

FIGHTING CRIME



Become an enforcement officer and make a difference

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CULTURE



Your chance to win tickets to All Points East music festival

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CELEBRATING OUR BOROUGH



Ruqsana is fighting for inclusion and diversity in sport

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ISSUE TWENTY-NINE // JUNE 2023



OUR EAST END



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OUR EAST END

NEWS FROM TOWER HAMLETS COUNCIL AND YOUR COMMUNITY

A message from the Mayor of Tower Hamlets



It has been a year since I became Mayor of Tower Hamlets again - and what a busy year it has been!

As well as overseeing the delivery of day-to-day services which residents and businesses depend on, we've made a great start on delivering one of the most ambitious agendas in local government.

Work is well underway on the insourcing of Tower Hamlets Homes, youth services and leisure centres, while we also brought back the Educational Maintenance Allowance and university bursaries for young people.

I'm proud that we have also been able to expand our free school meals programme to all secondary schools - making Tower Hamlets the only local authority in the country to do this.

We have also helped our residents in the cost-of-living crisis, allocating and distributing £6m in payments to our most vulnerable residents from council and government funds, while also freezing council tax.

We're also working to make Tower Hamlets safer, with upgrades to nearly 300 CCTV cameras across the borough to help fight crime and antisocial behaviour.

We've supported local businesses with grants to help them become more energy efficient and we've invested £5m for new electric waste vehicles and EV charging points across the borough, as part of a programme to make Tower Hamlets a cleaner and greener borough.

We've been listening as a council too, with

more than 11,000 participants taking part in 80 consultations and I've had the chance to meet in-person around 500 people a month at my surgeries which take place twice a week.

We all have a part to play in creating a better Tower Hamlets and my thanks go to everyone who has played their part in helping us achieve so much in just twelve months.

We still have more work to do, but I for one am optimistic about what we will achieve for our great borough in the year ahead.

Lutfur Rahman
Mayor of Tower Hamlets

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Sufia Kamal House, which is one of the new housing blocks nearing completion

158 affordable new homes coming soon for families

HOMES FOR THE FUTURE

Scores of new, affordable council homes will become available this summer as the council's housebuilding programme picks up pace.

Ten new buildings offering 158 homes across the borough will soon welcome their first tenants, with the first building, Sufia Kamal House, due to complete in early June.

Cllr Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding, said: "Housing is a top priority for the council and this is the largest number of new homes completed by the council in its history.

"Together with developers and housing associations, the council is committed to building 4,000 social homes for rent, with a focus on 3- to 4-bedroom homes."

Jute House

Built on a site next to Barkantine Community Nursery on the Isle of Dogs, this five-storey building will have 22 affordable homes for rent as well as a three-storey building for community use.

Moorsom, Pitt & Francois House

On the site of an old car park on

the Collingwood Estate, these three blocks contain 53 much-needed homes. The development also has cycle storage, play space and parking.

Sufia Kamal House

This four and five-storey block has been built on a car park on the corner of Globe and Roman Road, adjacent to Keats House.

Sarah Chapman House

A five-storey building of nine homes, cycle storage, and a ground floor community centre, which will be let to the Bow West Community Group.

The building is named after Sarah Chapman, the strike leader of the Match Tax Protest of 1888. Find out more on p34 and 35.

Royal Mint Street

Nine new family sized homes, which are part of a wider private development to the east of Tower Hill Station. These five four-bedroom and four three-bedroom maisonettes will be let as social housing.

Altab Ali House

Named after Altab Ali, a 25-year-old garment factory worker who was killed in a racist attack in in



Mary Driscoll House, above, and Altab Ali House, below



1978. This building in Wapping has 7 one-bedroom, 5 two-bedroom, and 6 three-bedroom flats available for London Borough of Tower Hamlets living rents.

Mary Driscoll House

Built on the site of garages on Shetland Road, this four-storey

building has 19 new homes.

Chris Braithwaite House

Built on a previously unused patch of land known locally as the Limehouse Triangle. It contains 17 units that are a mix of one- to four-bedroom flats, all for affordable rent.

Tower Hamlets first borough to offer free school meals

INVESTING IN PUBLIC SERVICES

Tower Hamlets is set to become the first local authority in England to fund universal free school meals for all school pupils, after plans to extend meals to secondary schools were approved at a Cabinet meeting last month.

The council, which has funded universal free school meals for all primary school pupils since 2014, will, from September, offer them

to all primary and secondary pupils from Reception through to Year 11 (age 16).

The extension of the programme, which will cost £5.7m, was included in the council's budget for 2023-24, approved in March earlier this year.

Healthy, free meals at school help enable all children to have the same opportunities to learn and thrive, no matter where they grow up.

The impact has been shown to last well into adulthood, with evidence linking free school meals

to improved educational attainment and a host of social, financial and health benefits.

Lutfur Rahman, Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "We are proud to be investing in our young people by funding universal free school meals for all primary and secondary children.

"A high-quality universal offer improves health and educational outcomes, while reducing inequalities and saving families money."



A high-quality universal offer improves health and educational outcomes



The money will fund two projects giving young people in Tower Hamlets more musical opportunities

Funding boost for school music projects

More music opportunities will be offered to young people in Tower Hamlets, after two successful bids of funding totalling £49,000 was secured.

£40,000 has been awarded to Mayflower Primary School, John Scurr Primary School and Oaklands Secondary School by Restore the Music UK to ensure that pupils have access to the instruments and equipment required to support a broad and inclusive music education.

£9,000 has also been awarded

to Keynote Music, a partner of the Tower Hamlets Arts & Music Education Service (THAMES), by Foundation for Future London.

The funding will support a project called Around the World which will see new music created by young people from Soundbox, an inclusive music collective that brings together disabled and non-disabled musicians, part of THAMES.

Additionally, it will fund two Tower Hamlets community performances with Keynote Music/Docklands Sinfonia musicians and singers.

Working with schools and cultural organisations, THAMES provides a number of music and arts opportunities for children and young people who live or go to school in Tower Hamlets.

Nearly all schools in Tower Hamlets access instrumental and vocal tuition through THAMES, with more than 13,000 pupils currently engaging in lessons that are free to pupils with no charge for instrument hire.

Cllr Iqbal Hossain, Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation,

said: "Thanks to this award, pupils will have access to a range of instruments that will enrich and diversify musical performances and encourage greater participation."

Dee Bleach, Headteacher at Mayflower Primary School, said: "Restore the Music UK funding will transform our music curriculum at Mayflower Primary School. We will now be able to play the piano in any room with our electronic piano, offer whole class instrumental lessons, hold tabla groups, and enhance our general music provision."

Idea Store learning rated 'good'

ACCELERATE EDUCATION

Tower Hamlets' Idea Store learning service has received an official Ofsted 'good' rating following a two-day inspection carried out at the end of January.

At the time of the inspection, around 1,800 adults were enrolled on its courses.

Many courses were in English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) and English and mathematics from entry level and higher.

However, a wide range of community learning on offer includes more than 900 high-quality courses such as digital skills, creative and performing arts, languages, health and fitness, wellbeing, and courses for learners with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

Ofsted inspectors agreed that learners are taught by tutors who expertly adapt what they teach to reflect the context of learners' lives, which contributes to a high proportion of learners achieving their learning goals.

Tutors were shown to create positive and safe learning environments in which learners feel confident to take part in discussions and where they are treated with respect.



Courses include English and Maths, as well as community learning such as digital skills and languages

Inspectors say that this leads to learners taking part in a range of activities beyond their main subjects and that they take pride in their achievements, reinforced by a strong culture of celebrating success created by staff.

Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning, Cllr Maium Talukdar, said: "Many congratulations must go to

our learners and our thanks and appreciation to our expert tutors and the whole Idea Store learning team and partners who continually strive to provide top quality courses that fit the changing needs of local learners."

Idea Store learning summer enrolment opens for applications on 26 June, with courses due to start from towards the end of

September.

There's a huge range of affordable courses on offer at locations across Tower Hamlets, including further discounted courses for households on low incomes.

• Find out more and get support to apply by visiting one of the borough's Idea Stores or libraries, or by heading online to www.ideastore.co.uk/learning

Marner School marks World Water Day



Pupils holding their water bottles with Joanne McCartney, Deputy Mayor of London for Children and Families

World Water Day, a global campaign which celebrates water and raises awareness of the two billion people living without access to safe water, was marked on 22 May.

Cllr Maium Talukdar, Deputy Mayor of Tower Hamlets and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning, along with Joanne McCartney, Deputy Mayor of London for Children and Families and representatives from Thames Water visited pupils and staff at Marner Primary School in Bow, to hear about their journey as a water-only school.

The school recently received a fountain as part of the 'Drinking fountains for London schools' pilot programme.

During a Q&A, pupils, staff and visitors discussed the positives of drinking water regularly and the benefits using the fountain would have on the environment.

£13.7m invested in our youth

Young people in Tower Hamlets are set to benefit from the council's youth service being expanded with an investment of £13.7m from the council.

It forms part of the council's wider investment in young people, which includes:

- £5.7m for universal free school meals for both primary and secondary school pupils
- £730k for children with special educational and additional needs (SEND).
- £1.1m to re-introduce education maintenance allowances and university bursaries

The new youth service, renamed Young Tower Hamlets, will provide

a diverse programme of free opportunities and support for young people aged 11-19 (25 with SEND) across the borough.

Focus will be placed on supporting young people's post-16 transition into education; training and employment; increasing young people's participation in universal 'safe spaces'; preventing young people from offending and entering the criminal justice system; and increasing employment opportunities for residents in both paid and voluntary youth work roles.

Lutfur Rahman, Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "Young people are our future leaders, which is why this investment is so important.

"Young Tower Hamlets will

provide support for young people to expand their talents, transition into further education or work, and access spaces where they feel safe and cared for.

"It will ensure that every young person in Tower Hamlets has the best start in life and can access opportunities that will enable them to fulfil their potential."

Cllr Maium Talukdar, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning, said: "Young Tower Hamlets will open lots of new doors for young people in the borough.

"I encourage all young people to get involved with the opportunities available to them, and to take part in the consultation events to make

sure their voices are heard."

- Young people can give their views at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YoungTowerHamlets

“

Young people are our future leaders, which is why this investment is so important



Eden Rainbow-Cooper, left, said she was impressed by how enthusiastic the children were about doing the Daily Mile

Going for gold: wheelchair racing star celebrates healthy schools achievement

Paralympic athlete Eden Rainbow-Cooper has joined pupils in their celebrations for achieving their gold Healthy Schools London Award.

John Scurr Primary School in Tower Hamlets has been officially recognised as supporting the health and wellbeing of their pupils to the highest attainable level.

This includes regular participation in the Daily Mile, which encourages

children and young people to run, walk or skip for around 10-15 minutes each day, as well as enjoying their usual morning and lunchtime breaks.

During her visit, Eden joined the children in the Daily Mile and presented at an assembly, with a focus on female participation in sport and physical activity.

She also encouraged schools to

take part in the TCS Mini London Marathon as part of a new Guinness World Records title attempt.

Eden Rainbow-Cooper said: "I was honoured to be able to go to John Scurr Primary School and spend the day answering the children's questions. The commitment that the staff have shown to the mental and physical health of the students is something I applaud and I am so

impressed by how enthusiastic the children were about doing the Daily Mile."

Tower Hamlets is the top performing borough for Healthy School Awards from the Mayor of London and one of the top performing boroughs for the Daily Mile.

- For more information visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/healthylives

Awards celebrate our fantastic residents

Twelve local heroes have been recognised for their years of dedication and contribution to their neighbours and the wider community at the Tower Hamlets Civic Awards.

The awards, which were held at the Art Pavilion in Mile End on Tuesday 2 May, were open to people who live, work or study in the borough and who help to improve the quality of life for others.

Nominations opened at the end of last year and the winners were chosen by a cross party panel, chaired by the Speaker of the Council, and including representatives from the community.

Liliana Noor, 14, was one of the award winners. She received her award as a young achiever under 25.

Among her achievements have been supporting the rights of migrants, involvement in the first ever Bengali concert held at the University of Oxford, and being part of a delegation meeting with the Ambassador of Mexico at the Houses of Parliament.

Liliana, who attends Mulberry School for Girls and is a member of the Tower Hamlets Youth Council, said: "I would like to say thank you to everyone for recognition of my achievements and I'm very honoured to receive the civic award."



The award winners who were celebrated for their dedication and contribution to the wider community

The Speaker of the Council, Cllr Shafi Ahmed, said: "Our civic awards are a great way for Tower Hamlets to officially recognise the hard work and dedication of those who continue to focus their time and efforts making our borough a great place to live.

"Each worthy winner shares a sense of public service far beyond what would be expected of them, so I'm delighted to say we see what you do, and we thank you for the commitment you continue to show to others."

Outstanding service to the community: Sue Hughes, Alexander Campbell OBE, Md. Anowarul Islam, Bill Juckett, Mohammed Afsar Khan, Mohammad Abdul Munim Jahedi, Ms Minara Khatun Uddin, Atia Begom Jorna.

Brought credit to the borough through sporting, artistic or cultural achievements: Rashid Ali.

A young achiever under 25 whose accomplishments are extraordinary and should be recognised: Liliana Noor.

Improved the quality of life for local people by providing services beyond what they are paid to do: Dr Helen Jones.

Benefit the community through success in business and community involvement: Docklands Community Initiative.

Council marks first year under new administration

COUNCIL NEWS

New figures showing how the council is delivering across key areas have been published on the anniversary of the new administration coming into power.

Lutfur Rahman was elected as Executive Mayor in May last year. Since then, he has appointed his cabinet and, in August, Tower Hamlets Council published its Strategic Plan which sets out its vision for the next four years.

This includes the priority themes of tackling the cost-of-living crisis, housing, education, investing in public services, tackling crime, listening to residents, creating a clean and green future for the

borough, and supporting culture, businesses, jobs and leisure.

The council is also bringing Tower Hamlets Homes, youth services and leisure centres in house.

It has also brought back grants for Educational Maintenance Allowance and university bursaries for young people and is expanding free school meals to all secondary schools

Lutfur Rahman, Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "We are delivering one of the most ambitious agendas in local government. We have made a good start but there is much more to do.

"I must thank our staff and partners for their hard work to get us here, and we look forward to greater achievements in our second year together."

Council's achievements in numbers

- £13.7m has been invested in youth services
- 1,203 young people received a grant for college or university
- 2.2million free meals and 19,772 payments of £100 to help vulnerable families
- 31 families supported into wheelchair accessible homes
- 227 homeless people were supported into sustainable accommodation
- rates relief for 834 businesses
- 919 enterprises through the council's business programme have helped deliver 3866 jobs, training and apprenticeship opportunities
- £2.5m to support free homecare for vulnerable adults
- £3.5m for local voluntary and community sector groups through the Mayor's Community Grants
- almost 300 CCTV cameras have been upgraded
- 41 additional Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers will be hired to protect the public
- 22,343 visits to the council's warm hubs this winter
- £5m for electric waste vehicles and EV charging points and £180k for low carbon fuel supply



Stormzy is headlining the festival in a UK exclusive show

World class headliners set to perform at All Points East

CULTURE

Tower Hamlets' award-winning Victoria Park will host the renowned 'Luno presents All Points East' festival when it returns for two weekends of music and entertainment from Friday 18 August.

