

BOOST CULTURE



Residents enjoy Summer of Fun activities

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COUNCIL NEWS



London 2012 Olympic legacy lives on in Tower Hamlets

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ACCELERATE EDUCATION



Thousands benefited from first year of free school meals

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ISSUE THIRTY-FOUR // SEPTEMBER 2024



OUR EAST END



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Council makes a splash with free swimming



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BBC Asian Network presenter Nadia Ali (c) with John Maynard, CEO of Olmec, with 3 I Can Be... champions

Be the change you want to see in our borough

COUNCIL NEWS

Reducing racial inequality is at the heart of a new campaign launched by Tower Hamlets Council.

I Can Be... aims to empower residents from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds to become community leaders and have real decision-making powers.

The council has partnered with national organisation Olmec

“

I don't want anyone to think they are not good enough at something just because of the colour of their skin or their social background

and seven inspiring community champions to encourage residents to step out of their comfort zone and be the change they want to see.

The campaign wants to see more BAME representation in voluntary roles such as magistrates, school governors, police community support officers and on housing and education boards.

Currently Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic residents are under-represented in these roles.

In Tower Hamlets, 32 per cent of school governors, and just 16 per cent of chairs of school governors, are from a BAME background.

Only 13 per cent of all magistrates from across the UK are from a Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic background.

Dr Martin Griffiths, I Can Be... champion, said: "I am happy to be lending my support to the I Can Be... campaign as it is important for all communities to be represented in decision making and what better way to influence what happens in your community than by being a

community leader.

"We need community leaders from all walks of life and ages. Do not let anyone hold you back.

"If you are passionate about serving your community and have something to say, then we want to hear from you. Show us what you can be."

Cllr Abdul Wahid, Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Equalities and Social Inclusion, said: "Many years ago when I took a group of students from Tower Hamlets to visit Cambridge University, I remember one student asking me, 'Can someone like me, an Asian boy who has grown up on a council estate, really apply and be accepted somewhere like here. Is that really a possibility?'

"I don't want anyone to think they are not good enough or don't have a shot at something just because of the colour of their skin or their social background. I Can Be... hopes to change people's mindset."

A message from your Mayor

September is the month of new starts with children returning to school and the beginning of autumn.



But for the council, it is business as usual as we continue with our hard work to make Tower Hamlets a place we are all proud to call home.

Free swimming has officially launched at our Be Well leisure centres, encouraging participation in sport for those less likely to go swimming. Swimming is a fantastic way to get fit, have fun and lose weight and I encourage everyone to give it a go. Swimming lessons are available for anyone who is less confident in the water.

We have also rounded up a fantastic summer of activities with more than 1,000 activities for Summer of Fun.

We were able to help parents who were struggling by providing 50,000 free meals through the programme.

Supporting children to enable them to achieve their full potential is one of the council's key aims. I was thrilled to see our excellent GCSE and A level results from our young people and would like to congratulate them, their families, and all the school staff who helped them achieve these fantastic results. If any of our young people aren't sure what to do next, I would encourage them to get in touch with Young Workpath for expert support and guidance. And talking of young people, I am thrilled that we have launched our Young Tower Hamlets website, which is full of activities, advice and support written by young people for young people. Children are our future and we will do everything we can to make sure their futures are as bright as possible.

Lutfur Rahman
Executive Mayor

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Success for Tower Hamlets A

CELEBRATING OUR BOROUGH

Tower Hamlets pupils achieved great success in their GCSEs this year, provisional borough results show.

In English, 83 per cent of students

achieved grades 9-4 (equivalent to the old A* to C grades).

In Maths, 75 per cent of students achieved grades 9-4. In the English Baccalaureate, 37 per cent of students achieved grades 9-4, a 5 per cent increase from last year.

Cllr Maium Talukdar, Deputy

Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning, joined students collecting their results at Mulberry Academy Shoreditch. He said: "Well done to everyone receiving their GCSE results today and to all the staff who have supported

students to achieve these great results.

"Young people are the future, and we will continue to provide opportunities to enable them to achieve their very best." Hear some of our young people talk about their GCSE results below.



Aiming for law

Mabel Windram, who studied for her GCSEs at Mulberry Academy Shoreditch, said: "I'm really pleased with my results, and I'm going to stay at Mulberry Academy for sixth form. I am planning to study law in the future."



History teacher

Mohammed Sakib Hussain, who studied for his GCSEs at Mulberry Academy Shoreditch, said: "I am very happy, I got a 7 in History which I'm really proud of.

"I plan on going to university and becoming a History teacher."



Ambitions of uni

Zakariya Ismail Hussain, who studied for his GCSEs at Mulberry Academy Shoreditch, said: "I got an 8 in Combined Science, a 7 in Maths, a 7 in Computer Science. I want to stay at Mulberry and study Maths, Computer Science and Physics in my A Levels, and go to university too."



Engineering aim

Mohammed Saif Uddin, who studied for his GCSEs at Mulberry Academy Shoreditch, said: "I got five 9s, one 8, and two 7s in my GCSE results.

"In the future I'm looking to do Engineering and I am thinking about going to university too."

Support available

If you've received your GCSE or A-Level results and aren't sure what to do next, Tower Hamlets Young WorkPath may be able to help.

Young WorkPath is a council service that works with people aged between 13 and 19, or up to age 25 if you have a special educational need or disability.

The team can provide free careers information, advice and guidance about the next steps available, and the options available to you, regardless of what results you achieved in their exams.

Advisers from Young WorkPath can offer appointments in person, over the phone or by video. You can find the Young WorkPath Centre at The Idea Store Watney Market, 260 Commercial Road, E1 2FB (near Shadwell DLR and Shadwell Underground Station).

Find out more at towerhamlets.gov.uk/youngworkpath or call 0800 3581 2410 (freephone) or 020 7364 1401.

Apply for help with cost of sixth form, college and university

Applications for the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) and the University Bursary will reopen this Autumn, providing financial support to students.

The EMA is a £600 payment to eligible sixth form and college students to support them with their studies.

The University Bursary Award is a £1,500 payment to eligible students to support them with

costs associated with their undergraduate studies, including accommodation, books and resources.

The funds are part of the council's commitment to supporting young people to have greater life opportunities and providing financial relief to families.

Since launching in 2022, the council has funded 2,350 grants

totaling £1.82million.

Adam Ghalem received the EMA last year.

He said: "The Tower Hamlets EMA has benefited me financially as it allowed me to purchase books and specifications to help me achieve better grades on my business course."

Keep an eye on the council website for application opening dates.



A-Level and GCSE students



Almost one-fifth of A Level students achieved an A* or an A

Three-quarters achieve A* to C in A Levels

Students across Tower Hamlets have been celebrating their results for A Levels and Level 3 vocational qualifications.

In Tower Hamlets, almost three-quarters (69.1 per cent) of students achieved an A* to C grade in their A Levels.

Almost one-fifth (16.1 per cent) achieved an A* or A grade.

Students also received results for Level 3 vocational qualifications.

Over half of those who entered BTECs in Tower Hamlets achieved all grades at Distinction and above, a 2.4 per cent increase from 2023.

Cllr Maium Talukdar, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning, said: "Congratulations to all those who received their A Level and Level 3 results today.

"These results are a testament to their hard work and dedication,

and I wish them well for their next steps.

"Thank you to our school leaders and staff who have supported students throughout their time at school with their studies and their wellbeing, to help them achieve these results."



Excited to start

Rothan Debnath achieved A, B, C, C in Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Computer Science at Langdon Park School and is off to study Maths at Queen Mary University. He said: "I'm looking forward to going to university and meeting new people. It's a four year course so I'll probably make a lot of new friends."



Happy with grades

Mahie Islam achieved A, B, B in Maths, Physics and Computer Science at Langdon Park School.

He is going to study Computer Science at Queen Mary University.

He said: "The future is looking difficult but I'm happy that I've got this stage right so that I can move onto the next stage."



Results surprise

Sanjida Chowdhury got A, B, B in Economics, Politics and Maths at Langdon Park School and is going to study Economics and Management at King's University.

She said: "This isn't what I was expecting.

"I thought I'd do a lot worse!"



Feeling optimistic

Ikram Merabet achieved an A in Psychology and Distinction* and Distinction in BTEC Applied Science at Langdon Park School.

She said: "I'm quite optimistic about the future, I didn't expect to get as good as I did."

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

Join the new, accredited Access to Fostering course

The course will help you

- Understand the role of the Foster Carer including learning about child development and how to keep children safe
- Develop the skills needed to become a Foster Carer
- Build confidence in speaking and listening

Course structure

- 11 group sessions with other fostering applicants
- An expenses-paid work placement in a Family or Youth Centre
- A move to ESOL and IT courses if needed

Come along to one of our Assessment and Information sessions to find out more. There is no need to book in advance.

- **Wednesday 18 September 2024, 9.30-10.30am**
Marion Richardson Primary School, Senrab Street, E1 0QF
- **Friday 20 September 2024, 9.30-10.30am**
Hague Primary School, Wilmot Street, Bethnal Green, E2 0BP
- **Tuesday 24 September 2024, 12-4pm**
The Parents Advice Centre, 30 Greatorex Street, E1 5NP



For more details visit
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Lutfur Rahman, Mayor of Tower Hamlets, and Cllr Mohammed Kamrul Hussain, Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation, launching the swimming

Make a splash with free swimming

INVEST IN SERVICES

Free swimming for some residents in Tower Hamlets has officially launched.

Tower Hamlets Council brought the management of seven leisure centres in-house to give the council direct control over its leisure offer, under the brand Be Well.

Be Well seeks to support residents' journeys to a healthier lifestyle. As part of this, Be Well has launched free swimming for women and girls aged 16 and over, and men aged 55 and over.

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

Lutfur Rahman, Mayor of Tower Hamlets, and Cllr Mohammed

Kamrul Hussain, Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation, officially launched the new free swimming programme at Poplar Baths Leisure Centre and Gym on Monday 15 July.

Ali Noyce, from Swim England, and Matt Croxall, from the Royal Lifesaving Society (RLSS), the borough's new swimming partners, attended to speak about the benefits of swimming and the importance of water safety.

Lutfur Rahman, Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "We are committed to reducing health inequalities and investing in health and wellbeing.

"Insourcing our leisure service and creating Be Well has been one of our many steps towards achieving this."

Cllr Mohammed Kamrul Hussain, Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation, said: "Free swimming for women and girls aged 16 and over, and men aged 55 and over is a targeted approach to removing barriers and bringing communities together, to creating a healthier borough.

"I am excited to launch our new programme and look forward to seeing the benefits this will bring to the community."

• Visit be-well.org.uk/what-we-offer/swimming/free-swimming/



Women and girls over 16 and men over 55 can enjoy free swimming in the borough

Registration criteria:

- To qualify for free swimming you must be a resident of Tower Hamlets.
- Women and girls must be aged 16 and over and males aged 55 and over.
- Proof of age and living in the borough must be provided.
- Residents will be issued with a free membership card that will give them options to book sessions during all of the free designated 'swim for fitness' and 'women only' swim times.
- Sessions will be for one hour.
- Customers arriving without a booking will be given access if a session becomes available.



We are committed to reducing health inequalities

Thousands enjoy Summer of Fun

BOOST CULTURE AND LEISURE

Families have enjoyed more than 1,000 free activities provided by the council as part of the Summer of Fun programme.

Activities included sport, adventure, cookery, drama, dance, youth theatre, cinema, arts and crafts and more.

Weekly fun days in parks and open spaces across the borough saw thousands of families enjoy activities together and socialise with others.

Many events also included a free meal to help parents struggling during the holidays. More than 50,000 free meals have been provided this summer.

Sarina, who attended Rounton Park fun day with seven children said: "We try to do a lot of outdoor activities during the holidays and this event has been so good."

Deborah, who was visiting with Danni-Ella and Archie, said: "We've been to lots of Summer of Fun events. They are great fun for the whole community."

Visitors also had fun at Children and Family Hub events. A parent said: "My child has special educational needs, and I recently took her to a Family Hub event.

"The event provided a welcoming and inclusive environment, with a range of activities that were suitable and engaging for children with SEND. It was heartwarming to see my daughter enjoying herself, laughing, and playing with other children."

Participants on a youth arts programme engaged with arts, culture and creativity and produced short animations, theatrical plays, and an exhibition as well as expressed their creativity through poetry, henna and Somali music. To celebrate the successful completion of the scheme, Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation Councillor Kamrul Hussain, presented the participants with certificates.

Coinciding with the summer of sport, council youth service Young Tower Hamlets hosted activities including football, badminton, basketball, hockey, and multi-sports camps.

Youth workers also led activities such as music production, graffiti art sessions, health, wellbeing and relationship workshops, information, advice and guidance sessions on GCSE and A Level results days and trips out.







