

CELEBRATING OUR BOROUGH



Thousands celebrate Love Tower Hamlets' Town Hall open day with exclusive tours and exhibitions and the return of the Brick Lane Curry Festival



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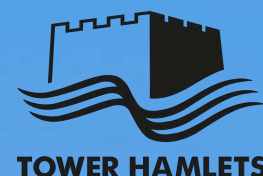


OUR EAST END



Dressed for success

Council gives eligible families a grant towards cost of school uniforms



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There are now up to 60 volunteers delivering meals across Tower Hamlets

A message from your Mayor

After our 'Summer of Fun' in Tower Hamlets, packed with free activities to support families through the holidays, we've continued that energy into September with a weekend dedicated to celebrating our community.



Over 22,500 people joined the festivities honouring East London's history of migration and our rich culinary and cultural diversity at Tower Hamlets Town Hall and the Brick Lane Curry Festival.

After the far right mobilisations in central London the previous week, spreading fear and prejudice in our capital, I'm incredibly proud that we brought thousands of people from all backgrounds together through food, art and entertainment to celebrate our diverse community.

There have always been those who try to divide us but, from the Battle of Cable Street in 1936 to today, the East End stands united.

We are one of the most diverse boroughs in the UK and one of the most cohesive, where 90% of our residents from different backgrounds say they get on well with each other.

Those values of solidarity and unity shape our work as a council. At the centre of this edition the 'You said, We Did' section highlights some of those policies.

We've made history with our initiatives providing unprecedented levels of support to residents with cost of living pressures. This includes becoming the first council in the country to provide universal school uniform grants for all families earning up to £50,350.

I'm so pleased to see thousands benefitting from this already.

We will continue working tirelessly to improve people's lives and build an even better Tower Hamlets for all.

Lutfur Rahman
Executive Mayor

60,000 meals delivered to vulnerable since 2020



Summing up what she loves about Tower Hamlets, Sister Christine Frost MBE, the founder and manager of community organisation Neighbours in Poplar says: "It's the friendliness, generosity, and kindness of people."

Neighbours in Poplar (NiP), formed 57 years ago, is committed to improving the lives of vulnerable people in Tower Hamlets. At the end of August, the charity marked a major milestone with the delivery of its 60,000th meal since the start of the Covid pandemic in 2020.

"At the start of the pandemic, a few volunteers met to talk about

what we might be able to do for people in our local community. We decided to do shopping and deliver meals to Poplar residents. Covid exposed how lonely people often are. We also chose to set up a telephone buddy scheme," Sister Christine explained.

Since 2020, the initiative has gradually grown and now sees up to 60 volunteers deliver meals to 148 residents across the borough on a weekly basis.

The volunteers include people from all backgrounds and ages, including firefighters, a former actor, a member of the House of Lords, retired pensioners and younger adults.

Between them, the volunteers peel, wash and prepare vegetables, cook food, pack fresh, hot meals into containers and deliver them to residents.

Rita Brett, a retired pharmacy worker who has been volunteering since 2021, said: "I do it because it is important to me to help my local community."

Sister Christine added: "A resident once said, 'When I hear that knock on the door, it shows that

someone cares."

Susan and Eddie volunteer as a couple and drop off meals to nine households every week. They spoke about a deep friendship they developed with one of the residents they regularly visited, who passed away 14 months after they met.

"He was in his 70s and lived on his own. I used to take him for hospital check-ups and we later helped him to gain admission into a care home. We were the only people he had. He was an unbelievable gentleman."

Referrals to NiP come from other residents and community organisations.

Neighbours in Poplar, which is not council-run, is also one of the borough's LinkAge Plus hubs for people over 50 living in Tower Hamlets. LinkAge Plus works with older people to improve their wellbeing and increase their social networks. It is co-funded by Tower Hamlets Council and North East London Integrated Care Board.

• Visit www.neighboursinpoplar.com



We were the only people he had. He was an unbelievable gentleman

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Love Tower Hamlets? Love our parks! With Summer of Fun, In the Neighbourhood, LIDO and All Points East taking place this summer, there was something for everyone in our green spaces

Summer of Fun for everyone



Some of the families enjoying the fun on offer in our parks this summer through the Summer of Fun campaign

LOVE TOWER HAMLETS

Families, children and young people in Tower Hamlets enjoyed another jam-packed Summer of Fun, as the council hosted more than 1,000 activities during the school holidays.

Every Wednesday was a Love Tower Hamlets family fun day, as council, parks and Family Hub teams welcomed visitors to parks and open spaces in different locations each week for sport, play,

arts and crafts, give-aways and more.

Elsewhere, activities such as drama, interactive storytelling, and creative sessions kept children occupied and entertained at Idea Stores and libraries.

New this year, the Summer of Fun Reading Challenge gave participants an opportunity to read books, collect stamps and enter a prize draw at activities across the borough.

Young Tower Hamlets and youth centres also hosted dozens of free workshops, trips, and

games for young people.

Residents at the Love Tower Hamlets family fun day at Meath Gardens spoke about what they adore about Tower Hamlets, and their favourite place in the borough:

Christine Synphorieri who popped in with her grandchildren Isla and Irie-Ann said: "I was born and raised in Tower Hamlets. I love the green parks and open spaces including 'Meathy.'

"I live opposite the park and today, I'm glad to see that there's lots for the children to get involved in."

Eric Mokonzon who was enjoying the fun day with Jeremiah, Azariah,

Isaiah, Zechariah, Amariah, and Adoniah, said: "I love the community, diversity, cultures, and transportation of Tower Hamlets, plus events such as this which bring people together. Vicky Park is my favourite place in Tower Hamlets."

Nusrat who was at the fun day with six-year-old daughter Amirah, said: "It's a lovely fun day with lots of activities for children to take part in. I love the community, cultural events and the parks of Tower Hamlets."

"Victoria Park in all its natural beauty is my favourite place."





Festivals and friends

LOVE TOWER HAMLETS

All Points East returned to Tower Hamlets this summer, turning Victoria Park into what one festival goer described as 'one big dance floor.'

Headliners included Barry Can't Swim, Raye, Cleo Sol, Chase & Status and The Maccabees.

In between the two festival weekends, Tower Hamlets Council partnered with festival organisers to host community festival In the Neighbourhood.

The four-day programme offered free entry and free activities to residents and visitors, including live music, creative workshops, dance, theatre, sports and wellbeing, family activities and loads more.

All Points East and In the Neighbourhood, amongst other festivals, are a fantastic showcase

of the rich and diverse culture of Tower Hamlets, which is being celebrated with the #LoveTowerHamlets hashtag.

As a huge new addition to the free community-based programme, the globally renowned DJ Pete Tong headlined The East Stage on Sunday 17 August, with a celebration of modern and classic anthems. Tong was joined by DJ Yoda presents 50 years of Hip Hop, The Cuban Brothers, Kengo and The Tamashii Drummers.

Ahead of headlining at Victoria Park, Pete Tong said, "Really looking forward to bringing some Ibiza vibes to All Points East this Sunday.

"It's a great chance to play these tracks in the heart of London and bring a selection of some of my favourite tunes to a festival crowd."

Spotlight, a creative youth

space based in Poplar, offered a variety of free creative programmes and sessions for young people aged 11-19 (up to 25 with SEND). There were live performances ranging from local emerging artists in music, dance and DJ'ing.

Other free activities included live theatre shows from Half Moon Presents. Based in Whitechapel, they give young people up to age 18 (25 for young people with disabilities) an opportunity to experience the best in young people's theatre, both as a participant and as an audience member. Elsewhere, free fitness sessions were available from the council's Be Well team.

Children also learnt new skills and confidence from Limehouse Boxing Academy, a community-led boxing club based in Tower Hamlets.

Rich Mix, the friendly neighbourhood arts centre, showcased the freshest local talent from rappers, singers and DJs, as well

as having a kids disco, a book swap and performances by local young people.

For kids and families eager to learn more about community building, the Sunny Jar Eco Hub taught kids and teens how to upcycle all sorts of scrap paper into beautiful beads to create their own eco-friendly jewellery.

One festival visitor commented: "What a line-up and completely free."

Cllr Kamrul Hussain, lead member for Culture and Recreation, said: "It was exciting to welcome In the Neighbourhood back to our award-winning Victoria Park this summer. The free festival is a fantastic showcase for the rich and diverse culture and enterprise of Tower Hamlets. We were delighted to welcome thousands of residents and visitors alike to experience and love the activities and events on offer."



Curry and a tour: return of f weekend a hit with thousanc

LOVE TOWER HAMLETS

Residents and tourists were able to enjoy an amazing weekend exploring Tower Hamlets' history and heritage with an open day at the Town Hall, one of the nation's most historic buildings, and the Brick Lane Curry Festival.

More than 22,500 people enjoyed the weekend of culture celebrating Tower Hamlets' diversity.

After a nine-year break, the Brick Lane Curry festival returned to the East End to reclaim Brick Lane's crown as the Curry Capital of the UK.

Over three days, the festival brought together the flavours of South Asia with the creativity and energy of the East End.

The celebrations began with free events on Friday 19 and Saturday 20 September, including henna

workshops, and heritage walks with The Cockney Sikh and the Swadhinata Trust. Residents also enjoyed dance taster sessions with Showmi Das and China Chowdhury from Taal Torongo.

Sunday 21 September marked the main festival day, with vibrant floats as part of a parade that travelled up and down the iconic street, as well as street entertainers, fantastic DJ sets, plus pop-up food stalls and live cooking demonstrations.

Alongside the curry festival, the Town Hall Open Day gave visitors the chance to have guided tours of the new civic building, view exhibitions, and enjoy local performers, including Caribbean Steel Pan Band, Elite Irish Dance, Jewish Klezmer music, Chinese dragon dancing, and Somali and Bengali dancers, all hosted expertly by members of the Tower Hamlets Youth Council.

There was also wall climbing,

line dancing, arts and crafts and a community marketplace. The Pearly Kings and Queens shared stories of the East End through the ages.

Executive Mayor Lutfur Rahman unveiled a plaque to commemorate the historic building's transformation from the former Royal London Hospital.

Both the curry festival and open house were organised under Love Tower Hamlets, a campaign to showcase how great our borough is to attract tourism and investment and promote civic pride in our borough.

Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets, Lutfur Rahman, said: "From Jewish refugees fleeing persecution and Irish families escaping famine, to the Chinese community who built London's first Chinatown in Tower Hamlets, and the Somali and Bengali communities who have added to this vibrant tapestry - each generation of immigrants has enriched the East End.

"At the heart of it all is Cockney heritage, rooted in local pride, resilience, and solidarity. These values have always united us.

"This weekend, we've shown what London is really about by bringing people together through food, art and culture at the iconic Brick Lane Curry Festival and at festivities at our Town Hall.

"Our city stands for unity and community, and we celebrate our diversity.

"We are one of the most diverse boroughs in the UK, and we are also one of the most cohesive where 90 per cent of our residents from different backgrounds say they get on well with each other.

"There will always be those who try to divide us. But this weekend show that the East End remains united and that the forces of division will never prevail here."



Festival and open house is enjoying East End culture



From hospital to hall: A quick history of the borough's new Town Hall



Tower Hamlets Council brought the old Royal London Hospital building in Whitechapel back into community use as our new Town Hall. Opened in 1757, the grade II listed building was once a bustling facility where generations of east Londoners were born and cared for. It was also the home to Joseph Merrick, known as the Elephant Man, and trained generations of healthcare workers, including Annie Brewster, one of the first Black nurses in Britain, and Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, the first woman to qualify as a surgeon.

Despite being one of London's most important structures it has been closed since 2014 and was falling into disrepair. The council saved the building by transforming it into the borough's new town hall to serve the public once again.

The entire ground floor is dedicated for public use in an accessible place which is a stark contrast to the council's former civic centre which was in a rented premises in East India Dock.

Love Tower Hamlets inspiring investment in our community

Recently, business leaders and investors gathered to learn about Tower Hamlets' remarkable strengths, from being London's youngest and fastest-growing

borough, to having the third-largest economic output in the UK.

Speakers at the special event at the Tower of London included the Canary Wharf Group, Tower of

London and AEG.

Attendees included City of London corporation, and representatives from Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Denmark, Australia,

the UK Government, Qatar and Mexico.

These conversations help attract investment and opportunities that benefit our communities.



£400k to improve 3 playgrounds



Visitors to Gosling Gardens in Shadwell, Brickfield Gardens in Mile End, and Vallance Gardens in Whitechapel can enjoy enhanced play, exercise and outdoor leisure facilities, thanks to a £400k investment in improvements by the council.

Brickfield Gardens has a new gated play area for toddlers and young people, including unique play features for children with special needs.

A new outdoor gym with fitness equipment for people of all abilities has also been installed.

At Gosling Gardens, enhanced play facilities, new CCTV, an outdoor gym, additional lights and a dropped kerb have been put in.

The vegetation has been cut back to deter crime, and a range of tree species have been planted, giving the park additional colour.

There are also new picnic tables and benches.

An outdated playground at Vallance Gardens has been replaced with inclusive play equipment for children of all ages and abilities.

Additionally, the council has spent over £10k on a new CCTV camera in the park to discourage anti-social behaviour.

Lutfur Rahman, Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets, and Cllr Kamrul Hussain, Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation, visited Brickfield Gardens where they met residents enjoying the new facilities during the school half-term holidays.

Cllr Hussain said: "These newly improved facilities will make a real difference to individuals and families in the borough.

"These excellent quality and well maintained open spaces will enable residents to experience activities which meet their needs, from play and recreation to fitness, sport and social interaction."



Three playgrounds have been upgraded with new facilities for families

Fingers crossed for In Bloom finals



The UK finals will be announced this October

Tower Hamlets welcomed judges for the Britain in Bloom UK Finals this summer when they visited to assess the beauty of the borough's colourful floral displays and gardens as well as its biodiversity and community gardening.

Judges were given a tour of locations across the borough, visiting gardens, parks, nature reserves, a city farm, housing estates and community growing schemes, as well Victoria Park and the Canary Wharf estate.

Tower Hamlets was one of eight top floral destinations in the country that was visited by the national judges this summer.

The borough is competing against

Harrogate, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Aberdeen Communities Together, Shrewsbury, Chorley in Bloom, Derry, and Torquay in Bloom for the prestige title.

The winner of the Britain in Bloom UK Finals will be announced at a special presentation ceremony in Brighton this October.

Cllr Kamrul Hussain, Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation, said: "It was a real pleasure to welcome the Britain in Bloom judges to Tower Hamlets.

"The tour not only celebrated our vibrant floral displays, but also our community spirit and passion and commitment to our environment."

14 of our parks praised nationally

Tower Hamlets Council is raising its Green Flags again, as all 14 of the borough's award-winning parks including Victoria Park have retained their Green Flag Award status this year.

The sites are among 2,250 in the UK to achieve the award, which is the international quality mark for parks and green spaces.

The news that our parks have met the standards required for the accreditation is testament to the hard work and dedication of the teams that care for our green spaces so that visitors and residents alike can enjoy them.

Our parks with Green Flag status are:

- Altab Ali Park
- Bartlett Park
- Island Gardens
- Meath Gardens
- Mile End Park
- Millwall Park
- Poplar Recreation Ground
- Ropemakers Fields
- Sir John McDougall Gardens
- St George's Gardens
- Stepney Green Park
- Trinity Square Gardens (includes Green Flag Heritage Status)
- Weavers Fields
- Victoria Park (also the Green Heritage Site award)

Grants to help with cost of school clothing launches

COST OF LIVING

Families in Tower Hamlets could be eligible for a grant to help with the cost of school clothing.

Applications are open until 30 September for the grant for children who have started primary and secondary school this September, to support families dealing with ongoing cost-of-living pressures.

The council's new £1m-a-year fund for school clothing grants allow families with household incomes of up to £50,350 to claim £50 per child entering primary school at reception year, and £150 per child entering secondary school at year 7.



I'm proud that we are leading the way nationally as the first council in the country to provide this support

The new funding is expected to provide up to 7,000 children each year with extra support to buy their school clothing and uniforms, supporting 21,000 children over the next three years.

Parents can make an application from when they are notified of their child's school placement until 30 September that year for a child aged 4 and starting reception, or a child aged 11 and transferring from primary to secondary school.

Mum Ruhena whose daughter Amarah is starting at Mulberry Academy Shoreditch this September said: "This is a positive scheme and really beneficial for families especially with the rising cost of school uniforms and cost of living. School blazers and PE kits can be some of the more expensive items and children can grow out of clothing very quickly, so parents need to buy clothing and sometimes spare sets throughout the year."

Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets, Lutfur Rahman said: "I'm proud that we are leading the way nationally as the first council in the country to provide this support to families ensuring every child, regardless of their background, has the best chance to thrive in



Ruhena and Amarah

education.

"Starting a new school is a special rite of passage for children, who will be keen to make a happy and confident start, but the costs associated with starting school places an extra financial strain on families."

Cllr Saied Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Resources, Cost of Living and the Voluntary and Community Sector, said: "Our enhanced school clothing grant scheme means that up to 7,000 children a year will get

extra support to ensure they are ready to learn.