Each year, All Points East delivers a line up of world-class headliners,

supporting line ups and big exclusives - and this year is set to be no exception.

In a UK-exclusive show, Stormzy has teamed up with All Points East to headline and curate his own line-up for 'This Is What We Mean Day' on Friday 18 August.

One of this century's defining rock bands, The Strokes, will return to Victoria Park on Friday 25 August, plus Californian acclaimed rock trio

HAIM will make their All Points East debut on Bank Holiday Monday 28 August for a European exclusive show.

The British electronic project, Jungle, will headline on Saturday 26 August, joined by Erykah Badu and many more.

Alongside All Points East, In the Neighbourhood is also back for 2023. In partnership with Tower Hamlets Council, All Points East

brings you four days of free family entertainment and activities in Victoria Park from Sunday 20 to Wednesday 23 August.

There will be outdoor cinema screenings, children's theatre, yoga classes, a street food market and much more to be announced.

• **For more information and to sign up for updates, head to www.allpointseastfestival.com/info-details/community/**

Win tickets to All Points East!

The council and promoters of Luno presents All Points East 2023 are giving Tower Hamlets residents the chance to win VIP tickets. We have 12 pairs of tickets for each event day. Tickets will be allocated at random.

To be in with a winning chance, head to www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/APE and answer the following question:

What is the name of the free, four-day community festival hosted by All Points East in collaboration with Tower Hamlets Council?

- 1) Vicky Park Community Festival
- 2) The In-between Festival
- 3) In the Neighbourhood
- 4) Around my Hood

Please see www.allpointseastfestival.com for age restrictions and terms of entry to the festival.





Two Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers (THEOs) with one of the knife bins

Four new knife amnesty bins taking weapons off our streets

FIGHT CRIME

New bins allowing people to dispose of knives safely and confidentially

“

In London, we're sadly all too aware of the evil that knife crime brings

are being installed around Tower Hamlets.

Four new knife amnesty bins have been put up in Barnet Grove, north of the Bethnal Green Road junction; Vallance Road, opposite Underwood Road; Burslem Street, between the recycling bins; and Brownfield Street, next to number 107.

There is also an amnesty bin in St Mary's and St Michael Church in Lukin Street, taking the total number of bins across the borough to five.

The knife amnesty bins, installed by charity Words4Weapons, aim to take knives off the streets safely.

The knives are destroyed and are not investigated by the police, even if they might have been used in a crime.

Lutfur Rahman, Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "In London, we're sadly all too aware of the evil that knife crime brings. It causes death, it devastates the lives of bereaved families, it leaves survivors with permanent and life-changing injuries, and it leaves whole communities feeling scared and unsafe in the place they call home.

"A knife taken out of circulation is a knife that cannot be used in a crime, saving lives, sparing grieving

families, preventing life-changing injuries and helping us all to feel more safe on our streets."

If you want to dispose of a knife or other sharp weapon, please wrap it in several layers of cardboard or newspaper and secure it with plenty of sticky tape so that the blade is completely protected and the knife cannot easily be removed, before placing it in a secure cardboard box.

It's an offence to have a knife in a public place and there aren't many reasonable excuses for having one.

If you are depositing a knife in one of the amnesty bins, please make sure that it is safely wrapped.

Cars seized in blue badge fraud crackdown

Drivers of cars caught illegally using disability parking permits, known as blue badges, had their vehicles impounded during a day of action.

Thirteen cars were impounded for misuse of the blue badge permits as Tower Hamlets Council spot-

checked the use of more than 130 badges in one day.

The operation also led to the confiscation of four badges which had previously been reported as lost or stolen.

Blue badges allow those with a

disability or health condition to park closer to their destination, but, because of this, thieves and fraudsters often steal or misuse them for their own benefit and convenience.

To combat this, the council

regularly teams up with the Metropolitan Police to carry out checks on the correct use of the badges.

- To report someone incorrectly using a blue badge, email parking.fraud@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Operation to crackdown on drugs and crime



There have been 15 days of action under Operation Continuum

More than £137,000 in drug money has been seized, 6,600 stop and searches for drugs and weapons have been carried out, and 306 weapons have been seized during a joint police and council operation.

Tower Hamlets Council and the Met Police have carried out 15 days of action, executing 96 search warrants from April 2022 to December 2022 as part of Operation Continuum, an ongoing partnership to tackle the drugs market in Tower Hamlets.

A total of 156 people were also charged with drugs trafficking offences, with a total of 397 separate drugs trafficking charges and 4,873 stop and searches carried out specifically for drugs.

Lutfur Rahman, Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "I thank every employee of this borough who has

worked tirelessly over this last year to build a safer Tower Hamlets.

"If you have information about drug trafficking in the Tower Hamlets community, you can pass it onto the police by calling 101, or to the council via our website."

Police sergeant Alvaro Aracena-Fuentes added: "The success of this operation shows the importance of joint working between the council and police.

"Well done to everyone involved, but we are not stopping here.

"If you are involved in selling drugs in Tower Hamlets, we are coming for you."

- You can report ASB and drug-related at towerhamlets.gov.uk/asb

- In an emergency, always call 999.

Sale of stolen property in Brick Lane Market targeted

A weekly joint police and council operation targeting crime in Brick Lane Market has already resulted in 12 arrests, the recovery of 26 stolen bikes and the issuing of 26 anti-social behaviour warnings in just three months.

Members of the council's safer communities team and local police have carried out both high visibility and plain clothes patrols every Sunday in Sclater Street to target anti-social behaviour (ASB), illegal trading, bike thefts and the sales of suspected stolen cycles.

The operation began in November and will continue to be reviewed alongside partners in view of maintaining future regular presence within the area.

So far, there have been twelve arrests for a variety of offences including burglary, going equipped to steal, possession of an offensive weapon, drug offences, theft of bikes, handling stolen goods, theft, recall to prison and breach of a community protection notice, 76 stop and searches, the seizure of 26 bikes, and the issuing of 26 ASB warnings and numerous fines.

Residents have also been pleased with the results so far.

One person said: "There has been a noticeable improvement in the antisocial behaviour that we have

been experiencing outside our main entrance since the start of proactive monitoring by THEOs, market officers and police at the end of November 2022.

"We appreciate the ongoing efforts of the ASB team in making this happen."

Police sergeant, Alvaro Aracena-Fuentes, added: "We have seen a noticeable decline in the number of criminals handling stolen goods and illegal traders in the area during these operations.

"We are, of course, under no illusion that our work here is done, and that is why we will continue to carry out patrols in the area to send a clear message to criminals that we will find you, and we will prosecute you."



We appreciate the ongoing efforts of the ASB team in making this happen



26 stolen bikes have been recovered during the operation

Help drive down crime

FIGHT CRIME

Hundreds of people have applied to be Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers (THEOs) after a recruitment campaign was launched as part of a drive to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the borough.

THEOs have police powers under section 50 of the Police Reform Act to obtain a person's details and to tackle ASB, drugs and violence.

They also work with organisations within the borough to help those who need support, such as people who are struggling with substance misuse and those who are sleeping rough.

The recruitment drive is part of Tower Hamlets Council's ongoing investment in community safety to make sure that Tower Hamlets is safe for everyone who lives, works or visits the borough.

Phase 1 has seen more than 330 people apply for a job, with more than 60 people attending recruitment sessions.

Applications will open again in the summer for phase 2.

Successful applicants will be provided with all the necessary training needed to carry out the role and will be paid for the duration of this.

Training includes a full first aid course, safeguarding and Violence Against Women and Girls training and mental health awareness

training, among others.

Mayor of Tower Hamlets, Lutfur Rahman, said: "Our THEOs are at the forefront of tackling crime and anti-social behaviour in our borough, but they also have a huge role to play in engaging with our communities and offering support and reassurance to those who need it.

"This recruitment drive will mean we have more uniformed patrols in our borough than ever before.

"We hope this will increase safety in our borough and act as a deterrent to those who think they can take the law into their own hands."

Cllr Abu Chowdhury, Cabinet Member for Safer Communities, said: "All of our THEOs should be proud of the work they do to support residents and keep our streets safe and it's a testament to their work that we're now able to open recruitment up on this scale.

"We're keen to make the application process as accessible as possible, and our upcoming open days will give aspiring applicants the chance to find out more."

• **To find out more about THEO recruitment, including requirements, benefits and open evenings, visit our dedicated webpage www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/THEOrecruitment**

The council is recruiting more Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers to join the crackdown on crime and ASB

Hear from our current enforcement officers



Donna Tomlinson (left), a THEO for more than three years, said: "The thing I like most about my role is the fact that I have a lot of engagement with the community, whether that's dealing with anti-social behaviour or doing fixed penalties, or just basically saying hello.

"To get to know the individuals that are in my local area, that's the thing I enjoy the most, just talking to people, helping people out, trying to tackle any issues, and getting the community on board to understand why we're doing the things we're doing.

"I also like encouraging people to actually speak up about any concerns they have, so that the local authority, police and other bodies can deal with the issue."

Gelu Miah (right), who has been a THEO team leader for just over two years, said: "One of my favourite things to do in my role is to be out and about patrolling, talking with residents and identifying issues in the borough. One of the main reasons I became a THEO is because I've lived in the borough and I enjoy meeting the community and talking about the issues that they face, and trying to tackle that."



Marathon effort for runners

CELEBRATING OUR BOROUGH

Congratulations to everyone who took in the London Marathon in April.

The 26.2 mile route passes through Tower Hamlets more than any other London borough and sees 40,000 runners pass many famous Tower Hamlets landmarks, including Tower Bridge and Canary Wharf.

A massive thank you to our staff who supported the clean-up operation.

- Find out how much of the route goes through Tower Hamlets and other facts about our borough at www.towerhamlets.is/knowledge

The marathon route passes through Tower Hamlets more than any other borough





Results of the survey will test current research and help the council build up an idea of what improvements can be made for future developments.

Help us make our streets and parks safe for everyone

A COUNCIL THAT LISTENS

Women in Tower Hamlets are being asked to share their thoughts on our streets and public spaces to help make sure future developments are fully inclusive and safe spaces for everyone.

The consultation is not just about safety, but about how women and their families view and use areas of our borough, such as parks and high streets, so they can be designed to fulfil their needs.

Street recordings with women

have already taken place, and these have highlighted a number of themes, including the need for street lighting, wayfinding, multi-functional and multi-generational open spaces, and public toilets.

The second phase of the project features an online survey and digital walks, which all women are encouraged to take part in.

These will be used to test current research and help the council build up an idea of what improvements can be made for future developments.

Cllr Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive

Development and Housebuilding, said: "We know that all gender identities, including men and boys, deserve to feel safer on our streets and public spaces.

"Research from the World Health Organisation shows that if you improve the experience of women and girls, places feel safer for everyone.

"We are running a number of research strands for this project, which we will draw together to inform design guidance and shape future developments in the borough. We will also work with

partners across the council and beyond to help embed what we learn and ensure a coherent multi-team approach to implementing inclusive design."

The final research phase will be design workshops with women and girls.

Those interested are invited to leave their contact details at the end of the survey.

It is in five sections. Please skip any sections that don't apply to you.

• **You can take the survey at talk.towerhamlets.gov.uk/inclusive-design-tower-hamlets**

Walk, jog or run 5k for fun this weekend

Tower Hamlets Council has joined forces with Mile End Parkrun and a local women's group to encourage more people from the local

community to take on Parkrun.

Parkrun is a friendly community event where you can walk, jog or run 5km with others every Saturday

morning.

Why not check out the one this weekend in Mile End Park?

It is fun, easy, accessible, and not

competitive. Or you can volunteer if you don't want to run.

• **Find out more at www.parkrun.org.uk/**

You can help save our planet

CLEAN AND GREEN

Knowing what can and can't be recycled can be confusing, but the council's Let's Rethink It campaign is here to help make recycling more straightforward.

Recycling helps preserve the planet, enabling us to repurpose and reuse items, rather than needing more raw materials to make them.

It is also crucial to reducing our carbon output and, therefore, an essential aspect of tackling the climate emergency. Your actions and habits at home can make a big difference to our communities and the wider world.

What can you put in the recycling bin?

Just paper, cardboard, glass containers and bottles, cans, and plastic containers go in your recycling bin.

Remember, only clean items, so give bottles and containers a good rinse before putting them in the recycling bin.

Some examples of what you can recycle include:

- Newspapers, boxes (please flatten all boxes), non-glittery birthday cards, milk and juice cartons
- Jam jars, sauce bottles, beer bottles, wine bottles
- Drink cans, aerosols, foil trays, tins
- Plastic drinking bottles, yoghurt pots, milk bottles, shampoo bottles and caps, fruit punnets, cleaning product bottles

Why is it so important to recycle properly?

If the wrong items are put in the recycling, such as nappies or food waste, it means the whole bag is contaminated and has to be thrown away, rather than recycled. Sadly, this wastes items that could be recycled, so it is important that only items that can be recycled are put in the recycling bin.

- Visit our website for a full list of items that can and cannot be recycled on: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/letsrethinkit



Recycling is beneficial to our planet, as demonstrated by a young resident

A tree-mendous success for our parks



Since last year, Tower Hamlets Council has planted 3,000 trees

Tower Hamlets has been awarded 'Tree Cities of the World' status for the second year in a row for our greening work, including tree-planting, increasing biodiversity, and expanding and nurturing urban and community forestry.

Tower Hamlets joins the 168 cities from 21 countries across the world to be recognised by the global programme this year, run by Arbor Day Foundation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Since being recognised last year, Tower Hamlets Council has planted more than 3,000 new trees in our streets and parks.

This has been helped by the Mayor's pledge to plant 1,000 new trees over the next three years.

In addition to these trees, the council is working closely with its partners to deliver community-led tree planting across our parks. Our partner Trees for Cities, which regularly facilitates tree-planting and tree maintenance events across the borough, has recently hosted several planting events with the help of dedicated volunteers.

This has seen 100 new trees planted in Victoria Park, 50 in Weavers Fields and 12 in Bethnal Green Gardens.

Our residents and local businesses

have also been getting involved by sponsoring trees around the borough with Trees for Streets.

As one of the first councils in the UK to join the innovative tree sponsorship programme in June 2021, residents and businesses have so far sponsored more than 200 trees.

- Visit our website for more information about our trees and to see our 2020-25 Tree Management Plan. If you are interested in getting involved and sponsoring tree-planting projects in your local community, visit towerhamlets.gov.uk/treesforstreets

Business owners: don't risk a waste fine

More than 1,100 fines for have been issued by Tower Hamlets Council for flytipping in the past three years.

The council is cracking down on businesses which are not disposing of their waste correctly and those which are flytipping.