Victoria Park which is one of the 14 parks in the borough which has achieved or retained Green Flag status

Green Flag Award for 14 of our parks

Fourteen of the borough's parks and open spaces achieved and retained Green Flag Award status this year.

The accreditation is the international quality mark for parks and green spaces and is testament to the hard work and dedication of teams that care for the borough's green spaces.

For the first time, Trinity Square Gardens, Tower Hill, has also achieved Green Heritage Site Accreditation, supported by Historic England, for the management and promotion of its historic features.

Four community organisations in the borough received Green Flag community awards.

Keep Britain Tidy's Green Flag Award Scheme Manager, Paul

Todd MBE, said: "I would like to congratulate everyone involved in Tower Hamlets on achieving a Green Flag Award.

"Parks and open spaces in the borough are vital green spaces for communities to socialise, enjoy nature, and for children to play safely.

"They also provide important opportunities for park users to improve their physical and mental health.

"It is important that our free-to-use spaces are maintained to the Green Flag Award standard, making them accessible for all members of the community while ensuring the environment is protected."

• Visit towerhamlets.gov.uk/parks

The award-winning sites in Tower Hamlets are:

Green flag awards

- 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
- Victoria Park

- Weavers Field

Green Heritage sites accreditation

- Trinity Square Gardens
- Victoria Park

Green flag community awards

- Regents canal between Limehouse Basin and Mile End Road Lower Regents Coalition
- Mudchute Park and Farm
- St Leonard's Garden
- Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park and Ackroyd Drive Greenlink Local Nature Reserve

Explore our parks' history with new panels

New heritage panels celebrating the history of some of the borough's parks and open spaces were installed during the summer months.

Two of the panels are located in Ropemakers Fields, one just outside the park on the junction with Ropemakers and Narrow Street, and one inside the park. They have replaced dilapidated boards that were installed by the London Docklands Development Corporation (LLDC) in the 1990s.

A brand new, and very colourful, panel on Brussels Wharf celebrates the last remaining part of the historic London Docks and the surrounding area.



The two new panels which have been unveiled in Ropemakers Fields and Brussels Wharf

Adult learners proud to overcome barriers to achieve success

CELEBRATING OUR BOROUGH

Overcoming a lack of self-confidence to battling with numeracy and literacy skills, the winners of this year's Idea Store Learning Awards didn't let anything stand in their way to achieve success.

Idea Store Learning, run by Tower Hamlets Council, offers more than 900 courses in a variety of subjects including creative and

“

I now have the foundation skills to apply for a nursing qualification

performing arts, IT, maths, touring, languages, music, health and wellbeing.

Adult learners and tutors who went the extra mile were honoured at an awards ceremony held at the Town Hall on 12 July.

The awards were presented by Cllr Maium Talukdar, deputy mayor and Cabinet Member for Youth, Education and Lifelong Learning.

Shamim Akter and Jane Roberts received the awards for Inspirational Learners of 2024.

Shamim successfully completed a 10-week intensive maths course, ICT qualification and year long English course.

She has used the skills to set up a part-time bakery business while she pursues her dream of becoming a nurse.

She said: "With hard work and determination I now have the foundation skills to apply for a

nursing qualification.

"I have really enjoyed my classes with Idea Store Learning and can't thank the tutors enough for believing in me and pushing me to progress through the different levels. Their encouragement has made me believe in myself and is motivating me to continue with my studies."

Jane was a skilled artist but she felt stuck and unmotivated so she decided to enrol on a drawing class which helped re-spark her enthusiasm and has inspired her to start her own exhibitions.

Jane's tutor, Mark Batley said: "The remarkable thing that I have seen in Jane is her journey to become more self-assured, reconnecting with her artistry after a period of feeling uninspired and isolated."

• Find out more at www.ideastore.co.uk/learning

“

Their encouragement has made me believe in myself and is motivating me to continue my studies.”

There were also awards for Inspirational Tutors of the Year, which were won by Sylvia Apperley, upholstery, soft furnishing, bead craft and woodwork tutor, and Rachel Bate, English for Speakers of Other Languages tutor.

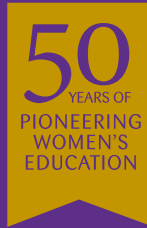
The Inspirational Support Team/Individual of the Year went to Business Support Transaction Team for providing an excellent support service.

Shamim Akter receiving her award for being an Inspirational Learner of 2024 from Cllr Maium Talukdar



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School for Girls



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LOVE OF LEARNING

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Our school is a place where the talents and abilities of girls are nurtured in a safe, creative space and where our students can develop their ambitions, creativity, leadership and the power for self-determination.

We believe these attributes will enable our students to lead enriched, happy and fulfilled lives, making a contribution to their own community, to British society and to global well-being.



OPEN EVENING

Tuesday 24th September 2024
4pm - 6pm

We look forward to showing you what Mulberry has to offer.
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 - ◆ **OUT OF HOURS LEARNING** Over 50 weekly lunch-time and after-school clubs
 - ◆ **WOMEN'S EDUCATION** Women of the World Festival and Women's Conferences
 - ◆ **STUDENT LEADERSHIP** Prefects, School Council, public speaking, high profile event hospitality
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Get online with free sessions and events suitable for everyone

COUNCIL NEWS

Struggling with navigating the digital world? Not sure how to use your device effectively? Want to learn more about the benefits of being online? Then come along to one of the many Get Online Week events happening across the borough this October.

Using the internet and online services can still be challenging for many residents for a number of reasons.

That's why the council has once again teamed up with local and national partners to join the annual national digital inclusion campaign, Get Online Week, and put on a range of events to give everyone a chance to learn something new and increase their digital confidence.

Whether you want to find out more about online safety and avoiding scams, explore your device's accessibility features, or delve into the world of coding, this year's programme includes something for everyone.

There are also sessions especially for those with learning disabilities and those who are over 50.

The sessions are all free to attend and you do not need to sign up - just turn up.

You are welcome to bring your own devices, including tablets, laptops and phones, along to the sessions to get specific help on your particular device. Troubleshooting can be anything from changing the ring tone to getting on the internet. The tech experts will help you get the best out of your device.

Check out the full programme of Get Online Week 2024 events on the right.

The council has also updated and republished its map of digital support available in the borough so that residents can find help and support with access to devices, data and digital skills all year round.

Drop into your nearest Idea Store for more information and support.

Poplar HARCA digital day: 3D printing workshop, typing competition, and tasters of the digital courses

- Mon 14th 11am-1pm at Poplar HARCA: Feldy Centre 18 Aberfeldy Square, E14 0XA

Connection Café drop-in session: use tablets and laptops, the internet, and get help and support

- Mon 14th 10-30am-12.30pm at Ocean Regeneration Trust, 115 Harford St, E1 4FG



Linkage plus digital drop-in: free, hands-on support for those 50+ to get confident with technology and the internet

- Mon 14th to Thurs 17th, 11am-3pm at St Hilda's, Sonali Gardens, 79 Tarling Street, E1 0AT

- Tue 15th 10-11am at St Hilda's, Sonali Gardens, 79 Tarling Street, E1 0AT

- Wed 16th 10am-1pm at Age UK East London: Caxton Community Centre, Caxton Grove, E3 2EE

- Wed 16th 11am-12noon at Peabody at Sundial: Sundial Centre, 11 Shipton Street, E2 7RU

- Wed 16th 11.30am-12.30pm at Neighbours in Poplar: St Matthias Community Centre, 113 Poplar High Street, E14 0AE

- Wed 16th 12.15 to 1.45pm at Toynbee Hall: The Community Centre, Toynbee Hall, 28 Commercial Street, E1 6LS

Digital welfare benefits session: get assistance accessing welfare benefits online

- Mon 14th 11am-1pm at Mind Tower Hamlets, 13 Whitethorn St, London E3 4DA

Digital offer: learn to use your Idea Store membership to access free online books, audiobooks, and more

- Mon 14th 10am-2pm at Tower Hamlets Town Hall, 160 Whitechapel Rd, E1 1BJ

Online family history: discover your roots with Ancestry.co.uk

- Mon 14th 10-11.45am at Idea Store Whitechapel, 321 Whitechapel

Road, E1 1BU

National databank drop-in: access free mobile data, texts, and minutes if you're struggling with the cost of living

- Mon 14th 2-3pm at Idea Store Whitechapel, 321 Whitechapel Road

- Thu 17th 2-3pm at Idea Store Chrisp Street, 1 Vesey Path, East India Dock Road, E14 6BT

- Fri 18th 11am-12noon at Idea Store Whitechapel, 321 Whitechapel Road, E1 1BU

- Fri 18th 11am-12noon at Idea Store Chrisp Street, 1 Vesey Path, East India Dock Road, E14 6BT

Digital skills and online safety: learn about free online courses for beginners to build digital skills

- Tue 15th 10-11.45am at Idea Store Chrisp Street, 1 Vesey Path, East India Dock Road, E14 6BT

Get Online-Go Digital drop-in: access free digital support with computers and the internet

- Tue 15th 2.15-3.45pm at Idea Store Chrisp Street, 1 Vesey Path, East India Dock Road, E14 6BT

- Wed 16th 2.15-3.45pm at Idea Store Whitechapel, 321 Whitechapel Road, E1 1BU

- Thu 17th 2.15-3.45pm Idea Store Bow, 1 Gladstone Place, Roman Road, E3 5ES

Doctor Digital: bring your smartphone for free one-to-one help using the NHS App

- Tue 15th 11am-1pm at Healthy Island Partnership, Barkantine Practice, 121 Westferry Rd, E14 8JH

- Tue 15th 1pm-6pm at Harford Health Centre, 115 Harford St, E1 4FG

- Tue 22nd 11am-1pm at Poplar & Limehouse Health Network, Newby Place Health Centre, 21 Newby Pl, E14 0EY

Basic IT training workshop: gain confidence using technology with gentle, step-by-step support

- Wed 16th 1-3pm at The Zacchaeus Project, Walter Newby Centre at Bethnal Green Methodist Church

Digital Day drop-in: receive one-on-one help with digital tasks like over-60s travel cards, parking permits, and more

- Wed 16th October 10am-12noon at Island House Community Centre, Roserton St, London, E14 3PG

Scams Awareness Session: stay safe

online with free training from digital experts at Ability Net

- Wed 16th 10am - 2pm at Idea Store Watney Market, 260 Commercial Road, E1 2FB

Drop-in Session for Community Learning Disabilities Service: socialise while using computers and learning new skills

- Wed 16th 1.30-3.30pm at Create Day Centre, 35 Ronald St, E1 0DT

Online Tools for Starting Your Own Small Business: discover free online resources to help you

- Wed 16th 6-8pm at Idea Store Whitechapel, 321 Whitechapel Road, E1 1BU

Festival of Cookies: Learn three fun facts about computer cookies and enjoy tasting real cookies.

- Thu 17th 11am-2pm at Island House community centre, Roserton Street, E14 3PG

Community internet café: solve your tech issues with patient, hands-on guidance in a friendly and welcoming space

- Fri 18th 10am to 1pm at The Zacchaeus Project, Walter Newby Centre at Bethnal Green Methodist Church, E2 9JP

Tablet training drop-in: discover easy tips to get the most from your tablet and enhance your online experience

- Fri 18th 11am - 1pm at Island House Community Centre, Roserton St, London, E14 3PG



Digital Accessibility Workshop: session on digital accessibility features for blind and partially sighted individuals

- Fri 18th 11am to 1pm at Grocer's Wing 3, Tower Hamlets Town Hall, 160 Whitechapel Rd, E1 1BJ

Kobo eReader drop-in: learn how to use our new Kobo eReaders

- Fri 18th 2-3pm at Idea Store Canary Wharf, Churchill Place, E14 5RB

Raspberry Pi Coding Clubs Showcase: explore a range of fun coding projects for all ages

- Sat 19th 2pm-tbc at Idea Store Whitechapel, 321 Whitechapel Road



The council's Safer Communities Team and partners including the Met Police have held a number of engagement events with residents

Hearing your crime concerns

FIGHTING CRIME

The Safer Communities team has engaged with thousands of residents across the borough at a variety of events.

The team, which includes Safer Community Officers and Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers, work closely with the Met Police and other partners to give out crime prevention advice and hear residents' concerns.

Events have included bike marking which helps to reunite lost and stolen bikes with their owners, a cricket tournament culminating in a match at Lords for local schoolchildren including giving crime prevention advice, a number of safer surgeries, attending school fetes and other community events with a stand, and Violence Against Women and Girls workshops.

The team have also held dedicated anti-social behaviour (ASB) events to tackle this issue across the borough.

You can see more information about upcoming events, which is updated regularly, at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/SaferCommunityDays



Man jailed for attempting to sell drugs near Tower Hamlets school

A man has been jailed for drug dealing near a Tower Hamlets school.

Taz Uddin, 50, of Brook Drive, Southwark, was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment at Snaresbrook Crown Court on Tuesday 16 July.