"I encourage all local families who feel that they may qualify for one of the payments to check out the details and see if they can make a claim."

- Families can visit the dedicated webpage www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/SCG for full details on the application process, including who can apply, what proof of income is required and a link to the form itself.

Our young people supported every step of the way

Family Hubs:
Families with children from birth-19 years old, or up to 25 with SEND

School Clothing Grant:
4 years old and 11 years old

Universal free school meals:
4 years old – 16 years old

YTH and youth centres:
11 to 19, or up to 25 with SEND

Education Maintenance Allowance and uni bursaries: 16+

Young WorkPath:
13 to 19, or up to 25 with SEND

Apply now to be next Young Mayor



Applications are now open for young people between 14 and 19

Apply to be the Young Mayor of Tower Hamlets and have your voice heard to help change national and local policy.

Applications are now open for young people aged between 14 and 19.

The Young Mayor Team is the voice of young people in the borough, working closely with other young people and services to represent young people locally and nationally.

Most recently our Young Mayor Team represented the young people of Tower Hamlets at the House of Commons.

The current Young Mayor Fetuma Hassan said: "Being the Young Mayor of Tower has been an absolute

honour.

"As a Young Mayor Team, we've accomplished great things during our term.

"One of my biggest accomplishments is being able to represent the young voices of Tower Hamlets at the UK Youth Parliament conference on the topic of political education and lowering the voting age. Since our debate this has now been added to the government's plans for the next general election."

- Find the application form and more information at www.youngtowerhamlets.org.uk/get-involved/young-mayor-of-tower-hamlets



Activities included bungee runs, inflatables, day trips and more

Summer fun for youngsters

ACCELERATE EDUCATION

Young people were able to enjoy tonnes of summer holiday activities thanks to Young Tower Hamlets.

Events organised by Young

Tower Hamlets, the council's youth service, included bungee runs, inflatables, basketball shootouts, food trucks and more.

Cllr Maium Talukdar, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning,

said: "It's fantastic to see so many young people enjoying these summer activities."

Don't forget you can sign up to the council's youth centres, which offer young people aged 11-19, or up to 25 with SEND, a place to chill with

friends, enjoy free activities and trips, discover a passion or pick up a skill.

- Find out more about the youth centres and see all the upcoming events at www.youngtowerhamlets.org.uk.



Residents shared their thoughts on a number of topics during the Big Door Knock and community fun days

Big Door Knock to ensure tenants' voices are heard

HOUSING

Residents across seven estates in Tower Hamlets had the opportunity to share their thoughts on their homes, neighbourhoods and the services offered by Tower Hamlets Council during the Big Door Knock.

Officers from across the Housing Management Service at the council knocked on hundreds of doors across the borough, speaking directly with tenants and leaseholders.

They asked questions, listened carefully, and heard from hundreds of residents about key issues including repairs, maintenance,

anti-social behaviour, and communication.

Alongside the door knocking, community fun days were held in local parks to bring people together and create a relaxed space for conversation.

Families enjoyed free activities for children, food, and games, while council teams were on hand to speak more in-depth with residents about any concerns or questions they had.

Stalls featured officers from the Community Safety Team, including THEOs, as well as staff from WorkPath, the council's employment service, the Recycling Team, and other services that

support residents and help look after estates.

Cllr Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding, said: "The Big Door Knock is about listening to residents and making sure their voices shape the services that affect their homes.

"It's important for us to keep coming back, speaking to people, and finding out what really matters to them, so we can provide the safe, high-quality and well-maintained homes they deserve.

"I want to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who opened their door to us, gave us their time, and shared their views. And thank you to all the

residents who joined us at the fun days."

All staff taking part wore council ID and asked residents a few short questions to gather feedback.

The Big Door Knock is part of a wider plan to improve housing services.

Through its 'Your Voice, Our Action' campaign, the council is committed to making real changes with residents' views at the heart of it all.

The council is now reviewing all the feedback from the Big Door Knock and Community Fun Days and will use it to shape improvements to housing services going forward.

New rights for private renters

The Renters' Rights Bill, which promises a sweeping overhaul of the private rental sector, is expected to come into law later this year.

This means that residents who are renting privately will have more protection. In Tower Hamlets, that is currently around 38 per cent of all homes.

The Bill seeks to end 'no fault' evictions and replace fixed-term tenancies with rolling periodic tenancies, permitting tenants to end their tenancy with two-months' notice.

Rent increases will be limited, bidding wars banned, meaning that offers above the advertised rent are

forbidden, and rent in advance will be limited to one month only.

The Decent Homes Standard and Awaab's Law, which ensure council homes are in a good state of repair, have modern facilities, are warm and free from damp and mould, will be extended to private rental homes.

A national landlord database will

also be created and fines ranging from £5,000 to an unlimited amount depending on the offence, will apply.

• If you rent privately or are a landlord of a property in the borough, find out more at towerhamlets.gov.uk/rentersrights

Make your house more energy efficient

Tower Hamlets homeowners can now benefit from warmer homes and lower energy bills thanks to a new energy efficiency programme launched by the council.

The Residential Energy Efficiency Programme offers free home improvements worth up to £10,000 to those who own their own homes, helping residents stay warm while reducing their energy use.

This new scheme builds on the

success of earlier boiler replacement programmes and now includes a wider range of upgrades.

Depending on your home and needs, you could receive improvements such as a new energy-efficient boiler, double glazing, insulation, solar panels, or even a heat pump.

All works are arranged by the council and come with a 12-month warranty for peace of mind.

To be eligible for the programme, the property must either be leasehold or freehold and one of the residents must receive a qualifying benefit, such as Universal Credit, Pension Credit, or Disability Living Allowance.

The application process is simple. Once you apply online, the council will check your eligibility and arrange for a surveyor to visit your home to assess what improvements are suitable.

Applications are usually processed within ten working days.

To find out whether you are eligible to apply, please visit the Residential Energy Efficiency Programme on the council's website at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/energy

If you have any questions, you can email the team at: thenergy@towerhamlets.gov.uk



You could receive improvements such as a new energy-efficient boiler, double glazing, insulation, solar panels or even a heat pump

Join a resident association

HOUSING

There are more than 30 Tenants' and Residents' Associations (TRAs) across council estates in Tower Hamlets. These groups are run by residents, for residents, and they play a vital role in shaping our local neighbourhoods.

A TRA is a group of neighbours who come together to improve their estate or block. Whether it's raising concerns about repairs, organising community events, or working with the council to make improvements, TRAs give residents a stronger voice and a real say in how their neighbourhood is run.

TRAs also help build a sense of community. From coffee mornings

to clean-up days, they bring people together and help make our estates friendlier, safer, and more connected places to live.

There are TRAs in nearly every part of the borough - from Limehouse to Wapping, Cranbrook to Shadwell. Each one is led by a local chairperson and supported by volunteers who care about their community.

Steve Russell, Chair of the Locksley Community TRA, said: "Our TRA supports residents and represent members on important matters and to act on their behalf with the council. Our TRA also organise social events, community projects, and we seek funding for local initiatives, social gatherings, outings, or festive celebrations. We

have great support from the council's community partnerships team."

Jahid Ahmed, Chair of the Chicksand East TRA, added: "Chicksand East TRA brings neighbours together to create a stronger, more connected community. By voicing resident concerns, supporting local improvements, and fostering collaboration, the TRA helps to advocate for local safety, inclusiveness, and respond to local issues and concerns."

If you live on a council housing estate in Tower Hamlets and there isn't a TRA where you live, why not start one? The council can help you set up a new group and provide support along the way. Residents of other landlords will need to get in touch with their landlord. It's a great

way to meet your neighbours and make a positive difference.

For those who want to take an even more active role, there are also Tenant Management Organisations (TMOs). These are resident-led groups that take on responsibility for managing housing services, such as repairs and cleaning. TMOs give residents even more control over how their estates are run.

If you are a leaseholder, private tenant or housing association tenant, get in touch with your landlord to see if they have an active residents' forum.

• **For more information about TRAs or TMOs, visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/TRA-and-TMO**

3,000 new homes for our residents

A home-building programme to fast-track up to 3,332 new homes across 37 council-owned sites in Tower Hamlets has been approved.

The Mayor's Accelerated Housing Programme (MAHP) will be delivered over the next five years with a focus on affordable and larger family homes.

This is in addition to the existing commitment to deliver 4,000 genuinely affordable homes by May 2026, with the council on track to exceed this target.

The announcement, combined with the new affordable homes already being delivered, represents one of the most ambitious affordable

housing programmes in the country. Lutfur Rahman, Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "This programme is not just about numbers, it's about transforming people's lives.

"Inadequate housing blights lives, affecting everything from health and education to employment and life expectancy.

"I'm proud that we are launching one of the most ambitious affordable housing programmes in the country.

"While other councils struggle to build, Tower Hamlets is leading the way, delivering safe, sustainable, high-quality council homes that meet the needs of our residents,

particularly by providing large, family-sized and accessible homes.

"Tower Hamlets has an urgent need for affordable housing, with too many families living in overcrowded or unsuitable conditions. We are committed to keeping people in our communities, in secure homes they can afford, and providing future generations with comfortable, decent housing for many years to come."

The council has agreed a budget of £8million to fund the progression of the MAHP's development to the next stage.

The MAHP complements housing already being delivered through

the Council's Capital Programme, development partnerships, and Section 106 agreements.

The council will take full advantage of the government's £38billion investment in affordable housing and other initiatives announced in the June 2025 Comprehensive Spending Review.

The next phase of the MAHP will see the development of a full business plan and the formation of delivery partnerships with the Greater London Authority (GLA), Homes England, institutional investors, and third-party developers – all aimed at delivering homes at pace and maximising affordability.

Some of the recent progress on house building in the borough includes:



Work to build six, four-bedroom homes in Buckhurst Street on the site of disused garages has started.

The Deputy Mayor of Tower Hamlets Maium Talukdar and Cllr Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding, visited the site for a progress update with developers Elkins Construction.

Construction is underway and due to complete in 2026.



Tower Hamlets Council has approved plans to demolish a former council office building in Bethnal Green East to make way for 53 affordable homes.

Albert Jacob House, in Roman Road, will be demolished and turned into a new development of 5 to 9 storeys, containing 53 homes, and five commercial units on the ground floor for local businesses.

The development was approved subject to planning obligations and conditions. It has been designed by Child Graddon Lewis, a RIBA Award-winning architecture practice with three decades of design experience.

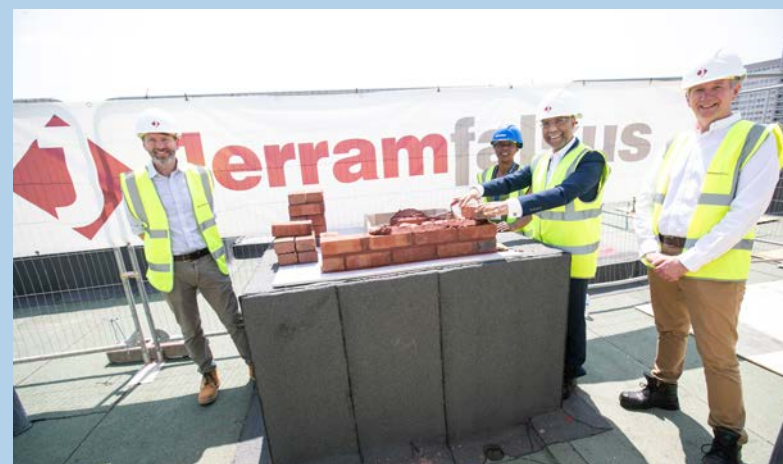


Plans to build nearly 2,000 homes were given the go-ahead at a Tower Hamlets Council meeting in July.

The plans, brought to Tower Hamlets Council's Strategic Development Committee by Poplar HARCA and the Hill Group, will see 535 homes on the 1950s Teviot Estate in Poplar knocked down and replaced by 1,928 brand new homes, nearly quadrupling the number of available homes.

The council-approved plans include 411 homes for social rent, including 202 family-sized properties.

The first phase of the scheme will deliver 44% affordable homes.



Tower Hamlets Council and Jerram Falkus Construction have celebrated a milestone with the topping out of 62 new council homes in Bow.

The building is 100 per cent affordable new council homes, with each home being rented at social rent or Tower Hamlets living rent rates.

Arnold Road comprises one, two, three and four bedroom homes including six wheelchair adaptable units in two blocks.

The ground floor will feature five commercial units for local businesses.

School applications are now open



Don't miss the deadlines for admission to secondary, primary and nursery schools.

Secondary admissions For children born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015	31 October 2025
Primary admissions For children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022	15 January 2026
Nursery admissions For children born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023	14 February 2026

Complete your application online at www.eadmissions.org.uk

For information about how to apply, scan the QR code or visit towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions

school.admissions@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Secondary Transfer School Visiting Dates for Admission to Year 7 in 2026



We advise that you check the individual schools website for up to date information.

School	Open mornings	Open evenings
Bishop Challoner Catholic School www.bishopchallonerfederation.towerhamlets.sch.uk	Monday 29 September – Friday 10 October. Please arrive by 9.15am	Thursday 25 September, 4pm
Bow School www.bow-school.org.uk	Monday 22, Thursday 25 & Monday 29 September, Thursday 2, Monday 13 & Thursday 16 October, 9.45am, 11.30am & 4pm	Wednesday 8 October, 4.30pm
Canary Wharf College Crossharbour www.canarywharfcollege.co.uk	Thursday 2 & Tuesday 7 October, 9am	Tuesday 30 September, 5pm
Central Foundation Girls' School www.central.towerhamlets.sch.uk	Wednesday 1, Thursday 2 & Friday 3 October, 9.30-10.30am	Tuesday 30 September, 4.30-6.30pm
George Green's School www.georgegreens.com	See school website	See school website
Langdon Park School www.langdonparkschool.co.uk	Thursday 18, Friday 19, Tuesday 23 September, Thursday 2 & Friday 3 October, 9-10.15am	Thursday 25 September, 5-7pm
London Enterprise Academy www.londonenterpriseacademy.org	Monday 15 – Friday 26 September, 9.15-11.45am Weekend: Saturday 11 October, 10am-1pm	Tuesday 16 September & Thursday 2 October, 4.30-6.30pm
Morpeth School www.morpethschool.org.uk	Monday 15, Friday 19, Tuesday 23 & Thursday 25 September, Wednesday 8, Monday 13 & Thursday 16 October, 9.30-11.15am	Wednesday 1 October, 4-7pm & Monday 20 October, 2-3.30pm Additional Tours: Friday 26 September, Monday 6, Friday 17 & Wednesday 22 October, 9.30-10.30am Book online to attend an additional tour: www.morpethschool.org.uk/2166/admissions-2026
Mulberry Academy London Dock www.mulberrylondondock.org	Monday 15 – Friday 19 & Monday 22 – Thursday 25 September, 9-10.30am. Please book online via school website	Tuesday 30 September, 4-6.30pm
Mulberry Academy Shoreditch www.mulberryacademyshoreditch.org	Monday 15 – Wednesday 17, Monday 22 – Wednesday 24 September, Monday 29 September – Wednesday 1 October & Monday 6 – Wednesday 8 October, 9.15am Weekend: Saturday 11 October, 9-11am	Thursday 2 October, 4-6pm
Mulberry School for Girls www.mulberryschoolforgirls.org	Monday 15 – Wednesday 17 September, 9.30-10.30am	Tuesday 23 September, 4-6pm
Mulberry Stepney Green www.mulberrystepneygreen.org	Friday 5, Thursday 11, Tuesday 16, Thursday 25 September, Friday 3, Tuesday 7, Thursday 16 & Tuesday 21 October, 9-11am	Wednesday 24 September, 4-6.30pm
Mulberry University Technical College (UTC) www.mulberryutc.org	See College website	See College website
Oaklands School www.oaklands.towerhamlets.sch.uk	Thursday 18, Tuesday 23, Monday 29 September, Friday 10 & Thursday 16 October, 9.20-10.30am	Wednesday 24 September, 4-6.30pm
Stepney All Saints CofE Secondary School www.stepneyallsaints.school	Thursday 11, Wednesday 17 & Tuesday 30 September, 9.30-10.45am	Monday 22 September, 4.30-6.30pm Register online to attend at www.stepneyallsaints.school
St Paul's Way Trust School www.spwt.net	For Families: Monday 15 & Tuesday 16 September, 9.30-11am. For primary school tours: Wednesday 17 September 9.30-11am Please arrive before 10am to ensure you have time to enjoy a tour of the school	Thursday 18 September, 3.45-6pm Visits are by appointment only. Book online at www.spwt.net
Swanlea School www.swanlea.co.uk	Wednesday 17, Friday 19, Monday 22 & Thursday 25 September, 9.15-10.15am	Wednesday 1 October, 4-6.30pm Family Fun Day: Saturday 13 September, 11am-3pm
Wapping High School www.wappinghigh.org	Thursday 11, Tuesday 16, Thursday 25, Tuesday 30 September, Thursday 9 & Tuesday 14 October, 9am	Thursday 18 September, 4.30-6.30pm



Crack down on anti-social behaviour

More than 1,100 residents took part in 19 events across the borough in July for Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Awareness Week.

