



Safer Croydon and Communities

Cabinet Member Bulletin

Councillor Hamida Ali

July 2019

Safer Croydon

Developing our Public Health Approach to Violence Reduction – Framework Approved with support from London Mayor’s Office



Lib Peck, Director of the Mayor for London’s Violence Reduction Unit attended Cabinet to support approval of Croydon’s Public Health Approach to Violence Reduction policy framework. We made a manifesto commitment to taking a public health approach to tackling violence and this is an important step in making this pledge a reality. Our work to develop a public health approach to tackling violence and establishing a Violence Reduction Network has been described as exemplary and is shared by London’s Violence Reduction Unit, led by Lib Peck, and we look forward to working together to make Croydon even safer for everyone.

The causes of violent crime are extremely complex and involve deep-seated problems including social deprivation, poverty, inequality, domestic abuse, substance misuse, mental health, social alienation and a lack of opportunity. Croydon’s approach acknowledges the complexity of the problem and seeks to work with partners to prevent violence before it happens by focusing on the causes, as well as the impact of the offences.

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In Croydon this means recognising that we all have a role, both statutory and community sectors, working together to stop violence. The council's Violence Reduction Network is taking a fundamentally different approach where we all work together to deliver greater capacity, expertise and coordination to identify the root causes of violence and deliver early interventions. We will work with communities to identify those at risk and develop community based prevention services with the aim of stopping violence before it occurs and signposting individuals to support, education and training to

Sarah Hayward appointment?

Keeping young people away from gangs

Croydon Council's gangs team (part of the council's youth offending service) hosted a Meet The Gangs Team event at Croydon Voluntary Action (CVA) on Thursday 20 June from 10.30-1230pm.

The work champions the goals of the council's Choose Your Future campaign, which seeks to unite Croydon against serious youth violence and help young people make positive choices.

This is the fifth event, organised in collaboration with the CVA, to help voluntary groups and those working with young people understand the reasons why young people join gangs, and the support in place to divert them away from a gang lifestyle.

<http://news.croydon.gov.uk/keeping-young-people-away-from-gangs/>





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CCTV – Public Consultation

We are investing in improving community safety across the borough by replacing and upgrading the Council CCTV system with state of the art technology. Our CCTV network comprises of 96 static cameras and 10 deployable cameras strategically located at sites with higher levels of reported crime or high footfall across the borough. It is a key tool in deterring crime and supporting our emergency services and is designed to deter crime and anti-social behaviour and reduce fear of crime, improve safety and help emergency services.

The network helps keep all our communities safer in the town and district centres across the borough and supports our drive to reduce violence. However, parts of the existing analogue network are nearing the end of their serviceable life. The council is planning to replace it with a new digital system to increase the network's capability with higher resolution images.

The council follows the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice in order to balance the need for cameras in public places with individuals' right to privacy. We want to ensure we are using it proportionally and sensibly and the Council is consulting on how people view the current network, make sure we understand how the community expect us to use the network and what they think of the council's priorities for the upgraded system.

Croydon's Youth Engagement service and other partners will be working to enable more young people in the borough to have their say on the proposals.

Make sure you ave your say: www.croydon.gov.uk/getinvolved

Trading standards – online knife prosecution

Pub giant fined £180,000 after Croydon Council prosecution

A judge has fined a national brewer £180,000 after Croydon Council prosecuted one of its pubs for having a dirty kitchen, mouse droppings and poor hygiene practices.

At Croydon Magistrates' Court on Tuesday (7 May), Marston's plc was fined £180,000, plus ordered to pay more than £5,000 in costs, after it admitted multiple hygiene failings found at Porter and Sorter.

<http://news.croydon.gov.uk/pub-giant-fined-180000-after-croydon-council-prosecution/>



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Communities

Multi-million-pound Community Fund available for Croydon community groups

Bids are open for the council's Community Fund – with more than £2.6m available every year over three years available to Croydon's voluntary sector, reflecting the Administration's commitment and record of investment in our voluntary sector. The Community Fund will support community organisations taking action around a number of areas including supporting older people, young people, tackling homelessness, promoting safety and access to employment.

The Community Fund is a three year programme making almost £8m available for Croydon's voluntary and community sector, informed by significant engagement with our voluntary and community sector.