By law, all businesses must be registered with a commercial waste carrier and they must use the commercial waste facilities provided by this carrier.

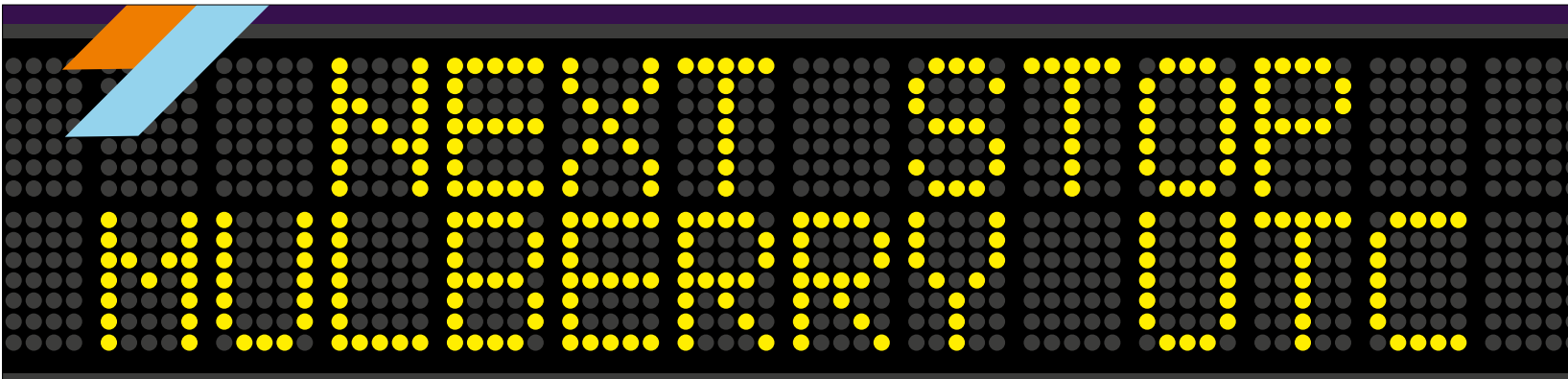
Leaving business waste items on the streets, including in a black sack,

is considered flytipping and can be punished with an unlimited fine.

As a council, we spend more than £690,000 clearing up flytipping every year - money which could be better spent supporting our residents.

Around 50 per cent of flytipping is business waste.

- For more information about how to dispose of your business waste correctly, please visit: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/commercialwaste



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SCAN ME



Part of the
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Schools Trust

Our industry partners:



Tailored job support available for Tower Hamlets residents with learning disabilities

The specialist programme helps adults with learning difficulties or autism to find a job. Our dedicated officers can help with job applications and interviews as well as work with employers to put in place the right career support for you.

We also work with you to help you:

- Develop professional skills
- Become more independent
- Gain more confidence

In addition to this, if you need any guidance on work related benefits then we can help you access that too.

Eligibility:

- Adults, aged 18 years or over
- With a learning disability and/or an autistic spectrum condition
- Living in Tower Hamlets
- Would like to work

If you want to apply for this service, please contact Sameerah Begum:

LSE@towerhamlets.gov.uk
call **0792 344 1278** or visit:
WorkPath, Employment and Skills Centre, 55 Upper Bank Street, London, E14 5GR on a Tuesday or Wednesday between 10am-4pm.



Do something amazing by becoming a foster carer

Local children need loving and supportive foster carers now.

Tower Hamlets Council offers carers lots of support including fantastic training opportunities and financial support of up to **£850 per week** (per child depending on age). Foster carers also receive 50% off their council tax bill and a generous referral scheme offering **£1,000** for every carer who they refer on to be successfully approved to foster.

Call: **020 7364 1246**
www.fosteringtowerhamlets.co.uk



Six interns breaking barriers to start their creative careers

JOBS AND ECONOMY

A host of interns and apprentices have launched their creative careers as part of the council's Creative and Cultural Apprenticeships and Internships Programme.

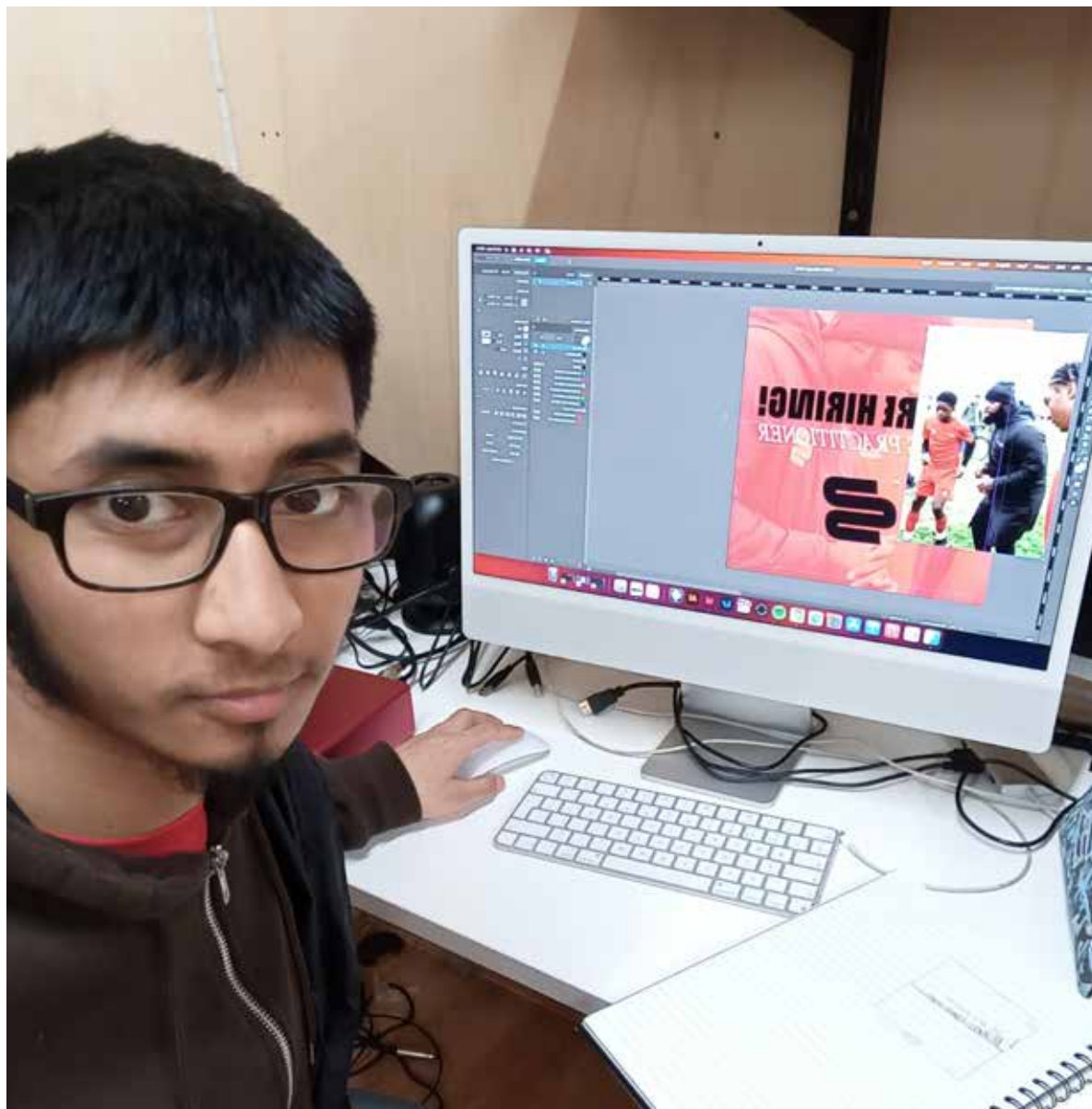
Six interns and ten apprentices began placements with a variety of local creative organisations in roles including photographer, social media executive and junior content.

Pre-pandemic, the creative industries contributed over £84 billion a year to the economy, despite this within London only 17 per cent of the workforce are from an ethnic minority or low-income background.

Salih Ibn Abdurrahman is an intern at Badu, a not for profit that focuses on educational and community development programmes. He said: "I'm excited to meet the people who I am going to work with along with the amazing opportunities that Badu have to offer - everything from triathlon events to collaboration with professional design teams."

Cllr Abu Chowdhury, Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills and Growth, said: "There can be a perception that roles within the creative industry are unstable and not financially viable.

"Our Supported Employment Team seek to change these perceptions and break some of the barriers that local young residents face when trying to obtain creative roles."



Salih Ibn Abdurrahman, an intern at Badu

Small businesses encouraged to go green



A launch event, with cllr Abu Choudhury

Small businesses in Tower Hamlets can benefit from a £185,000 investment from the council with the launch of a new programme which will help them reduce their energy costs and environmental impact.

Applications for the Energy Reduction Programme are now open. Successful business owners will be paired with an experienced energy consultant who will complete an on-site energy audit and provide a tailored reduction plan.

Businesses will also be able to join workshops to learn tips on how to

make their business greener.

Business owners that follow the plan and make positive steps in reducing their energy use will be able to apply for a £2,500 grant to be used towards the installation of energy-reducing technology.

The council has partnered with BetterFutures+, a Greater London Authority funded scheme, to deliver this pilot programme.

Your business must be registered and trading in Tower Hamlets.

• **More at:** betterfutures.london/tower-hamlets-energy-reduction-programme/

Celebrating growth for over-50s employment

People over 50 are being helped into employment as part of a £500,000 investment from the council.

There are two new programmes which have been set up.

The 50 Plus Programme supports local residents, aged 50 and over, to return to work or gain experience in a new industry through paid placements to boost their confidence and improve their IT skills.

Trudy Wilton, a Client Support

Advisor who participated in the 50 Plus Programme, said: "I was over 50, with a big work gap and some health issues.

"It seemed an impossible hill to climb to get back into work. WorkPath inspired me to believe that this might be possible and guided and supported me back into full-time permanent employment."

The Business Futures Scheme is aimed at residents aged 50 and over

who have ambitions to start their own company.

In partnership with Start Up School for Seniors, the council has delivered a fully sponsored, eight-week eLearning course for aspiring Tower Hamlets entrepreneurs.

Applicants will also have the chance to apply for a £5,000 grant on completion of the programme.

Cllr Abu Chowdhury, Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills and

Growth, said: "We know that the jobs market was hugely impacted by the pandemic and that our older workers were particularly affected. That is why we have taken the time to mark these two incredibly important programmes, both of which strive to remove the barriers for long-term unemployed older residents which will allow them to gain access to the labour market.



Lady Lane Market is part of Roman Road Market and is open on the first Saturday of the month, including Doris's stall Fraizup, pictured above

London's first women-led market

A new market is showcasing the borough's female entrepreneurs.

Lady Lane Market is London's first women-led market and sells unique and handmade crafts.

It was opened in March as part of Women's History Month and is now open on the first Saturday of every month.

It sells everything from clothing to gifts, all produced by local mothers, daughters, sisters and

grandmothers.

Audrey Aymer, trader from East London Stitched, said: "I joined Lady Lane Market because I was interested in starting a stall but there were a few issues that held me back from being able to do this on my own.

"For example, not really knowing who to ask to watch my stall if I needed a comfort break.

"Hearing about Lady Lane gave me the chance to get started and be with

others.

"Joining Roman Road Market is the best choice for me to move forward after the lockdowns. Being a part of the market is great because of the support we give each other."

Visit Roman Road Market (£3 5LU) on the first Saturday of every month between 10am and 5pm to visit the Lady Lane stalls.

• Find out more at ladylanemarket.co.uk



Being a part of the market is great because of the support



STEPNEY ALL SAINTS

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Secondary School Open Events

Open Morning:

- Thursday 14th September 2023
- Wednesday 20th September 2023
- Tuesday 3rd October 2023

Open Evening:

- Monday 25th September 2023

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sign up here



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www.stepneyallsaints.school/visit



OUTSTANDING
- Ofsted 2021

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'Respect for all sums up London Enterprise Academy nicely. Pupils have pride in themselves and their school. They, too, are welcomed into school, regardless of their background for previous experience' - Ofsted, July 2022

London Enterprise Academy

The school offers:

- New modern classrooms with laptops for every student
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 - Small class sizes with strong discipline
 - High quality teaching and learning
 - Broad and balanced curriculum
 - Excellent GCSE results



King Charles welcomed to Tower Hamlets



Jesse Jackson



Welcoming international cricket players



New outdoor playground

Visit us for Year 7,8 & 9 places

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- Year 11 parents

Thank you for the best secondary school experience! I've enjoyed my 5 years here
- Khadisa, Year 11

81-91 Commercial Road, London E1 1RD
E: info@londonenterpriseacademy.org T: 020 7426 0746
www.londonenterpriseacademy.org



Fire warning over faulty e-bike lithium-ion batteries

COUNCIL NEWS

Faulty e-bike lithium-ion batteries are believed to have caused two major fires in flats in Limehouse and Aldgate.

Two men suffered from smoke inhalation and part of a flat was destroyed in the first fire in Osborn Street, Aldgate, on 23 February.

Only 37 hours later, a second fire was reported on Copenhagen Place in Limehouse, destroying most of a flat and leaving one man needing hospital treatment.

Tower Hamlets Council is warning residents about the risks of e-bike and e-scooter batteries after seeing a rise in related fire incidents in the borough.

London Fire Brigade's Deputy Commissioner Dom Ellis said: "When these batteries and chargers fail, they do so with ferocity and, because the fires develop so rapidly,

the situation can quickly become incredibly serious.

"We are predominantly seeing fires where batteries have been purchased from online marketplaces and when they've been sourced on the internet they may not meet the correct safety standards.

"Our advice is to store and charge these items in a safe location if possible, such as in a shed or a

garage, and if they have to be stored inside, make sure there is smoke detection fitted and your means of escape is not obstructed.

"We would also suggest people try not to charge them when they are asleep, so that if there is an issue they can react quickly."

• For more information, visit london-fire.gov.uk/safety/the-home/e-scooters-and-e-bikes



Two fires have been caused by faulty e-bike batteries

Own an e-bike or e-scooter? Follow London Fire Brigade's #ChargeSafe advice:

- Never charge your device overnight or while unattended.
- Never block your escape routes with your e-bike or e-scooter.
- Ensure you have a working smoke alarm, fitted where you charge.
- Do not attempt to modify or tamper with your battery.
- Converting pedal bikes into e-bikes using DIY kits bought online can be very dangerous.
- Always use the correct charger and buy an official one from a reputable seller.
- Let the battery cool before charging and unplug your charger when finished.

Residents celebrate the King's coronation



The street party in Cyprus Place to celebrate the coronation

Street parties and community events were in full swing across Tower Hamlets to mark the King's

coronation on 6 May.

The King's coronation took place in Westminster Abbey. The

Queen, Camilla, was crowned alongside His Majesty during the ceremony.

Thousands turned out to watch the procession and millions watched on television around the world.