Events included partnership engagement sessions with Poplar HARCA, bike and phone marking, crime prevention advice, enforcement patrols and walkabouts with residents and partners.

Residents were able to access

safety information, learn how to report incidents, and discover how the Public Protection and Integrated Enforcement teams are working to tackle anti-social behaviour.

The council's enforcement teams also carried out traffic operations in collaboration with the Police, conducted weapons sweeps, and delivered nitrous oxide awareness activities in partnership with the Osmani Trust.

As part of the week's activities, there were a number of arrests, including for driving while over the prescribed drug limit, dangerous driving and failing to stop.

Officers conducted stop-and-searches for drugs, involving substances such as cannabis, nitrous oxide, and Xanax.

Traffic enforcement led to the seizure of multiple vehicles, including a moped and several

cars found to be uninsured or in dangerous condition. An eBike was also confiscated for not meeting insurance and licensing requirements.

In addition, three Section 59 warnings were issued for anti-social use of vehicles.

The success of ASB Awareness Week was made possible thanks to the collaboration of a wide range of partners and teams.

New rules for dog owners come into effect this autumn

FIGHTING CRIME

From 1st October 2025, new rules will come into effect for dog owners across Tower Hamlets to help keep public spaces safe and enjoyable for everyone.

The Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for dog control, approved by Cabinet on 30 April 2025, sets out where dogs must be kept on leads and where they can roam freely.

New rules include:

- Dogs must be on leads when on roads, pavements, and housing estates.
- Dogs can be off-lead in public parks and open spaces.
- Dogs are not allowed in gated children's play areas or gated sports areas (such as Multi-Use Games Areas or MUGAs).

The PSPO was introduced in response to concerns from residents

about dangerous dogs, and aims to strike a balance between public safety and the needs of responsible dog owners.

The council launched a consultation in 2024 after receiving enquiries about its policy on dangerous dogs and following several high-profile incidents involving dogs in public spaces across London. The consultation received 2,267 responses from local residents and the wider community, including animal welfare organisations such as the RSPCA, Battersea Dogs and Cats Home, The Kennel Club, and the East London Dog Community.

Anyone who fails to comply with the order may face a £100 fixed penalty notice or prosecution, which could lead to a fine of up to £1,000.

There are exemptions for people who are blind, disabled, or who rely on assistance dogs, in line with the Equality Act 2010.

More information on the council's website.



The new rules set out where dogs need to be on leads

£35,000 fine for selling knife to teen in Trading Standards sting

A Mile End shop which sold a knife to a child and stocked illegal alcohol and vapes has been fined over £35,000 by a court.

China Ark Supermarket, located at 84 Mile End Road, sold a 6.5-inch cleaver to a 15-year-old during an undercover test carried out last year by Tower Hamlets Council's Trading Standards Team, with support from the Metropolitan Police.

It was also found to be selling alcohol without a licence and to be selling vapes which has packaging in foreign languages, making them unlawful to sell in the UK.

The prosecution was brought by the council's Legal Services Team before Thames Magistrates' Court on 10 June, where all three defendants pleaded guilty to their charges.

Asian Food Ltd, the company which owns China Ark Supermarket, was fined £22,800, plus a £2,000 victim surcharge and £2,290.11 in costs, totalling

£27,090.11.

Xiongdi was fined £4,800, plus a £190 victim surcharge and £2,290.11 in costs, totalling £7,280.11.

Ning Yang Cao was fined £576, plus a £230 victim surcharge and £250 in costs, totalling £1,056.

Cllr Abu Talha Chowdhury, Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Integrated Enforcement, said: "We are committed to protecting the health and safety of our young people so it is crucial we crack down on this activity which can contribute to crime in our communities and harm so many lives.

"Our Trading Standards Officers take a proactive approach to disrupt illegal trading and these prosecutions send a clear message that we will not tolerate businesses which are flouting the law."

• You can report suspected illegal trading through the Tower Hamlets Council website.



China Ark Supermarket

Sniffer dog finds illegal cigarettes



Skye with the illegal haul she found in a bike's locked box

A sharp-nosed sniffer dog is being hailed a 'hero' after uncovering a hidden stash of illegal cigarettes, vapes, and unlicensed Viagra tablets during an enforcement operation in Tower Hamlets.

While patrolling with Trading Standards officers on Wednesday 11 June, Skye, a specially trained four-year old springer spaniel, detected suspicious scents coming from a locked box attached to the back of a bike outside a local shop.

Skye is part of a new dog patrol service introduced in February as part of Tower Hamlets' £8m Anti-Crime Task Force, a joint effort with the police to tackle crime and disorder.

Thanks to Skye's keen sense of smell, officers were able to seize:

- 233 packets of illicit cigarettes
- 7 packets of smokeless tobacco
- 14 pouches of hand-rolling tobacco
- 4 illegal vapes
- 80 unlicensed Viagra tablets

The discovery was part of a wider two-day crackdown by Tower Hamlets Council.



MORPETH SCHOOL



OPEN EVENTS 2025



OPEN EVENING: Wednesday 1st October, 4 - 7pm

OPEN MORNINGS:

All 9.30 - 11.15am

September: Monday 15th, Friday 19th, Tuesday 23rd, Thursday 25th

October: Wednesday 8th, Monday 13th, Thursday 16th

OPEN AFTERNOON: Monday 20th October, 2 - 3.30pm

ADDITIONAL TOURS:

(Please scan the QR code to book)

All 9.30 - 10.30am

September: Friday 26th

October: Monday 6th, Friday 17th, Wednesday 22nd



www.morpethschool.org.uk



@MorpethSchool



@morpethschool.bsky.social



@MorpethSch

Free swimming for residents sees participation double

INVESTING IN SERVICES

More than 20,000 residents in Tower Hamlets are swimming for free as the council celebrates the first anniversary of its free swimming programme, a major investment in public health and community well-being.

A total of 20,583 residents are now signed up to the scheme. Of those, more than 18,000 are women and girls aged 16 and over, and nearly 3,900 residents aged 55 or over, helping to tackle persistent health inequalities and create more accessible routes into physical activity.

The programme has significantly boosted female participation across the borough's leisure centres, with women and girls now making up 82 per cent of users, up from just over 40 per cent before the scheme launched.

Hussain Rabbani Chowdhury, a local resident said: "I go for my free swim once a week and am really happy it's more accessible.

"I feel like it's helped my health and wellbeing overall, and I feel lighter after my swim – it's improved mobility in my arms and legs."

Joanne Barry, a local resident, said: "I'm a carer with my work and an old age pensioner, and I try to keep as active as possible. I thought swimming was more expensive than other activities and it can all add up at the end of the month. I think it's great that it's now free."

At a time when swimming pools are closing nationwide, with 500 pools lost since 2010 and 42 per cent of those closures since 2020, Tower Hamlets is investing in public leisure rather than cutting back.

Younger adults have engaged strongly with the scheme, with more than 3,400 members aged 16-24 and more than 5,700 aged 25-34. An additional 4,448 residents aged 35-44 and more than 3,100 aged 45-54 are also actively participating, showing broad community engagement across all age groups.

Tower Hamlets is protecting and expanding access by also offering free swimming lessons for women and girls to build confidence and skills to support long-term participation.

Tower Hamlets is a borough with poor health, with half of adults either overweight or obese. Women in the borough are more likely to be inactive than men, with women's



The number of women and girls who use the centres has now doubled

life expectancy seven years younger than that of men. Older adults have the lowest rate of physical activity than any other age groups.

The free swimming programme is a core part of the council's commitment to tackling inactivity, reducing health inequalities, and making physical activity more accessible, particularly for residents who face barriers.

Cllr Mohammed Kamrul Hussain, Cabinet Member for Culture and

Recreation, said: "In Tower Hamlets, we're taking real action to tackle the deep health inequalities in our communities.

"At a time when access to swimming is vanishing elsewhere, we're proud to be investing in public leisure, making it easier for thousands of residents to be active, healthy and connected.

"This isn't just about swimming, it's about building healthier communities."

Youngsters make waves at swimming gala



Winners were offered the chance to train with Bethnal Green Sharks

A borough-wide swimming gala has returned after a six-year break.

The Tower Hamlets School Swimming Gala, which has a history stretching over six decades, dived back into action at York Hall Leisure Centre in June with 140 pupils from nine local primary schools competing across 16 races.

The participating schools include Culloden, St Mary's & St Michael's, St John's, The Aldgate School, Faraday, Globe, St Paul's &

St Luke's, Manorfield, and Olga Primary Schools.

Congratulations to Olga Primary School which was the overall winner.

The event was supported by the Tower Hamlets Sports Development Team and Bethnal Green Sharks Swimming Club.

Winners were offered the chance to train with the club, creating a pathway to regional, national, and international success.

New badminton memberships available

Two new badminton membership offers have been launched by Be Well, the council's leisure service, to improve access to the sport for people in Tower Hamlets.

The new 'Be Well Monthly Badminton Membership', priced at

£49 for eight sessions, offers a per-session cost of £6.13, while the new 'Be Well 50-Session Badminton Membership', priced at £299, works out to just £5.98 per court session and is valid for a period of 12 months across centres.

With pay and play sessions currently priced at £17.25 for a 60-minute session and £12.80 for a 40-minute session, the new memberships offer flexibility and significant savings for players.

To ensure fairer access for all

residents, Be Well has introduced new court hire terms and conditions, including checking the photo ID of players at the start of their session.

• For more information and to get your membership, visit be-well.org.uk

Ensure you're ready and able to vote

The annual canvass for 2025 has started to ensure that eligible Tower Hamlets electors are entered on the Register of Electors when it's revised and published on Monday 1 December 2025.

The process involves the existing electoral register data being uploaded into a government portal and compared with databases held by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) to check

residency and ensure that the right communications are sent to every household in the borough.

The data matching results from DWP are then divided into three types of communication.

Route one: properties receive a letter informing the household that the elector details have matched exactly and a response to update the register is not required. However, if any changes need to be made, this

can be done online, by telephone or SMS (text message) where electors can be added, deleted or amended.

Route two: properties receive a letter informing the household that the data held does not match exactly, and a response is required to confirm who is resident. This can be completed in paper form, SMS, telephone, in person or online and information on how this is completed is included in the letter.

Route three: these are certain properties (such as care homes, residential homes and universities) that have established contacts, and the electoral services team will liaise directly with these establishments rather than send correspondence to ensure the returns are accurate.

Please keep an eye out for the correspondence that you will receive and respond accordingly.

Reapply for a postal vote by 31 January

COUNCIL NEWS

Following a change in the law, if an elector wishes to vote by post they can only do so now for a period of three years and a new postal vote application must be made.

The Tower Hamlets electoral services team have been contacting electors who were granted a postal vote before 31 October 2023 to inform them that their postal vote will expire on 31 January 2026, and a new application is required.

This can be done now rather than wait until 31 January 2026

and is very important if you want to continue to vote by post at the Executive Mayor and Local Council elections to be held on Thursday 7 May 2026 and beyond.

Applications can be made online at www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote and paper applications are available from the Tower Hamlets electoral services team.

If an application is not received by the 31 January 2026, the Electoral Registration Officer is required by law to inform all those affected that their postal vote has expired, and they will only be able to vote in person at a polling station until they

successfully apply to vote by post again if that method of voting is still required.

When you apply to vote by post you are required to provide your national insurance number, date of birth and signature and when you vote by post you complete and return a "postal vote statement" providing your date of birth and signature again, these known as your "personal identifiers".

The Returning Officer, responsible for administering elections, will check the identifiers against those provided on your application to check that they match. If they do

not match, your postal vote will be rejected and your vote will not be counted, these security checks undertaken to ensure that someone else is not using your vote.

If you are unable to provide a signature or a consistent signature due to a disability or inability to read or write, you can apply for a postal vote without giving your signature.

There is further information at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/vote and please do not hesitate to contact the electoral services team at vote@towerhamlets.gov.uk or 020 7364 0872.



Make sure you are up to date with the new rules around postal votes



New resident hub opens with face-to-face access to council services

A COUNCIL THAT LISTENS

Locals have given the thumbs up to a new Residents' Hub located in Bethnal Green, where council services can be accessed face to face.

Residents' Hubs provide support on a wide range of council services from help with filling in your housing benefit or Blue Badge form to paying your council tax and speaking to an advisor to find out if you are missing out on any benefits and employment opportunities.

The council has five Residents' Hub located throughout the borough with the new hub based in Calvert Avenue near the Boundary Estate.

Cllr Kabir Ahmed and Cllr Bodrul Choudhury met with staff to officially open the site.

Mabel who has lived in Bethnal Green for 35 years attended the launch in July.

She said: "I am so pleased we have a Residents' Hub here as I live just round the corner. I much prefer talking to someone face to face.

"I've already spoken to an adviser who has helped me."

So far more than 65,000 visits have been recorded at the hubs since they were introduced in 2023.

The council introduced its first Customer Experience Strategy in 2023 to help ensure residents receive an excellent customer

journey no matter which channel they use to get in touch.

Resident Naznin who has been struggling with house bidding used one of the hubs last year and found face to face support invaluable.

Naznin said: "We really appreciated Humaira's ongoing help. We've really struggled for the past year with bidding and she has always tried to help us out at the Town Hall.

"And manager Rahma is very sweet. We can't thank you guys enough for getting it all sorted."

Lutfur Rahman, Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "We are determined to be a council that listens to, and works for, everyone.

"While more and more people are accessing our services digitally, we know some residents do not have access or are unable to use digital devices and channels.

"If you go along to our flagship hub based at the Town Hall you will see it is always busy. There is a clear need for face-to-face service provision.

"That is why we have opened a new hub close to the Boundary Estate, to ensure even greater access to in person support in our borough."

In a bid to be more inclusive and reach out to more residents, the council has introduced a SignLive service for deaf residents at all our hubs.



Since they opened in 2023, there have been 65,000 visits to the hubs

SignLive is an online video interpreting service that provides remote access to qualified British Sign Language (BSL) interpreters.

It allows BSL users to connect with interpreters via video call to facilitate communication with hearing individuals, essentially acting as a bridge between the two.

Cllr Bodrul Choudhury, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Inclusion including Customer Services, added: "We have a population of more than 300,000 people and more than 100 languages are used in the borough.

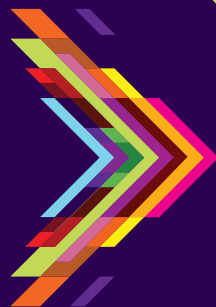
"The demand for council services will continue to grow and we need to be flexible to meet that demand.

"We cannot just push everyone online and need to try to meet everyone's needs."

The council has closed its hub based at the Professional Development Centre in Bethnal Green Road, with the Calvert Avenue site determined to be best placed to meet demand.

• Find out more about our Residents' Hub at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/community_and_living/Residents-Hub.aspx

Mulberry UTC
Where learning works

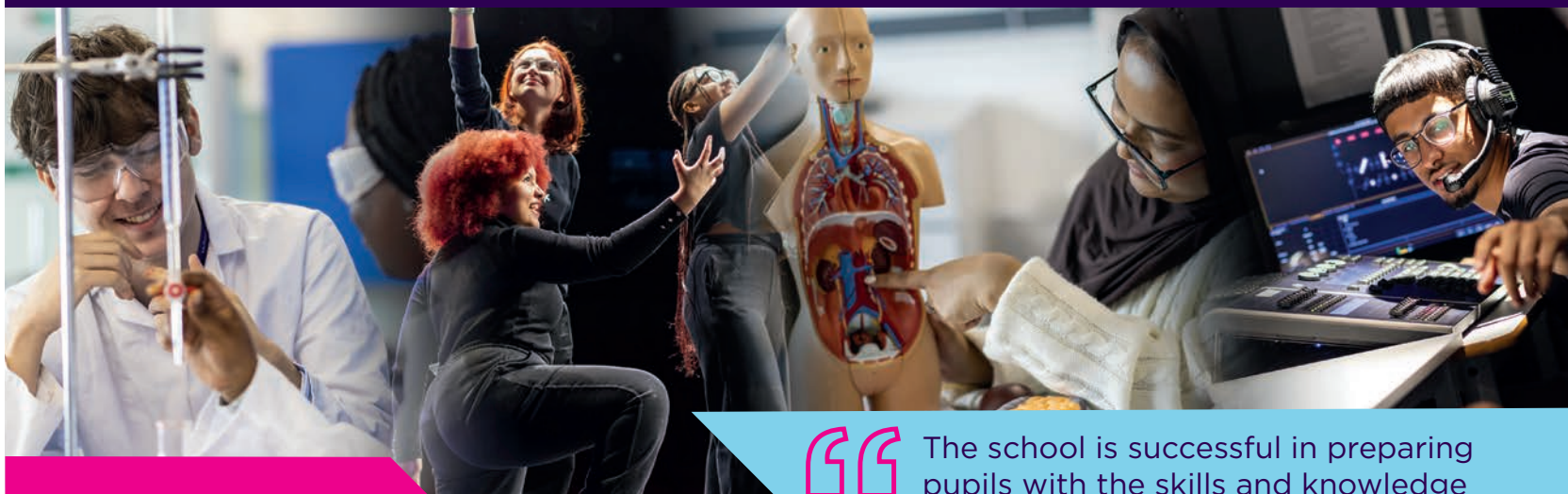


**REGISTER
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Employer-led learning beyond the classroom

OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER 2025
4:30PM-6:30PM



**Year 10
and
Year 12**

- ◆ Outstanding results
- ◆ Progression to top universities
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- ◆ Support from leading employers
- ◆ Access to the Mulberry STEM Academy and the Mulberry Production Arts Academy



The school is successful in preparing pupils with the skills and knowledge they need to enter the world of work.