Bids for over £15,000 are open until 1 October and all the information relating to the Community Fund is available on the council's Value Croydon site
<http://valuecroydon.com/engagement-2-2>

For bids under £15,000 organisations can make an application for a small grant. Applications will open from the 1st September 2019 and be available on the Community Grants page on the Councils website -
www.croydon.gov.uk/community/advice/community-grants



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Croydon Big Lunch – Sat 1st and Sun 2nd June

Croydon residents once again showed their community spirit by putting on over 60 street parties on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2th June 2016.

Every year the Big Lunch sees communities from all corners of the borough sitting down to eat and chat with their neighbours. These community gatherings are encouraging neighbours to look out for each other, as well as opening avenues for neighbours to help the less able.

A huge thank you to all our Croydon Big Lunchers that showed their support this year! Thanks to our residents, we had 64 registered Big Lunches in our streets and parks. The Deputy Mayor of Croydon Cllr Maddie Henson was also delighted to pop along to support as many parties across the borough.

Here is a sampling of some of the parties that took place this year. You can view more Big Lunch Photos on the council's flicker page or by clicking on this link:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/yourcroydon/albums/72157709078810473>





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Annual Interfaith Bike Ride and Picnic - 9th June 2019

On Sunday 9th June, Faiths Together in Croydon held their 5th annual ride and picnic. This year saw riders visiting the SVBT temple in West Croydon, Croydon Mosque on London Road and then making their way to St George's Church in Shirley. The riders then headed to Park Hill Rec' to join the picnic. As well as enjoying the wonderful food, the games and the weather, attendees had a chance to meet with the many other groups that were there to support the event.





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Parchmore Community Centre - Birthday Street Party

On Saturday 1st June, Gateway Officers attended Parchmore Community Centre's birthday street party to celebrate and to share our plans with the Community for having a permanent presence in their centre as we get ready to roll out the Gateway Services, Community Connect and the Food Stop. There were street games, music and food and Officers had a lovely time playing, chatting and supporting them on their special day. We spoke to all that were there about Gateway, plans for our presence and the Food Stop and there is a real buzz in the church community.

Rev Nadine said *"This is a great partnership that sees the council working alongside our partners to help some of our most vulnerable residents preventing their issues from escalating and reducing the need for statutory services."*



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Windrush & Commonwealth

On Thursday 12th June, Croydon's celebration of the Windrush Generation got underway with an exhibition of artefacts, memories and stories at the Museum of Croydon.

This was the start of a month-long celebration of the Windrush Generation and their contribution to this country. The free exhibition runs until Thursday 31 October.

The organisers, All Islands Together, in partnership with Croydon BME Forum, have invited residents to submit their memories and items from the 40s and 50s in the UK by emailing aitwindrush@gmail.com

Highlights of the festivities included a special dinner and awards afternoon on Friday 21 June, a celebration with all communities in the heart of Croydon town centre on Saturday 22 June, and a thanksgiving service on Sunday 23 June. The dinner at the De Vere Selsdon Estate Hotel was open to everyone, and complimentary to Windrushers aged 65 and over.





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The first National Windrush Day itself was on Saturday 22 June and Croydon celebrated with a Windrush Street Party & Caribbean Cookout. The party included Caribbean arts, crafts, book stalls, performances by the Endurance Steelpan Orchestra and IDMC Gospel Choir, a poetry jam at the Front Room, music from the era from DJ Daddy Ernie & Neville King as well as jerk, vegan and Caribbean cuisine and free giveaways.

Other events included an awards ceremony for school pupils who presented on the Windrush Generation's legacy. There was also two film nights at the David Lean Cinema, 'We Sing U Sing' Music Festival, a TEDx Talk and there will be a Windrush exhibition in the Fairfield Halls in September.

Croydon Minster will host a multi-faith Windrush thanksgiving church service on Sunday 23 June, celebrating the borough's diversity and the impact different communities have made on the British way of life.

"Last year Croydon Council became the first local authority in the country to establish and celebrate an annual Windrush Day in recognition of the rich diversity Commonwealth citizens have brought to the borough. We also passed a motion which includes reviewing our own policies and procedures to ensure we support Windrush residents who have been affected by national policies. Croydon has a rich heritage and this council is proud of its diverse communities." Councillor Tony Newman, leader of the council.

Croydon is supporting a range of different community events across the celebration. [Download a leaflet of Windrush events](#)