In June 2024, Uddin pleaded

guilty to possession with intent to supply Class A drugs, and possession of Class B drugs.

Officers based in Tower Hamlets began their investigation into Uddin after a school in the borough reported that he was acting suspiciously in the area.

Officers retrieved CCTV footage from the school, which they trawled through to build up a pattern of behaviour, and found a stash of more than 100 wraps of heroin and cocaine hidden in a cigarette box nearby estimated to be worth £1,100. The team worked with the school to

retrieve the drugs and ensure the pupils were safeguarded.

Detective Inspector Sam Bennett, who led the investigation, said: "I have seen firsthand the devastating effects of drugs on individuals, families and communities."

Bike ride to remember genocide victims



Councillors, partners and residents joined a cycle ride and event to remember the victims of the Srebrenica Genocide

Twenty cyclists joined a memorial bike ride to commemorate the Srebrenica Genocide, which saw 8,000 Bosnian Muslims massacred in 1995.

It is the second worst genocide in Europe since the Holocaust.

The 10km bike ride took them through London and finished at the town hall, where around 60 people attended an event including speeches and a celebration of Bosnian culture.

Cllr Abu Talha Chowdhury,

Cabinet Member for Safer Communities, hosted the event at the town hall.

Simon Smith, Head of Community Safety, Cllr Abdul Wahid, Cabinet Member for Customer Service, Equalities and Social Inclusion, and

Sufia Alam, Chair of the No Place For Hate Forum, TH Interfaith Forum and Director of the Maryam Centre, gave speeches.

Cllr Kamrul Hussain and Cllr Iqbal Hussein also joined the event.

One year of free school meals

ACCELERATE EDUCATION

One million more meals have been served to students as Tower Hamlets Council celebrates one year of free school meals in secondary schools

Tower Hamlets Council is celebrating one year since it became the first local authority in England to rollout universal free school meals to all primary and secondary pupils up to the age of 16.

The council has funded free school meals for all primary school children since 2014.

The secondary school scheme was rolled out from September 2023 with £722k investment to

schools for all new equipment to be purchased and installed.

Since its launch last year, nearly one million more free meals were served to secondary pupils who would normally have had to pay for them.

Nearly 38,000 pupils in Tower Hamlets' primary and secondary schools have access to a free school meal – regardless of their family's income.

Universal free school meals provide a wealth of financial, health and educational benefits to children.

Nearly half of children in Tower Hamlets live below the poverty line – the highest rate in the UK.

The scheme provides vital support

for families, with an average saving of £550 per year, per child.

Eating a healthy, nutritious meal supports pupils with their learning and has been shown to improve behaviour and academic achievements.

With nearly half of children in Tower Hamlets going into secondary school with excess weight, the scheme is also a positive step towards improving the physical health of young people and promoting a healthier borough.

The National Education Union's No Child Left Behind campaign is calling for free school meals for all, which was recently backed by the Royal College of Paediatrics and

Child Health (RCPCH).

Daniel Kebede, General Secretary of the National Education Union, said: "Tower Hamlets' long standing commitment to providing free school meals for primary children is to be applauded."

"Every child deserves to be supported with a nutritious meal at school."

Kabir Miah, Head of School at Swanlea School, said: "We are delighted to be part of the universal free school meals offer."

"Our parents and carers have been grateful for the additional support it gives them in these challenging times."

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Residents are being encouraged to get involved by downloading the Find it Fix it app and become a Street Leader

New teams to clean our streets

CLEAN AND GREEN

As part of a £5m investment into waste services, Tower Hamlets Council has recruited 72 new waste staff, put 22 new vehicles into operation for street and park cleansing, and expanded the service to deliver a twice daily, seven-day-a-week, cleansing on the 115 main streets in the borough.

This announcement comes alongside a series of wider service improvements, including:

- the introduction of a proactive rapid response team to monitor and clean up issues around the borough

- enhanced training for over 155 street cleaners
- modernisation of waste technology
- optimisation of collection routes for efficiency
- an increase in nighttime and weekend rounds, especially in the busiest locations like parks in the summertime and locations where there is a thriving nighttime economy.

What can you do?

Residents are encouraged to get involved by downloading the Find It, Fix It app and report fly-tipping and litter. You find it, and we'll fix it in 24 hours.

You could also become a Street Leader programme, which empowers residents to report fly-tipping and litter, organise litter-picks, and have a direct line to the council to help support this new investment initiative. Visit our website for more information.

Cllr Shafi Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Environment and the Climate Emergency, said: "This investment is crucial to improve the delivery of waste services and clean up our streets, parks, and open spaces.

"However, we need everyone to play their part in keeping our borough clean – our residents, businesses, and visitors all make up a vital part of our community and your everyday choices in the borough make a big difference."

Top tips for proper recycling in communal bins:

- Always empty and rinse your containers to avoid contaminating the recycling bin with food or other residue.
- Flatten your boxes
- Please don't use black sacks for your recycling as it will end up making good recycling go to waste.
- Put your recycling in loose – there's no need for bags
- For a full list of items you can and cannot recycle visit towerhamlets.gov.uk/LetsRethinkIt

A tree-mendous idea for all



Plant a tree and help beautify your neighbourhood and tackle climate change

Get together with your neighbours to fill your street with trees.

Trees for Streets is a national organisation that works to support residents and businesses to plant trees in their neighbourhood. Tower Hamlets Council was one of the first councils to join the innovative programme in 2021 and since then, residents and businesses have already planted more than 300 trees in the borough.

In addition to beautifying streets and parks, trees help to tackle the climate emergency by absorbing carbon and providing much-needed

shade.

You can sponsor a tree as an individual or business, support a local crowdfunder that already exists, or you can start your own crowdfunder with your neighbours.

Areas will be checked for suitability by the council before planting begins later this year.

All trees sponsored through Trees for Streets are in addition to the 1,000 trees currently being planted by the council.

Visit www.treesforstreets.org/towerhamlets

School applications are now open

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

<p>Secondary admissions For children born between 11 September 2013 and 31 August 2014</p>	31 October 2024
<p>Primary admissions For children born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021</p>	15 January 2025
<p>Nursery admissions For children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022</p>	14 February 2025

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



SCAN ME



Secondary Transfer School Visiting Dates for Admission to Year 7 in 2025



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	Tuesday 1st & 8th October, 9.30am	Tuesday 24th September, 5.30pm
Bow School www.bow-school.org.uk	Monday 16th, Thursday 19th, Monday 23rd, Thursday 26th September, Monday 7th, Thursday 10th, Monday 14th & Thursday 17th October. At the following times: Tour 1: 9-9.45am, Tour 2: 11.30am- 12.15pm, Tour 3: 4-4.45pm	Wednesday 9th October, 4.30-7.00pm <small>Tours 1 & 2 must be booked in advance. Details of the booking arrangements can be found on the school website: www.bow-school.org.uk. Tour 3 is an after-school tour which does not need to be booked in advance but does require all visitors to be aware of any public health restrictions that may be in place at that time.</small>
Canary Wharf College Crossharbour www.canarywharfcollege.co.uk	Wednesday 2nd October, 9am	Tuesday 1st October, 5pm
Central Foundation Girls' School www.central.towerhamlets.sch.uk	Wednesday 2nd, Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th October, 9.30-10.30am	Tuesday 1st October, 4.30-6.30pm
George Green's School www.georgegreens.com	Monday 30th September to Friday 4th October, 9.15-10.15am. Meet the Principal and take a tour. Places are limited and must be booked in advance by emailing tmorgan@georgegreens.com	Wednesday 2nd October, 4-6.30pm
Langdon Park School www.langdonparkschool.co.uk	Thursday 19th, Friday 20th & Tuesday 24th September, Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th October, 9-10.30am	Thursday 26th September, 4.30-6.30pm
London Enterprise Academy www.londonenterpriseacademy.org	Monday 16th – Friday 27th September, 9.15-11.45am	Thursday 26th September, 4.30-6.30pm
Morpeth School www.morpethschool.org.uk	Monday 16th, Friday 20th, Tuesday 24th, & Thursday 26th September; Wednesday 9th, Monday 14th, Thursday 17th, Tuesday, 22nd October, 9.30-11.15am	Wednesday 9th October, 4-7pm <small>Drop-in sessions: Monday 23rd and Thursday 26th September, Monday 7th, Thursday 17, Tuesday 22nd and Thursday 24th October, 9.30-10.30am Book online to attend a drop-in session: https://www.morpethschool.org.uk/2166/admissions-2025</small>
Mulberry Academy London Dock www.mulberrylondondock.org	See school website	See school website
Mulberry Academy Shoreditch www.mulberryacademyshoreditch.org	Monday 16th to Thursday 19th September, Monday 23rd to Thursday 26th September, Monday 30th September to Thursday 3rd October & Monday 7th to Thursday 10th October, 9.15am	Thursday 3rd October, 4-6pm
Mulberry School for Girls www.mulberryschoolforgirls.org	Monday 16th, Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th September, 9.30-10.30am	Tuesday 24th September, 4-6pm
Mulberry Stepney Green www.mulberrystepneygreen.org	Friday 6th, Thursday 12th, Tuesday 17th, Thursday 26th September, Friday 4th, Tuesday 8th, Thursday 17th and Tuesday 22nd October, 9-11am	Wednesday 25th September, 4-6.30pm
Mulberry University Technical College (UTC) www.mulberryutc.org		Thursday 24 October and 16 January 2025 4.30-6.30pm and Thursday 13 March 4.30-6pm
Oaklands School www.oaklands.towerhamlets.sch.uk	Thursday 19th, Tuesday 24th & Monday 30th September, Friday 11th & Thursday 17th October, 9.20-10.30am	Wednesday 25th September, 4-6.30pm
Stepney All Saints CofE Secondary School www.stepneyallsaints.school	Thursday 12th, Wednesday 18th September and Tuesday 1st October, 9.30-11am	Monday 23rd September, 4.30-6.30pm <small>Register online to attend at www.stepneyallsaints.school</small>
St Paul's Way Trust School www.spwt.net	Monday 16th, Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th September, 9.30-11am	Thursday 19th September, 4-6.30pm <small>Visits are by appointment only. Bookings open in August at www.spwt.net. Please arrive before 10.15am to ensure you have time to enjoy a tour of the school.</small>
Swanlea School www.swanlea.co.uk	Wednesday 18th, Friday 20th, Monday 23rd and Thursday 26th September, 9.15-10.15am	Wednesday 2nd October, 4-6.30pm Family Fun Day: Saturday 14th September 2024, 11am-3pm
Wapping High School www.wappinghigh.org	Thursday 12th, Tuesday 17th, Thursday 26th September, Tuesday 1st, Thursday 10th & Tuesday 15th October, 9-10am	Thursday 19th September, 4.30-6.30pm

In the Neighbourhood returns with

BOOST CULTURE AND LEISURE

More than 10,000 people enjoyed a free community festival in Victoria Park this summer thanks to the council.

The council's deal with event organisers AEG means part of the All Points East event site can be used for free for community festival In the Neighbourhood to support local businesses, culture groups and young people.

The annual In the Neighbourhood festival is a celebration of everything Tower Hamlets and is free for residents to enjoy.

Activities are aimed at families, with lots to do for young children all the way up to adults.

This year, there was outdoor cinema, live music and entertainment, street food and pop up bars, theatre, arts, sports and wellbeing, children's activities and much more.



The free community festival in Victoria Park provided fun for all the family



A host of free community activities

Local musician performs at APE

A local musician was given the honour of opening the East Stage at All Points East for Loyle Carner.

Every year, All Points East partners with East London Arts and Music (ELAM) to offer internships and the chance for a talented musician to perform at the festival.

This year, the honour went to Izzy Withers. Izzy said: "I had the best day and so did everyone that I got to share it with."

"I was treated so nicely by everyone, people backstage and in the artist village, the day felt so

special and I'm grateful that I got to experience it all.

"The organisation was really good and I feel ecstatic with how it went."

An AEG spokesperson said: "We believe in the power of music to inspire and connect communities."

"By working with ELAM, we are committed to supporting young artists and empowering them to achieve their full potential."

"We look forward to seeing the incredible talent that will emerge from this collaboration and the impact they will have in the future."



Izzy performing on stage at All Points East



The free community festival included live music, sports, wellbeing, children's activities and much more

Top acts impress at All Points East



This year's headliners included Kaytranada, Loyle Carner and, pictured, LCD Soundsystem

Thousands of people enjoyed this year's All Points East festival.

All Points East, one of the highest profile music festivals in London, has been held at Victoria Park for the last six years.

Organised by AEG, headliners at this year's festival included Kaytranada, Loyle Carner, Mitski, and LCD Soundsystem.

The festival received high acclaim from critics, with the Evening Standard saying of Kaytranada: "The crowd pulsed euphorically throughout" and The Telegraph writing that Mitski gave a "mesmorising performance".