A rich programme of enrichment that runs alongside the academic and vocational curriculum broadens pupils' horizons."

Ofsted, March 2025

Outstanding for
Personal Development

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School for Girls



Barts Health
NHS Trust



Goldsmiths
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

**National
Theatre**

Support available

Just received your GCSE or A-Level/Level 3 results and unsure about your next step? Young WorkPath is here to help you.

Young WorkPath supports young people aged 13 to 19 and up to 25 if you have a special educational need or disability.

The friendly careers advisers offer free careers information, advice and guidance to help you explore your next steps, no matter your results.

The office is based at the Idea Store, Watney Market, 260 Commercial Road, London, E1 2FB, just a short walk from Shadwell DLR and Overground stations.

Visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/youngworkpath.

Call between 9am-5pm Monday-Friday on 0800 3581 2410 (freephone) or 020 7364 1401.



Almost three-quarters of A Level students achieved an A* to C grade

Fantastic A-level and GCSE grades for our students

ACCELERATE EDUCATION

Thousands of youngsters are celebrating after receiving their A-Level and GCSE results this summer.

Pupils in Tower Hamlets are improving their A-level results at a faster rate than the England average.

Nearly three-quarters (73.4 per cent) of pupils received A* to C grades in their A-levels, a 4.2 per cent increase on last year at 69.2 per cent and higher than the average across England of 1.7 per cent.

Almost one-fifth (18.5 per cent) achieved an A* or A grade, a 2.7 per cent increase compared to 2024.

Great results include the Young Mayor of Tower Hamlets, Fetuma

Hassan, who has been accepted into Harvard University to study Government with Economics.

For GCSEs, 82 per cent of students achieved grades 9-4 (equivalent to the old A* to C grades) in English.

In maths, 74 per cent of students achieved grades 9-4.

Lutfur Rahman, Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said:

"Well done to all of our students in Tower Hamlets who have received their results, and a huge thank you to all the teachers and members of staff for their hard work behind the scenes. I'm incredibly proud of the academic talent and drive of our young people. Everyone should be proud of the hard work and effort they've put in throughout the school year, well done."



A fiscal future

Miu Sata, who studied at St Paul's Way Trust Secondary School, got five 9s, two 8s and two 7s in her GCSEs.

She said: "I hope next I'm going to go into sixth form and do maths, psychology and economics. I'm hoping to study economics at university."



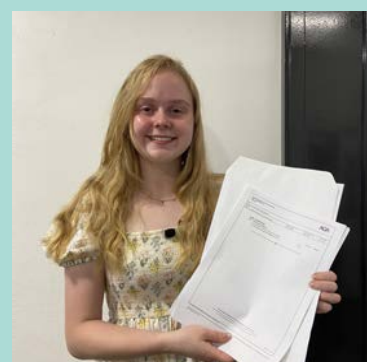
Happy with grades

Salman Islam, who studied at St Paul's Way Trust Secondary School, got five 9s, two 8s and one 6. He said: "I'm feeling happy. I want to stay here for sixth form and go on to do A-levels in maths, chemistry and economics. After that I'd like to secure an apprenticeship in finance. Today has been a really good experience."



Feeling proud

Tahya Ahmed, who studied at St Paul's Way Trust Secondary School, got four 8s, two 7s and two 6s. She said: "I'm feeling good, I'm really proud of myself and I hope to continue studying here for sixth form. I want to become a speech and language therapist, and I feel like I'm on a steady path for my future."



Not expected

Lizzie, who studied at St Paul's Way, said: "I was very happy as I got ten 9s and one 8. I was very excited as I wasn't expecting to get that many 9s but it shows that all the work through the year has paid off."

"I want to go to university but I am not sure what I want to study yet."

Mulberry

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Amazing enrichment opportunities

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



Societies trip to Sicily

COME AND SEE US!

FOUR WEEKS OF OPEN MORNINGS

Please arrive at 9.15am

Mon 15th to Wed 17th September

Mon 22nd to Wed 24th September

Mon 29th September to Wed 1st October

Mon 6th to Wed 8th October

OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER

4PM-6PM

SATURDAY OPEN DAY

11TH OCTOBER - 9AM-11AM



Work Experience at
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WOULD
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**Sixth Form
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October 2025**
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SCAN ME



Part of the
Mulberry
Schools Trust

You said, we did

The results are in: your views from the Annual Residents' Survey

We believe in listening to our residents.

We can't do everything. But we can make the most of what we have and provide the best value for the people of Tower Hamlets.

The results are in for the latest Annual Residents Survey (ARS), which tells us about your thoughts on the council, the borough and our

services.

Overall, for 2025 the results have improved across most services and, in almost every case, are higher than the national average for local authorities:

- 83% of residents are very or fairly satisfied with Tower Hamlets as a place to live, higher than the local government average of 74%

- Resident satisfaction with the council is at 69%, higher than the local government average of 56%
- 54% think the council provides value for money, higher than the local government average of 36%
- 69% of residents trust the council, higher than the local government average of 50%.

This feature looks at the council's work in different areas and how residents have responded to this.

We want to hear more of your views so we have set up an email address for you to let us know what you are happy about, and what we can do better.

Email myfeedback@towerhamlets.gov.uk

A cleaner borough



You said

**Cleaner streets,
cleaner parks,
better waste
collections**

We did

**User satisfaction results:
Waste collection: 77%
Recycling services 78%**

Annual Resident Survey results 2025

Keeping one of the most visited and densely populated places in the country clean is a continuous challenge for the council's waste services.

With millions of people visiting Tower Hamlets every year, the council must clear up after tourists, and it also faces the challenge of collecting waste and recycling in a place where 87% of properties are flats.

In response to growing issues about the cleanliness of the borough, the council invested an additional £5m a year which has made a significant difference according to the council's latest Annual Residents Survey.

More residents are satisfied with street cleaning: 71% compared to 63% in 2024; more residents are satisfied with recycling services: 75% compared to 73% in 2024; and more residents are satisfied with parks and open spaces: 83% compared to 81% in 2024.

As part of the investment, the council recruited 72 new waste staff, put 22 new vehicles into operation, and expanded the service to deliver

a twice-a-day, seven-day-a-week cleansing on the borough's 115 main streets.

It also relaunched its Find it Fix it app, where residents can report waste, flytipping and graffiti and the council will fix it within 24 hours.

The council launched a new Street Leaders programme where residents can volunteer to report flytipping and litter and organise litter-picks.

Lutfur Rahman, Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "It is not just about extra investment and more services, we are cracking down on any people who harm our community by dumping waste by fining them £1,000 for flytipping and £500 for littering."

"Cleaning up flytipping costs about £2m a year – money that could be better spent elsewhere."

- Don't let good feedback go to waste. We're wheely keen to hear from you. Email myfeedback@towerhamlets.gov.uk





‘Outstanding’ Children’s Services

	You said More support for young people and families	We did User satisfaction results: Children’s Centre’s 78% Primary Education 82% Secondary Education 80% Youth Services 50% Annual Resident Survey results 2025
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Tower Hamlets has the youngest population in London which means support for our young people is more important than ever.

With the increased cost of living, parents told us that it was becoming harder to raise a family and give their children the opportunities they had when they were young.

As a result, the council has invested in supporting young people. It has made a difference

with Ofsted rating the council’s Children’s Services as ‘outstanding’ earlier this year.

In early years, the council has kept open, and invested in, its six children’s centres to support families.

Then, when they get to school, every child is guaranteed a hot meal after Tower Hamlets became the first local authority in the country in 2023 to offer universal free

school meals in both primary and secondary schools.

On average, it saves a family £550 a year per child.

Since free school meals started in secondary schools, an incredible two million hot meals have been served.

Now the council has become the first in the country to offer universal free school uniforms in the first year of primary and secondary schools to

families with household incomes up to £50,350. The scheme is set to benefit 21,000 children over three years.

With applications still open until 30 September, the council has already awarded 2,575 successful applicants over £300,000 in grants.

• **Your thoughts help us build brighter futures - block by block.** Email myfeedback@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Help our students have a brighter future

After investing £13.7m, the council has rolled out 19 youth centres. They offer young people after-school activities, young carer services and support for those in care. So far, there have been almost 65,000 visits to the centres.

Since July 2023:

- 5,111 sessions held at our youth centres
- 64,900 total attendance in youth centres
- 15 youth centres opened, (21 total including commission providers)

Young Mayor Fetuma Hassan, said: “Youth centres are safe spaces dedicated to young people’s needs, offering opportunities to make new friends, develop skills and just have fun.”



College and university support

The council is also supporting young people into future vocations, whether they go straight into work after leaving school or want to go into further or higher education.

Since 2022, the council has been offering Education Maintenance Allowance grants of £600 and university bursaries of £1,500 with £1.82 being awarded in 2,350 grants to young people.

Tackling the housing crisis



You said

More homes, more affordable homes and family homes

We did

User satisfaction results:

Council Homes 50%

Housing Benefits Service 79%

Annual Resident Survey results 2025

As the fastest growing and most densely populated place in the UK, housing is a huge issue for Tower Hamlets' residents.

More than 29,000 residents are on the council's waiting list, with others living in overcrowded or unsuitable homes.

The council's homes programme is on track to exceed its target of delivering 4,000 social rented homes by 2026.

Planning approval has been granted for 2,021 affordable homes, and a total of 9,050 new homes are on the way.

The Mayor's Accelerated Housing Programme will fast-track an additional 3,332 new homes across 37 council-owned sites over the next five years, particularly larger, social rented family-sized and accessible homes.

The council is also working with Newham Council and the Greater London Authority to deliver 30,000 new homes and new infrastructure in the Lower Lea Valley.

New homes can change lives. Esme moved into her new, accessible council-built home in Bethnal Green last year.

She said: "Since moving into my new fully adapted home, my life has significantly improved. Me and my children are able to enjoy our new environment."

The council is also improving its stock, with £13.5m of work underway to replace kitchens and bathrooms, test electrical equipment and fit new front doors.

• **Your feedback lays the foundation for better homes.** Email myfeedback@towerhamlets.gov.uk



37,000 new leisure centre members



You said

Make sport and wellbeing more accessible; create more opportunities for women and young people; improve our leisure centres

We did

User satisfaction results:

Sport and leisure services 76%

Parks and green spaces 85%

Annual Resident Survey results 2025

Since the council took over the running of the borough's leisure centres 16 months ago, thousands of residents are feeling the health, wellness and employment benefits.

Tower Hamlets has invested more than £8m developing a holistic health and wellbeing service for residents called Be Well, and upgrading facilities in all six of its leisure centres.

Be Well has welcomed more than 37,000 members and developed targeted activities for women and girls, seeing female participation increase by 40%.

A year ago, the council introduced

a free swimming programme and more than 20,000 residents have signed up, including 18,000 women and girls aged 16+ and nearly 3,900 residents aged over 55.

Joanne Barry, a local resident, said: "I'm a carer and an old age pensioner, and I try to keep as active as possible. I thought swimming was more expensive than other activities and it can all add up at the end of the month. I think it's great that it's now free."

Upgrades to the leisure centres have included renovating the outdoor pitches and the changing village at Mile End, opening

women-only gyms at Poplar and Mile End, and improved health suites at Whitechapel and Mile End.

In April, the council reopened London's oldest spa as one of the most affordable in the capital. The York Hall Spa originally opened in 1929.

The spa offers a wide range of concession rates including discounts for public sector workers older adults, those with disabilities and students.

In a recent customer survey, 72% of users reported being satisfied or very satisfied with the facilities, including gyms, pools, and

changing rooms.

• **Let us know if we're making a splash, or just treading water.** Email myfeedback@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Since May last year:

- 37,277 memberships taken up
- 20,583 sign ups to free swimming
- 485379 visits to leisure centres
- 150 local residents became qualified lifeguards
- 72% of users satisfied or very satisfied with facilities

A safer Tower Hamlets



You said

**Safer streets,
tackling drug
crime, more
CCTV on
estates**

We did

User satisfaction results:

90% say they get on with one another

94% feel safe in daytime

66% feel safe after dark

Annual Resident Survey results 2025

An Anti-Crime Task Force and a new Drugs Squad have been launched this year as part of £8m worth of new investment to make the borough safer.

The Task Force will provide a greater visible enforcement presence, tackle crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB), and provide increased reassurance to the public.

It includes a new dog patrol service for regular weapons and drugs sweeps in parks, open spaces, and estates. The number of Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers (THEOs) has almost tripled since 2022 to 64. The THEOs patrol the

streets, tackling crime, ASB, and providing community reassurance.

The funding also includes a £895,000 upgrade the council's CCTV control room, with state-of-the-art LED video wall display unit capable of monitoring 42 cameras simultaneously. All 350 street-based cameras have been upgraded from analogue to digital.

The investment is already paying dividends with a 31% increase in arrests supported by CCTV. A further £3.8 million is being spent to expand CCTV coverage across council estates.

The council also funds 26 Metropolitan Police officers to work in the borough – more than any other London council.

The newly launched Drugs Squad combines enforcement with tailored support, offering a unique approach to tackling substance misuse and anti-social behaviour. Since mid-June, the Drugs Squad has delivered 945 hours of visible

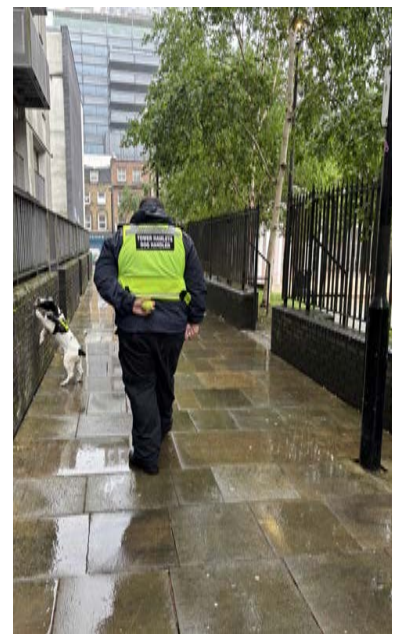
patrols in drug hotspots and referred 49 people to specialist support services.

Lutfur Rahman, Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "We are investing £8 million, more than any other local authority in London, leading the way in showing how councils can invest to make our communities safer.

"Our Anti Crime Task Force works closely with police partners to ensure that there is a visible on-street presence across the borough, acting as a deterrent to those engaging in crime and antisocial behaviour."

Community engagement remains a priority, including regular women's safety walkabouts, and an engagement bus raising awareness of high-volume crimes like bike and phone thefts.

It also provides opportunities for residents to speak to their local Safer Neighbourhood Operations team, report any issues and seek



advice.

- **Together, we're the key to safer streets. Share your thoughts on how we are doing. Email myfeedback@towerhamlets.gov.uk**

Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers:

- 64 THEO roles in total
- 415 arrests by council funded police officers since April 2022.
- 30,000 hours of patrols in 2025.
- Issued over 1,000 fixed penalty notices so far this year



Fun, free activities for children

Thousands of children once again benefited over the Summer holidays from the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, managed by the council working with local voluntary and community groups.

The clubs give children a nutritious meal and provide them with the opportunity to enjoy activities such as sports and games, art, music and drama, as well as special day trips.

In partnership with 36 local organisations and funded by the Department for Education, Tower Hamlets Summer HAF clubs provided more than 35,000 places and free meals for young people aged 4-16 to attend during the school holidays.

Isa Goni, 12, said of one of the activities organised by London Jaguars: "At London Jaguars, all the coaches made me feel welcome and never let me down. Even on days when I wasn't in the mood, I always ended up having a great time. This is an experience I will never forget."

A parent added: "My children always return home full of joy, excitement, and wonderful stories to share."

"Thank you to the whole London Jaguars team. My children always look forward to attending your holiday clubs, and I feel completely reassured knowing they are safe, happy, and thriving in your care."

Cllr Saied Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living, visited the HAF club ran by London Jaguars at Bartlett Park.

He said: "It was great to spend some time with the young people who really enjoyed their time at the club, taking part in sports and fitness activities, as well as having the chance to have fun days out and make new friends. I know that their positive experiences will have been shared by young people across the borough who attended HAF clubs delivered by our community partners."

HAF clubs are free for qualifying children and run at different school holiday times throughout the year, with places prioritised for children in receipt of benefits related free school meals.

• Find out more about the HAF programme on the council website at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/haf



Children enjoyed free activities and food at the sessions

Access to Fostering scheme

Are you curious about becoming a Foster Carer, but need support with the process?