There will be activities for everyone this summer

Summer events and activities programme returns this year

CULTURE

Teenagers, children and families can look forward to another summer of fun this year.

Council parks, sports and art centres, and youth teams, together with Children and Family Centres and Idea Stores, are gearing up to host a variety of exciting activities in partnership with community organisations during the school

summer holidays.

The council is putting the finishing touches to the summer holiday programme, which promises to offer a variety of free activities for families of all ages and backgrounds.

Last year, more than 22,000 residents and visitors flocked to parks and youth and children's centres to enjoy numerous activities and festivals.

The programme featured more than 600 free events to give

everyone the chance to take part in a sport or a physical activity or enjoy a new cultural experience. Many of the activities offered a free meal to support families.

This year's parks programme will include adventure play sessions, arts and crafts, growing and planting, nature activities and more. Victoria Park will host nature-based and outdoor activities throughout the school holidays.

All Points East In The

Neighbourhood will also return to Victoria Park this August. Put on in partnership with the council, the local community and local organisations, the free, four-day programme offers activities and entertainment for all ages, from outdoor cinema screenings, children's theatre, music, sport and wellbeing sessions, and more.

• **For the complete timetable:**
www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/Summerevents

Community and heritage themed opportunities

Three great opportunities for aspiring, curious and motivated young designers and artists are being offered as part of an arts education programme this summer.

A Team Arts Education is running the free summer art and design programme in partnership with UAL Central Saint Martins and the Prince's Foundation.

The projects will explore how young people can use the arts to help shape a greener future, incorporating the themes of community and

heritage, and there will also be the chance to gain accreditation.

A junior foundation programme titled 'What is Art and Design?' will run from 31 July to 4 August.

Aimed at young people in school Years Six to Nine (11-13 year olds), the programme will allow students to work across several art forms in a friendly, fun, and safe environment.

Create a Sketchbook for ages 14 to 16 will run from 7 to 11 August. The course will help students understand how to develop a sketchbook

and will generate inspiration for independent learning and sketchbook development.

Summer film making and animation for ages 13 to 16 will take place from 14 to 18 August.

The course will enable young people to get hands-on experience to explore storytelling and to develop skills in puppet and model making, set design, animation, camera work, visual storytelling, storyboarding, sound design and editing.

Spaces are limited so booking in advance is essential.

All sessions take place at The Brady Arts Centre in Whitechapel.

Taster sessions are available on 1, 8 and 16 July.

The application deadline for all programmes is Friday 17 July.

You must live, study, or work in Tower Hamlets.

• **For further information and to book a space, email ateamartseducation@gmail.com or call 07956377537.**

Better access to affordable, healthy and sustainable food

HEALTHIER LIVES

More residents in Tower Hamlets have access to affordable, healthy and sustainable food this year compared to previous years, according to a new report.

The Good Food for All Londoners report, published by London Food Link, part of food and farming charity Sustain, reviews council action on food under two key themes: tackling the root causes of food poverty and supporting

residents to buy and eat affordable, healthy and climate-friendly food.

The report praised Tower Hamlets Council for its work in the areas of food poverty alliances, food poverty action plans, cash-first responses to food security, food access for BAME people, Healthy Start, free school meals, and holiday activities and food.

The council was also given two Cross Cutting Leadership Awards in the Beyond the Food Bank and Good Food for London categories. The ceremony was held in March at

the Abbey Centre in Westminster.

A few of the projects that have gained recognition include:

- Food For Health: Since 2009, the award scheme recognises food businesses that implement healthier options for their customers
- The Tower Hamlets Food Hub redistributes enough food for 20,000 meals across the borough each month in partnership with the Felix Project
- The funding of partner charity

Family Action for two and a half years to deliver six food pantries across the borough

- Two fruit and vegetable voucher schemes
- The Community Garden Programme funding six growing spaces
- Collaboration work across the council on food poverty engagement with stakeholders such as housing associations and community groups.

Visit: www.sustainweb.org/reports



Give cycling a try with free weekly sessions in Victoria Park

Free cycling sessions for Somali women

Somali women are being encouraged to give cycling a try this summer with free sessions.

The Somali Sisters Cycling Project, led by Bikeworks and Cycle Sisters and funded by Tower Hamlets Council and Tower

Hamlets GP Care Group, aims to help, assist and encourage sisters to access cycle skills, lessons and build confidence.

All Somali women who live, work or study in Tower Hamlets and are 16 years or over are welcome to join.

If you don't have your own bike, one can be supplied for free with a helmet at the Victoria Park Cycling Hub.

Sessions take place on Mondays from 10am to 12noon at Victoria Park, meeting at the East London

Hub located at the East side of Victoria Park.

Dress for the weather as sessions run regardless of the conditions.

- Sign up in advance at www.bikeworks.org.uk/tower-event/Somali-Sisters-Cycling-Project/

Get a Healthy Start card for your children

Did you know you may be eligible for a free Healthy Start card with money to spend on milk and healthy food if you are on certain benefits?

The value could be more than £1,000 per child over their lifetime, if claimed from pregnancy to the child's fourth birthday.

The national Healthy Start

scheme offers women who are more than ten weeks pregnant or have a child under four a pre-paid card to purchase such items as fresh, tinned or frozen fruit, vegetables and pulses such as lentils and beans, cow's milk and first infant formula.

Since March 2022, the programme changed from paper to

a pre-paid card, meaning that all existing and new eligible residents need to re-apply online to receive their Healthy Start card.

It takes less than three minutes to apply or reapply. All you need is your name, address and national insurance number.

Families then call up an

automated line on 0300 330 2090 to activate their card once received.

All pregnant, breastfeeding and postnatal women for one year after birth, and children up to four can collect free vitamins from a Children's and Family Centre.

- Visit: www.healthystart.nhs.uk/how-to-apply

Join our community clean-up

CELEBRATION OUR BOROUGH

Are you passionate about your community? Proud of how great Tower Hamlets is? Why not get involved in one of our community clean-up events?

You can either sign up to an

event organised by the council's environmental coordinator team, which works as a liaison between the community and the council, or you can set up your own clean-up event.

Recent partners at the council's clean-up events include Bethnal Green Cub Scouts, WaSh Wombles,

Stepney City Farm, Phoenix School, Bywaters, Canary Wharf Group, Clear Channel, KPMG, JP Morgan, and McDonalds.

If you organise your own event, the council will happily support with the necessary equipment free of charge.

Businesses and organisations

can also schedule clean up events with the environmental coordinator team.

- For more information about upcoming events visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/environment_and_waste/street_care_and_cleaning/A_Cleaner_Greener_borough.aspx



Residents and council staff taking part in a previous clear up in Bethnal Green

£20,000 fine for changing listed building

A landowner who carried out unauthorised works to a listed building has been fined £20,000 after failing to comply with an enforcement notice.

The council's Planning Compliance Team investigated the alterations at 103 Bow Road, which included the construction of a rear extension and installation of a uPVC window without listed building consent.

The building is a residential three-

storey Grade II listed building.

A Listed Building Enforcement Notice was served by the council requiring the removal of the extension and replacement of the window with a traditional timber sash window.

The landowner did not comply with this notice and consequently attended the Thames Magistrates' Court on 15 November 2022 where they pleaded guilty.

Sentencing took place on 18

January 2023 at Snaresbrook Crown Court and the landowner was fined for an offence of failing to comply with the requirements of a Listed Building Enforcement Notice.

Cllr Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding, said: "Listed buildings hold immense historic and architectural value and we must protect them.

"Prosecution is always a last resort and doesn't happen very

often.

"However, this case sends a clear message to all landowners that unauthorised works to listed buildings will not be tolerated. The council has a statutory duty to manage the borough's diverse heritage assets and will do so even if the consequence is a steep fine."

There are currently 210 locally listed buildings and 44 locally listed war memorials within Tower Hamlets.

Our students enjoy memorable cultural experiences, linked to a rich, vibrant and creative curriculum that extends their learning beyond the classroom.



Cycling at the VeloPark



Science Week

Amazing enrichment opportunities

JOIN OUR SIXTH FORM



Reading with younger students



Receiving awards



Building and racing an electric car



Speaking at a Prince's Trust event

Sixth Form enrichment
Sixth Form students participate in workshops, visits to universities, lectures, trips and arts events as well as a wide range of activities during their Wednesday afternoon enrichment sessions.

For more information about our amazing, oversubscribed school follow the QR code or visit www.mulberryacademymyshoreditch.org

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Mulberry Canon Barnett Primary is proud to join the Mulberry Schools Trust

On Thursday 1st June 2023, Canon Barnett Primary School joined the Mulberry Schools Trust and was renamed Mulberry Canon Barnett Primary, giving our students, staff and families access to the opportunities and experiences enjoyed by other Mulberry schools.





Mulberry Canon Barnett Primary will join our family of schools, including our new school Mulberry Wood Wharf Primary, benefitting from world-class partnerships, projects and services. We will continue to offer new and rich learning experiences and gain access to amazing enrichment opportunities such as the Trust's prestigious Mulberry STEM Academy and much more!

We have launched our new look website - visit us at www.mulberrycanonbarnett.org and keep an eye out for updates!

If you have any questions about Mulberry Canon Barnett Primary, please email admin@mulberrycanonbarnett.org or call us on 020 7247 9023. Our friendly staff are always ready to help.

Follow us on Twitter or visit our website to keep up to date with all the exciting things going on at our school.

Mulberry Canon Barnett Primary
Gunthorpe Street, London, E1 7RQ

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In Partnership
With Tower Hamlets Council

Sunday 20 >
Wednesday 23
August



MORE INFO AT [APEFE.ST/NBHD2023](https://apefe.st/nbhd2023)





Ruqsana was world champion in Muay Thai kickboxing and is now setting her sights on the boxing world championship later this year

Ruqsana aims for two world champion titles in different sports – and to inspire

CELEBRATING OUR BOROUGH

A Tower Hamlets martial artist is aiming to get a world championship title in a second sport – and wants to inspire other women to get involved too.

Ruqsana Begum became the world champion in Muay Thai kickboxing in 2016 and has now switched to boxing.

She was the intercontinental champion earlier this year, and is hoping to clinch the world champion title later this year.

However, Ruqsana hasn't had an easy path to success.

She said: "I've always been fascinated by sports and I loved martial arts films when I was younger. I went to Mulberry Sixth Form College and they had a one-off kickboxing session, which gave me enough of a taster so when I went to Westminster University, I worked part time so I could train every Sunday.

"University was quite stressful. I studied architecture but as I was dyslexic it meant I had to learn a bit differently to others. Sport gave me an outlet, and different skills like focus and discipline, and taught me things about life."

Ruqsana, who has written an award-winning autobiography called *Born Fighter*, didn't always

have the support of her family, as she was brought up in a traditional Muslim household.

However, she says her parents have never stopped her fulfilling her ambition.

She explains: "I think my parents moved with the times which was nice to see.

"I am fortunate that my parents have been open minded.

"In the 80s and 90s, when I walked into the boxing club, there were hardly any women, let alone anyone from my background.

"I am so proud my parents gave me that opportunity and that I was fortunate enough to have an outlet."

And Ruqsana believes it is important for other people in Tower Hamlets to be given the same opportunities she has had.

She said: "It's really important for people, including women, to get involved in sport.

"It helps your mental health and your perception of yourself. I didn't always feel like I was good enough, but the more I achieve the more my perception of myself changed.

"You can use these skills in life, family and work. You learn to persevere and you learn that if you practice, you do better.

"Women in Tower Hamlets don't always have these opportunities to get involved in martial arts.

"I have started a women's only



Ruqsana wants to inspire other people in Tower Hamlets

class in Bethnal Green and I have people from all backgrounds – European, Somali, Bengali, English – come together with a common goal. It is really beautiful to see these women who wouldn't always meet in day-to-day life come together. Sport really unifies people."

Ruqsana, who would like to thank Steve Walters, head coach at her gym, Bill Judd, her manager, Arby Keheli, her strength and conditioning coach,

and Johnathan, a supportive coach at her gym, has also set up a podcast in which she interviews sporting stars to show people that success doesn't happen overnight. You can find it on YouTube by searching @intheringwithruqsana

• **Tower Hamlets has lots of sports clubs aimed at women. Find out more on the sport and physical activity section of the council's website.**



The three nail bombings in April 1999 killed three people and injured 140

Event remembers nail bombing victims

Residents, police, councillors and community leaders turned out to remember the victims of the London Nail Bombings.

In April 1999, the London communities of Brixton, Brick Lane and Soho were targeted by a series of nail bomb attacks over fourteen days.

The first nail bomb was targeted towards the Black community of Brixton on Saturday 17 April.

It exploded at the side of the Iceland Store in Brixton, on Electric Avenue.

The second nail bomb was targeted towards the Asian community of Brick Lane on Saturday 24 April,

and it exploded in the boot of a car outside the Sweet and Spicy Restaurant, 40 Brick Lane.

The third and final nail bomb was targeted towards the Gay Community of Soho on Friday 30 April. It exploded in the Admiral Duncan bar, on Old Compton Street.

The bombs killed three people

and injured 140 people, four of whom lost limbs.

To mark the occasion, the charity 17-24-30 National Hate Crime Awareness Week, in partnership with the council's hate crime team, organises a remembrance event which sees lanterns lit to remember the victims and speeches.

Health experts to help you

COUNCIL NEWS

Do you have a cold, sore throat, upset tummy, or aches and pains? Your pharmacist might be able to help you a lot quicker than a GP or going to A&E.

Pharmacists are experts in medicines who can help you with minor health concerns, providing clinical advice and over-the-counter medication.

Many pharmacies are open until late and at weekends and you don't need an appointment – you can just pop in and speak to a qualified expert.

Alongside pharmacists, there are a number of other healthcare professionals who can help you

when you aren't feeling well.

Your GP's receptionist team is trained to get information about your condition so they can help you get the right help you need, whether that is a GP appointment, a trip to A&E, or going to your local pharmacist.

Physiotherapists diagnose and treat muscular and joint conditions. They can advise you on how to manage your condition and can refer you for scans or on to hospital services if needed.

Clinical pharmacists can review the medications you are currently taking, make changes to your prescription, give advice about the side effects of medicines, and give advice on managing minor ailments and long term conditions.

A pharmacy technician shows you how to take your medicines, supports clinical pharmacists in reviewing your medications, and advises you on lifestyle choices, such as stopping smoking.

For those requiring mental health assessments, mental health therapists and practitioners are your best option. They can also provide advice and support to manage your condition and support you to access mental health services and community resources.

Social prescribing link workers support you to manage your health and wellbeing and help you to access support services and activities.

Care coordinators prepare you for upcoming conversations about your health and care, monitor your needs

and respond to changes, and support you to understand and manage your care.

Healthcare assistants monitor your blood pressure and can take blood samples, provide healthy living advice, tend to dressings and remove stitches.

There are also nurses, who can provide vaccinations, dressings, wound care and routine screening, offer support with long-term conditions, and provide family planning and sexual health advice.

