venue.

Its opening coincides with £30m refurbishment of the Fairfield Halls, which is due to re-open in summer 2018 and the £1.4bn redevelopment of the Whitgift Centre by the Croydon Partnership.

It's an incredibly exciting time to be living in, working in and visiting Croydon.

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I was so pleased that our scheme to close a residential road so that families can play safely outdoors has been voted the best in London. In September 2015, more than 50 children and their parents from **Love Lane**, in Woodside, began their first Play Street event, enabling residents to enjoy games in the sunshine while the council kept their road temporarily traffic-free.

In October 2016, Love Lane residents of all ages attended the 2016 Adventure Play Awards in Leicester Square, where their project was named Play Street of the Year, beating off competition from fellow finalist streets in Hammersmith and Fulham, Islington, Southwark and Haringey.

The council introduced Play Streets by making it easier for residents to apply for temporary road closures. Love Lane's Play Street has since become monthly, and eight more have launched across the borough, including the borough's first school-run Play Street in Brampton Road, Addiscombe.

**Councillor Tony Newman**  
Leader of the Council

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