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

London Enterprise Academy

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- High quality teaching and learning
- Broad and balanced curriculum
- Excellent GCSE results

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Monday 16th - Friday 27th September 2024
9.00 AM to 12.30 PM

Open Evening

Thursday 26th September 2024
4.30 PM to 6:30 PM

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- Year 11 parents

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

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 - + Attend an international trip in 2025
 - + Secure valuable work experience
 - + Attend a university summer school
- ...and much more

Open Evening
14th November 2024
4pm-6pm Come and see what
we can offer you!

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for further details about our outstanding offer

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Mon 16th to Thur 19th September

Mon 23rd to Thur 26th September

Mon 30th to Thur 3rd October

Mon 7th to Thur 10th October

+
Saturday
19th October
9.00am to
11.00am

OPEN EVENING

**THURSDAY
3RD OCTOBER
4PM-6PM**

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Mary Driscoll House was officially opened by Sarah King, her great-granddaughter

Building named in honour of striking match factory workers

HOUSING

Descendants of the match workers who went on strike in 1888 attended the opening of a building named in honour of one of the strikers.

Mary Driscoll was a Matchgirl and the youngest member of the Strike Committee, which negotiated with the directors of the Bryant & May match factory in Bow.

The women and teenage girls working at the factory led the Matchgirls' Strike in July 1888.

In the same month 136 years later, council officials including Lutfur Rahman, Executive Mayor, and Sarah King, her great-granddaughter, opened the housing

development named after her in Bow.

Mrs King said: "Mary Driscoll was my great-grandmother, and by all accounts, a remarkable woman."

"Only 14 when she joined the strike leaders at the Bryant and May factory in 1888.

"Following the early death of her husband in a dock accident in 1916, she opened and ran one, possibly two, shops successfully, despite not being able to read or write. She also rented out a back room for extra income, and family history holds that she only turned down one group – Oswald Moseley's Blackshirts. I was delighted, and ultimately rather humbled, to attend the opening of the community housing block

named after her. A fitting tribute to a rather special woman."

Resident Ajharul Kamaly invited the Mayor into his home to look around and meet his wife Asma Akhtar and their three children.

Mr Kamaly said: "We are now comfortable living in a house that can accommodate my family. The area is pleasant, and we have no complaints."

Mary Driscoll House consists of one, two, three and four-bedroom family homes and a communal garden and play area for all to enjoy.

• We wrote in the last issue of Our East End that 1,064 new social-rented homes have been delivered by the council in the last year. This figure actually related to all tenures, not just those for social rent.

During its build, opportunities were provided to local young people to complete their work experience on site by the construction firm Jerram Falkus, including Nayim Ahmed who did a week's placement.

Nayim, a student of the Phoenix College Project Search learning programme based at Queen Mary University, said: "I really enjoyed working on site and I found the experience so helpful. Construction is a hardworking industry but it's very rewarding.

"I met loads of new people during my work experience, and everyone has been really friendly and helpful, which has also increased my confidence."

Fun for all at community day



Hundreds of residents joined community fun days on estates this summer.

The family-friendly events were free and open to all, featuring community stalls, services for estates, information about council services and children's activities.

Six events were held from 31 July to 28 August on the following estates: Stepney Green Park, Rounton Park, Avebury, Ropewalk Gardens, Caxton Hall Community Centre and The Green, and Cranbrook Community Centre.

£1million for local start-up

BUSINESS AND JOBS

A Tower Hamlets company has received £1.15 million in funding after getting support from a council partnership.

Dataform Lab, a construction automation company founded by a Tower Hamlets resident, has developed a platform that enables offsite manufacturers to automatically configure projects, instantly translate designs into production information, and optimise factory operations.

Eva Magnisali, the founder and CEO of Dataform Lab, participated in the Access to Funding Programme provided by LIFT and OneTech before obtaining the funding.

LIFT is a partnership between the boroughs of Tower Hamlets, Islington, Camden, and Hackney.

Eva said: "The program transformed my mindset, helping me to understand that seeking investment is distinct from simply

growing our client base.

"One of the key moments was the pitch event, where I presented to an audience unfamiliar with offsite construction."

Eva has now established several partnerships within the construction industry and has grown her team to six employees.

Cllr Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Jobs, Enterprise, Skills and Growth, said: "Startups are truly the driving force behind our local economy, as they seek to address complex market problems, create essential job opportunities, and introduce new ideas to our community.

"Programmes such as this one play a vital role in equipping entrepreneurs with the necessary confidence and expertise to present their ideas and secure the funding required for expansion and success."

• Find out more about the opportunities available from LIFT at www.liffutures.london.



The Dataform Lab team which was helped by LIFT to secure extra funding

Take control of your health



ONLINE

We have launched an online portal that gives you secure access to your health record.

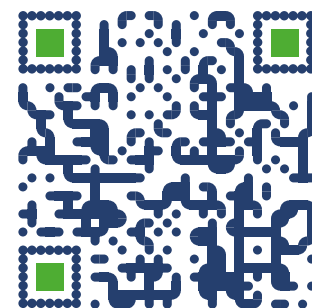
Once you sign up, you'll be able to see your personal information and check your hospital appointments.

It's free and easy to use for all Barts Health NHS Trust patients.

For more information and to sign up to Patients Know Best, please scan the QR code.



Or visit: bartshealth.nhs.uk/patients-know-best



New website gives advice and support to young people

ACCELERATE EDUCATION

Young Tower Hamlets has officially launched a brand-new website dedicated to young people living in the borough aged 11 to 19 or up to 25 with SEND.

On the website, you can find out what's happening across the borough including free activities, such as, sports, art, media, girls-only sessions, and trips out to Thorpe Park, Museums, Cinema.

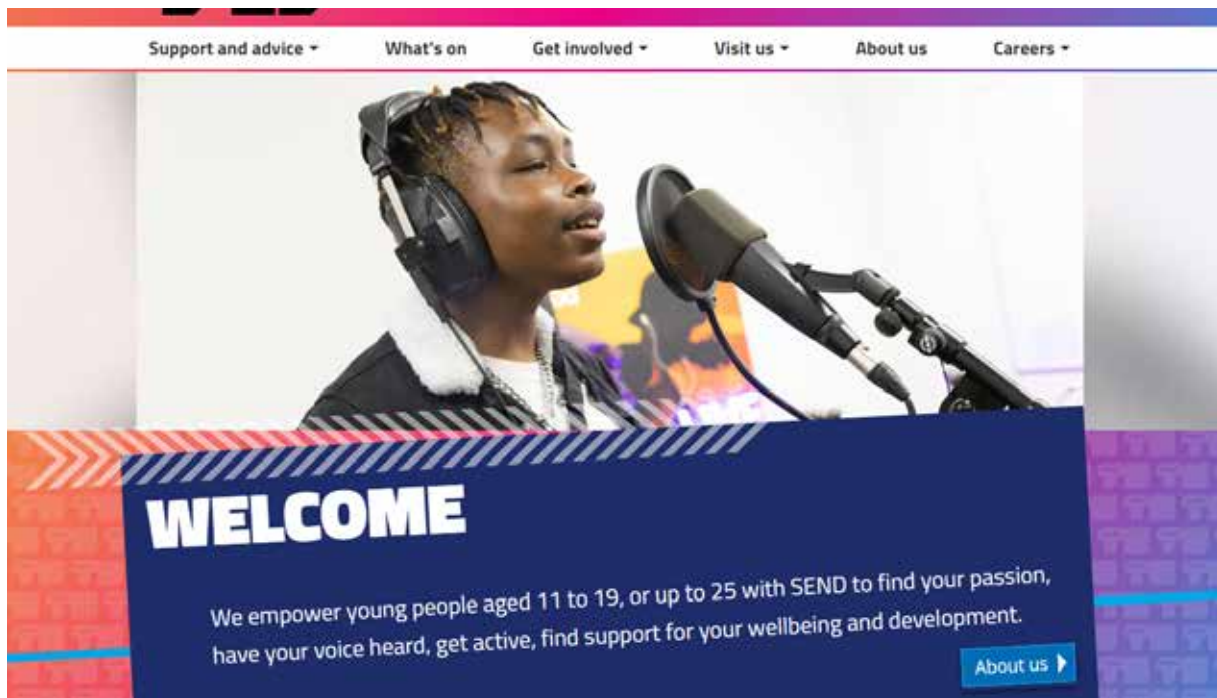
Young people can also get their voice heard by getting involved in programmes and opportunities.

Young Tower Hamlets is here to support young people, with dedicated sections on the website covering careers, young carers, SEND, mental health and wellbeing.

The new website is a result of the council's £13.7 million investment into Young Tower Hamlets to provide excellent opportunities and safe spaces for all young people.

The website was created by young people from our borough, from the graphic design work to the content.

Visit www.youngtowerhamlets.org.uk and follow @youngtowerhamlets on TikTok, Instagram and X.



Shape your youth services

The borough's new Young Ambassadors are working hard to plan youth centre activities, raise awareness of the opportunities for young people, and bring our online community to life.

The Young Ambassadors scheme, set up on 1 August, aims to give young people across the borough a voice and help to shape the Young Tower Hamlets offer.

Each Young Ambassador (aged 11 to 19 or up to 25 with SEND) represents one of our 14 youth centres across the borough, where they get involved in a range of free activities and events.

Through the new scheme, our Young Ambassadors are receiving AQA accredited training around leadership, communication, and

social media. The young people have also been given filming equipment such as tripods, microphones and ring lights to kick-start their content creation across our social media channels.

If you are a young person who regularly attends our youth centres, you can apply to join the Young Ambassadors team.

This is a brilliant opportunity to learn how to create incredible social media content, plan activities for youth centres, gain leadership skills and enhance your career aspects and boost your CV.

All of this and more can be found on the new website: www.youngtowerhamlets.org.uk

Follow us on TikTok, Instagram and X: @youngtowerhamlets



The Young Ambassador scheme aims to help give young people a voice

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YEAR 6

OPEN MORNINGS 9AM - 11.00AM

Friday 6th, Thursday 12th, Tuesday 17th and Thursday 26th September 2024
and Friday 4th, Tuesday 8th, Thursday 17th and Tuesday 22nd October 2024

OPEN EVENING 4PM - 6.30PM

Wednesday 25th September 2024

“The school has high ambitions for all pupils. It partners with prestigious businesses and universities to inspire them. Pupils are well-motivated and work hard to achieve success.

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.”

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



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Council leading the way with life-saving e-bike campaign

COUNCIL NEWS

Tower Hamlets Council is helping save lives across the country with the launch of a new safety animation, created in partnership with London Fire Brigade, that will be made available to councils across the country.

E-bike battery related fires have been reported up and down the UK. In April, fire services in Manchester warned the public after a blaze destroyed a home in Bury. In July, another house fire took place in Warwickshire.

There has also been significant news coverage about Scott Peden, who sadly lost his partner and two children in Cambridgeshire because of a fire started by an e-bike battery.

A first screening of the animation took place on 13 August at a joint engagement event at Shoreditch Fire Station hosted by London Fire Brigade, Deliveroo, Tower Hamlets Council and Hackney Council. The purpose of the event was to share safety advice with Deliveroo's drivers.

London Fire Brigade Assistant Commissioner for Prevention & Protection, Craig Carter, said: "E-bikes and e-scooters remain one of London's fastest-growing fire risks and on average, we're seeing a fire in the capital once every two days.

"Sadly, some of these fires have had a devastating effect on lives and livelihoods.

"It's really important that people who use e-bikes and e-scooters are receiving advice about how they can use these devices safely.

"We're not as confident that some products, like conversion kits, batteries and chargers that are available online, are properly regulated to ensure consumer



London Fire Brigade's Craig Carter with cllr Shafi Ahmed at the launch of the screening

safety.

"We welcome the Product Safety & Metrology Bill, as outlined in the King's Speech, which we hope will set a pathway for the necessary action to be taken to protect people from these types of fires, while allowing consumers to purchase with confidence and use these products safely."

ChargeSafe Tower Hamlets is a localised adaptation of London Fire

Brigade's campaign. To date, it has prompted the East London Council to write to the previous Government to call for improved legislation, more funding for local authorities and greater research into the issue.

Additionally, it has seen the roll-out of a multi-faceted awareness campaign that aims to meet the communication needs of the various communities in the borough.

This has resulted in the campaign

winning the Gold Community Social Impact Award at the Clear Channel Outdoor Media Awards.

Alongside the campaign, the Council's Trading Standards Team has been working hard to remove unsafe batteries from the market by visiting local shops and businesses.

So far, they found 93 imported and unsafe lithium batteries in shops which were removed from sale.

Apply for council tax cost of living relief

Residents have until 30 September to apply for the Council Tax Cost of Living Relief Fund to save on average £34 on your council tax bill.

If you live in Tower Hamlets and have a gross household income

of less than £49,500 you might be eligible for the fund.

The fund was created to support households not already receiving council tax reduction to be protected from the 2.99 per cent rise in

council tax this year.