Join the Open College Network accredited course

You will learn about:

- The role of the Foster Carer
- The skills needed to become a Foster Carer
- Child development and attachment
- Supporting children's learning, health and wellbeing
- Keeping children safe from harm
- Encouraging positive behaviour.

To find out if you may be eligible for the course, come along to our information session on

23 September 2025, 10-11am

The Parents Advice Centre,
30 Greatorex Street, E1 5NP

**The 11-week course starts on
1 October 2025.**



For more details,
telephone 020 7364 1246 or email
fostering@towerhamlets.gov.uk
Leave your name and number and we will call you back.
This course is a co-production between the Parent & Family





The entrepreneurs, including OneLab College, left, and Asha Dudmish, right, competed at the national finals in Stratford-upon-Avon

Young market traders get through to national finals

BUSINESS AND JOBS

Three young Tower Hamlets entrepreneurs reached the finals of a national market trading competition.

Asha Dudmish who runs The Modern Factory, Uroj Qasim with IRHA Accessories, and OneLab College all took part in the Young

Traders Market competition.

The competition, run by the National Market Traders Federation, helps 16 to 30-year-olds launch and test their products in real market settings.

The three traders had secured a spot in the final after competing at the London and Southeast regional final at Broadway Market in Hackney.

Asha Dudmish, 28, who competed in both the regional and national finals with her craft business The Modern Factory, said: "Being able to represent Tower Hamlets was an incredible honour!"

"Some of my pieces selling out by lunchtime was surreal and deeply rewarding after years of juggling a full-time degree, part-time and sometimes full-time work, and

building my craft business.

"Tower Hamlets has never had any finalists before, so I'm proud to be among the first.

"I'm so grateful to be backed by a borough that truly believes in its creatives.

"I've had so much fun during this process, and would highly recommend it to any other young person with a small business."



Two of the small businesses that have been supported by the council

Financial support on offer for small businesses

More than £700,000 has been invested into small businesses over the last 12 months by Tower Hamlets Council.

The council hosted a celebration gala event, attended by 200 people, to pay tribute to the entrepreneurs who contribute to the economy of the borough.

Cllr Musthak Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills and Growth, said: "It is inspiring to hear stories about how many of these start-ups have been established and the difficulties they have overcome to become a thriving business. We will be launching a further series of projects to support small businesses, and you can access free masterclasses and advice on our website."

Roxana Florina Popa, who runs

jewellery brand FLORINA Primordial, accessed funding from the Women Mean Business project.

She said: "I am grateful to the council for being very supportive of small businesses and for offering training modules that speak to my business.

"The programmes reflect the two sides that my business aims to create change through: women and communities.

"The tools offered by the Sara Carter Consultancy have been instrumental to taking my business to the next level and bringing it more visibility within just six months."

• Visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/openforbusiness

Get Online Week this October

Idea Stores will join the UK's largest digital inclusion campaign this autumn and have planned a week of events between 20-26 October to

help residents get the most of being online.

Get Online Week activities range from digital drop-in sessions,

Code Club for children, a digital accessibility workshop with the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB), a discover your

family history online session, using Ancestry, and much more.

Visit www.ideastore.co.uk/get-online for further details.

A fairer borough for women

COUNCIL NEWS

Hundreds of women have taken part in a consultation to make the borough a fairer place and tackle gender inequalities.

The survey, led by the council's Women's Commission, asked for views on key issues including health, safety, employment and leadership.

In addition to the survey, the

commission ran 10 focus groups over the summer, with more planned ahead, in partnership with community organisations.

The commission listened to testimonials and held deeper conversations about safety in public spaces, pathways to leadership, and experiences around employment and health.

The focus groups were met with positive feedback. One participant

said: "All voices were heard and welcomed in a safe and encouraging environment."

"The session was relaxed, and all were respectful giving us the chance to have our opinion and voices heard."

Four public reviews will take place from September to December where the commission will present the findings from the survey to key decision makers.

The commissioners will hold decision makers to account, hearing their responses to the findings, and using this information to inform recommendations for the Commission's Report, launching in early 2026.

- As a resident, you can attend or watch the public reviews online. Visit towerhamlets.gov.uk/womenscommission for more information.



The council is keen to promote the achievements of women and held the TH Women's Awards earlier this year

Free language courses for young residents

Young people in the borough can enrol on free language courses.

In partnership with local schools, Ideas Stores, and voluntary organisations, Tower Hamlets Council will provide language

classes in Arabic, Bangla, Mandarin, Cantonese and Somali.

Young Community Languages (YCL) is an opportunity for young people to connect with their heritage language, strengthen

cultural identity, and develop valuable language skills that can boost future education and lead to language accreditations.

If your 6-16 year old lives in the borough, goes to a school in the

borough, or has a parent/guardian working locally, you may be eligible. Visit our website for full eligibility criteria. Language courses will start in September and October. Sign up at towerhamlets.gov.uk/YCL



There are hundreds of courses you can choose from at Idea Stores across Tower Hamlets

Pursue your passion with an Idea Store Learning course

ACCELERATE EDUCATION

Are you passionate about painting? Want to try Tai Chi? Or maybe you need English and maths qualifications to improve your job prospects? Whatever your interests or needs, Idea Store Learning could have the course for you.

There are more than 900 courses to choose from at Idea Stores across Tower Hamlets, including fashion and textiles, tour guiding, belly dancing, salsa, woodwork, upholstery, Spanish, creative writing, pottery, and many more.

You can also study for qualifications in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), which is a requirement for some jobs, and functional skills in maths and English.

Ofsted has rated Idea Store Learning as 'good', with inspectors praising the quality of courses and teaching on offer, and how learners are supported to increase their skills across a wide range of subjects.

Morgan, a ballet student, said: "The course has positively impacted my health. It is a great physical and mental workout, and the other class members are lovely. Completing a

dance sequence with precision and memory makes me feel proud of myself, which extends outside the course. The tutor is wonderful and makes the hard work we do fun."

Learner Rubena Begum said: "Before coming to the Idea Store I couldn't speak English, but now I have found a job because I learnt English at the Idea Store."

Bryan McLaughlin, a woodwork learner, added: "I have built a large shoe rack and a television stand using reclaimed wood. I am very proud of these accomplishments and didn't think I would be able to do this at the start of the course."

Enrolment is now open for September adult and community learning classes and closes in October.

To join one of the ESOL, English, maths or digital skills courses, you will need to book an initial assessment session in September.

A total of 98 per cent of learners say they are highly satisfied with the courses and would recommend them to a friend.

Sessions start from £2, and are free if you are on particular benefits or have a low income.

• Visit www.ideastore.co.uk/learning

£2m to support students with learning

Around £2million is being given to up to 2,000 students in Tower Hamlets to help them continue their studies at university and college from September.

Tower Hamlets Council has two schemes to help with the cost of further learning, including the

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMAs), a £600 payment to eligible students to support them with their studies, and the University Bursary Award, a £1,500 payment to eligible students to support them with costs associated with their undergraduate studies, including accommodation,

books and resources.

For the first time since the council reinstated the programme in 2022, it will be awarding the full allocation of 1,250 EMAs.

It has also awarded all 800 University Bursary Award grants, doubling last year's total of 400.

Since the relaunch of the EMA and University Bursary Scheme in 2022, the council has distributed £1.92 million in grants, and, due to an increase in funding, it will be awarding a further £2 million in the current funding round. See more on the council's website.

2,000 new electric vehicle chargers

CLEAN AND GREEN

The first of 2,000 new on-street residential electric vehicle (EV) charging points have been installed across Tower Hamlets by the council.

The project, which is being delivered in partnership with ubitricity, is a key component of the borough's commitment to reducing emissions and improving air quality, following its declaration of a climate emergency in March 2019.

The charge points will be installed in existing lampposts, helping local residents to conveniently charge their vehicles closer to their homes.

The installation will also cause minimal disruption as they only take thirty minutes to install into current infrastructure.

The charge points will be installed on a ward-by-ward basis, starting with Bow East, Island Gardens and Whitechapel. All 2,000 charging points will be installed by early 2026.

Beyond enhancing EV accessibility, the project brings wider benefits to the community. As part of the contract, ubitricity,

in collaboration with Shell UK, has committed to providing apprenticeship placements to upskill Tower Hamlets residents. Funding will support training for intermediate, advanced, and higher-level apprenticeships throughout the 10-year agreement.

With more than 9,200 public charge points already in operation, ubitricity will supply, install, own, operate, maintain, and manage the new infrastructure on behalf of Tower Hamlets Council.

Lutfur Rahman, Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "As part of our commitment to becoming a net zero borough and tackling the climate emergency, expanding sustainable travel options is essential.

"We know that more residents and businesses are switching to electric vehicles. Tower Hamlets has more than 5,400 registered plug-in vehicles, which represents an increase of over 200 per cent from the previous 4-years.

"With 93 per cent of homes lacking off-street parking, public charging infrastructure is vital. Our ambition is to build a comprehensive electric vehicle charging network in



The charge points are being installed in existing lampposts

our borough so that no residents are more than a three-minute walk from an electric charging point."

Stuart Wilson, UK Managing Director of ubitricity, said: "We're proud to work on this groundbreaking project alongside the London Borough of Tower

Hamlets to expand access to EV charging across the community."

In addition to these 2,000 new chargers being delivered, the council is working to deliver an additional thirty-five rapid charging points over the next twelve months.

New jet wash team giving borough a deep clean



The new jet wash team in action cleaning the street

A new jet washing service has been launched by Tower Hamlets Council to give our streets a deeper clean, helping to remove grime and stains.

The service started earlier this summer as part of the council's wider commitment to cleaner,

safer, and more welcoming public spaces for everyone.

Jet washing uses high-pressure water to clean areas that regular street sweeping can't reach.

The team is focusing on high-footfall areas such as street

markets, town centres, and locations near schools and hospitals - places where litter and mess build up more quickly.

By targeting these key spots, the jet washing service is making a visible difference to the look and

feel of our streets.

This work supports the council's wider efforts to maintain high standards of cleanliness and improve quality of life for residents, businesses, and visitors.

Mulberry

Stepney Green Maths,
Computing and Science College

**“In the Sixth Form, teachers develop
a real depth of knowledge and
understanding in students.”**

Ofsted Inspection Report
31st January 2022

Your future IS SAFE
in our hands

**APPLY
NOW**

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Thursday 20 November 2025, 4:00–6:30pm

Applications for September 2026 open from Friday 21 November 2025



Academic excellence

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



Planned programme of enrichment

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



Established UCAS and Oxbridge programme

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



Trips and residential visits

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



Broad and balanced curriculum

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

**Mulberry Stepney Green
Maths, Computing and Science College**
Ben Jonson Road, London E1 4SD

☎ 020 7790 6361

✉ mail@mulberrystepneygreen.org

✉ @MSGreenCollege

🌐 www.mulberrystepneygreen.org

Visit our website

SCAN ME



Part of the
Mulberry
Schools Trust

£700,000 in Pension Credit claimed

More than £700,000 in Pension Credit has been claimed since the council launched its Credit Where Credit is Due campaign last winter.

Data from the council revealed more than 4,000 households in the borough are missing out on payments worth on average £3,900 a year.

Pension Credit can also unlock access to a range of support including:

- Free TV licence if you're 75 or over
- Help with NHS costs such as

prescriptions, dental treatment, glasses and transport costs for hospital appointments

- Access to the winter government Winter Fuel Payment scheme

The council is working with LinkAge Plus to increase take up of Pension Credit. LinkAge Plus offers a range of activities, one-on-one support, and access to information and advice. The program operates out of five hubs in the borough.

Cllr Saied Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Resources and Cost of Living, added: "We will continue

to work with our partners to reach more residents and our approach is working. Since November, 181 households have claimed Pension Credit. Just click on the Pension Credit Calculator and see what you are entitled to."

To claim, call the Pension Credit helpline on 0800 99 1234 or apply online at www.gov.uk/pension-credit. You will need the following information ready:

- Your National Insurance number
- Information about your income, savings and investments

- The details for the account you want the payment to go to

- You can check whether you are eligible using the Pension Credit Calculator

If you need help using the calculator, or want to speak to an advisor, please call 020 7364 5040.

If you require face-to-face support with applying for Pension Credit, our Resident Support Outreach Team is here to help. You can contact them and book an appointment by emailing LBTHResidentSupport@towerhamlets.gov.uk.

Help shape council's new budget

Residents are being asked for their views to help shape the borough's budget for 2026/7.

Around half of the council budget is spent on supporting children and

vulnerable adults. The council has continued to invest in important frontline services such as housing, community safety and waste and recycling.

There also continues to be financial support for families including £1m a year for school clothing grants for families with household incomes of up to £50,350.

The survey will run this autumn. Keep an eye on council channels for more information.

Have your say at talk.towerhamlets.gov.uk/budget2026



The First Responders Project has organised workshops and emergency first aid courses

Award and commendation for community group's projects

The Mile End Community Project (MCP) has won an award at the Sported Awards.

MCP delivers a range of social and educational activities, focusing on creativity through film production, art and media projects.

The Sported Awards are dedicated to celebrating inspiring

people and organisations making a real difference.

The MCP's First Responders Project took the 'Contribution to Enhance Community Safety' award.

The project has organised a variety of workshops, media workshops, and tailored emergency first aid courses, culminating in the

creation of an impactful short video ad and media campaign.

The short film is a powerful reminder of the small but vital actions anyone can take in an emergency.

The film was a partnership including Osmani Trust, Perspective Pictures, Genesis Cinema, Tower Hamlets Island Network, Mayor

of London VRU, and the London Training Centre.

On Yer Bike, which donates unwanted bikes and offers bike mechanic courses, received high commendation for both Best Campaign and the Sustainability Award. Visit mileendcommunityproject.org/

Tower Hamlets top performing healthy schools



Tower Hamlets is the top performing borough in London for its Healthy Schools achievements, with more schools than any other borough receiving bronze, silver and gold awards from the Mayor of London's Healthy Schools programme.

To mark this achievement, Tower Hamlets Council hosted a Healthy Lives Celebration event on Thursday 12 June, attended by more than 230 pupils and staff from across the borough.

The event recognised schools

that have earned Healthy Schools London Awards, Asthma and Allergy Friendly Schools status, and Fantastic Food in School commendations.

Deputy Mayor of London, Joanne McCartney, joined Deputy Mayor of Tower Hamlets and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning, Maium Talukdar, to present schools with their awards, and praised the dedication of teachers and school communities.

The borough's commitment to active, healthy lifestyles was also highlighted in the summer when more than 1,000 pupils and staff

took part in a local record-breaking Daily Mile at Mile End Stadium.

The mass participation event, delivered in partnership with London Marathon Events, saw children run, skip, walk or wheel a mile, supported by Team GB Olympic athletes leading a warm-up.

With high levels of children in Tower Hamlets being overweight, initiatives like the Daily Mile help schools embed regular physical activity into the day, supporting pupils' physical and mental health and contributing to Healthy School Award achievements.

Take control of your health

HEALTH

A new network of health kiosks has launched across four locations in Tower Hamlets this week, giving residents easy access to free, self-service health checks and tools to help them monitor their wellbeing.

Tower Hamlets Public Health team has commissioned SiSU Health to provide the self-service kiosks, which are located at Idea Stores Bow, Chrisp Street and Watney Market, and Mile End Leisure Centre.

Cllr Sabina Akhtar, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing, and Social Care, and Cllr Kamrul Hussain, Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation, visited Idea Store Chrisp Street in Poplar to officially launch the initiative.

Based in community locations, the health kiosks give residents easy access to information about their health, which they can use to seek lifestyle advice and reduce their chance of developing long-term conditions.

In less than five minutes, the kiosks can measure blood pressure, BMI (weight & height), smoking status, Alcohol Dependency Score

(AUDIT), stress levels, heart rate, and body fat percentage

Cllr Maium Talukdar, Deputy Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "We are pleased to introduce this simple but critical initiative, bringing personal health checks directly to residents in the communities where they live and work.

"Making health checks accessible and convenient is a proactive step towards reducing the risk of more serious health conditions, so we can empower our community to live longer, healthier lives."

Cllr Sabina Akhtar, Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing, and Social Care, said: "By regularly using the kiosks, residents can learn about their wellbeing, keep track of any changes, get tailored lifestyle advice, and find out where to get local support in Tower Hamlets.

These steps will help reduce chances of developing long-term health conditions such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes."

The kiosks provide tips on improving health based on results, including dietary suggestions, exercise tips, and signposting to local healthcare and healthy lifestyle services. They also provide copies



The health kiosks give residents the opportunity to monitor their health

of health check results via email, which can be shared with a GP or other health professionals. No paper copies are provided due to data protection.

The self-service kiosks are available until the end of May 2026 at:

- Idea Store Bow, 1 Gladstone Place, Roman Road, E3 5ES

- Idea Store Chrisp Street, 1 Vesey Path, East India Dock Road, E14 6BT

- Idea Store Watney Market, 260 Commercial Road, E1 2FB

- Mile End Leisure Centre, 190 Burdett Road, E3 4HL

There is no need to book - just turn up.