Advance nurse practitioners can also prescribe medications.

• As you can see, there is a whole range of healthcare professionals who can help you. To find out more, visit england.nhs.uk/gp/expanding-our-workforce/

New heritage panels

Did you know that the Danish Embassy used to be in Shadwell? Or that there was a priory in Bow founded at the time of William the Conqueror? Visitors to Swedenborg Gardens and St Leonard's Priory can now uncover these stories, thanks to two new information panels.

The panels add to the ten on the Isle of Dogs as well as those in Poplar Recreation Ground, Bartlett Park, Meath Gardens and Stepney Green Park.

The panels give an insight into the fascinating history of Tower

Hamlets and its people, going back to when the borough was made up of farms and fields and then through the process of urbanisation.

The panels tell the stories of meetings with kings, shipbuilding and the docks, silk weavers, strikes, the Blitz, post-war housing and much more.

Also coming soon is a new information panel in Grove Hall Park commemorating the matchwoman strike at the nearby Bryant & May Factory in 1888. Find out more about the strikes on p34 and 35.



One of the new heritage panels which has been unveiled

Britain in Bloom beckons



Lady Mico's garden which features as part of Tower Hamlets' Britain in Bloom entry

CULTURE

Tower Hamlets is one of only two finalists in the UK city category for this year's Britain in Bloom Awards!

The only other finalist is the city of Aberdeen, and makes Tower Hamlets the only English city in the running for the prestigious award.

The nomination comes after Tower Hamlets won a Gold award and also topped the group category in the Britain in Bloom Awards for Best City in March this year.

Judges will be touring the country in July and August. Tower Hamlets will offer a unique inner city urban tour that covers a wide range of displays and unique flora and fauna experiences from Victoria Park to Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park and Canary Wharf.

The borough's community participation, working with schools, community groups, farms and housing associations, also make it a strong contender.

The awards ceremony will take place on Monday 23 October.

Park improvements

Improvements at Prospect Park, in Bow, have seen the planting of 20 new trees, the installation of a nest swing, new fencing around the playground, new litter bins, two new picnic tables and raised planting beds.

A government grant allowed the council to make the improvements with the help of residents who joined park rangers for community

bulb and wild flower planting sessions in spring, so the park will be blooming lovely all summer long.

Cllr Iqbal Hossain, Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation, planted a Scots Pine tree in the park to add to the finishing touches.

The park's railings are also being repainted and a new hedge including native species will be planted along the fence line in Autumn.



Cllr Iqbal Hossain planting a tree in the park



Academic excellence

We aim to take students out of their comfort zone so they become resilient in the pursuit of knowledge and understanding.



UCAS and Oxbridge programme

We have a well developed, early application and Oxbridge programme, tailored to the individual needs of each student.



Broad and balanced curriculum

We offer many curriculum choices from sports to Arts and Business to Humanities. MSG is a specialist in Maths, Science and Computing.

Planned programme of enrichment

We understand the importance of developing a broad range of transferable skills alongside excellent academic outcomes.



Trips and residentials

We value learning outside the classroom: residential trips to Wales, Lake District and Rome are popular amongst our students.



ENROLMENT DAY THURSDAY 24TH AUGUST 2023

**Mulberry Stepney Green
Maths, Computing and Science College**
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Part of the
Mulberry
Schools Trust

**Tower Hamlets
Community Equipment
Service has changed**



On 1st April 2023 the provider for Tower Hamlets Community Equipment Service changed from Medequip to NRS Healthcare.

If you have been provided any equipment from the Council or NHS such as a hospital bed, mattress, hoist, etc this change will affect you. You will now need to contact NRS Healthcare on the phone number below for all enquiries including repairs and collections.

Some of the key service improvements include:

- Longer operating hours 8am-8pm.
- More service days Monday-Saturday.
- Out of hours service now available on evenings, weekends and bank holidays.

**NRS Healthcare:
0300 100 0253**

Please note: the equipment you currently have may display a Medequip sticker on it, please ignore this and contact NRS Healthcare for support instead. These stickers will be replaced over time when we come out to service the products.



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*Site currently under construction.



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Striking a light in Bow: the matchwomen's story

HISTORY

This summer marks 135 years since women and girls in Bow lit a flame for working people everywhere.

You may have heard of the Bryant & May matchwomen, who made matches in the factory in Bow, but the true importance of their 1888 fight against appalling and dangerous conditions in the Fairfield Road match factory has only become known comparatively recently, through the research of matchwomen's historian Dr Louise Raw.

Dr Raw explains: "At the time, poor Eastenders were portrayed as criminal, and barely human.

"Matchwomen also came from Irish and Jewish backgrounds at a time of prejudice against both groups. No one expected these downtrodden and apparently powerless women to take on one of the country's most powerful firms - and win."

Two men named William Bryant and Francis May ran the matchmaking factory and had become vastly wealthy in one generation.

The workers who produced these vast profits, however, weren't sharing in them. Matchwomen lived in tenements, often just in one of two rooms with their whole family, with no running water or inside toilets. 'Black beetles' - known as cockroaches - were so prevalent that people slept outside in summer to avoid their bites.

Dr Raw, author of 'Striking a Light' on the matchwomen and organiser of an annual Matchwomen's Festival in Bow, explains: "Although Bryant & May were making a fortune, they'd forced wages down so far they

“

The disease caused the jawbone to decay



Workers in match factories were poorly paid and had to put up with dangerous conditions

were lower in 1888 than 1878. The women were actually malnourished.

"Worst of all was dreaded industrial disease necrosis, also known as 'phossy jaw'. It was caused by deadly white phosphorus, used on matchheads because the firm wouldn't pay extra for a safe alternative. The disease caused the jawbone to decay, causing bits of bone 'the size of peas' to break off and force their way through suppurating abscesses.

"By the summer of 1888, the women had had enough. When one girl was sacked unfairly, her workmates laid down their tools, picked up their hats and coats, and

streamed out of the gates. Soon, 1,400 women and girls were on strike."

They walked the streets of Bow, singing about their fight to publicise it and marched to parliament, meeting with MPs.

Eventually, the pressure on the match company was so high they were forced, very unwillingly, to give in to the women's demands, which included the right to form the largest union of women and girls in the country.

Hundreds of thousands of other workers were inspired by this incredible victory and also used strikes to win the right to form

unions.

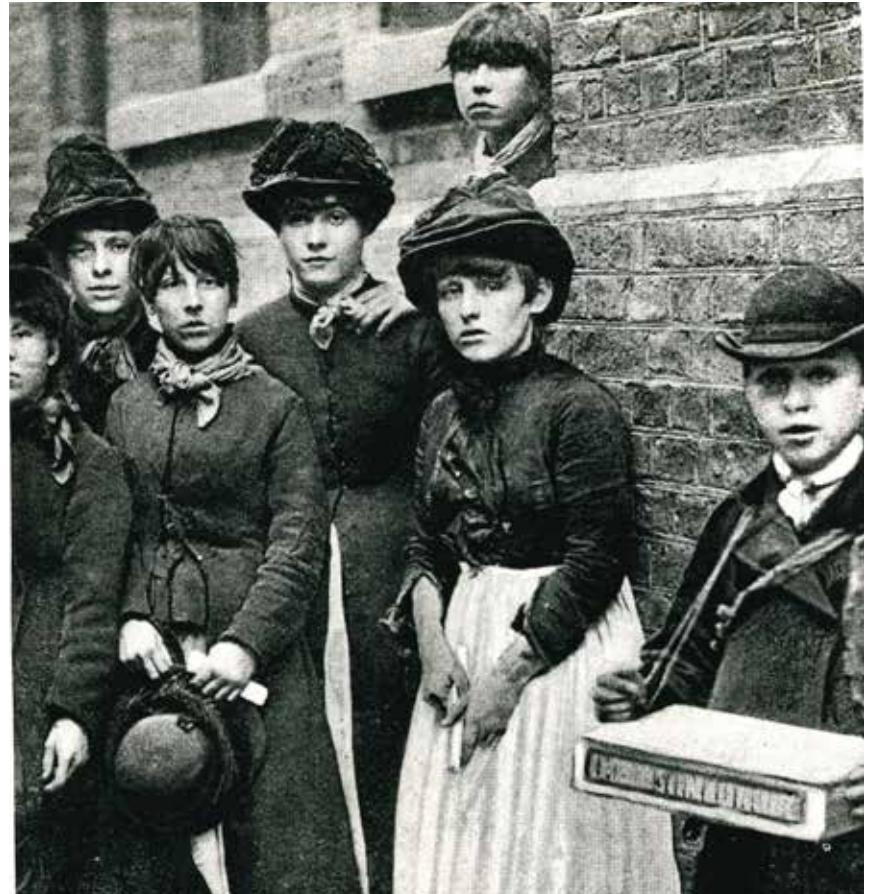
Dr Raw was able to prove that this was the start of the modern trade union movement and a step on the road to the formation of the Labour Party.

The strike was finally acknowledged with a blue plaque in 2022, and on 15 July the matchwomen will be celebrated at the Matchwomen's Festival at Bow Arts Trust, close to the factory where it all began.

- For tickets, visit www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/matchwomens-festival-23-tickets-501389217647
- Follow Dr Raw on Twitter @ LouiseRawAuthor



The strikers taking their petition to government, above, the strike committee, bottom left, and selling matches, bottom right



Free outdoor theatre

Greenwich and Docklands International Festival (GDIF), London's leading annual festival of free outdoor arts and theatre, will take place from 25 August to 10 September.

The free outdoor theatre, performance and installation staged across iconic London sites is inspired by the theme Acts of Hope.

Highlights include Bouncing Narratives, performed on a trampoline installed on top of a shipping container, with audiences outside as well as inside the

container itself.

Bradley Hemmings MBE, GDIF's Artistic Director, said: "As well as offering illuminating perspectives on the world as it could be, artists across the festival will be transforming familiar public spaces into creative arenas; places in which audiences can come together and share in a spirit of optimism and celebration."

- For more information and to view the full timetable of the festival's events, please visit festival.org/GDIF-2023



Bouncing Narratives will be performing on a trampoline

Play, imagine and design



Emma Thompson reads to pupils from Globe Primary School, one of several local schools which has been involved in creating Young V&A. © Photograph James Watkins

Young V&A (the former V&A Museum of Childhood) will open on Saturday 1 July following a three-year transformation.

Designed collaboratively with children, the museum has been shaped around their interests to encourage playful learning, foster creative agency, and spark imaginations, and features three galleries: Play, Imagine and Design.

It is designed for babies to teens, with colourful and tactile sensory landscapes for infants and toddlers, performance and story-telling spaces for early readers and writers, an open design studio where children can learn from leading designers, as well as topical contemporary displays and a games design space for teens.

There will be a weekend of creative activity on the 8 to 9 July, including music and puppet shows, and hands-on activities.

Dr Tristram Hunt, Director of the V&A, said: "In new galleries and exhibitions, from early years spaces to teenage games design rooms, our plan is to foster Britain's next generation of artists, thinkers, makers, innovators, and entrepreneurs."

Get involved in Black History Month

Tower Hamlets Council is again supporting Black History Month this year and is looking at how best to continue to serve its diverse communities and audiences.

The council wants to hear about

what you're planning or hoping to organise for Black History Month 2023.

Please email blackhistorymonth@towerhamlets.gov.uk if you would like to join the council's interest

group, or with any queries, ideas or proposals. The council may be able to facilitate your event plans.

Please submit details of any confirmed, programmed activity by mid-August. You can

still see last year's programme at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/blackhistorymonth

- Visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/arts for updates as plans for 2023 unfold.

Exhibitions

Wellbeing

The work in this exhibition comes from a variety of classes run by local art tutor Virginia Hawke and has been created in response to the wider theme of 'places that make you happy'.

Participants have been exploring landscapes and seascapes, looking at texture paste, mulch, collage, oil painting, watercolours, screen printing, stencils, dry point and lino.

Until 30 June

Brady Arts Centre, 192-196 Hanbury Street, Whitechapel E1 5HU

ESOP Links 1 & 2

The Essential School of Painting is delighted to present its two end-of-year student shows, to which all are welcome. The school is a dynamic and alternative London art school specialising in painting and fine art courses taught by leading contemporary artists.



All are welcome to the shows

It offers courses with the intention of advancing painting and other art forms in the 21st Century. The title of the shows suggests connection, collaboration and community, being the bedrock on which creativity can thrive. Links also nod to the new technologies that connect us in our contemporary world.

16-20 June (Links 1)

23-27 June (Links 2)

The Art Pavilion Mile End Park, Clinton Road, E3 4QY

Visit theessentialschoolofpainting.com/

End of year printmaking exhibition

End-of-year shows for some of the arts and creative classes on offer at Idea Store Learning, as well work by printmakers from classes run at both the Brady Art Centre and Shadwell Print Studio. It showcases an eclectic stylistic mix as well as a wide array of work, including screen-printing, collograph, intaglio, lino, mono printing and block printing. The vibrant, inclusive and inspiring atmosphere of the classes

has enabled all students to pursue their own interests and achieve a very high standard of work.

8 July-31 August

Brady Arts Centre, 192-196 Hanbury Street, Whitechapel E1 5HU



An eclectic style mix

Lucy Orta Traces: Stories of Migration

A collective tapestry of lived experiences, this installation offers an insight into the diversity of first- and second-generation migration histories woven into the landscape of east London. The exhibition is the culmination of a two-year community engagement project involving more than 80 residents across Newham and Tower Hamlets, each with their own migration story. Led by international artist and researcher Lucy Orta, in partnership with London College of Fashion's Making for Change, participants came together to share textile knowledge, follow the threads of community migration in the context of the East End rag trade, and celebrate East London's history of clothing and textile industry.

**Until Sunday 27 August
Nunnery Gallery, 181 Bow Road, Bow, E3 2SJ.**

'Lost East End'

'Lost East End' features photos by Philip Cunningham and captures the essence of a part of our city that has undergone significant change over the past 50 years. Many of the photographs on display have not been seen since they were taken in the 1970s.

**Until 27 October
Oxford House, Derbyshire Street, Bethnal Green E2 6HG**

Markets and fairs

Urban Makers Spring Market

Urban Makers return to host their annual spring market. Fifty different designers will be there each day, selling everything

from homeware, jewellery and art, to candles, toys, clothing and accessories. All sustainable and ethical. There will also be a range of workshops and Urban Makers Feast will be back with a great selection of food and drink.

Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 June, 11am to 5pm

Ecology Pavilion, Mile End Park, Grove Road, E3 5TW

Free entry.

Visit www.urbanmakers.co.uk/events

Summer Fair

A day of fun activities, informative tours, stalls for local makers, delicious food and drink and a chance to find out more about the work the Friends do at Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park.

29 July, 12-5pm

Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park, Southern Grove, Mile End E3 4PX

Music

Victoria Park Bandstand Season

Enjoy a free family afternoon at Vicky Park's famous bandstand. From Brazil and The Balkans, to Bow and Stepney, 22 bands over 11 days provide fantastic concerts to liven up your summer Sundays. The bandstand season is brought to you by Victoria Park Friends Group in partnership with Tower Hamlets Council. Performances start at 2pm.