To be eligible your household must meet certain criteria around combined income and savings, have lived in the property you are claiming for before 1 April 2024,

and be able to provide the evidence to make your claim.

- Visit towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/advice_and_benefits/cost-of-living/Council-Tax-Cost-of-Living-Relief-Fund.aspx

Bow East by-election results announced

Abdi Mohamed has been elected as Member of Tower Hamlets Council for the Bow East ward, following the by-election which took place on Thursday 12 September 2024.

Cllr Mohamed of the Labour Party received a total of 1,266 votes, followed by Rupert George of the Green Party, who received a total of 722 votes.

Robin William Edwards of the Conservative Party received 239 votes, while Siobhan Linzi Proudfoot of the Liberal Democrats received 148 votes.

Read more on the Tower Hamlets Council website.



Abdi Mohamed who has been elected to represent the Bow East ward

Inspection of Parliamentary Election Expenses Returns

Following the General Election on 4 July 2024, the spending returns and declarations made by candidates and agents for the Poplar & Limehouse and Bethnal Green & Stepney Parliamentary Constituencies can now be inspected at Tower Hamlets Town Hall between 10am-12noon and 2pm-4pm on normal working days, for two years.

You need to book an appointment with Electoral Services on 020 7364 0872 or by email at vote@towerhamlets.gov.uk.

A member of staff will remain with any person during the inspection of these documents and handwritten notes may be taken or photocopies can be provided for 20p a page.

Stay up to date on your right to vote

COUNCIL NEWS

The annual canvass for 2024 has started to ensure that eligible Tower Hamlets electors are entered on the Register of Electors when it's revised and published on Monday 2 December 2024.

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

The data matching results are then divided into three types of communication:

Route one: properties receive a letter informing the household that the elector details have matched 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.

Changes for EU Citizens

The Elections Act 2022 has removed the rights of some EU citizens to vote and stand in certain elections and this applies to local elections held here in Tower Hamlets. EU citizens cannot vote at national polls such as a general election.

The UK Government has negotiated agreements with certain EU Member States to allow its citizens living in the UK to vote, in return for the same right for UK citizens living in that country, and the EU citizens for these countries where an agreement is in place, will still be able to vote and stand in elections here in Tower Hamlets.

So far, agreements have been made with Spain, Portugal, Luxembourg, Poland and Denmark.

Other EU citizens who were living in the UK before the end of the EU Withdrawal Agreement Implementation Period (up until 1 January 2021) will also still be able to vote and stand in elections.

The changes will not affect citizens of the Republic of Ireland or Commonwealth nations.

Correspondence will be sent to all those EU citizens within the Borough who are affected by this change.

As the process for the changes has not yet been completed, this is scheduled in the legislation for the end of January 2025, registered EU citizens were able to stand as candidates and vote in the recent Bow East by-election on Thursday 12 September.

Schoolchildren given tour of town hall

Schoolchildren have met the Speaker and learnt about democracy at a tour of the Town Hall.

Cllr Saif Uddin Khaled was elected as Speaker of the Council earlier this year.

He has taken part in a number of official engagements as the borough's First Citizen, such as welcoming pupils from Cayley Primary School to the Town Hall.

They had a tour of the building, heard about what the Speaker does, and took part in a quiz.

He has confirmed that his chosen charities are the Sick Children's Trust and Osmani Trust.

The Sick Children's Trust provides welcoming 'Homes from Home' where families with a sick child in hospital can stay, including Stevenson House in Whitechapel, close to the Royal London Hospital. Osmani Trust is a youth and community organisation.

Find out more about the Speaker on the council website.



Pupils from Cayley Primary School visiting the Town Hall

Going the extra healthy mile

HEALTH

Twenty-eight Tower Hamlets food businesses were recognised for going the extra mile to serve healthy and nutritious food options.

Cllr Gulam Choudhury, Cabinet Member for Health, Adults and Social Care, and Cllr Shafi Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Emergency, presented the Food for Health awards.

From offering grilled meats, salads instead of chips, to using healthier oils when frying, these businesses are making a real impact on the community's health and wellbeing.

The scheme is free for all food businesses to apply for.

A total of 78 businesses in Tower Hamlets now hold a Food for Health award, helping to make healthier choices more accessible and supporting efforts to reduce obesity across the borough.

Find out more at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/foodforhealth



Cllr Gulam Choudhury handing out one of the Food for Health awards

Get protected with a vaccine

As the autumn Covid-19 vaccination programme begins for eligible patients, we sat down with Dr Naqvi, a GP in East London, to answer your questions.

Here he explains why it's crucial to stay protected as we head into the colder months.

So, why do I need to continue having Covid-19 vaccines?

Covid-19 is still around and continues to affect Tower Hamlets residents. Regular vaccines are offered because protection fades over time and it's important to top up your protection.

But the vaccine makes me feel unwell...is it still worth getting?

It's normal to experience some side effects, such as a sore arm,

feeling tired or having mild flu-like symptoms for a few days. However, side effects are temporary and far outweigh the risks of getting seriously unwell or hospitalised due to Covid-19.

Ok, sounds like I should take it! Where can I get vaccinated?

The seasonal vaccine will be available at several pharmacies

across the borough from 3 October. Anyone aged 65 and above is eligible, as well as those with certain health conditions and health and social care workers.

Just pop into your local pharmacy or call 119 to book your free vaccine.

• **For more information visit www.nhs.uk/covidvaccination**



Public Health Minister Andrew Gwynne in Tower Hamlets

Get a free vape kit if you stop smoking this Stoptober

The council is encouraging smokers that live and work in the borough to stop smoking as part of this year's Stoptober campaign.

You are five times more likely to quit for good if you stop smoking for Stoptober. Last year, the local stop smoking service, Quit Right Tower Hamlets, helped more than 1,500 people quit.

In July, Public Health Minister Andrew Gwynne made his first official visit in post to speak to staff and residents who used Quit Right Tower Hamlets.

The visit highlighted the

importance of community stop smoking services and showcased the 'swap to stop' scheme, which offers free vape starter kits to help smokers quit.

Tower Hamlets continues to achieve positive outcomes for stop smoking services, ranking significantly higher than London and England for residents setting a 'quit date' and achieving a four-week quit.

Sign up to quit this Stoptober and get a free vape kit worth £50, or other nicotine replacement therapy of your choice: www.quitrightth.org

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

Sixth Form

Your future **IS SAFE**
in our hands

**APPLY
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SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 20th November 2024

4.00pm–6.30pm



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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.



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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
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Ben Jonson Road, London E1 4SD

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✉ mail@mulberrystepneygreen.org

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Visit our website

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COME AND
VISIT US
For Reception
Sep 2025

Open events 2024/2025

Come and discover the very best education in our safe, fun and vibrant school.

OPEN MORNINGS

Thursday 26th September
Thursday 24th October
Wednesday 27th November
Thursday 9th January

10am – 11am

OPEN EVENINGS

Wednesday 25th September
Tuesday 15th October
Wednesday 27th November
Wednesday 8th January

4pm – 5pm

LOCATION

Mulberry Wood Wharf Primary
20 Brannan Street
London, E14 9ZR

The events are scheduled to take place in our new school building.

Please visit our website or scan the QR code below to register online.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

☎ 020 8713 0183

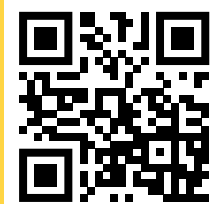
✉ admin@mulberrywoodwharf.org

🌐 www.mulberrywoodwharf.org

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Please register
online to secure
your place!

SCAN ME



bit.ly/3yj1vmV

New musical exhibition hits all t

HISTORY

Cockney Rebels is the title of a groundbreaking exhibition at Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives. Social historian and broadcaster Alan Dein explains more about the exhibition.

It charts the extraordinary story of the borough's substantial, varied and often pioneering musical history beginning with 'The Blind Beggar of Bethnal Green', a ballad that dates back to the 1600s - and travels four hundred years to the turn of the Millennium with the birth of Grime, a genre of electronic dance music.

I'd argue that Tower Hamlets has a unique musical legacy that is influenced by a very significant set of reasons: its location, its social history and its speech. Geography is a major factor influencing the sonic character of the developing East End.

The flow of the river led to the maritime trades concentrating in the east with the Thames dockyards providing a soundtrack while other ubiquitous sounds of East London's traditional working life include the street markets, the breweries, the tailoring workshops and cabinet makers.

The major theme of East End history has been migration, both inward and outward. The rural poor from other parts of England,

and major waves of migration from further afield.

Huguenot refugees, Irish weavers, East European Jews fleeing persecution, Asian arrivals particularly from Bangladesh. The world has come to Tower Hamlets - and these musical citizens of Tower Hamlets have subsequently circumnavigated the world with their sounds.

Another key ingredient is the Cockney dialect. The bells at St Mary-le-Bow church in Cheapside are often considered to be the most famous peal in the world - and be born within the sounds of the Bow Bells is the sign of a true Londoner - or Cockney.

When William Henry Crump of Bethnal Green climbed onto a Victorian Music Hall stage as a teenager, he morphed into Harry Champion, a champion of cockney song and wit. His most famous tune "Boiled Beef and Carrots" extolled the virtues of a typical Cockney dish while making good use of rhyming slang.

The Music Hall was awash with Cockney rhymes and tunes such as 'Burlington Bertie from Bow', and singers like Ada Reeve with her racy innuendoes. The East End was crammed with venues and the bawdy, convivial spirit of music hall would later re-emerge well beyond its Victorian and Edwardian heyday.

It's where variety star Bud Flanagan from Hanbury Street began his career, and even after

most of the music halls had closed down, classic songs lived on in pub singalongs and 'knees-ups'.

Some pub singers even went on to become successful recording artists, and surely the Small Faces album Ogden's Nut Gone Flake, a masterpiece from 1968, is an exuberant homage to that world.

The East End band's 1965 single 'Sha-La-La-Lee' was the breakthrough hit for one of the decade's most influential - and nattily dressed outfits. The tune was written by Stepney entertainer Kenny Lynch, one of the few Black British artists to have achieved mainstream success at the time. Coincidentally, Small Faces guitarist Steve Marriott, a former child actor, had starred as the Artful Dodger in the first run of *Oliver!* penned by the prolific Whitechapel-born songwriter Lionel Bart.

Bart, born Lionel Begleiter, was one of many Jewish 'Cockney Rebels' who experienced enormous success in their fields. Dance Band leaders Bert Ambrose, Lew Stone and Joe Loss would become household names, and representing the post-war jazz age is Ronnie Scott, whose Soho club is famed throughout the world. One of the biggest singles of the late 1960s was 'Albatross', a laid-back guitar instrumental by Fleetwood Mac written by the band's guitarist Peter Green who was born 'Greenbaum' in Bethnal Green in 1946.

The title of the exhibition is

thanks to a young journalist at the East London Advertiser called Stephen Nice, who in the early 1970s changed his name to Steve Harley, and formed the chart-topping band 'Cockney Rebel'.

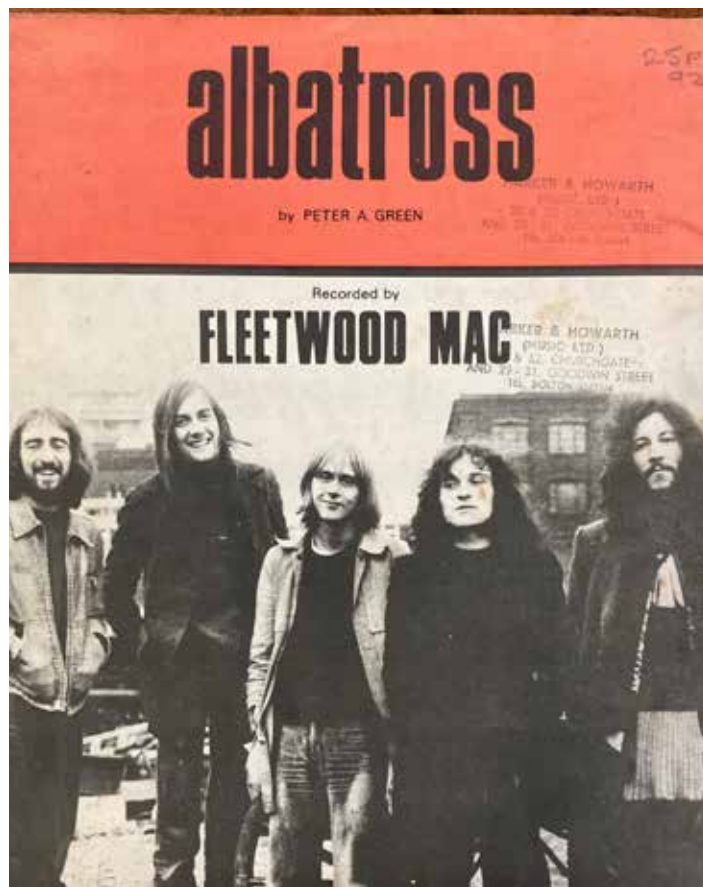
It was a decade that launched the careers of soul singer Billy Ocean, a former Spitalfields rag-trader who achieved huge international success, Whitechapel's disco queen Tina Charles, and the emergence of punk. Drummer Suresh Singh, 'the Cockney Sikh' was raised on Princelet Street, Spitalfields is notable as being among the first South Asian punks, and Stepney bassist Jah Wobble, a founder member of Public Image Limited, brought a dub reggae sound to rock which would prove enduringly influential.

