



Safer Croydon and Communities

Cabinet Member Bulletin

Councillor Hamida Ali

July 2018

Safer Croydon

Raising awareness of support and advice for survivors of domestic violence during World Cup

Across the UK domestic violence increases during all major sport events. Croydon's FJC works to support victims and help increase their safety. During the 2014 World Cup domestic abuse reporting increased by an average of 25% on England match days.

As a result, a dedicated police response car will be deployed on England match days. An independent domestic violence advocate from Croydon FJC will attend reports of domestic violence together with police officers, able to provide instant support and advice to survivors.

Over 1,000 posters are out across the borough highlight the service the FJC offer, supported by a press release and messaging on social media and internally for all council staff.

If you, or someone you know, is affected by domestic abuse, please speak up. Support is available. Please contact the FJC on: 020 8688 0100 or fjc@croydon.gov.uk or the National Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 2000 247. In an emergency, always call 999.

Breaking the cycle of domestic abuse

Croydon is working with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime to pilot for London an important new programme to tackle high-risk perpetrators of domestic violence.

The Drive programme is funded by the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime, and aims to reduce offending by helping perpetrators examine their views and attitudes towards domestic abuse.

The programme was launched on 2 July and will be delivered by RISE, a professional team that works closely with perpetrators to help them break their cycle of harmful behavior and develop better relationships with their families and the wider community.



Safer Croydon and Communities Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Hamida Ali July 2018

Scams Awareness Month

Scams Awareness Month takes place every year and provides an annual opportunity to raise awareness of the types of crimes and predatory practices which perpetrators target people with and advice on how to avoid them.

In Croydon our Trading Standards team marked the month by highlighting how scammers target different age groups. Younger people are most likely to experience online fraud and less likely to report it, middle-aged people are most likely to be targeted with financial fraud from pension fraud to property scams and older residents in their 70s are most at risk of phone scams for example fake prize draws and investments.

Croydon's Trading Standards Team have been taking these messages out message out to communities across the borough through a series of drop-ins. The team have been providing important advice on the best practice for all of us to avoid becoming victims of a scam. together with important advice on the best practice to avoid being targeted with these scams holding drop in sessions through the month offering advice and information on how to avoid being scammed. For more information, check out: <https://www.croydon.gov.uk/advice/tstandards/doorstep-crime/scams-awareness-month-2018>

Call for volunteers in fight against crime

The Safer Croydon Partnership marked Volunteers' Week in June with a call for more volunteers to support responses to knife crime and domestic violence – both priority areas in Croydon's Community Safety Strategy.

Croydon Council's trading standards department is looking for young people aged between 14 and 16, to volunteer as test purchasers for age-restricted products (with parental consent). This involves those young volunteers (in strictly controlled conditions) trying to buy knives, alcohol, cigarettes and fireworks from shops in the borough to test that retailers are not breaking the law.

The FJC supports people affected by domestic abuse and needs more people, aged 21 and over, to sign up for its Volunteers' Project. The project, which started in January, has already trained 28 people to help those experiencing abuse. For further details on the FJC work, please contact their volunteer coordinator: emma.osbourne@croydon.gov.uk.



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Croydon BME Forum Youth Summit – Saturday 21 July, Brit School, 12:00pm - 5pm

The Croydon BME Forum is working in partnership with the council and with community partners to hear from young people on their views about their safety and the impact of knife crime and their ideas on how to tackle the problem.

It will be an important opportunity to provide young people and their parents with reassurance about the work the Safer Croydon Partnership is leading across agencies and with communities to keep our young people safe.

Anyone interested in taking part can sign up here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/croydon-youth-summit-2018-registration-46016082341>

Croydon PrideFest 2018

The third Croydon PrideFest will take place on Saturday 14 July in Wandle Park, and is expected to bring more than 7,000 people together for a day of celebration of love, acceptance and inclusivity.

This free event will start with a parade along North End from 11.30am, along to Wandle Park where there will be live music and entertainment all afternoon and evening, and a dance tent open until 10pm.

If you would like to participate in the parade with members of the council LGBT Plus Allies staff network please email Andrew Curtis, chair of Croydon Council's LGBT +Allies staff network: andrew.curtis@croydon.gov.uk



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Annual interfaith bike ride and picnic in the park

On Sunday 24 June, Faiths Together in Croydon (FTIC) hosted their 4th annual interfaith bike ride and picnic to showcase Croydon's strong communities and that #WeStandTogether.

The picnic was also part of the Great Get Together annual events which are held in memory of Jo Cox MP, who believed that we have far more in common than that which divides us.

Starting in different parts of the borough (south, east and west), three bike rides visited Croydon's diverse sites of worship before joining up at Park Hill Recreation Ground for an interfaith picnic.

The fun filled day was an opportunity for our communities to come together to celebrate our diversity who were joined by the Mayor of Croydon.



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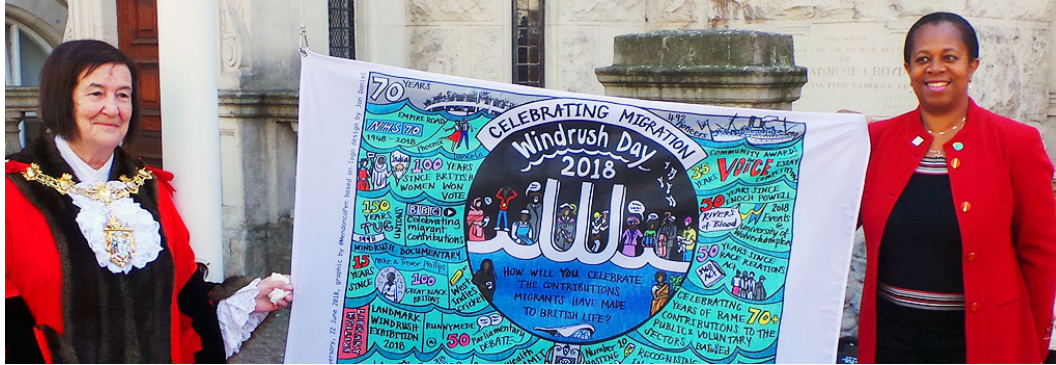


Celebrating and Supporting our Windrush Generation

AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON



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A unique flag was flown above Croydon town hall for the first time on 22 June, to mark the UK's inaugural Windrush Day – a celebration of the rich diversity that British Commonwealth citizens bring to the borough.

This year marks 70 years since the MV Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury Docks in 1948 carrying amongst its passengers 493 Commonwealth citizens from the Caribbean.

Croydon was the first council to fly the Windrush flag and follows the event, led and organised by Cllr Patsy Cummings, *Supporting our Windrush Generation [Our Rights in the UK]* a month before on 22 May which offered information and advice to any resident affected by the national issue.

At the event the Leader of the council announced that Croydon will also hold an annual event to celebrate our Windrush generation who came to rebuild Britain after the war.

Croydon Big Lunch Weekend

Croydon residents once again showed their community spirit by putting on street parties on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd June for the annual Big Lunch.

Each 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 in making it a great event. Thanks to our residents, 52 Big Lunches and street parties took place this year. The Mayor of Croydon Cllr Bernadette Khan and Deputy Mayor Cllr Humayun Kabir popped along to support as many parties as possible across the borough to the delight of those residents.



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