Protect yourself from illness this winter

Cold weather brings a higher risk of viruses such as flu and Covid-19, which can cause serious complications for older people and those with underlying health conditions. The NHS is offering free winter vaccinations to those most at

risk.

You are eligible for a free flu vaccine if you are: aged 65 or over, pregnant, have certain long-term health conditions, are resident in a care home, or are a frontline health or social care worker. Children

aged 2-16 are also eligible, as well as carers and anyone in close contact with people who have a weakened immune system.

The Covid-19 seasonal vaccine is available for: adults aged 75 and over, residents in care homes for

older adults, and those aged six months and over with a weakened immune system.

- Pop into a participating pharmacy or book at www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/vaccination-and-booking-services/



Residents, council staff and stakeholders took part in a number of workshops

Looking at barriers to healthy living

HEALTH

Nine workshops brought residents and key stakeholders together to look at the barriers to people staying healthy within the borough.

Tower Hamlets Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC) supports research about how the council can help residents stay healthy.

The HDRC is a new team and is working with residents to decide what research topics are most important to them.

Across the summer, the HDRC hosted nine workshops bringing together residents, council staff, university researchers, and stakeholders to look at the different things that keep people healthy such as housing, income, education and the environment.

Residents were at the centre of the first six workshops. Through interactive activities, open conversations and voting exercises, residents identified and prioritised the key issues affecting their daily lives and wellbeing.

Top concerns included the rising cost of living, barriers to employment, crime and antisocial behaviour, and limited access to services and activities.

Many people shared how these challenges negatively impact both physical and mental health.

Working in small groups, residents co-produced four new HDRC research themes to sit alongside the previously established focus on housing.

The resulting five themes are: opportunities for residents, staying physically and mentally healthy, crime and safety, economic security

and support and housing.

Housing remains a central issue, particularly problems like damp, mould, and overcrowding.

Residents contributed rich personal insights throughout, highlighting the importance of lived experience in driving meaningful research.

In the final three workshops, residents came together with council leaders, researchers, health professionals, and people from community organisations.

These sessions helped build a shared understanding of community priorities and how they align with ongoing work. They also highlighted areas where further research is needed.

The workshops reinforced the value of co-production, working together to shape research with community knowledge and

collective problem-solving.

Feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

Residents and partners alike appreciated the opportunity to connect, be heard, and influence future research directions.

As a result of the sessions, the HDRC will:

- Conduct research in partnership with the council, universities and community organisations within the areas residents chose
- Work closely with the community
- Share ideas with other local authorities and organisations
- Help improve local services and council decisions

If you would like to find out more about the HDRC, future sessions, and its work in the borough, you can email hsrc@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Residents help shape new health messaging

Residents helped create meaningful and relevant public health messaging at a Tower Hamlets Community Voluntary Sector (THCVS), Community Communications Panel meeting.

The panel aims to help the public health team create public health messages that resonate with, and are understood within, local communities.

Tower Hamlets Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC) recently joined the panel to share the goals of their work and to better understand the community's perspective.

These conversations proved helpful, highlighting how residents view the role of research and data in improving health and daily life

across the borough.

Residents also provided thoughtful suggestions on how HDRC could improve the way it communicates its work to the public, providing a meaningful look into how engagement can drive better transparency and understanding.

A resident who attended the workshop said: "I thoroughly enjoyed working and engaging with

the residents of Tower Hamlets.

"It played a vital role in ensuring residents' voices are heard in local decision-making."

Keep an eye out for updated public health materials across Tower Hamlets, inspired by the creativity and lived experience of residents.

Visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/HDRC

Mulberry

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specialist school

YEAR 6

OPEN MORNINGS 9AM - 11.00AM

Friday 5th, Thursday 11th, Tuesday 16th and Thursday 25th September 2025
and Friday 3rd, Tuesday 7th, Thursday 16th and Tuesday 21st October 2025

OPEN EVENING 4PM - 6.30PM

Wednesday 24th September 2025

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OFSTED

“Pupils meet the school’s high expectations of them. They treat each other and adults with respect. Pupils are happy and feel safe at school.”

OFSTED



“I am really happy at Stepney Green School. My teachers expect the very best from me and in return I feel valued and respected as an individual.”

Year 10 Student

“Our parents, staff and governors have high expectations of all our students. We believe in building a school where the learning environment is fit for the 21st century, where all our students are valued and known.”

Chair of Governors

“I like the school because we are inspired to be the best we can be in everything we do.”

Year 8 Student



**Mulberry Stepney Green
Maths, Computing and Science College**
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✉ mail@mulberrystepneygreen.org

✉ @MSGreenCollege

🌐 www.mulberrystepneygreen.org

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900 years of public transport

HISTORY

The history of public transport in Tower Hamlets over the past 900 years is in the spotlight for a new exhibition at the Local History Library and Archives.

Next Stop: 900 years of public transport in Tower Hamlets is in the entrance hall of the local history library on Bancroft Road.

The display tells the fascinating story of public transport in the East End over nine centuries, spanning the construction of the Bow Bridge in the 12th century, the opening of the Elizabeth Line in the 21st, with Victorian innovations in steam- and electricity-powered travel in between.

Showcasing more than 100 unique items selected from the collections of Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives, the exhibition documents many changes and evolutions in public transport.

In addition to archival items from the collections, vibrant colour drawings of those original images have been commissioned from illustrator Jane Smith, which are displayed at child's eye height.

This twin approach to the display enables visitors of all ages to learn about long vanished modes of transport, from George Shillibeer's Omnibus in the 1800s to the trolleybus in the 1930s.

The exhibition also includes first-hand testimonies of people who have used or worked on different forms of public transport, past and present.

Through newspaper cuttings, photographs, maps, oral history



recordings and creative work, **Next Stop** aims to share both personal and archival knowledge about the history of public transport in the East End.

This is the first exhibition at Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives designed for both adults and children. An illustrated timeline, interactive games and artwork by local school pupils are all included. A free illustrated map of the borough's

disused train stations is also available to take away!

We all connect with public transport in some way - it could be as simple as catching a bus, or even dodging one on our walking or cycling commutes. The need for, and use of, public transport has been a constant throughout the many centuries of change in Tower Hamlets.

Its significance persists as we contemplate the future sustainability of the planet we live on. **Next Stop** is free to visit and on display until 21 February 2026. A full programme of events to tie in with it is being organised.

Check out the opening times and keep up to date by signing up to the Local History newsletter at www.ideastore.co.uk/local-history.

Bow Bus Garage, 1975, Illustration by Jane Smith, 2025, and Old Ford Railway fares 1866. All images courtesy of Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archive



October is Black History Month

Activities and events to showcase the immense contributions made by persons of African and Caribbean descent to British society will take place this October as part of Black History Month.

The theme for Black History Month 2025 is Standing Firm in Power and Pride, a powerful tribute to the resilience, strength, and unwavering commitment to progress that defines the Black community across the globe.

This year, the theme highlights the profound contributions made by Black people be they leaders, activists, or pioneers who have shaped history, while also looking towards a future of continued empowerment, unity, and growth.

The council, community organisations and voluntary groups will host and support a month-long programme of activities through which people of all backgrounds can come together, enjoy a diverse line-up of what's on offer, celebrate, learn and engage.

Activities throughout October will include Somali Week, cultural dances, steel pan musicians, Nyahbinghi drummers, carnival-style performances, a Windrush themed talk, children's activities,



@BETTINAADELAPHOTOGRAPHY. A black woman holding a cardboard banner saying 'And Still We Rise' in front of a white van at a peaceful protest for Libya in December 2017.

creativity workshops and more.

The programme of events will also feature film nights, exhibitions, concerts, poetry nights, comedy, Somali dance

and Lindy Hop dance classes.

For further information about what is happening over Black History Month, visit our what's on page, which will be updated

regularly throughout the month.

Correct at time of print. For up-to-date information, including time, dates and venues, visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/blackhistorymonth

Season of Bangla Drama returns in November

A Season of Bangla Drama, the unique and acclaimed theatre festival, returns this November with the theme of 'kindness'.

The festival will showcase 12 new productions examining what kindness means from different perspectives. Themes include kindness seen through the eyes of migrants, the kindness of caring for our own wellbeing, how kindness and empathy can have a positive impact in our communities, in both quiet unseen gestures as well as in rebellious acts. The programme includes drama and comedy, conversation, music, songs.

A Season of Bangla Drama champions new writing and

provides a platform for debut performances. Performances are in a mixture of Bangla, Sylheti and English.

The festival takes place from 1 to 30 November with performances taking place at The Brady Arts Centre and Pinter Studios, QMUL. There is also a fringe programme of events including art workshops, exhibitions, talks and walks.

Tickets go on sale early October.

Follow A Season of Bangla Drama on their social channels for more info or visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/seasonbangladrama



The theme this year is 'kindness'

Writeidea Festival

East London's only free literary festival is back this November.

Writeidea celebrates all aspects of reading, writing and storytelling and will be taking

over the Grocers Wing of the Town Hall, Whitechapel, from 21 to 23 November.

Run by the council's Idea Stores, the festival will bring well known

authors to non-traditional literature event goers, showcasing the creativity of libraries and local communities.

Visit ideastore.co.uk or follow @writeideafest on X.

Exhibitions

Bubble Club - 20 Years of Disrupting Nightlife

This co-produced exhibition celebrates 20 years of the radically inclusive club night that has shaped and platformed Learning Disability culture and creativity in London.

Until 27 September

The Brady Arts and Community Centre, 192-196 Hanbury Street, Whitechapel, E1 5HU
www.bubbleclub.org

Painting Now

An exhibition by three local Buddhists - Clare Barton-Harvey (Amitajyoti), Abhayavajra Newman, Hugh Mendes (Paramabodhi) - who are all professional painters.

2 to 12 October, 11am-6pm daily
Art Pavilion, Clinton Road, E3 4QY

Free, no booking required.

Photomonth

Artists will showcase their work as part of the Photomonth festival taking place across east London. Includes exhibitions, symposium and workshops.

London based fine art photographer Marina Tsaregorodtseva takes simple, everyday objects and gives them greater meaning. Sue Parkhill, who first moved to London from Australia over 30 years ago, has created a visual A-Z; photos over the years from trips back to Australia.

16-26 October

Free

Art Pavilion, Clinton Road, E3 4QY

photomonth.co.uk/



Photomonth

Visions in the Nunnery

The Nunnery Gallery's biennial festival of film and performance, returns this year under the artistic leadership of Rosie Gibbens and Onyeka Igwe. The festival will showcase the work of 62 artists from 16 countries, including Nigeria, Argentina, Iran, Pakistan, and Ukraine.

Programme 1: Rosie Gibbens 4

Oct-9 Nov

Programme 2: Onyeka Igwe 15

Nov-21 Dec

Free. Open: Weds to Sun, 10am-4pm

Nunnery Gallery, Bow Arts, 181 Bow Road, E3 2SJ

A Life in Pictures

A milestone retrospective exhibition celebrating Alison Chaplin's creative evolution as an artist.

<https://linktr.ee/AlisonChaplinArtist>

AlisonChaplinArtist

30 October to 9 November, 11am - 6pm daily,

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

Free, no booking required.

Looking Through a Prism by Khadija



Alison Chaplin

Rahman

An exhibition of fashion, textiles and paintings. Born in 1975 in Chittagong, Bangladesh, Khadija Rahman has been a visual artist for over 25 years.

1 to 30 November

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

Singular Voices

Singular Voices is a show of new work from artists: Charm Havens, Roy Tonkin, Katerina Jugati and Stephen Blair. Four artists using four different concepts and with four unique styles. Curator Rob MicIndoe has brought together a mixed media event including, painting, printing, drawing and 3D. Some work in the exhibition is suitable for 18+ only.

12-16 November, 11am-6pm daily

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

Free, no booking required

Festival of Print



Singular voices

The Festival of Print is East London Printmakers' (ELP) annual exhibition.

21 to 30 November, 11am - 6pm daily (except Sunday 30 November at 4pm)

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

eastlondonprintmakers.co.uk

Free, no booking required

Instagram: @

eastlondonprintmakers

Classes

Art4U2 - Art

These are mixed media art workshops using oil painting, printmaking, collage, watercolours, pastels and acrylics. Do your own thing or join in with techniques demonstrated. Students will have the opportunity to exhibit their work in local cafes and galleries.

Classes cost £8 (cash)

1 October, 12, 19, 26 November, 3 December. Wednesdays 1.30-3.30pm

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

Drop-in or sign-up in advance by email ginnyhawke5@hotmail.co.uk



Art 4 U2

Stone Carving

Stone carving for beginners and those with some experience. Tools and safety equipment are provided. Stone can be purchased from the tutor. Ten weeks split into five-week blocks. Contact tutor Paula Haughney for more information or to register for the term.

£50 for the five weeks.

16 September, Tuesdays

6pm-8.30pm

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

Contact Paula Haughney

07976263470 or

haughneypaula@gmail.com



Stone carving

A Team Arts Education - Explore: Autumn Art and Design Programme

For young people aged 11-19 who would like support with GCSE and A level course work or who just wish to explore art working in a safe and creative environment.

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

For more info and to register ateamartseducation@gmail.com or **07856377537**

Exploring Gel Plate Printing

Gel (or Gelli) plate printing is a monoprint technique that uses a flexible plate to create unique prints. Over five weeks, explore a variety of techniques. All materials included. **£10 per session.**

October 13, 20, November 3, 10, 17. 6.30-8.30pm

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

Drop in or email mikeaskew1@gmail.com to book in advance and guarantee your place.

Market

Urban Makers Christmas Market

Urban Makers will welcome 50 different designers each day, showcasing a variety of unique and handcrafted items. Urban Makers Feast will be on hand with a selection of festive food and drink.

29-30 November and 13 to 14 December, 11am-5pm

The Ecology Pavilion, Grove Road, Mile End Park E3 5RP

Free entry

Events

Green Week

Tower Hamlets Idea Stores will host Green Libraries Week to encourage and support participants to adopt green, sustainable lifestyles, and record personal pledges on a Green Week Tree.

27 October to 2 November (at Idea Stores across the borough) 7 November

Grocer's Wing, Tower Hamlets Town Hall, www.ideastore.co.uk

YEAR 6 OPEN DAYS



OPEN MORNING

Monday 15† |
Friday 26†
†

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OPEN EVENING

Tuesday 16† †
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23rd September 2025

21st October 2025

18th November 2025

13th January 2026

Open Afternoons 2.00pm

Thursdays

25th September 2025

23rd October 2025

20th November 2025

8th January 2026

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✉ admin@mulberrycanonbarnett.org

🌐 www.mulberrycanonbarnett.org

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Applications can take at least 10 days
to approve.



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*Newham, Greenwich, Tower Hamlets, Barking & Dagenham,
Bexley, Bromley, City of London, Hackney, Havering, Lewisham,
Redbridge, Southwark, Waltham Forest. Eligibility criteria applies.