**Every Sunday until 30 July
Victoria Park, Grove Road, E3 5TB**

Check out the full line up at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/events



The bandstand

Striking Sparks: The Story of the Matchgirls

This year marks the 135th anniversary of the Matchgirls Strike. East London Music Group will premiere 'A Fair Field' by Jonathan Pease in an evening of music telling the story of the 1888 Matchgirls Strike. The group will also be welcoming East London Community Band, Aldersbrook Community Choir, Poplar Singers, and Victoria Park Singers, along with a new

children's choir.

Saturday 1 July, 7pm.

The Great Hall of the People's Palace, QMUL, Mile End Road, E1 4NS

Visit www.eastlondonmusicgroup.co.uk

Spitalfields Music Festival

Spitalfields Music will see world premieres, new music, overlooked historic pieces and classic repertoire performed in iconic East London locations from Village Underground to the Tower of London.

Curated by Spitalfields Music Chief Executive, Sarah Gee, the 2023 festival will bring together acclaimed national and international artists for two weeks of concerts that demonstrate the extensive range and resilience of classical music.



Extensive range of music

The festival will combine different styles, traditions, genres and artforms for unique performances that unite audiences and artists alike in a celebration of music.

30 June-12 July

Various venues across east London.

For more information visit www.spitalfieldsmusic.org.uk

Walks

Summer Butterfly Walk

Did you know that at the height of summer, up to 17 types of butterfly can be seen in Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park? Join Terry for this insightful summer walk. If the weather is good, hope to see species including Brimstone, Comma, Peacock, Red Admiral, Orange-Tip, Large, Small and Green-Veined Whites, Speckled Wood and Holly Blue.

In poor weather, you will learn about these butterflies from pictures, and look at caterpillar food plants and nectar plants.

8 July

Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park, Southern Grove, Mile End E3 4PX. Booking required.

To book and for more information, visit fothcp.org/events/



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Tower Hamlets Council has a system of governance in which the elected mayor, **Lutfur Rahman** (Aspire, right), has personal responsibility and executive powers. Mayor Rahman is responsible for determining and delivering a wide range of policies and priorities. He is advised by his cabinet of councillors and by council officers.



*** The members of the Cabinet are:**

Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning (Statutory Deputy Mayor) - Cllr Maium Talukdar

- Resources and the Cost of Living - Cllr Saied Ahmed**
- Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding - Cllr Kabir Ahmed**
- Safer Communities - Cllr Abu Talha Choudhury**
- Environment and the Climate Emergency - Cllr Kabir Hussain**
- Health, Wellbeing and Social Care - Cllr Gulam Kibria Choudhury**
- Jobs, Skills and Growth - Cllr Abdul Wahid**
- Equalities and Social Inclusion - Cllr Suluk Ahmed**
- Culture and Recreation - Cllr Iqbal Hossain**

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কাউন্সিলের ইয়ুথ সার্ভিসে বিনিয়োগ করা হবে ১৩.৭ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড

£13.7m invested in our youth service - Page 9

HARMONY BANGLA NEWS

বারার কিশোর তরুণ বয়সীদের জন্য নতুন এবং আরো কার্যকর ইয়ুথ সার্ভিস গড়ে তুলতে ১৩.৭ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড বিনিয়োগ করার পরিকল্পনা গ্রহণ করা হয়েছে। বহু মিলিয়ন পাউন্ডের এই বিনিয়োগ পরিকল্পনার মধ্যে রয়েছে কাউন্সিলের ইয়ুথ সার্ভিসকে আরো সম্প্রসারণ করা এবং এর নতুন একটি ব্র্যান্ড গড়ে তোলা।

২৬ এপ্রিল অনুষ্ঠিত কাউন্সিলের কেবিনেট মিটিংয়ে এই পরিকল্পনা অনুমোদন লাভ করে।

সারা দেশজুড়ে যেখানে ইয়ুথ সার্ভিসের অর্থাৎ কিশোর-তরুণ বয়সীদের জন্য নোয়া বিভিন্ন প্রজেক্টে তহবিল ব্রাস পাচ্ছে, সেখানে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিল

বারার তরুণদের জন্য ইয়ুথ সার্ভিসে বিনিয়োগ করছে ১৩.৭ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড।

এ প্রসঙ্গে মেয়র লুৎফুর রহমান বলেন, "তরুণরাই আমাদের ভবিষ্যৎ নেতা, যে কারণে এই বিনিয়োগ এত গুরুত্বপূর্ণ। 'ইয়াং টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস' নামের ইয়ুথ সার্ভিস বারার কিশোর-তরুণ বয়সীদের প্রতিভা বিকাশে, উচ্চতর শিক্ষা অর্জন বা সাফল্যের সাথে কর্মক্ষেত্রে পদাধীন করতে এবং যেখানে তারা নিরাপদ বোধ করে সেখানে প্রবেশ করতে সহায়তা করবে।"

তিনি বলেন, "টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস-এর প্রতিটি তরুণের জীবনের সর্বোত্তম সূচনা করতে এবং তারা যাতে এমন সুযোগগুলোতে অ্যাক্সেস করতে পারে যা তাদের তাদের সম্ভাবনা পূরণ করতে সক্ষম করবে - সেটাই নিশ্চিত করতে এই সার্ভিস কাজ করবে।"



Empowering the Next Generation: Mayor engages with young minds at the final 'Young Tower Hamlets' hackathon, hosted at George Greens School, to hear their innovative ideas and shape a brighter future."

ডেপুটি মেয়র এবং কেবিনেট মেম্বার ফর এডুকেশন, ইয়ুথ এন্ড লাইফলং লার্নিং, কাউন্সিলর মাইয়ুম তালুকদার বলেন, "বারার তরুণদের জন্য সম্ভাবনার অনেক নতুন দরজা খুলে দেবে 'ইয়াং

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস'। আমি তরুণদেরকে তাদের জন্য বিদ্যমান সুযোগগুলির সাথে জড়িত হতে এবং বিভিন্ন ইভেন্টে অংশ নিজে নিজেদের বক্তব্য ও মতামত তুলে ধরতে অনুপ্রাণিত করছি।"

বারার কিশোর তরুণ বয়সীরা একটি অনলাইন সমীক্ষা পূরণ করে তাদের মতামত দিতে পারেনঃ www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YoungTowerHamlets



কাউন্সিলের নতুন স্পিকার নির্বাচিত হলেন জাহেদ চৌধুরী

New Tower Hamlets Speaker elected at AGM

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিলের বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভায় (এজিএম) নতুন স্পিকার এবং ডেপুটি স্পিকার নির্বাচিত করা হয়েছে। বুধবার ১৭ মে হোয়াইটচ্যাপেলের নতুন টাউন হলে এই এজিএম অনুষ্ঠিত হয়।

সভায় ল্যাংবার ওয়ার্ডের প্রতিনিধিত্বকারী কাউন্সিলর জাহেদ চৌধুরী বারার নতুন স্পিকার হিসেবে নির্বাচিত হয়েছেন। নতুন ডেপুটি স্পিকার হলেন কাউন্সিলর সাইফ উদ্দিন খালেদ, যিনি ব্রমলি নর্থ ওয়ার্ডের কাউন্সিলর।

নির্বাচিত হওয়ার পর কাউন্সিলের চেয়ারে বক্তৃতাকালে, নতুন স্পিকার বলেন, "এটা জেনে সম্মানিত বোধ করছি যে সংসদীয় টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের দৃঢ় হওয়ার জন্য আমার প্রতি তাদের বিশ্বাস স্থাপন করছেন। টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস হচ্ছে এমন একটি জনশদ, যেটাকে আমি ৪০ বছর ধরে আমার বাড়ি বলে আসছি, এবং আমি এখানে বসবাস করতে পেরে সত্যিই গর্বিত। স্পিকার জাহেদ চৌধুরী আগামী বছরের জন্য তাঁর নির্বাচিত দায়িত্ব প্রতিষ্ঠান হবে সেট

জোসেফস্ হুস্পিস্ এবং ইভেন কেয়ার নাম ঘোষণা করেন। এজিএমে মেয়র লুৎফুর রহমানসহ সব দলের কাউন্সিলররা বিদায়ী স্পিকার শাকি আহমেদের প্রতি শুভ্রা জানান।

বর্তমান মন্ত্রিসভায় দুটি পরিবর্তন হয়েছে। কাউন্সিলর আবু তালহা চৌধুরী, যিনি পূর্বে জবস্, ক্লিনস্ এন্ড গ্রোথ (চাকুরি, দক্ষতা এবং প্রযুক্তি) বিষয়ক কেবিনেট মেম্বার হিসাবে দায়িত্ব পালন করেছিলেন, তিনি এখন সেইফার কমিউনিটিজ বিষয়ক লীড মেম্বারের দায়িত্ব পালন করবেন। কাউন্সিলর আব্দুল ওয়াহিদ চাকুরি, দক্ষতা এবং প্রযুক্তি বিষয়ক লীড মেম্বার হিসেবে কেবিনেটে যোগদান করেছেন।



১২ জন কমিউনিটি হিরো পেলেন সিভিক অ্যাওয়ার্ড Awards celebrate our fantastic residents - page 8

প্রতিবেশীদের এবং বৃহত্তর কমিউনিটির কল্যাণে নিজেদের উৎসর্গ করা এবং নানাভাবে বারার সুনাম বৃদ্ধিতে অবদান রেখে চলা ১২ জন বিশিষ্ট ব্যক্তি বা কমিউনিটি হিরোকে প্রদান করা হয়েছে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস সিভিক অ্যাওয়ার্ড।

২ মে মঙ্গলবার মাইল এন্ড পার্কের আর্ট প্যাভিলিয়নে অনুষ্ঠিত এই এওয়ার্ড বিতরণ অনুষ্ঠানে কাউন্সিলের স্পিকার কাউন্সিলর শাকি আহমেদ বিজয়ীদের হাতে সনদ ও ট্রফি তুলে দেন। এসময় কাউন্সিলের অর্থবর্তী প্রধান নির্বাহী স্টিভ হোলসি, ডেপুটি মেয়র কাউন্সিলর

মাইয়ুম তালুকদার, কেবিনেট মেম্বার ও কাউন্সিলরগণ, উর্ধ্বতন কর্মকর্তাবৃন্দ ও কমিউনিটির বিভিন্ন পর্ষায়ের লোকজন উপস্থিত ছিলেন।

২০২৩ সালের সিভিক এওয়ার্ড বিজয়ীরা হচ্ছেনঃ কমিউনিটি সার্ভিসে অনন্য অবদান রাখায় - স্যু হিউজ, আলেকজান্ডার ক্যাম্পবেল ওবিই, মোঃ আনোয়ারুল ইসলাম, বিল জ্যাকেট, মোহাম্মদ আফসার খান, মোহাম্মদ আব্দুল মুনিম জাহেদী, মিনারা খাতুন উদ্দিন, ও অতিয়া বেগম বর্নী।

খেলাধুলা, শৈল্পিক বা সাংস্কৃতিক কৃতিত্বের মাধ্যমে

বারার জন্য সুনাম বয়ে আনার - রশিদ আলী।

'২৫ বছরের কম বয়সী একজন তরুণ অর্জনকারী যার কৃতিত্বগুলি অসাধারণ এবং স্বীকৃত হওয়া উচিত' ক্যাটাগরিতে - পিলিয়ানা নূর।

স্থানীয় পোকদের জীবনযাত্রার মান উন্নত করতে নিজের দায়িত্বের বাইরে গিয়েও নিরলসভাবে সার্ভিস প্রদান করার - ডায় হেসেন জোস।

ব্যবসায় সফলতা এবং সম্প্রদায়ের সম্পৃক্ততার মাধ্যমে কমিউনিটির জন্য সুফল নিশ্চিত করার - ডকল্যান্ডস কমিউনিটি ইনিশিয়েটিভ।

আপনার বাচ্চার জন্য 'হেলদি স্টার্ট কার্ড' সংগ্রহ করুন

Get a Healthy Start card for your children - page 24

আপনি কি জানেন যে, আপনি যদি সুনির্দিষ্ট কিছু বেনিফিট পেয়ে থাকেন, তাহলে দুধ ও স্বাস্থ্যকর খাবার ক্রয়ের জন্য অর্থ ব্যয় করতে আপনি বিনামূল্যে হেলদি স্টার্ট কার্ড পাওয়ার যোগ্য হতে পারেন?

গর্ভাবস্থা থেকে সন্তানের চতুর্থ জন্মদিন পর্যন্ত যদি ফ্লেইম বা দাবি করা হয়, তাহলে প্রতিটি শিশুর জন্য এর মূল্যমান ১,০০০ পাউন্ডের বেশি হতে পারে। ১০ সপ্তাহের বেশি গর্ভবতী এবং চার বছরের কম বয়সী একটি বাচ্চা আছে এমন মহিলাদেরকে তাজা ও টিনজাত বা হিমায়িত কল, শাকসবজি এবং ডাল যেমন মসুর ও মটরশুটি, গরুর দুধ এবং শিশুর উপযোগী প্রথম খাবার কেনায় সহায়তা করবে এই ন্যাশনাল হেলদি স্টার্ট স্কিম।

২০২২ সালের মার্চ মাস থেকে এই প্রোগ্রামটি কাগজের পরিবর্তে একটি প্রি-পেইড কার্ড হিসেবে চালু হয়েছে। এর অর্থ হল যে বিদ্যমান কার্ডধারী এবং নতুন যোগ্য বাসিন্দাদেরকে তাদের হেলদি স্টার্ট কার্ড পেতে অনলাইনে পুনরায় আবেদন করতে হবে।

আবেদন করতে তিন মিনিটেরও কম সময় লাগে। আপনার বা দরকারী তা হল আপনার নাম, ঠিকানা এবং ন্যাশনাল ইন্সুরেন্স নম্বর। কার্ডটি হাতে পাওয়ার পর এটিকে সক্রিয় করতে একটি স্বয়ংক্রিয় লাইনে (০৩০০ ৩৩০ ২০৯০) কল করতে হবে।

এ ব্যাপারে আরও জানতে এবং আপনি যোগ্য কিনা তা দেখতে ডিজিট করুনঃ www.healthystart.nhs.uk/hwo-to-apply

অপরাধ মোকাবেলায় নিয়োগ দেয়া হচ্ছে এনফোর্সমেন্ট অফিসার

Help drive down crime – page 12

বারায় অপরাধ এবং অসামাজিক আচরণ (এএসবি বা এটি সোশ্যাল বিহেভিয়ার) আচরণজনিত কার্যকলাপ মোকাবেলা করার জন্য নতুন করে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস এনফোর্সমেন্ট অফিসারের (খিও) পদে বেশ কিছু নিয়োগ কার্যক্রম শুরু করেছে কাউন্সিল।