The show concludes with the birth of Asian Underground artists like Joi who combined South Asian music with rock, dance, and hip-hop influences, and into the 2000s with Grime, as pioneered by Bow rappers Wiley, Dizzee Rascal, and Tinchy Stryder. This is truly an exhibition that champions this Borough's role in the development of our nation's musical heritage.

Alan Dein is the compiler of 'Music Is The Most Beautiful Language in the World' - Yiddisher Jazz In London's East End 1920s-1950s



The right notes in Tower Hamlets



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little one a
head start at
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☎ 020 7247 9023

✉ admin@mulberrycanonbarnett.org

🌐 www.mulberrycanonbarnett.org

✂ @MulberryCB

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From people to places, the TH_IS campaign celebrates everything that is great in our borough. In this edition, we look back on the legacy of the 2012 London Olympics and how residents are still benefitting from the summer of sport.

Olympic legacy lives on



Tower Hamlets and surrounding boroughs are still benefitting from the London 2012 Olympics



As people around the world enjoyed this summer's Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris, millions continue to enjoy the legacy of the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, situated on the edge of Tower Hamlets.

Millions of visitors come to the park each year for world-class sports, entertainment and culture, or just to enjoy the beautiful parklands and waterways. The park is free to enter and is open 24/7.

London's successful bid to host the games came with a legacy promise to transform the heart of east London. Jobs, investment, and educational and cultural opportunities have been realised as a result of that legacy promise, and the International Olympic Committee sees London's regeneration commitments as a blueprint for other cities to follow.

The park attracts more than 20 million visits a year to its world class sports venues. There will also be more events when East Bank opens with its new university campuses for UCL and London College of Fashion



plus a new V&A East Museum, BBC Music Studios and Sadler's Wells East dance theatre.

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park is easily navigated to from most places in Tower Hamlets, and Stratford station is only ten minutes' walk away with Hackney Wick also nearby.

The area surrounding the park has

also seen a boost and investment after the Games, with trendy new pubs and bars opening up alongside the River Lea, including CRATE Brewery and pizzeria and Bar East, which is a floating bar. And there is also Number 90 which has an art gallery and live music on the waterfront.

Tower Hamlets Council will soon get planning powers back for the area around the park. Although there are no definite plans yet, it is expected to become a vibrant mix of houses, shops and bars - making it a destination and continuing the Olympics legacy for all residents.

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OPEN MORNINGS*

Tuesday 24th,
Wednesday 25th and
Thursday 26th September
Wednesday 2nd and
Thursday 3rd October
*Check website for times



Scan the QR code for more information and to book your place at one of our events.

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MORPETH SCHOOL



Join us at our **Open Events 2024**

OPEN EVENING

4 - 7PM

Wednesday 2nd October

OPEN MORNINGS

9:30 - 11AM

September: Monday 16th,
Friday 20th, Tuesday 24th &
Thursday 26th

October: Wednesday 9th,
Monday 14th, Thursday 17th &
Tuesday 22nd

DROP-IN SESSIONS

9:30 - 10:30AM

September: Monday 23rd &
Thursday 26th

October: Monday 7th, Thursday
17th, Tuesday 22nd & Thursday 24th

Scan to book your drop-in session:



www.morpethschool.org.uk



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Reclaiming Black Narratives

Events and activities will take place across Tower Hamlets this October to mark Black History Month.

Reclaiming Narratives is the national theme for the month, and it marks a shift towards recognising and correcting the narratives of Black history and culture by addressing historical inaccuracies, and highlighting untold success stories and the complexity of Black heritage.

Screenings throughout October of Black Londoners by The New Black Film Collective will take place, including archiving workshops and panel discussions.

Community organisation Poplar Union will screen Turning Points, a series of short dramas from Barbados and Jamaica in the 1920s.

Poplar Union will also host a visual arts exhibition showcasing Hajia Dahiru's growth as an artist emphasising personal and collective stories within the Black community.

Events also include Trap Live O: Night of Poetry Expression

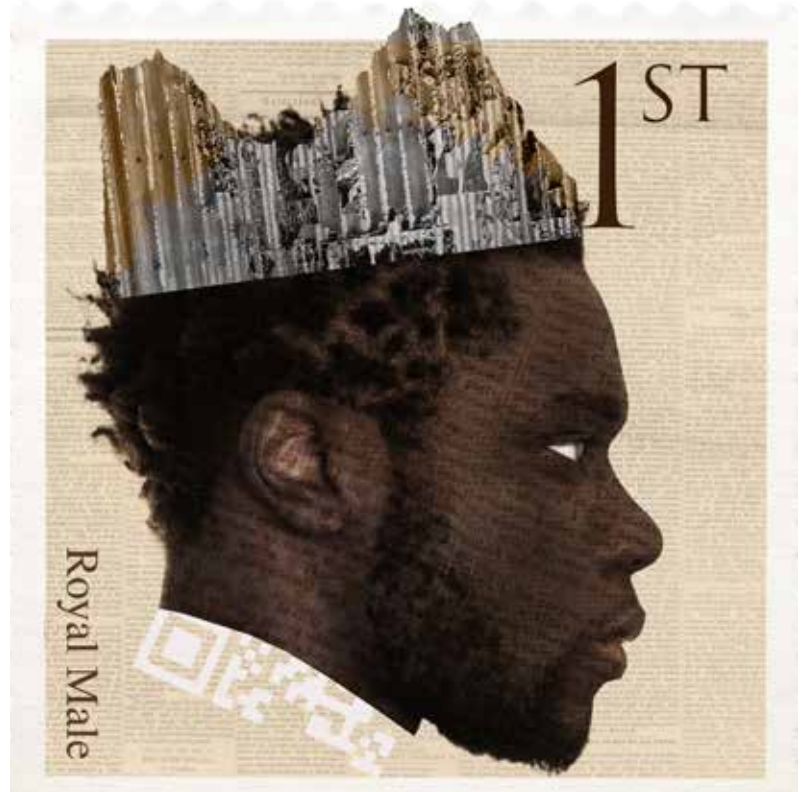
with live performances from poets, rappers and singers, a live performance by Grand Union Orchestra and a Black Makers Market with live music which will feature Black owned businesses.

Arts collective Trapped in Zone One will host a series of free workshops reclaiming narratives and researching black heritage on the Isle of Dogs.

Kayd Somali Arts and Culture is hosting an evening of women's beauty, wellness, design and fashion including looking at issues within the industry.

Alternative Arts will be hosting an online retrospective exhibition of photographs, and there will be an exhibition of past posters at the Brady Arts Centre.

• Visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk. You can submit your Black History Month event in Tower Hamlets so it appears on the council's website at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/arts



Reclaiming narratives is the theme of this year's Black History Month. Royal Male Stamp 1 copyright George Dyer



The theme for this year's festival is 'hope'

A Season of Bangla Drama returns

The council's flagship celebration of British-Bengali theatre is back this November, with another month-long festival.

A Season of Bangla Drama is now in its 21st year and will showcase 15 drama productions in venues across the borough.

The theme for 2024 is 'hope', in an age of change and uncertainty.

A Season of Bangla Drama champions new writing and provides a platform for debut performances. The plays will capture the spirit of the age and resonate with East

London audiences.

Themes such as climate and the corruption of power are balanced by those focused on human connection and a celebration of iconic cultural figures.

The festival takes place from 1 to 24 November. There is also a fringe programme of events including exhibitions, talks and walks. There will be something for everyone to enjoy.

• Visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/seasonbangladrama

Visit Brady Arts Centre during Open House festival

Brady Arts and Community Centre will open its doors to visitors from 12noon to 4pm on Saturday 21 September as part of Open House 2024.

This London-wide festival celebrates the city's architecture, special places and neighbourhoods,

with free open days and events taking place across all 33 London boroughs.

The centre in Whitechapel first opened its doors as the Brady Girls Club and Settlement in June 1935. The Brady Boys Club opened in April 1896 in Durward Street

nearby, with the Boys Club moved to join the Girls Club in 1960.

There will be free family art activities with A Team Arts Education, a photography exhibition, short film screenings, and drop-in family art workshops.

There will also be the chance to

meet artists who attend classes at The Brady as well as groups that meet, work and run activities at the Brady.

• For further information and to see the full programme visit <https://programme.openhouse.org.uk/listings/11669>

Classes

Autumn art classes

Drop-in or sign-up in advance for mixed media art workshops using oil painting, printmaking, collage, watercolours, pastels and acrylics. The themes this term are water, leaves, flowers, fish, cats and dogs and accessories.

Students will have the opportunity to exhibit their work in local cafes and galleries.

Wednesdays from 2 October to 27 November 1-3pm and 6.30-8.30pm
Brady Arts and Community Centre, 192-189 Hanbury Street, Whitechapel E1 5HU
Cost £8.
ginyhawke5@hotmail.co.uk



Art classes

Exhibitions

We are the Brady Girls - Part Two

Built in 1935, the Brady Club played a fundamental role in the lives of thousands of young people in the East End of London. This exhibition focuses on the Brady Girls' Club and showcases the opportunities this purpose-built space provided for girls and young women.

Free. All welcome
Until 28 September
Brady Arts and Community Centre, 192-189 Hanbury Street
www.Bradyarchive.co.uk



Brady Girls

Poplarism - Poplar Rates Rebellion 1921

Local artist Clare Smith responds to events and themes inspired by the Poplar Rates Rebellion of 1921. Alongside her artwork is archival

material.
Tower Hamlets History Library and Archives
until 30 September 2024

An Awkward Relation

An Awkward Relation is a new exhibition from interdisciplinary artist Sonia Boyce. It is conceived to be in dialogue with the exhibition of Brazilian artist Lygia Clark, The I and the You, showing at the gallery concurrently.

2 October-12 January
Ticketed Admission: £12.50 (Standard ticket); £9.50 (Concessions)
Whitechapel Gallery, 77 - 82 Whitechapel High Street
www.whitechapelgallery.org

In the footsteps of the East London Group

Bow Arts is presenting an exhibition exploring the past and present of east London, bringing together the historical paintings of the East London Group with their 21st century contemporaries.

4 October-22 December (Tues to Sun, 10am - 4pm)
Free
Nunnery Gallery, Bow Arts, 181 Bow Road, E3 2SJ

Habitat: Ecofeeling of the Earth

A group photography exhibition featuring Latinx female artists.
15-20 October 11am-6pm
The Art Pavilion, Clinton Road, Mile End Park, E3
www.artfromheart.co.uk/

"As I was a-walking down Ratcliff Highway"

Malcolm Barr-Hamilton will examine the history of Ratcliff Highway's notoriety and of the several folk songs associated with it, still popular in folk clubs today.
17 October, 6.30pm-8pm
Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives, 277 Bancroft Road

Festival of Print

The annual festival of print from East London Printmakers. Over 90 local artists will showcase a range of printmaking techniques.
Free entry
25 October-3 November
The Art Pavilion, Clinton Road, Mile End Park. 11am-6pm

www.eastlondonprintmakers.co.uk

A Season of Bangla Drama exhibition

A Nation Full of Hope by Pathshala South Asian Media Institute. Photos show stories of hope, positivity and the diverse beauty of Bangladesh.

31 October -24 November
Brady Arts and Community Centre, 192-189 Hanbury Street

The Life & Times of the Music Hall and Marie Lloyd

Join historian Danny Wells as he explores Music Halls of the late Victorian and Edwardian periods.
Tower Hamlets History Library and Archives
Saturday 7 December, 2pm-3.30pm

Poetry in Wood

Poetry in Wood is a Tower Hamlets based neurodivergent arts charity specialising in woodwork.

9 December 2024-29 January 2025
Brady Arts and Community Centre, 192-189 Hanbury Street, Whitechapel E1 5HU
poetryinwood.squarespace.com/



Poetry in wood

Colours of Bangladesh

Part of A Season of Bangla Drama 2024, The Colours of Bangladesh is an exhibition from Abinta Gallery in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Free. All welcome
21 November-1 December
Brady Arts and Community Centre, 192-189 Hanbury Street, Whitechapel E1 5HU

Festivals and fairs

East London Vintage Furniture & Flea

More than 70 stalls of mid-century furniture, vintage homewares, retro fashion and accessories.
22 September and 10 November (11.30am-4pm both days)

The Art Pavilion, Mile End Park, Clinton Road, E3 4QY
judysvintagefair.com/furniture-flea/



Vintage furniture flea

Urban Makers Christmas Market

50 different designers each day, showcasing unique and handcrafted items, including: Christmas gifts and decorations.