MAYOR OF LONDON

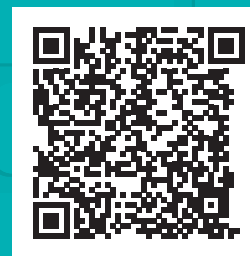


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Sirajul Islam
(Labour)

cllr.sirajul.islam@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07931 708 308



Ahmodul Kabir (Aspire)

ahmodul.kabir@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Rebaka Sultana
(Labour)

rebaka.sultana@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07808 275552

BETHNAL GREEN WEST



Musthak Ahmed
(Aspire)

musthak.ahmed@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07723 622204



Abu Chowdhury
(Aspire)

abu.chowdhury@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07951 125543



Amin Rahman
(Aspire)

amin.rahman@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07949 006520

BLACKWALL & CUBITT TOWN



Ahmodur Khan
(Aspire)

ahmodur.khan@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Abdul Malik
(Aspire)

abdul.malik3@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Bellal Uddin
(Aspire)

bellal.uddin@towerhamlets.gov.uk

BOW EAST



Amina Ali
(Labour)

amina.ali@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Abdi Mohamed
(Labour)

Marc Francis (Labour)



cllr.marc.francis@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07973 815272

BOW WEST



Asma Begum
(Labour)

cllr.asmak.begum@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07946 292712



Nathalie Bienfait
(Green)

nathalie.bienfait@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07414 154959

BROMLEY NORTH



Saif Uddin Khaled
(Independent)

saif.khaled@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Abdul Mannan
(Aspire)

abdul.mannan@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07956 436642

BROMLEY SOUTH



Bodrul Choudhury
(Aspire)

bodrul.choudhury@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Shubo Hussain
(Labour)

shubo.hussain@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07539 225660

CANARY WHARF



Saied Ahmed
(Aspire)

saied.ahmed@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Maium Talukdar
(Aspire)

maium.talukdar@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07983 798791

ISLAND GARDENS



Mufeedah Bustin
(Labour)

mufeedah.bustin@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07759 905377



Peter Golds
(Conservative)

councillorpetergoldsg@gmail.com
020 7364 4830

LANSBURY



Ohid Ahmed
(Independent)

ohid.ahmed@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07984 424 913



Jahed Choudhury
(Independent)

jahed.choudhury@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07782 259443



Iqbal Hossain
(Aspire)

iqbal.hossain@towerhamlets.gov.uk

IVE, 5 INDEPENDENT

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:

- Cllr Maium Talukdar, Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning
- Cllr Saied Ahmed, Resources and the Cost of Living
- Cllr Kabir Ahmed, Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding
- Cllr Abu Talha Chowdhury, Safer Communities
- Cllr Shafi Ahmed, Environment and the Climate Emergency
- Cllr Sabina Akhtar, Health, Wellbeing and Social Care
- Cllr Musthak Ahmed, Jobs, Enterprise, Skills and Growth
- Cllr Bodrul Choudhury, Customer Services, Equalities and Social Inclusion
- Cllr Kamrul Hussain, Culture and Recreation

LIMEHOUSE



James King
(Labour)

james.king@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07736 371160

MILE END



Leelu Ahmed
(Labour)

leelu.ahmed@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Mohammad Chowdhury
(Labour)

mohammad.chowdhury@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07877 471838



Sabina Khan
(Aspire)

sabina.khan@towerhamlets.gov.uk

POPLAR



Gulam Kibria Choudhury
(Aspire)

gulam.k.choudhury@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07846 659941

SHADWELL



Ana Miah
(Aspire)

ana.miah@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Harun Miah
(Aspire)

harunmiahcllr@outlook.com
07949 051 295

SPITALFIELDS & BANGLATOWN



Suluk Ahmed
(Aspire)

suluk.ahmed@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07956 830783



Kabir Hussain
(Independent)

kabir.hussain@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07828 424124

ST DUNSTAN'S



Maisha Begum
(Labour)

maisha.begum@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07535 288572



Ayas Miah
(Independent)

cllr.ayas.miah@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07961 566066

ST KATHERINE'S & WAPPING



Amy Lee
(Labour)

amy.lee@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07845 708627



Abdal Ullah
(Labour)

abdul.ullah@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07956 124264

STEPNEY GREEN



Sabina Akhtar
(Aspire)

sabina.akhtar@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07961 792965



Abdul Wahid
(Aspire)

abdul.wahid@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07383 458289

WEAVERS



Kabir Ahmed
(Aspire)

kabir.ahmed2@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07572 609 549



Asma Islam
(Labour)

asma.islam@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07538 325176

WHITECHAPEL



Faroque Ahmed
(Labour)

faroque.ahmed@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07956 972328



Shafi Ahmed
(Aspire)

shafi.ahmed@towerhamlets.gov.uk
07956 959764

Kamrul Hussain
(Aspire)



kamrul.hussain@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Councillor Maium Talukdar visited a school to congratulate students on their excellent A-level results and to thank the dedicated education staff who supported their success.



GCSE results day. Students across Tower Hamlets discover their grades.

এ-লেভেল ও জিসিএসই-তে বারার শিক্ষার্থীদের দুর্দান্ত সাফল্য Fantastic A-level and GCSE grades for our students – page 23

এই গ্রীষ্মে এ-লেভেল ও জিসিএসই পরীক্ষার ফলাফল হাতে পেয়ে উচ্ছ্বাসে মেতেছে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের হাজারো শিক্ষার্থী। এ-লেভেলের ফলাফলে বারার শিক্ষার্থীরা জাতীয় গড়ের তুলনায় দ্রুত অগ্রগতি করেছে। প্রায় ৭৩.৪ শতাংশ শিক্ষার্থী এ স্টার থেকে সি প্রোড অর্জন করেছে, যা গত বছরের ৬৯.২ শতাংশ থেকে ৪.২ শতাংশ

বেশি। এ উন্নতি ইংল্যান্ডের গড় উন্নতির হার ১.৭ শতাংশের চেয়েও বেশি। অন্যদিকে, প্রায় ১৮.৫ শতাংশ শিক্ষার্থী এ-স্টার বা এ প্রোড অর্জন করেছে, যা ২০২৪ সালের তুলনায় ২.৭ শতাংশ বেশি। এই সাফল্যের মধ্যে বিশেষভাবে উল্লেখযোগ্য হলো ইয়ং মেয়র অব টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস, ফাতুমা হাসান। তিনি ভর্তি হয়েছেন বিশ্ববিখ্যাত

হার্ভার্ড বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে, যেখানে তিনি গভর্নমেন্ট উইথ ইকোনমিকস নিয়ে পড়াশোনা করবেন। জিসিএসই ফলাফলেও সাফল্যের ধারা অব্যাহত রয়েছে। ইংরেজিতে ৮২ শতাংশ শিক্ষার্থী ৯-৪ গ্রেড (পুরনো এ স্টার থেকে সি সমতুল্য) অর্জন করেছে। গণিতে এই হার দাঁড়িয়েছে ৭৪ শতাংশে। টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের এক্সিকিউটিভ মেয়র লুতফুর

রহমান শিক্ষার্থীদের অভিনন্দন জানিয়ে বলেন, “আমাদের সব শিক্ষার্থীকে অভিনন্দন, যারা এবারের এ-লেভেল ও জিসিএসই পরীক্ষায় দুর্দান্ত ফলাফল করেছে। শিক্ষকদের ও কর্মীদের কঠোর পরিশ্রমের জন্য আন্তরিক ধন্যবাদ। আমাদের তরুণ প্রজন্মের প্রতিভা ও উদ্দীপনায় আমি ভীষণ গর্বিত। কাউন্সিল হিসেবে আমরা সবসময় তাদের পাশে থাকব।”

পেনশন ক্রেডিট দাবি করা হয়েছে ৭ লাখ পাউন্ডের বেশি

£700,000 in Pension Credit claimed – page 35

গত শীতে কাউন্সিলের “ক্রেডিট হোয়ার্যার ক্রেডিট ইজ ডিউ” প্রচারণা শুরু হওয়ার পর থেকে এখন পর্যন্ত ৭০০,০০০ পাউন্ডের বেশি পেনশন ক্রেডিট ক্লেইম বা দাবি করা হয়েছে। কাউন্সিলের তথ্য অনুযায়ী, বারার ৪ হাজারেরও বেশি পরিবার এই ভাতাটি দাবি করছেন না, যার বার্ষিক গড় মূল্য পরিবার প্রতি প্রায় ৩,৯০০ পাউন্ড। পেনশন ক্রেডিটের মাধ্যমে আরও যে সকল সুবিধা পাওয়া যায়, তার মধ্যে রয়েছে ৭৫ বছরের বেশি হলে বিনামূল্যে টিভি লাইসেন্স, এনএইচএস খরচে সহায়তা এবং

শীতকালীন ফ্যুয়েল পেমেট। কাউন্সিলের রিসোর্সেস এবং কস্ট অব লিভিং-এর ক্যাবিনেট মেম্বর, কাউন্সিলর সাঈদ আহমেদ বলেন, “আমরা আমাদের অংশীদারদের সঙ্গে কাজ চালিয়ে যাচ্ছি আরও বেশি বাসিন্দার কাছে পৌঁছাতে, এবং আমাদের এই প্রচেষ্টা কার্যকর হচ্ছে। নভেম্বর থেকে এখন পর্যন্ত ১৮১ পরিবার পেনশন ক্রেডিট দাবি করেছে। শুধু পেনশন ক্রেডিট ক্যালকুলেটরে ক্লিক করুন এবং দেখুন আপনি কী পাওয়ার অধিকারী।” কীভাবে দাবি করবেন: - পেনশন ক্রেডিট হেল্পলাইনে কল

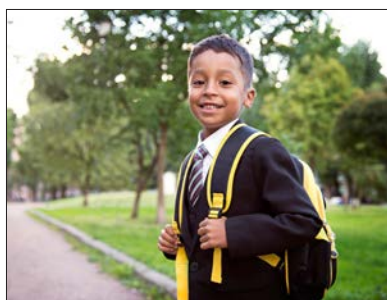
করুনঃ ০৮০০ ৯৯ ১২৩৪ - অনলাইনে আবেদন করুনঃ www.gov.uk/pension-credit আবেদন করার সময় আপনার ন্যাশনাল ইন্সুরেন্স নম্বর, আপনার আয়, সংখ্যা ও বিনিয়োগের তথ্য, যে অ্যাকাউন্টে টাকা জমা হবে তার বিবরণ লাগবে। আপনি যোগ্য কিনা তা জানার টুল পেনশন ক্রেডিট ক্যালকুলেটর ব্যবহারে অসুবিধা হলে বা এব্যাপারে সহযোগিতার দরকার হলে, সরাসরি কল করুনঃ ০২০ ৭৩৬৪ ৫০৪০। প্রয়োজনে সামান্যসামান্য সহায়তাও পাওয়া যাবে।

স্কুলের পোষাক কিনতে আর্থিক অনুদান Grants for school clothing costs – page 9

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসে বসবাসরত পরিবারগুলোর যেসব শিশু চলতি সেপ্টেম্বর মাসে প্রাথমিক বা মাধ্যমিক স্কুলে ভর্তি হয়েছে, তাদের পরিবার স্কুল ইউনিফর্ম বা পোষাক কেনার খরচ মেটাতে আর্থিক অনুদানের জন্য ৩০ সেপ্টেম্বর পর্যন্ত আবেদন করতে পারবে। স্কুল ক্রুদিং বা স্কুলের পোষাক কেনার জন্য অনুদান দেয়ার এই প্রকল্পে কাউন্সিল ১ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড বরাদ্দ করেছে। যেসব পরিবারের বার্ষিক আয় সর্বোচ্চ ৫০,৩৫০ পাউন্ড পর্যন্ত, তারা প্রাইমারি স্কুলে (রিসেপশন ইয়ারে) ভর্তি হওয়া প্রতিটি শিশুর জন্য ৫০ পাউন্ড এবং সেকেন্ডারি স্কুলে (ইয়ার সেভেন) ভর্তি হওয়ার শিশু প্রতি ১৫০ পাউন্ড অনুদান চেয়ে আবেদন করতে পারবে।

এর ফলে প্রতিবছর প্রায় ৭,০০০ শিক্ষার্থী উপকৃত হবে। আগামী তিন বছরে মোট ২১,০০০ শিশু এ সুবিধা পাবে বলে আশা করা হচ্ছে।

পরিবারগুলো আবেদন প্রক্রিয়া সম্পর্কিত পূর্ণাঙ্গ তথ্য, কারা আবেদন করতে পারবেন, আয়ের প্রমাণপত্র হিসেবে কী কী লাগবে এবং আবেদন ফর্মের লিঙ্ক দেখতে পারেন এই নির্দিষ্ট ওয়েবসাইটেঃ www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/SCG



ফ্রি ভাষা শিক্ষার কোর্স চালু

Free language courses for young residents – page 31

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস বারার শিশু-কিশোরদের জন্য ফ্রি ভাষা শিক্ষা কোর্স চালু করেছে কাউন্সিল। স্থানীয় স্কুল, আইডিয়া স্টোর ও স্বেচ্ছাসেবী সংস্থার সঙ্গে সহযোগিতায় কাউন্সিল আরবি, বাংলা, ম্যাডারিন/ক্যাটোনিজ ও সোমালি ভাষার ক্লাস আয়োজনে বিশেষ কর্মসূচি গ্রহণ করেছে।

কাউন্সিলের ইয়ং কমিউনিটি ল্যান্ডমার্কস (YCL) সার্ভিস বারার কিশোর-তরুণ বয়সীদের তাদের মাতৃভাষার সঙ্গে সংযোগ স্থাপন, সাংস্কৃতিক পরিচয় শক্তিশালী করা এবং ভবিষ্যতের শিক্ষার জন্য গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভাষা দক্ষতা অর্জনের সুযোগ করে দেবে। সেপ্টেম্বর ও অক্টোবরে শুরু হওয়া এই কোর্স সম্পর্কে বিস্তারিত তথ্য ও নাম রেজিস্ট্রেশনের জন্য দেখুনঃ www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ycl

Young Community Language

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের অভিভাবকদের দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ

ভাষা শিক্ষার মাধ্যমে আপনার সন্তানের একাডেমিক ও কর্মসংস্থানের সম্ভাবনা উজ্জ্বল করুন।

বাংলা, আরবি, ম্যাডারিন/ক্যাটোনিজ, সোমালি সহ আরও কয়েকটি ভাষায় শিক্ষার সুযোগ।

আপনার সন্তানের খুশি এবং সন্তোষকে ত্বরান্বিত করুন।

হাসানলি হাফিজের মাধ্যমে শিক্ষার সুযোগ। প্রতিটি ক্লাসে প্রায় ১৫ জন শিক্ষার্থী।

Tower Hamlets are offering young people in the borough the chance to learn their heritage languages and explore new languages. We have partnered with schools, local businesses and voluntary organisations to provide language classes in Arabic, Bangla, Mandarin / Cantonese and Somali.

ফ্রি ভাষা কোর্স চালু করুন www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ycl

কোনো ভাষা জানতে ইমেইল করুন ycl@towerhamlets.gov.uk

আরবি: العربية
ম্যাডারিন: 普通话
বাংলা: বাংলা
সোমালি: SOOMALI

ফ্রি ভাষা কোর্স চালু করুন www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ycl

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসে ভোটার তালিকা হালনাগাদ শুরু Ensure you're ready and able to vote – page 20

২০২৫ সালের বার্ষিক ভোটার তালিকা যাচাই বা এনুয়্যাল ক্যানভাস শুরু হয়েছে, যাতে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের যোগ্য ভোটারদের তথ্য ১ ডিসেম্বর ২০২৫ তারিখে প্রকাশিত হবে। ভোটার তালিকায় সঠিকভাবে অন্তর্ভুক্ত থাকে। এই প্রক্রিয়ায় বিদ্যমান ভোটার তালিকার তথ্য সরকারী পোর্টালে আপলোড করা হয় এবং ডিপার্টমেন্ট অব ওয়ার্ক অ্যান্ড পেনশনস (DWP) কর্তৃক সংরক্ষিত ভোটার তথ্যসমূহের সাথে মিলিয়ে দেখানো হয়, যাতে বারার প্রতিটি পরিবারের সঠিক ঠিকানায় যোগাযোগ পৌঁছে এবং বসবাস নিশ্চিত করা যায়। ডিডলিউপি-এর ডেটা মিলানোর

ফলাফলের ভিত্তিতে তিন ধরনের যোগাযোগ করা হয়ঃ

ক্লট একঃ যেসব বাড়ির তথ্য পুরোপুরি মিলেছে, তারা একটি চিঠি পাবেন, যেখানে এটা জানানো হবে যে ভোটারের তথ্য ঠিক আছে এবং তালিকা আপডেটের জন্য কোনো কিছু করার প্রয়োজন নেই। তবে, কোনো পরিবর্তন প্রয়োজন হলে তা অনলাইন, ফোন বা এসএমএস (টেক্সট)-এর মাধ্যমে করা যেতে পারে, যেখানে ভোটারদের নাম যোগ করা, পরিবর্তন বা মুছে ফেলা সম্ভব।

ক্লট দুইঃ যেসব বাড়ির তথ্য পুরোপুরি মিলেছে না, তারা একটি চিঠি পাবেন যা জানাবে যে রেসপন্স বা প্রতিক্রিয়া দেওয়া আবশ্যিক এবং

এটা বসবাসকারীদেরই নিশ্চিত করতে হবে। এটি কাগজের মাধ্যমে, এসএমএস, ফোন, সরাসরি বা অনলাইনে করা যাবে। কিভাবে এটি সম্পন্ন করা যায়, সেসম্পর্কে চিঠিতে বিস্তারিত নির্দেশনা থাকবে।

ক্লট তিনঃ নির্দিষ্ট কিছু প্রতিষ্ঠান যেমন কেয়ার হোম, রেসিডেন্সিয়াল হোম এবং বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় যেগুলোর সঙ্গে প্রতিষ্ঠিত যোগাযোগ রয়েছে, সেসক্রে ইলেক্টোরাল সার্ভিসেস টিম সরাসরি এসব প্রতিষ্ঠানের সঙ্গে সমন্বয় করবে, চিঠি পাঠানো হবে না।

আপনি যে সমস্ত চিঠি পাবেন সেগুলোর দিকে দৃষ্টি রাখুন এবং যথাযথভাবে রেসপন্স করুন বা প্রতিক্রিয়া জানান।



Mayor Lutfur Rahman cuts a cake with the Chief Executive, senior council officers and guests to mark the 60th anniversary of Tower Hamlets Council.