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস এনফোর্সমেন্ট অফিসার, সংক্ষেপে খিও সার্ভিসে স্থানীয় কমিউনিটিগুলোর যথার্থ প্রতিনিধিত্ব যাতে নিশ্চিত হয়, সেজন্য এই পদে বারায় বসবাসকারী মহিলা সহ অগ্রাধী সফলভাবে আবেদন করতে উৎসাহিত করছে কাউন্সিল।

বারায় অসামাজিক আচরণজনিত কার্যকলাপ মোকাবেলায় আরো বেশ কিছু এনফোর্সমেন্ট অফিসার নিয়োগের নতুন ক্যাম্পেইন সম্পর্কে মন্তব্যকালে মেয়র লুৎফুর রহমান বলেন, “আমাদের খিওর আমাদের বারাতে অপরাধ এবং অসামাজিক আচরণ মোকাবেলায় অগ্রগতি। তবে আমাদের কমিউনিটিগুলোর সাথে সম্পৃক্ত থাকা এবং যাদের প্রয়োজন তাদেরকে অংশীভূত করা ও সহযোগিতা প্রদানেও খিওদের বিশাল ভূমিকা রয়েছে।”

তিনি বলেন, “এই নিয়োগ কার্যক্রমের মানে হলো আমাদের বারাতে আপের চেয়ে আরও বেশি ইউনিফর্ম পরিহিত টহল নিশ্চিত হওয়া। আমরা আশা করি এই নিয়োগ বারায় নিরাপত্তা বাড়াবে এবং যারা মনে করে যে তারা আইন নিজেদের হাতে তুলে নিতে পারে তাদের জন্য প্রতিবন্ধক হিসেবে কাজ করবে।”

কারো ব্যক্তিগত বিবরণ পেতে এবং এএসবি, মাদক ও সহিংসতা মোকাবেলা করার জন্য পুলিশ সংস্কার আইনের ধারা ৫০ এর অধীনে খিওদেরও পুলিশী ক্ষমতা রয়েছে। সফল আবেদনকারীদের খিও হিসেবে ভূমিকা পালনের জন্য প্রয়োজনীয় সবধরনের প্রশিক্ষণ প্রদান করা হবে এবং এই সময়ের জন্য অর্থও দেয়া হবে। প্রশিক্ষণের মধ্যে একটি সম্পূর্ণ প্রাথমিক চিকিৎসা কোর্স, সুরক্ষা এবং নারী ও মেয়েদের বিরুদ্ধে সহিংসতা প্রশিক্ষণ এবং মানসিক স্বাস্থ্য সেতনতা প্রশিক্ষণ অন্তর্ভুক্ত রয়েছে।

এনফোর্সমেন্ট অফিসার নিয়োগ সম্পর্কে আরও জানতে ভিজিট করুনঃ www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/THEOrecruitment



Paying respects: Deputy Mayor, Cabinet Members and community leaders honor Altab Ali, who was killed in a brutal racist attack in 1978.

নানা আয়োজনে পালিত হলো আলতাভ আলী দিবস

Remembering Altab Ali

পুষ্পাঞ্জলি নিবেদন, স্মৃতিচারণ ও কবিতা আবৃত্তি, প্রদর্শনী সহ নানা আয়োজনে স্মরণ করা হলো ১৯৭৮ সালে পূর্ব লন্ডনে বর্ণবাদীদের হাতে নিহত বাংলাদেশী যুবক আলতাভ আলীকে। ৪ মে ছিলো আলতাভ আলী দিবস। কাউন্সিলের উদ্যোগে আলতাভ আলী পার্কে কেন্দ্রীয় শহীদ মিনারের পাদদেশে আয়োজন করা হয়েছিলো বিশেষ স্মরণসভার। শুরুতে বারায় বাসিন্দাদের পক্ষ থেকে স্পিকার কাউন্সিলর শাফি আহমেদ পুষ্পার্ঘ্য অর্পণ করেন। এরপর ডেপুটি মেয়র কাউন্সিলর মাইয়ুম তালুকদার ও সংস্কৃতি বিষয়ক কেবিনেট মেম্বার কাউন্সিলর ইকবাল হোসেইন সহ বিভিন্ন সংগঠনের নেতৃবৃন্দ পুষ্পস্তবক নিবেদন করেন। এরপর আলতাভ আলী স্মরণে এক মিনিট নিরবতা পালন করা হয়। আলতাভ আলী দিবস পালনের অংশ হিসেবে

আলোকচিত্র ও স্বল্পসৈধ্য তথ্যচিত্র প্রদর্শনীরও আয়োজন করা হয়। উল্লেখ্য, ২৫ বছর বয়সী বাংলাদেশী তরুণ আলতাভ আলী ছিলেন একজন শোশাল কারখানার কর্মী, যিনি ব্রিক লেন এলাকার কর্মস্থল থেকে কাজ শেষে বাসায় ফেরার পথে হোয়াইটচ্যাপেল পার্কের কাছে কয়েকজন বর্ণবাদী যুবকের ছুরিকাঘাতে নিহত হন। পরবর্তীতে এই পার্কটিরই নামকরণ করা হয় আলতাভ আলীর নামে। জাতিগত ও বর্ণবিশেষ থেকে অনুপ্রাণিত এই নিহত হত্যাকাণ্ড ঘৃণা ও অসহিষ্ণুতার বিরুদ্ধে একাধিক অবস্থান নেওয়ার জন্য টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের সকল কমিউনিটিকে সংযুক্ত করেছিল এবং ঘটনাটি পূর্ব লন্ডনের জাতি সম্পর্কের ক্ষেত্রে একটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ মোড় হিসেবে চিহ্নিত করেছিল।

মাদক বিরোধী বিশেষ অভিযানে গ্রেফতার ৭১২

712 people arrested for drugs offences – Page 11

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিল এবং পুলিশের যৌথ অভিযানের সময় মাদক কেনাবেচার মাধ্যমে অর্জিত ১ লাখ ৩৭ হাজার পাউন্ড জব্দ করা হয়েছে। অভিযানের সময় ড্রাগ ও অস্ত্র উদ্ধারে ৬৬০০টি স্টপ এন্ড সার্চ (সন্দেহভাজনের দেহ তদ্বাশি) করা হয় এবং এসময় ৩০৬টি বিভিন্ন ধরনের অস্ত্র উদ্ধার করা হয়।

মাদক বিক্রির হাট উচ্ছেদ করে কমিউনিটির জন্য পোটা বারাকে নিরাপদ জনপদ হিসেবে গড়ে তুলতে মেট পুলিশের সাথে কাউন্সিলের পার্টনারশীপের ভিত্তিতে ‘অপারেশন কটিনাম’ নামের বিশেষ এই অভিযান পরিচালনা করা হচ্ছে। ২০২২ সালে এপ্রিল থেকে ডিসেম্বর মাস পর্যন্ত ৯৬টি সার্চ ওয়ারেন্ট তামিল করতে ১৫ দিনের বিশেষ এই অভিযানে চালানো হয়। মাদক সংশ্লিষ্ট নানা অপরাধের সাথে জড়িত ৭১২ জনকে গ্রেফতার করা হয়। মোট ১৫৬ জনকে মাদক পাচারের অপরাধে অভিযুক্ত করা হয়েছে, মোট ৩৯৭টি পৃথক মাদক পাচারের অভিযোগ এবং ৪,৮৭৩টি স্টপ এবং বিশেষভাবে মাদকের জন্য অনুসন্ধান করা হয়েছে।

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস বারায় অসামাজিক কার্যকলাপ এবং ড্রাগ-সম্পর্কিত কার্যকলাপের রিপোর্ট করতে ভিজিট করুনঃ www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/community_and_living/community_safety_crime_preve/anti-social_behaviour/anti-social_behaviour.aspx

ছোট ব্যবসাগুলোর সহায়তায় কাউন্সিল চালু করলো এনার্জি রিডাকশন প্রোগ্রাম

Green light for council's energy reduction scheme schmeProgramme – page 18

গ্যাস-বিদ্যুতের অস্বাভাবিক মূল্য বৃদ্ধির কঠিন এই সময়ে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের ছোট ও মাঝারি আকারের ব্যবসায়ীরা যাকে এনার্জি খাতে অর্থ সাশ্রয় করতে পারে, সেজন্য ১ লাখ ৮৫ হাজার পাউন্ডের একটি নতুন ফ্রি প্রোগ্রাম চালু করেছে কাউন্সিল। ছোট ছোট ব্যবসা প্রতিষ্ঠানগুলোকে তাদের গ্যাস বিদ্যুত অর্থাৎ জ্বালানীর খরচ এবং পরিবেশগত প্রভাব কমাতে এই বিনিয়োগ সাহায্য করবে।

‘এনার্জি রিডাকশন প্রোগ্রাম’ নামের নতুন এই কর্মসূচির জন্য বর্তমানে আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হচ্ছে। যেকোন ব্যবসার আবেদন সফল হবে, তাদের মালিকরা একজন অভিজ্ঞ এনার্জি পরামর্শদাতার সাথে যুক্ত হতে পারবেন যিনি অন-সাইট এনার্জি অডিট সম্পূর্ণ করবেন এবং জ্বালানী সাশ্রয় করার একটি কার্যকর পরিকল্পনা প্রদান করবেন।

যে ব্যবসা প্রতিষ্ঠানের মালিকরা বিশেষজ্ঞের দেয়া পরিকল্পনাটি অনুসরণ করবেন এবং নিজেদের ব্যবসা প্রতিষ্ঠানে জ্বালানীর ব্যবহার কমাতে ইতিবাচক পদক্ষেপ নেবেন, তারা জ্বালানী-ত্রাসকারী প্রযুক্তি স্থাপনের জন্য ২৫০০ পাউন্ড অনুদানের চেয়ে আবেদন করতে পারবেন।

অ্যাপ্লিড লন্ডন অথরিটির অর্থায়নে পরিচালিত প্রকল্প বেটনফিউচার+ এর সাথে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিল পার্টনারশীপ করে এই প্রোগ্রাম চালু করেছে।

কেবিনেট মেম্বার ফর জবস, স্কিলস এন্ড গ্রোথ, কাউন্সিলর আবু তালহা চৌধুরী যোগ করেন, “এই প্রোগ্রামটি এনার্জির বিলগুলি হ্রাস করার চেটারই অংশ এবং এটি টেকসই অনুশীলনগুলি বাস্তবায়নের চেষ্টা করার সময় আমাদের স্থানীয় ব্যবসায়ীদের সামনে যে বাধাগুলি আসতে পারে তা অপসারণ করতে সহায়তা করবে।

তিনি আরো বলেন, “বরাবরের মতো, আমরা নিশ্চিত করেছি যে আমরা যে প্রশিক্ষণটি অন্তর্ভুক্ত করেছি তা অ্যাক্সেসযোগ্য এবং ইন্টারেক্টিভ। আমি এই সুযোগ গ্রহণ করার জন্য বারায় ব্যবসায়ীদেরকে বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ জানাচ্ছি।”

শুধুমাত্র টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসে নিবন্ধিত এবং এই বারায় ব্যবসায় নিয়োজিত প্রতিষ্ঠানগুলো আবেদন করতে পারবে। আবেদনের জন্য যাবতীয় তথ্য ও রিকোয়ারমেন্ট গুলো পড়তে এবং আবেদন জমা দিতে ভিজিট করুনঃ betterfutures.london/tower-hamlets-energy-reduction-programme/.

আবেদনপত্র পূরণের সময় আপনার যদি কোনও সহায়তার প্রয়োজন হয় তবে আপনি টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের বিজনেস গ্রোথ টিমের সাথে business.growth@towerhamlets.gov.uk - এই ইমেইলে যোগাযোগ করতে পারেন।

নতুন প্রশাসনের অধীনে কাউন্সিলের এক বছর পূর্তি

Council marks first year under new administration – page 8

নতুন প্রশাসন ক্ষমতায় আসার পর গত এক বছরে কাউন্সিল কিভাবে সবগুলো গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ক্ষেত্রে সাফল্যের স্বাক্ষর রেখে চলেছে, সেটা নতুন একটি পরিসংখ্যানে ফুটে ওঠেছে। গত বছরের মে মাসে লুৎফুর রহমান নির্বাহী মেয়র হিসেবে নির্বাচিত হন। এরপর তিনি তার কেবিনেট গঠন করেন এবং গত আগস্ট মাসে কাউন্সিলের নতুন কৌশলগত কর্মপরিকল্পনা ঘোষণা করা হয়, যেখানে পরবর্তী চার বছরের জন্য একটি উচ্চাভিলাষী রূপকল্প তুলে ধরা হয়। এরমধ্যে সর্বোচ্চ অস্বাভাবিকতা কমানোর লক্ষ্যে জীবনযাত্রার ব্যয় বৃদ্ধির সংকট, যটিলিঃ; এডুকেশন; পাবলিক সার্ভিস বিনিয়োগ; বারায় জন্য দৃশ্যমুক্ত ও সবুজ ভবিষ্যত গড়ে তোলা; এবং সংস্কৃতি, ব্যবসায়, কর্মসংস্থানে প্রয়োজনীয়

সহযোগিতা করা। ইতিমধ্যে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস হোমস্, ইয়ুথ সার্ভিসেস এবং লেজার সেটোরগুলোকে সরাসরি কাউন্সিলের অধীনে নিয়ে আসা হয়েছে। এছাড়া এডুকেশনাল মেইনটেন্যান্স এলায়ন্স ও ইউনিভার্সিটি বার্ষিকি জিম আবার চালু করা হয়েছে এবং ফ্রি স্কুল মিলস্ ডিমিটি সেকেন্ডারি স্কুল পর্যায়ে সম্প্রসারিত করা হয়েছে। নির্বাহী মেয়র লুৎফুর রহমান বলেন, আমরা স্থানীয় সরকারের মধ্যে সবচেয়ে উচ্চাভিলাষী এজেন্ডাসমূহ বাস্তবায়ন করে যাচ্ছি। আমরা ভালোভাবেই শুরু করেছি, তবে আরো অনেক কিছু করতে হবে। আমি আমাদের স্টাফ এবং পার্টনারদেরকে তাদের কঠোর পরিশ্রমের জন্য ধন্যবাদ জানাচ্ছি। দ্বিতীয় বছরে আরো বড় ধরনের সাফল্য অর্জন জন্য আমরা অপেক্ষায় আছি।

লিস্টেড বিল্ডিংয়ের অননুমোদিত পরিবর্তন করায় ল্যান্ডলর্ডকে ২০ হাজার পাউন্ড জরিমানা

£20,000 fine for changing listed building – page 25

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসে একটি লিস্টেড বিল্ডিং বা তালিকাভুক্ত ভবনে কোন অননুমোদন ছাড়া সংস্কার বা সম্প্রসারণ কাজ করার বাড়ির মালিককে এনফোর্সমেন্ট নোটিশ মেনে চলতে বাধ্য হওয়ার দায়ে আদালত ২০,০০০ পাউন্ড জরিমানা করেছে।