30 November-1 December and 14-15 December (11am-5pm)
The Ecology Pavilion, 125 Grove Road, London, E3 5RP
Free entry



Urban makers

Events

Wapping Marine Unit open day

Vintage police vehicles in Wapping Rose Garden, museum open, and guided tours of the pontoon to view the boats and find out about Wapping's history.

28 September 10am-3pm
98-102 Wapping High Street



Police open day

East End History Club - Parent/Carers & Under 5s Session

A chance to meet other parents, enjoy a cuppa and look through the unique collection. Toys will be available for children aged 0-5 with a child's brunch and refreshments including tea and coffee.

10am-11.30am on 4 October, 1 November & 6 December 2024



KNOW YOUR COUNCIL

BETHNAL GREEN EAST



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CANARY WHARF



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LIVE, 3 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 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 Gulam Kibria Choudhury, Health, Wellbeing and Social Care
Cllr Musthak Ahmed, Jobs, Enterprise, Skills and Growth
Cllr Abdul Wahid, Equalities and Social Inclusion
Cllr Kamrul Hussain, Culture and Recreation

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বিভিন্ন খাতে বিনিয়োগ সহ নতুন অর্থবছরের বাজেট পাশ

HARMONY
BENGALI & SOMALI NEWS

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১৬ বছরের বেশি বয়সী মেয়ে ও মহিলা দের জন্য এবং ৫৫ বছরের বেশি বয়সী পুরুষদের জন্য বিনামূল্যে সাঁতার, একটি নতুন কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স রিলিফ ফান্ড বা তহবিল গঠন এবং বারার বর্জ্য পরিষ্কার ৫ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড অতিরিক্ত বিনিয়োগে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিল সম্মত হয়েছে।

কাউন্সিল ফেব্রুয়ারিতে ২০২৪/২৫ এর বাজেট অনুমোদন করে। কাউন্সিল তার বাসিন্দাদের সহযোগিতা করার জন্য তার অর্থ কোথায় বিনিয়োগ করবে তা বাজেট নির্ধারণ করে।

নতুন বিনিয়োগের একটি মূল ক্ষেত্র হল আবর্জনা অপসারণ অর্থাৎ সামগ্রিকভাবে বর্জ্য সমস্যাগুলি মোকাবেলা করার জন্য ৫ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড বিনিয়োগ। ক্রমবর্ধমান সংখ্যক লোকের বসবাস, কাজ করা এবং বারায় বেড়াতে আসা লোকজনের কারণে যে নোংরা আবর্জনা তৈরি হয় তা পরিষ্কার করার কার্যক্রম এই বিনিয়োগের মধ্যে রয়েছে।

পূর্ণাঙ্গ কাউন্সিল মিটিংয়ে অনেক নতুন উদ্যোগ এবং তহবিলের পরিসর অনুমোদন পেয়েছে, এর মধ্যে রয়েছেঃ

উদ্যোগগুলো হচ্ছে গত অর্থবছরের বাজেটে কাউন্সিল কর্তৃক প্রবর্তিত কর্মসূচিগুলোর অতিরিক্ত এবং আগের কর্মসূচিগুলোও ২০২৪/২৫ অর্থবছরে অব্যাহত থাকবে। গত অর্থবছরের কর্মসূচির মধ্যে রয়েছে, বারার সকল প্রাথমিক ও মাধ্যমিক বিদ্যালয়ের শিশুদের জন্য সর্বজনীন বিনামূল্যের স্কুল খাবার সরবরাহ, যা কিশোর-তরুণদের জন্য গৃহিত ২১ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ডের বিস্তৃত বিনিয়োগের অংশ, এবং বিনামূল্যে প্রাপ্তবয়স্ক হোম কেয়ারে ২.৫ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড (যা কার্যকর হবে ২০২৫ সালে)।

গত বছর কাউন্সিল পরবর্তী তিন অর্থবছরে ৩৭ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড সঞ্চয় করা সহ আর্থিক ক্ষেত্রে একটি কঠিন পরিস্থিতির মুখোমুখি হয়েছিল। অত্যন্ত দক্ষতা ও সাফল্যের সাথে বাজেট পর্যালোচনার ফলে কাউন্সিল এটা ঘোষণা করতে পেরে আনন্দিত যে, এই লক্ষ্যমাত্রার চেয়েও ৬.৪ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড অতিরিক্ত, অর্থাৎ ৪৩.৪ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড সাশ্রয় চিহ্নিত করতে সক্ষম হয়েছে। কাউন্সিলের সার্ভিস বা পরিষেবাগুলোকে পুনর্গঠন, আয় বৃদ্ধি ও রূপান্তর, ইত্যাদি ক্ষেত্রসমূহ থেকে এই অর্থ সাশ্রয় করা সম্ভব হবে।

ভারসাম্যপূর্ণ বাজেট প্রদানের পাশাপাশি কাউন্সিল অতীতের প্রশাসনের অল্পিন্ন আর্থিক নিরীক্ষা সমস্যার সমাধান, নিশ্চয়তা

এবং প্রশাসনিক ক্ষেত্রে উল্লেখযোগ্য অগ্রগতি করেছে।

গত বছর ইয়ুথ সার্ভিসে ২১ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড সহ উল্লেখযোগ্য বিনিয়োগের সত্ত্বেও এই সঞ্চয় করা সম্ভব হয়েছে। উল্লেখ্য, দেশের অন্যান্য যে কোন বারার চলমান ট্রেড বা ধারার বিপরীতে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসে উন্নত ইয়ুথ সার্ভিস চালু, যা কাউন্সিলের যুব পরিষেবাগুলির একটি আমূল রূপান্তর; কলেজ এবং উচ্চতর শিক্ষায় তরুণদের সাহায্য করার জন্য শিক্ষা রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ ভাতা এবং বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় বার্ষিকিগুলির পুনঃপ্রবর্তন; এবং সকল প্রাথমিক ও মাধ্যমিক বিদ্যালয়ের শিশুদের জন্য সর্বজনীন বিনামূল্যে স্কুলের খাবার সরবরাহ। উল্লেখ্য, টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস হচ্ছে সারা দেশের মধ্যে একমাত্র কাউন্সিল যে বারার প্রাথমিক ও সেকেন্ডারি স্কুলের সকল শিক্ষার্থীকে বিনামূল্যে খাবার সরবরাহ করছে।

গত ডিসেম্বর মাসে লোকাল গভর্নমেন্ট এসোসিয়েশন (এলজিএ) টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিলের আর্থিক পরিচালনার প্রশংসা করেছে। গত সেপ্টেম্বরে পুরো এক সপ্তাহের পরিদর্শনের পরে পিয়ার রিভিউ চ্যালেঞ্জ রিপোর্টে (১৫ ডিসেম্বর প্রকাশিত) কাউন্সিলের আর্থিক পরিচালনার প্রশংসা করে বলা হয়, “টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস এর আর্থিক ব্যবস্থাপনার একটি ভাল রেকর্ড রয়েছে, এবং সংস্থার ভবিষ্যতের আর্থিক স্থায়িত্ব বজায় রাখার জন্য শক্তিশালী ভিত্তি রয়েছে। এটি ইতিবাচক যে কাউন্সিল তিন বছরের আর্থিক পরিকল্পনা তৈরি করছে যা একবার সম্পূর্ণ হয়ে গেলে পরিষেবা এবং অগ্রাধিকারের ক্ষেত্রে বিনিয়োগ করতে সক্ষম হবে।”

এক্সিকিউটিভ মেয়র লুৎফুর রহমান বলেনঃ “আমাদের বাসিন্দাদের ভবিষ্যতের জন্য বিনিয়োগ নিশ্চিত করে, জীবনযাত্রার সংকটের চলমান প্রভাব থেকে পরিবারকে রক্ষা করে এবং আমাদের আর্থিক অবস্থার শক্তিশালী এবং স্থিতিশীল অবস্থান নিশ্চিত করে - এমন একটি দায়িত্বশীল বাজেট তৈরি করতে কাউন্সিল কঠোর পরিশ্রম করেছে।

“আমরা প্রথম শ্রেণীর জনসেবা প্রদান এবং আমাদের বাসিন্দাদের উন্নতির প্রতিটি সুযোগ দিতে প্রতিশ্রুতিবদ্ধ।

“আমি আনন্দিত যে আমরা আমাদের যুগান্তকারী সর্বজনীন বিনামূল্যে স্কুলের খাবার সরবরাহ করতে এবং আমাদের কলেজ এবং বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের বার্ষিকি ক্ষিমাগুলিকে প্রসারিত করতে সক্ষম হয়েছি যা স্থানীয় পরিবারগুলির জন্য একটি আর্থিক জীবনরেখা প্রদান করে।”

ভবিষ্যতের জন্য পরিকল্পনা - আমাদের নতুন বাজেটে রয়েছে



জীবনযাত্রার সংকট মোকাবেলা করা

- নতুন কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স কস্ট অব লিভিং রিলিফ ফান্ড
- লন্ডনের মধ্যে সবচেয়ে কম ট্যাক্সের কাউন্সিলের একটি হচ্ছে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস
- দুর্বল প্রাপ্তবয়স্কদের জন্য বাড়িতে সেবা দিতে অতিরিক্ত ২.৫ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড



ভবিষ্যতের জন্য বাড়ি

- ২০২৬ সালের মধ্যে ৪,০০০ শাস্রয়ী মূল্যের বাড়ি সরবরাহের লক্ষ্য
- আরও পারিবারিক ঘর তৈরি করা এবং ওভারক্রাউডিং (ভিড়) কমানো
- কাউন্সিল মালিকানাধীন বাড়িতে অগ্নি নিরাপত্তা এবং মেরামত উন্নতি



শিক্ষাকে ত্বরান্বিত করা

- তরুণদের বিশুমানের বিশুবিদ্যালয়ে যেতে সাহায্য করার জন্য সেন্টার অব এক্সেলেন্স
- ১,২৫০ জন শিক্ষার্থীর জন্য আমাদের ইএমএ অনুদান বছরে £৬০০ বৃদ্ধি করা হচ্ছে।
- আমাদের বিশুবিদ্যালয়ের বার্ষিকি থেকে উপকৃত শিক্ষার্থীদের সংখ্যা দ্বিগুণ করা



সংস্কৃতি, ব্যবসা, চাকরি এবং অবকাশ সেবাসমূহের উন্নতি

- ১৬ উর্ধ্ব বয়সী মহিলা ও মেয়েদের এবং ৫৫ বছরের বেশি পুরুষদের জন্য ফ্রি সাঁতার
- স্থানীয় ব্যবসায়ীদের জন্য প্রচারণা চালিয়ে স্থানীয় অর্থনীতিকে চাঙ্গা করা
- ওয়াটসন মার্কেটে ব্যয়ে সংস্কার সহ আমাদের বাজারগুলিকে আপগ্রেড করা



পাবলিক সার্ভিসে বিনিয়োগ

- স্বাস্থ্য, শিক্ষা এবং কর্মসংস্থান সংক্রান্ত পরামর্শ প্রদানের জন্য একটি নতুন উইমেল রিসোর্স সেন্টার
- ক্রমবর্ধমান সোমালি জনসংখ্যাকে সমর্থন করার জন্য একটি নতুন সোমালি রিসোর্স হাব
- একটি নতুন সাংস্কৃতিকভাবে সংবেদনশীল ড্রাগ অপব্যবহার চিকিৎসা কেন্দ্র



এসবি এবং অপরাধের বিরুদ্ধে লড়াই করা

- আমাদের রাস্তাগুলিকে আরও নিরাপদ করতে ৪০ জন টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস এনফোর্সমেন্ট অফিসার নিয়োগ করা
- পুলিশিং এর জন্য £১.৬ মিলিয়ন সহ কমিউনিটি নিরাপত্তায় চলমান £৪.৪ মিলিয়ন বিনিয়োগ
- গুরুতর মাদক এবং সংগঠিত অপরাধ এবং নারী ও মেয়েদের বিরুদ্ধে সহিংসতা মোকাবেলায় ওপার অধিকতর দৃষ্টি দেয়া



দৃশ্যমুক্ত এবং সবুজ ভবিষ্যত

- আমাদের বর্জ্য পরিষেবাতে অতিরিক্ত £৫ মিলিয়ন বিনিয়োগ করে রাস্তা পরিষ্কার করা
- ড্রাইভার, সুইপার এবং লোডার সহ আরও ৭২ জন পরিচ্ছন্নতাকর্মী নিয়োগ
- রিসাইক্লিং বাড়ানোর জন্য অতিরিক্ত বিন এবং আরও সহায়তা প্রদান