এক্যের উৎসবে পূর্ব লন্ডনে ২২,৫০০ মানুষের মিলনমেলা

East London festivities bring over 22,500 people together to celebrate diversity – page 6 & 7

সেপ্টেম্বর মাসের তৃতীয় উইকেড বা সপ্তাহান্তে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিল পূর্ব লন্ডনের অভিবাসন ইতিহাস, সমৃদ্ধ খাদ্যসংস্কৃতি ও সাংস্কৃতিক বৈচিত্র্য উদযাপন করতে দু'টি বড় উৎসবের আয়োজন করে। উগ্র ডানপন্থীদের বিভাজন সৃষ্টিকারী মিছিলের এক সপ্তাহ পর এই আয়োজনকে 'এক্যের প্রতিশোধক' হিসেবে বর্ণনা করেছেন টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের এক্সিকিউটিভ মেয়র লুৎফুর রহমান।

শনিবার টাউন হল ওপেন ডে ও স্মারক ফলক স্থাপন অনুষ্ঠান এবং রবিবার ব্রিক লেন কারি ফেস্টিভ্যাল - এই দুই উৎসবে মিলিত হন ২২,৫০০ জনেরও বেশি মানুষ। এর মধ্যে কারি ফেস্টিভ্যালে অংশ

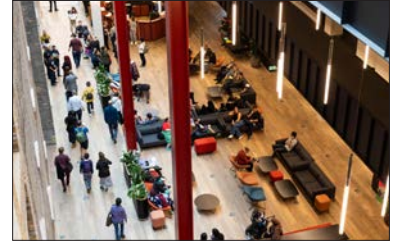
নেন প্রায় ২০,০০০ দর্শনার্থী এবং টাউন হলের উৎসবে যোগ দেন প্রায় ২,৫০০ বাসিন্দা।

শনিবার ওপেন ডে এবং প্রাক উন্মোচন অনুষ্ঠানকে ঘিরে ঐতিহাসিক রয়্যাল লন্ডন হাসপাতালের ভবন-বর্তমানে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস টাউন হল-জুড়ে ওঠে নানা রঙে। যুব কাউন্সিলের উপস্থাপনায় দিনভর পরিবেশিত হয় সেন্টিক নৃত্য, বাংলা ও সোমালি সাংস্কৃতিক পরিবেশনা, স্টিল ব্যান্ড ও রেজমার মিউজিক। টাউন হল প্রান্তে ছিল শিশুদের জন্য ফেস পেইন্টিং, ক্রাইসিং ওয়াল ও প্রাপ্তবয়স্কদের জন্য ফিটনেস সেশন সহ নানা আয়োজন।

এই অনুষ্ঠানে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের

বহুমাত্রিক ঐতিহ্যের প্রতীক হিসেবে ইংরেজি এবং বাংলা ভাষায় টাউন হলের স্মারক ফলক আনুষ্ঠানিকভাবে উন্মোচন করেন নির্বাহী মেয়র লুৎফুর রহমান। এ সময় উপস্থিত ছিলেন অস্ট্রেলিয়ার হাইকমিশনার স্টিফেন স্মিথ সহ বারার সকল কমিউনিটির নেতৃবৃন্দ সহ সর্বস্তরের বাসিন্দারা। ভবনের ভেতরে নতুন আলোকচিত্র প্রদর্শনীও দর্শনার্থীদের আকর্ষণ করে।

এক্সিকিউটিভ মেয়র লুৎফুর রহমান বলেন, “এই সপ্তাহান্তে আমরা দেখিয়েছি লন্ডনের আসল রূপ-যেখানে মানুষ একত্রিত হয় খাবার, শিল্প ও সংস্কৃতির মাধ্যমে, আইকনিক ব্রিক লেন কারি ফেস্টিভ্যাল এবং আমাদের টাউন হল



Hundreds flocked to the Town Hall and enjoyed the Brick Lane Curry Festival, with a colourful parade, live cooking demos and a variety of festivities.

আয়োজিত উৎসবে। আমাদের শহর একা ও সম্প্রদায়ের প্রতীক, আর আমরা আমাদের বৈচিত্র্য উদযাপন করি।” মেয়র বলেন, “পূর্ব লন্ডনের ইতিহাস হলো এক্যের ইতিহাস। কেবল স্ট্রিটে ফ্যাসিস্টদের মোকাবিলা থেকে শুরু করে আলতাভ আলীর হত্যার প্রতিবাদ, কিংবা ইডিএল-কে রুখে দাঁড়ানো - প্রতিবারই আমরা দেখিয়েছি বৈচিত্র্যই আমাদের শক্তি। আজও তাই। যারা বিভাজন ছড়াতে চায়, তারা ব্যর্থ হবে। পূর্ব লন্ডন একতাবদ্ধ।”

অন্যদিকে, রবিবার প্রায় এক দশক পর টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিল ও বাংলাটাউন ট্রেডার্স অ্যাসোসিয়েশনের যৌথ উদ্যোগে অনুষ্ঠিত হয় ব্রিক লেন কারি ফেস্টিভ্যাল ২০২৫। ব্রিক লেনের কারি হাউসগুলোতে

উৎসব উপলক্ষে বিশেষ ডিশ পরিবেশনের পাশাপাশি ছিল লাইভ কুকিং ডেমো, হেনা ওয়াকারশপ, নৃত্য প্রদর্শনী, প্যারেড ও লাইভ মিউজিক।

কাউন্সিলের লীড মেম্বার ফর কমিউনিটি সেফটি কাউন্সিলর আবু তালহা চৌধুরীর পরিচালনায় কারী ফেস্টিভ্যালের উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠানে বক্তব্য রাখেন নির্বাহী মেয়র লুৎফুর রহমান, যুক্তরাজ্যে নিযুক্ত বাংলাদেশের হাইকমিশনার আবিদা ইসলাম, বিসিএ প্রেসিডেন্ট অলি খান এমবিই, বাংলাটাউন ট্রেডার্স অ্যাসোসিয়েশনের চেয়ারম্যান গুলজার খান, ব্রিক লেন বিষয়ক বইয়ের লেখক দিনা বেগম সহ স্থানীয় ব্যবসায়ী ও কমিউনিটি নেতৃবৃন্দ।

দেশের অন্যতম উচ্চাকাঙ্ক্ষী আবাসন প্রকল্প শুরু হচ্ছে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসে

3,000 new homes for our residents – page 13



টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসে আবাসন সংকট মোকাবিলায় বড় পদক্ষেপ নেওয়া হয়েছে। কাউন্সিল-মালিকানাধীন ৩৭টি সাইটে দ্রুতগতিতে সর্বোচ্চ ৩,৩০২টি নতুন বাড়ি নির্মাণের কর্মসূচি অনুমোদন করা হয়েছে। মেয়রসূচি অ্যাকসেলারেটেড হাউজিং প্রোগ্রাম (MAHP) আগামী পাঁচ বছরে বাস্তবায়িত হবে, যেখানে অগ্রাধিকার দেওয়া হবে শাস্রীয় ভাড়ার এবং বড় পরিবারের জন্য উপযোগী বাড়ি নির্মাণের দিকে।

এটি সেই প্রতিশ্রুতির অতিরিক্ত যেখানে ২০২৬ সালের মে মাসের মধ্যে ৪,০০০ প্রকৃত শাস্রীয়

ভাড়ার উপযোগী ঘর নির্মাণ করার টার্গেট বা লক্ষ্য নির্ধারণ করা হয়েছিলো। কাউন্সিল জানিয়েছে, তারা ইতিমধ্যেই এ লক্ষ্যমাত্রা ছাড়িয়ে যাওয়ার পথে। এই ঘোষণা এবং বর্তমানে চলমান সামর্থ্যবান হাউজিং কর্মসূচি মিলিয়ে এটি দেশের সবচেয়ে উচ্চাকাঙ্ক্ষী আবাসন প্রকল্পগুলির অন্যতম হয়ে দাঁড়িয়েছে।

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের এক্সিকিউটিভ মেয়র লুৎফুর রহমান বলেন, “এই কর্মসূচি শুধু সংখ্যা নিয়ে নয়, মানুষের জীবন পরিবর্তনের জন্য। পর্যাপ্ত বাসস্থানের অভাব মানুষের

জীবনকে ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত করে-যা স্বাস্থ্য, শিক্ষা, কর্মসংস্থান থেকে শুরু করে জীবন প্রত্যাশা পর্যন্ত সবকিছুতে প্রভাব ফেলে। আমি গর্বিত যে আমরা দেশে সবচেয়ে উচ্চাকাঙ্ক্ষী আবাসন কর্মসূচিগুলির একটি শুরু করছি। অন্য কাউন্সিল যেখানে ঘর নির্মাণে হিমশিম খাচ্ছে, সেখানে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস তার বাসিন্দাদের জন্য নিরাপদ, টেকসই ও উচ্চমানের কাউন্সিল বাড়ি তৈরি করে, বিশেষত বড় পরিবার ও সহজপ্রবেশযোগ্য বাড়ি সরবরাহের মাধ্যমে অন্যদের পথ দেখাচ্ছে।”

বর্তমানে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিলের ১০৯টি ইউনিট নির্মাণাধীন রয়েছে। এ বছরের জুলাইয়ে বাকহাস্ট স্ট্রিটে অব্যবহৃত গ্যারেজের জায়গায় চার বেডরুম বিশিষ্ট ছয়টি নতুন ঘর নির্মাণের কাজ শুরু হয়েছে।

আর্নল্ড রোডে কাউন্সিলের আরেকটি প্রকল্প সম্প্রতি ‘টপিং আউট’ মাইলফলক ছুঁয়েছে, যা একটি ভবনের কাঠামো সম্পূর্ণ হওয়ার মুহূর্তকে বোঝায়। বো এলাকায় অবস্থিত এই ৬২টি নতুন বাড়ি নির্মাণ প্রকল্প সম্পূর্ণ

শাস্রীয় কাউন্সিল হোম হিসেবে তৈরি হচ্ছে, যেখানে প্রতিটি বাড়ি সামাজিক ভাড়া বা টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের ‘লিভিং রেন্ট’ হারে ভাড়া দেওয়া হবে।

এদিকে, পপলারের টেন্ডিয়ার এস্টেটে প্রায় ২,০০০ নতুন বাড়ি নিয়ে একটি বড় রিজেনারেশন প্রকল্প জুলাইয়ে অনুমোদন পেয়েছে। পপলার হারকা ও হিল গ্রুপের যৌথ উদ্যোগে ১৯৫০-এর দশকের পুরনো এস্টেটে থাকা ৫৩৫টি বাড়ি ভেঙে ফেলা হবে এবং তার জায়গায় তৈরি হবে ১,৯২৮টি নতুন বাড়ি, যা বর্তমানের তুলনায় প্রায় চার গুণ বেশি।

কাউন্সিল অনুমোদিত পরিকল্পনা অনুযায়ী নতুন বাড়িগুলোর মধ্যে ৪১১টি সোশ্যাল রেন্ট অর্থাৎ সামাজিক ভাড়ার জন্য নির্ধারিত, যার মধ্যে রয়েছে ২০২টি বড় পরিবারের উপযোগী বাড়ি। বিদ্যমান বাড়িগুলো ধাপে ধাপে ভেঙে ফেলা হবে এবং কয়েক বছরের মধ্যে মোট ২১টি বিভিন্ন প্রকল্পে নতুন বাড়িগুলোর নির্মাণ সম্পন্ন হবে।

বাংলা নাট্যোৎসব ‘এ সিজন অব বাংলা ড্রামা’ নভেম্বরে



A Season of Bangla Drama is back – page 40

‘দয়া’ বা ‘কাইন্ডনেস’- এই বিষয়কে সামনে রেখে নভেম্বর মাসে ফিরে আসছে স্বতন্ত্র ও প্রশংসিত নাট্যোৎসব ‘এ সিজন অব বাংলা ড্রামা’। উৎসবে ১২টি নতুন প্রযোজনা মঞ্চস্থ হবে, যেখানে ভিন্ন ভিন্ন দৃষ্টিকোণ থেকে খোঁজা হবে উদারতার অর্থ। থাকবে অভিবাসীদের অভিজ্ঞতা, নিজের যত্ন নেওয়ার উদারতা, সমাজে সহানুভূতি ও সৌহার্দ্যের ইতিবাচক প্রভাব-কখনও নীরব অদৃশ্য ইঙ্গিতে, কখনও আবার বিদ্রোহী অভিনয়ে। কর্মসূচিতে থাকবে নাটক, কমেডি, আলোচনা, গান ও সঙ্গীত। প্রদর্শনী হবে বাংলা, সিলেটি ও ইংরেজি ভাষায়। নতুন লেখকদের জন্য প্র্যাটফর্ম তৈরিই এ উৎসবের অন্যতম উদ্দেশ্য।

উৎসব চলবে ১ থেকে ৩০ নভেম্বর, স্থান ব্র্যাডি আর্টস সেন্টার এবং কুইন মেরি ইউনিভার্সিটির পিন্টার স্টুডিও। পাশাপাশি থাকছে ফ্রিজ প্রোগ্রাম-আর্ট ওয়াকারশপ, প্রদর্শনী, আলোচনা ও হাঁটা ট্যুর। টিকেট বিক্রি শুরু হবে অক্টোবরের শুরুতে। আরও তথ্যের জন্য ফেসবুক পেজ ফলো করুন বা ভিজিট করুন: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/seasonbangladrama

Deeqo lagu kaalmeeyo qarashka dharka dugsiga ayaa la soo saaray



HARMONY SOMALI NEWS

Qoysaska ku nool Tower Hamlets waxay xaq u yeelan karaan deeq si looga caawiyo kharashka dharka dugsiga. Codsiyada waxa ay furan yihiin ilaa 30ka Sebtembar ee deeqda carruurta bilaabaya dugsiyada hoose iyo dhexe bishan Sebtembar, si loo taageero qoysaska la tacaalaya cadaadiska-nololeed ee joogtada ah.

Golaha Sanduuqiisa cusub ee £1m-sannadkii ee deeqaha dharka dugsiga wuxuu u ogolaanayaa qoysaska leh dakhliga qoyska ilaa £50,350 inay dalbadaan £50 ilmo kasta oo galaya dugsiga hoose sanadka soo dhaweynta, iyo £150

ilmo kasta oo galaya dugsiga sare ee sannadka 7. Maalgelinta cusub ayaa la filayaa inay bixiso deeqda ilaa 7,000 oo carruur ah sannad kasta oo leh taageero dheeraad ah si ay u iibsadaan dharkooda dugsiga iyo 2 lebbis in ka badan saddexda sano ee soo socota.

Waalidiintu waxay codsan karaan laga bilaabo marka loo sheego meelaynta dugsiga ilmahooda ilaa 30ka Sebtembar sanadkaas ilmo 4 jir ah oo bilaabaya qaabilaada, ama ilmo 11 jir ah oo u wareegaya dugsiga hoose illaa ka sare.

Hooyo Ruhena, oo gabadheeda Amarah ay ka bilaabayso Mulberry Academy Shoreditch bishan Sebtembar, ayaa tidhi: "Tani waa qorshe wanaagsan oo runtii faa'iido

u leh qoysaska gaar ahaan kor u kaca qiimaha dharka dugsiga iyo qiimaha nolosha ku adag tahay.

Duqa fulinta ee Tower Hamlets, Lutfur Rahman, ayaa yiri: "Waan ku faraxsanahay in aan hogaamineyno habka qaran ahaan sida golaha ugu horeeya ee dalka si ay u siiyaan taageerada qoysaska, hubinta in ilmo kasta, iyada oo aan loo eegin asalkiisa, uu haysto fursadda ugu fiican ee uu ku kobcin karo waxbarashada. Bilawga dugsiga cusub waa hab gaar ah oo loogu talagalay carruurta, kuwaas oo doonaya in ay sameeyaan farxad iyo kalsooni bilawga dugsiga, laakiin kharashka dheeraadka ah ee qoysaska dhibayo."

Cllr Saied Ahmed, Xubinta

Golaha Wasiirada ee Khayraadka, Qiimaha Nolosha iyo Qaybta Iskaa wax u qabso iyo Bulshada, ayaa yiri: "Nidaamkeena deeqda dharka dugsiga ee la xoojiyey waxay ka dhigan tahay in illaa 7,000 oo carruur ah sannadkii ay heli doonaan taageero dheeraad ah si loo hubiyo inay diyaar u yihiin inay wax bartaan.

Qoysasku waxa ay booqan karaan bogga u go'ay ee www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/SCG si aad u hesho tafaasiil buuxda oo ku saabsan habka codsiga, oo ay ku jiraan cidda codsan karta, caddaynta dakhliga loo baahan yahay, iyo isku xidhka foomka laftiisa.

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 Greateorex 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

Employment and Skills
Centre, 55 Upper Bank
Street, E14.
youngworkpath@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Council

Town Hall

160 Whitechapel Road,
London, E1 1BJ.
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

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@healthwatchtowerhamlets.co.uk
www.healthwatchtowerhamlets.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.towerhamletsypwhs@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 and housing advice

Phone: 020 7364 7474
Homelessness services
Phone: 020 7364 7474
Out of hours: 020 7364 4079

Homeseekers

www.thhs.org.uk

Housing services, including repairs

Phone: 020 7364 5015
Freephone: 0800 376 1637

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.
0207 364 5100

Mile End Park Leisure Centre and Stadium

190 Burdett Road, E3.
0207 364 5100

Poplar Baths

170 East India Dock Road,
0207 364 5100

Tiller Leisure Centre

Tiller Road, Isle of Dogs
E14. 0207 364 5100

Whitechapel Sports Centre

55 Durward Street, E1.
0207 364 5100

York Hall Leisure Centre

5-15 Old Ford Road, E2.
0207 364 5100

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

Parent & child

Family Information Service

30 Greateorex 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

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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