কাউন্সিলের প্র্যানিং কমপ্রায়েস টিম ১০৩ বো রোডে অবস্থিত প্রোপারটির পরিবর্তনগুলি তদন্ত করেছে যার মধ্যে রয়েছে বাড়ির পিছন দিকে এক্সটেনশন নির্মাণ এবং লিস্টেড বিল্ডিং কনসেন্ট বা সম্মতি ছাড়াই একটি ইউপিভিসি উইন্ডো (জানালা) লাগানো।

প্রোপারটি বো গুয়েস্ট ওয়ার্ডের মধ্যে বরোর পূর্বে অবস্থিত একটি আবাসিক ডিন-ডলা শ্রেণ ২ তালিকাভুক্ত বিল্ডিং। ঐতিহ্যগত উদ্দেশ্যে থাকা পাশাপাশি নিম্নমানের আবাসনের জন্য

অননুমোদিতভাবে এক্সটেনশনটি ব্যবহার করা হচ্ছে। কাউন্সিলের পক্ষ থেকে ল্যান্ডলর্ডকে একটি ‘লিস্টেড বিল্ডিং এনফোর্সমেন্ট নোটিশ’ প্রদান করা হয়েছিল। এই নোটিশে এক্সটেনশনটি অপসারণ করতে অর্থাৎ ভেঙ্গে ফেলতে এবং ঐতিহ্যবাহী কাঠের স্যান উইন্ডো দিয়ে ইউপিভিসি উইন্ডোটি প্রতিস্থাপন করতে বলা হয়েছিলো।

ল্যান্ডলর্ড স্যামুয়েল আতাভা জেনিও এই নোটিশটি মেনে চলেননি। পরবর্তীতে বিষয়টি আদালতে গড়ায় এবং ফলস্বরূপ গত বছরের শেষ নাগাদ তিনি টেমস ম্যাজিস্ট্রেট আদালতে উপস্থিত হয়ে তার বিরুদ্ধে আনীত অভিযোগের প্রেক্ষিতে দোষ স্বীকার করেন। ১৮ জানুয়ারী ২০২৩-এ স্ট্রেয়ার্সক্লক জাউন কোর্টে মামলার রায় ঘোষণা করা হয় এবং বাড়ির মালিককে ২০ হাজার পাউন্ড জরিমানা করা হয়।

Gacan ka gayso hoos u dhigida dembiyada



HARMONY SOMALI NEWS

Boqolaal qof ayaa codsaday inay noqdaan Saraakiisha Sharci Fulinta ee Tower Hamlets (THEOs) kadib markii la bilaabay olole qayb ka ah dadaal lagu yareynayo dembiyada iyo dhaqamada lidka ku ah qiyamka bulshada (ASB) ee degmada.

Tani waa qayb ka mid ah maalgelinta joogtada ah ee Golaha Tower Hamlets ee badbaadada bulshada si loo xaqiijiyo in Tower Hamlets ay ammaan u tahay qof kasta oo ku nool, ka shaqeeya ama soo booqda degmada.

THEO-yada waxay leeyihiin awood booliis sida hoos timaada qaybta 50 ee Sharciga Dib-u-habaynta Booliska si ay qofka u weydiiyaan macluumaadka shakhsiyeed iyo inay wax ka qabtaan ASB, daroogooyinka iyo rabshadaha.

Waxay sidoo kale la shaqeeyaan hay'adaha ka jira degmada si

ay u caawiyaan dadka u baahan taageerada, sida dadka la dhibtoonaya isticmaalka mukhaadaraadka iyo kuwa haysata hurda xumo.

THEO-yada hadda jira waxay dadka la wadaagayaan sababaha ay ugu biireen iyo sababta ay tahay in dadka kale iyaguna ay ku soo biiraan.

Wajiga raad waxa la arkay in ka badan 330 qof oo shaqo codsanaya, iyada oo in ka badan 60 qof ay ka soo qayb galeen kal-fadhida shaqo qorista.

Codsiyada waxay furmi doonaan mar kale xagaaga wajiga 2.

Codsadayaasha ku guuleysta waxaa la siin doonaa dhammaan tababbarka lagama maarmaanka u ah si ay u gutaan doorkooda waxaana la siin doonaa mushahaar inta ay tani socoto.

Tababarka waxaa ka mid ah koorsada gargaarka degdegga ah ee buuxda, tababarka Ilaalinta Iyo Tacaddiyada ka dhanka ah Haweenka iyo Gabdhaha iyo

tababarka wacyigelinta caafimaadka dhimirka, iyo kuwo kale.

Duqa magaalada Tower Hamlets, Lutfur Rahman, ayaa yiri: "THEO-yadeena waxay safka hore kaga jiraan wax ka qabashada dembiyada iyo dhaqamada lidka ku ah qiyamka bulshada ee ka jira degmadeena, laakiin sidoo kale waxay leeyihiin door weyn oo ay ciyaaraan si ay ula falgalaan bulshooyinkeena oo ay u fidiyaan taageero iyo kalsooni-siinta dadka u baahan.

"Dadaalkan shaqaalaysiinta ah ayaa ka dhigan in aan xaafaddeena ku haysanno roondooyin ilaalineed si ka badan sidii hore. Waxaan rajaynaynaa in arrintani ay kordhin doonto badbaadada degmadeena iyo inay ka hortag u noqoto kuwa u malaynaya inay sharciga gacmahooda ku qaadan karaan.

Cllr Abu Chowdhury, Xubin ka Tirsan Golaha Wasiirada una Qaabilsan Badbaadada Bulshooyinka, ayaa yiri: "Dhammaan THEO-

yadeena waa inay ku faanaan shaqada ay qabtaan si ay u taageeraan dadka deegaanka ah iyo ilaalinta badbaadada waddooyinkeena waxayna markhaati u noqonaysaa shaqada wanaagsan ee ay hayaan inaan hadda awoodno inaan furno shaqaaleysiinta ballaaran.

"Waxaan aad ugu dadaalaynaa inaan habka codsi dirsashada ka dhigno mid qof walba uu isticmaali karo hadba sida ugu macquulsan, maalmaha furitaanka codsi dirsashada ee soo socda waxay codsadayaasha raba shaqada siin doonaan fursad ay ku ogaadaan wax badan."

Si aad u ogaato wax badan oo ku saabsan shaqaaleysiinta THEO, oo ay ku jiraan shuruudaha, gunnooyinka iyo maalmaha furitaanka, booqo websaydkeena gaarka ah www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/THEOrecruitment

Kulamada baaskiil oo bilaash ah oo loogu talagalay haweenka Soomaaliyeed

Haweenka Soomaaliyeed waxaa lagu dhiirrigelinayaa inay tijaabiyaan baaskiil wadida xagaagan iyagoo la siinayo kulamo bilaash ah.

Mashruuca Baaskiil Wadida ee Walaalaha Soomaaliyeed, oo ay hormuud ka yihiin Bikeworks iyo Cycle Sisters oo ay maal-galiyeen Tower Hamlets Council iyo Tower Hamlets GP Care Group, waxay

ujeedadoodu tahay inay caawiyaan, isla markaana ku dhiirri-geliyaan gabdhaha walaalaha ah inay bartaan xirfadaha baaskiil wadida, casharro iyo dhisidda kalsoonida.

Dhammaan haweenka Soomaaliyeed ee ku nool, ka shaqeeya ama wax ka barta Tower Hamlets ee jira 16 sano ama ka weyn waa lagu soo dhaweynayaa inay ku

soo biiraan.

Haddii aadan haysan baaskiil adiga kuu gaar ah, waxaa baaskiil lacag la'aan ah oo wata koofiyadiisa lagugu siin karaa Victoria Park Cycling Hub.

Kulamada waxa ay dhacaan Isniinta 10ka subaxnimo ilaa 12ka duhurnimo waxayna ka dhacayaan Victoria Park, shirku waxa uu ka

dhacayaa Xarunta East London oo ku taala dhinaca bari ee Victoria Park.

Usoo labbiso hadba sida ay cimilada yihiin marka ay Kulamada dhacayaan iyadoon loo eegin xaaladaha.

<https://www.bikeworks.org.uk/tower-event/Somali-Sisters-Cycling-Project/>

USEFUL INFORMATION SERVICES AND CONTACTS

Advice

Account 3 (welfare and debt advice)

3 Birkbeck Street, E2.
020 7739 7720
www.account3.org.uk

Age UK East London

82 Russia Lane, E2.
Caxton Hall, Caxton
Grove, E3.
Royal London Hospital
14F Wards.
info@ageukeastlondon.
org.uk
www.ageuk.org.uk/
eastlondon
020 8981 7124

Bromley by Bow Centre

St Leonard's Street, E3.
020 8709 9700

Carers Centre Tower Hamlets

21 Brayford Square, E1
OSG
enquiries@ccth.org.uk
www.ccth.org.uk
020 7790 1765

Citizens Advice Bureau

32 Greatorex Street, E1.
020 7247 1050
towerhamlets@eastend-
cab.org.uk
www.eastendcab.org.uk

Island Advice Centre

Island House, Roserton
Street, Isle of Dogs, E14.
020 7987 9379
www.island-advice.org.uk

Legal Advice Centre

University House,
104 Roman Road, E2.
020 8980 4205
www.legaladvicecentre.
london

Limehouse Project

789 Commercial Road,
Unit 2, St Anne Street, E14.
020 7538 0075
www.limehouseproject.
org.uk

Praxis (New Residents) Immigration, benefits and general advice

Pott Street, E2.
General Helpline:
020 7729 7985
Immigration advice:
020 7749 7608
www.praxis.org.uk

Tower Hamlets Community Advice Network

thcan@island-advice.org.
uk
www.thcan.org.uk

Tower Hamlets Law Centre

Unit 1, St Anne's Street,
E14. 020 7538 4909
www.thlc.co.uk

Careers

Adult education services

Shadwell Centre,
455 The Highway, E1.
020 7364 5665

WorkPath

Employment and Skills
Centre, 55 Upper Bank
Street, E14. 020 7364 3727
workpath@towerhamlets.
gov.uk

Young WorkPath/Tower Hamlets Careers Service

40-42 Watney Market, E1.
020 7364 1401
youngworkpath@
towerhamlets.gov.uk

Council

Town Hall

Mulberry Place,
5 Clove Crescent, E14 2BG.
www.towerhamlets.gov.uk
General enquiries
020 7364 5000

Debt

Fair Money Advice

18 Ashwin Street, E8.
020 3475 8811
www.fairfinance.org.uk

Island Advice Centre

Island House, Roserton
Street Isle of Dogs, E14.
020 7987 9379
www.island-advice.org.uk

Toynbee Hall Advice Service

28 Commercial Street, E1.
020 7392 2953
advice@toynbeehall.org.
uk
www.toynbeehall.org.uk

Health & wellbeing

Alzheimer's Society

Robinson Centre, Mile
End Hospital, Bancroft
Road, E1.
020 8121 5626

BYM Bangladesh Youth Movement Women's Centre of Excellence

Whitechapel Centre, Units
1 & 2, Myrdle Street, E1.
020 7377 8668
www.bym.org.uk

Covid vaccine helpline

Tower Hamlets Council
has launched a Covid-19
vaccine helpline, on
020 7464 3030, to support
residents who are eligible
for vaccination to book
their appointment.

East London Parkinson's Support Group

hello@parkinsons.org.uk
0808 800 0303

Free home fire safety advice

08000 284428

Health hotline

020 7364 5016

Healthwatch Tower Hamlets

Mile End Hospital, Ban-
croft Road, E1.
0800 145 5343
info@healthwatchtower
hamlets.co.uk
www.healthwatchtower
hamlets.co.uk

LinkAge Plus

Toynbee Hall, Commercial
Street, E1.
020 7392 2913

Reset

Tower Hamlets Drug and
Alcohol Service
183 Whitechapel Road, E1.
020 3889 9510
reset.towerhamlets@
cgl.org.uk

Safe East (under-19s)

compass.towerhamlets
yphws@nhs.net
020 3954 0091

Stop Smoking services

www.quitrightth.org
020 7882 8230

Tower Hamlets Advocacy Real

020 7001 2170
hello@real.org.uk

Housing

Choice-based lettings

020 7364 2826

Homeless service

020 7364 7474
Out of hours
020 7364 4079

Homeseekers

www.thhs.org.uk

Housing advice

020 7364 3558

Repairs

0800 376 1637 ext 1

Tower Hamlets Homes

020 7364 5015

Idea Stores and libraries

Bow

Gladstone Place, E3.

Canary Wharf

Churchill Place, E14.

Chrisp Street

Vesey Path, E14.

Whitechapel

321 Whitechapel Road, E1.

Local History Library and Archives

277 Bancroft Road, E1
localhistory@
towerhamlets.gov.uk
Visit www.ideastore.
co.uk/home

Leisure centres

John Orwell Sports Centre

Tench Street, Wapping, E1.
020 7488 9421

Mile End Park Leisure

Centre and Stadium
190 Burdett Road, E3.
020 8709 4420

Poplar Baths

170 East India Dock Road,
E14. 020 3795 0599

St George's Leisure Centre

221 The Highway, Wap-
ping E1. 020 7709 9714

Tiller Leisure Centre

Tiller Road, Isle of Dogs
E14. 020 7987 5211

Whitechapel Sports Centre

55 Durward Street, E1.
020 7247 7538

York Hall Leisure Centre

5-15 Old Ford Road, E2.
020 8980 2243

For the latest information
and updates, including
details of opening hours or
temporary closures, visit
www.towerhamlets.gov.uk
or www.better.org.uk

Parent & child

Family Information Service

30 Greatorex Street, E1.
fis@towerhamlets.gov.uk
020 7364 6495

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

If a child is at risk of harm:
020 7364 5006 (option
3, open Mon to Fri, 9am -
5pm)
020 7364 4079 (out of
hours emergency duty
team)

Tower Hamlets National Childbirth Trust

0300 330 0700
www.nct.org.uk

Report it

Anti-fraud (housing and tenancy related fraud)

0800 528 0294

Black Women's Health and Family Support

020 8980 3503

Childline

0800 1111

Domestic Violence Team

0800 279 5434

Environmental

Protection (Noise) Team

020 7364 5000

Haven Whitechapel (sexual assault referral centre)

020 3299 6900 /
020 3299 1599

Karma Nirvana (honour-based abuse helpline)

0800 5999 247

Men's Advice Helpline

0808 8010 327

National LGBT domestic abuse helpline (Galop)

0800 999 5428 /
0300 999 5428

Non-emergency crimes 101 Textphone

18001 101

NSPCC Child Protection Helpline

0800 800 5000

Respect (for perpetrators)

0808 802 4040

Rights of Women

020 7251 6577

Samaritans

116 123

Shelter

0808 800 4444

Tower Hamlets Mediation Service (free service for council tenants and leaseholders)

020 7364 7474

Victim Support Tower Hamlets

0808 168 9291 /
0808 168 9111

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