এমন একটি কাউন্সিল যে শোনে এবং সবার জন্য কাজ করে

- বাসিন্দাদেরকে একটি কন্সল্টে দিতে কমিউনিটি চ্যাম্পিয়ন নিয়োগ
- টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসকে ভ্রমণ, কাজ এবং বিনিয়োগের জন্য একটি দুর্দান্ত জায়গা হিসাবে প্রচার করা
- আমাদের সংস্কৃতি এবং ইতিহাস উদযাপনের জন্য আরও বেশি লোককে একত্রিত করা

২০২৪-২৫ অর্থবছরের জন্য কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স

Council tax for 2024-25

২০২৩/২৪ সালে এডাল্ট কেয়ার সার্ভিসেস অর্থাৎপ্রাপ্তবয়স্কদের সামাজিক যত্নের ট্যাক্স উপাদানের বাইরে কাউন্সিল তার ট্যাক্স এর অংশ হিমায়িত করেছিলো।

কাউন্সিল এই বছর কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স অংশ ২.৯৯% বৃদ্ধি করছে। এর ফলে ব্যান্ড ডি কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স এর ক্ষেত্রে বৃদ্ধি পাবে ৩৪.২৯ পাউন্ড এবং এত করে ৩.৯ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড রাজস্ব আসবে, যা কাউন্সিলের পরিষেবাগুলি চালিয়ে যেতে সহায়তা করবে।

এর সাথে থাকবে ২% এডাল্ট সোশ্যাল কেয়ার প্রিসেপ্ট। এই প্রিসেপ্ট বা নিয়মটি ব্যান্ড ডি কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্সে ২২.৯৪ পাউন্ড বৃদ্ধির প্রতিনিধিত্ব করে এবং প্রাপ্তবয়স্কদের সামাজিক যত্ন ব্যয়ের অর্থায়নের জন্য ২.৬ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড আয় নিশ্চিত করে।

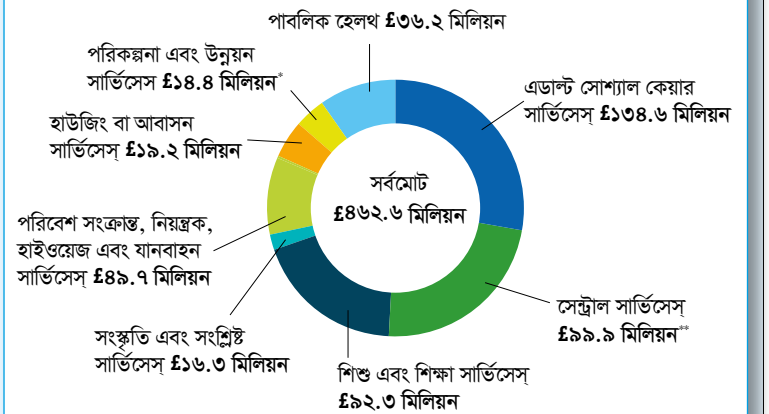
বাজেটে ঝুঁকিপূর্ণ শিশু এবং প্রাপ্তবয়স্কদের সুরক্ষার পাশাপাশি কমিউনিটির নিরাপত্তা, বর্জ্য পরিষেবা, আবাসন, অবসর এবং জনস্বাস্থ্যে বিনিয়োগকে অগ্রাধিকার দেওয়া হয়েছে। আমরা

আশা করি যে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস লন্ডনে ষষ্ঠ সর্বনিম্ন কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স হার অব্যাহত রাখবে।

লন্ডনের মেয়র কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্সে গ্রেটার লন্ডন অথরিটি (জিএলএ) অংশ হিসেবে ৮.৬% বৃদ্ধি করেছেন, এতে করে ব্যান্ড ডি বৃদ্ধি পেয়েছে ৩৭.২৬ পাউন্ড। একটি ব্যান্ড ডি প্রোপারটির জন্য কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স বিলের সামগ্রিক বৃদ্ধি ২০২৪-২৫ সালে ৯৪.৪৯ পাউন্ড হবে।

কাউন্সিলের কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্সের উপাদানের ২.৯৯% বৃদ্ধির প্রেক্ষিতে অনেক পরিবারের জন্য নতুন কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স কস্ট অফ লিভিং রিলিফ ফান্ড দ্বারা সহায়তা দেয়া হবে। তাই যাদের পরিবারের আয় ৪৯,৫০০ পাউন্ডের কম তাদেরকে বর্ধিত ট্যাক্স পরিশোধ করতে হবে না। নতুন তহবিল থেকে সহায়তা পেতে কীভাবে আবেদন করবেন তার বিশদ আগামী সপ্তাহগুলিতে প্রচার করা হবে। আমাদের প্রতিষ্ঠিত কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স রিডাকশন স্কিম (কর ট্রাস প্রকল্প) যথারীতি অব্যাহত থাকবে।

২০২৪/২৫ অর্থবছরের বাজেটের খাতওয়ারী ব্যয়



* এর অন্তর্ভুক্ত রয়েছে অর্থনৈতিক উন্নয়ন, কমিউনিটি উন্নয়ন এবং টেকসই

** এর মধ্যে রয়েছে সকল ধরনের কর্পোরেট সার্ভিসসমূহ এবং কর্পোরেট কন্সাল্টেন্সি

আপনি কি আপনার প্রাপ্য সবগুলো বেনিফিট পাচ্ছেন?

Are you getting all your benefits? - page 4

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসে বছরে ১১০ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ডেরও বেশি মূল্যের বেনিফিটসমূহ দাবিহীন থেকে যাচ্ছে।

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস বারায় ১০৯,৮৯৮টি মিস করা দাবির মধ্যে আপনি একজন কি-না এবং কোনো বেনিফিটে অর্থ পাওনা আছে কিনা, 'বেটার অফ ক্যালকুলেটর' ব্যবহার করে তা মাত্র ১০ মিনিটেরও কম সময়ের মধ্যে খুঁজে বের করতে পারেন। আমাদের কস্ট-অফ-লিভিং হেল্প ক্যাম্পেইন আপনাকে এ এতদূর পর্যন্ত সচেতন করতে ব্যাপক প্রচারাভিযান চালিয়ে যাচ্ছে।

শুধুমাত্র যারা কাজের বাইরে আছেন তাদের জন্য নয়, বিভিন্ন লোকের জন্য রয়েছে অনেক ধরনের সহায়তা। আপনি উপার্জন করা সত্ত্বেও এখনও আর্থিক সংকটের সাথে লড়াই করে থাকেন, আপনি যদি অবসরপ্রাপ্ত হন, যদি আপনার সন্তান থাকে, অন্য কারো যত্ন

বা দেখভালের দায়িত্ব পালন করতে হয় বা কোনোরূপ অক্ষমতা থাকে, তাহলেও আপনি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ সাহায্য পাওয়ার অধিকারী হতে পারেন যা আপনার আয় বৃদ্ধি করবে।

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের একজন বাসিন্দা যারা তাদের বেনিফিট এনটাইটেলমেন্ট চেক করেছেন তারা পেনশন ক্রেডিট পাওয়ার যোগ্য তা খুঁজে বের করার পর তাদের আয় প্রতি মাসে ৩৮ শতাংশ বেড়ে ১,১৭০ পাউন্ডের বেশি হয়েছে।

কেবিনেট মেম্বর ফর রিসোর্সেস এন্ড কস্ট-অব-লিভিং, কাউন্সিলর সাইদ আহমেদ বলেছেন, "অনেকে লোক সাহায্য চাইতে বিব্রত বোধ করতে পারে বা বেনিফিট দাবি করার ব্যাপারে একটা স্টিগমা বা কলঙ্কবোধ থাকতে পারে। আপনি যে বেনিফিট বা সহায়তা লাভ করার অধিকারী তা দাবি করতে কোন লজ্জা নেই। আমরা এখানে সাহায্য করতে এসেছি, তাই দয়া করে বেনিফিট দাবি করা থেকে বিরত থাকবেন না, কারণ এটি আপনার জীবনে একটি রূপান্তরমূলক প্রভাব ফেলতে পারে।"

'বেটার অফ ক্যালকুলেটর' ব্যবহার করে আপনি কী পাওয়ার অধিকারী তা যাচাই করা দ্রুত এবং সহজ। ক্যালকুলেটর আপনার পূর্বাভাসিত দাবির মাধ্যমে আপনার প্রাপ্য হতে পারে এমন অন্য যেকোন বিষয়ে ব্যক্তিগতকৃত বেনিফিটের ব্যাপারে পরামর্শের পাশাপাশি নির্দেশিকা প্রদান করে। কাউন্সিলর রেসিডেন্ট সাপোর্ট আউটরিচ টিম মুখোমুখি সহায়তা প্রদান করে এবং একাধিক কমিউনিটি ভাষায় কথা বলে এবং বরো জুড়ে বিভিন্ন স্থানে এই সুবিধা পাওয়া যায়।

বেনিফিট চেকার এবং আরও অনেক কিছুর জন্য towerhamlets.gov.uk/costofliving-এ ভিজিট করুন।

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসে, দাবিহীন বেনিফিটের কিছু পরিসংখ্যান...

- ৫২ মিলিয়ন দাবিহীন ইউনিভার্সাল ক্রেডিট
- দাবিহীন চাইল্ড বেনিফিটে ৬ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড
- দাবিহীন কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স সহায়তায় ১৭ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড
- দাবিহীন কেয়ারার্স এলাউন্স ১৩ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড
- দাবিহীন পেনশন ক্রেডিট ৯ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড
- আপনার এবং আপনার পরিবারের জন্য ১২ মিলিয়ন পাউন্ড অন্যান্য দাবিহীন সহায়তা, যার মধ্যে রয়েছে সন্তা গৃহস্থালি বিলসমূহ, বিনামূল্যে টিভি লাইসেন্স এবং বিনামূল্যে খাবার, ভিটামিন এবং আপনার বাচ্চাদের খাবার।

রামাদান মাসে ভালো থাকুন

Stay healthy during Ramadan - p 15

পবিত্র রামাদান মাসের জন্য প্রস্তুতি গ্রহণকারী মুসলমানদেরকে সুস্থ থাকতে এবং নিরাপদে রোজা রাখতে উৎসাহিত করা হচ্ছে।

আপনার উপবাস বা রোজা ভঙ্গ করার সময় দেহের এনার্জী লেবেল বা শক্তির মাত্রা বজায় রাখতে সুস্থ খাবার খাওয়া খুবই গুরুত্বপূর্ণ।

আপনি যদি রোজা রাখেন, তাহলে এটা আপনাকে নিশ্চিত করতে হবে যে আপনি প্রচুর পরিমাণে পানি পান করছেন এবং আপনার উপবাস ভাঙার সময় অর্থাৎ ইফতারে প্রচুর শাকসবজি, গোটা শস্যাদানা এবং গ্রিল করা বা বেক করা চর্বিহীন মাংস, ডিম, মুরগি ও মাছ খাওয়ার বিষয়টি গুরুত্বের সাথে বিবেচনা করুন। এগুলো আপনার প্রয়োজনীয় সমস্ত পুষ্টি জোগাবে। ক্যাফেইনযুক্ত পানীয় যেমন কফি, চা এবং ফিজি পানীয়, ভাজা-পোড়া এবং প্রক্রিয়াজাত খাবার, চর্বি এবং চিনি সমৃদ্ধ খাবার, চর্বিযুক্ত খাবার

এবং প্রক্রিয়াজাত মাংস এবং উচ্চ লবণযুক্ত খাবার সীমিত করা বা এড়িয়ে চলা ভাল।

আপনার যদি ডায়াবেটিস থাকে এবং আপনি রোজা রাখতে চান, তাহলে এটি করার সবচেয়ে নিরাপদ উপায় সম্পর্কে আপনার জিপি বা ডায়াবেটিস নার্সের সাথে কথা বলা গুরুত্বপূর্ণ। ডায়াবেটিস ইউকে-এর ইংরেজি, আরবি, বাংলা এবং উর্দুতে রোজা রাখা এবং আপনার ডায়াবেটিস পরিচালনার বিষয়ে প্রচুর পরামর্শ রয়েছে।

মনে রাখবেন, ডায়াবেটিস রোগীদের জন্য রোজা থেকে রেহাই আছে, বিশেষ করে যদি আপনি ইনসুলিন নিয়ে থাকে বা আপনার কোনো চিকিৎসা জটিলতা থাকে। আরো তথ্যের জন্য ভিজিট করুন www.diabetes.org.uk



২০২৪ সালের 'সিজন অব বাংলা ড্রামা' অংশ নিন A Season of Bangla Drama 2024- p 36



বাংলা নাটকের বার্ষিক উৎসব 'এ সিজন অব বাংলা ড্রামা' এই বছরের শেষের দিকে ফিরে আসবে। কিউরেটররা প্রোগ্রামে নতুন নাটক অন্তর্ভুক্ত করার জন্য চাইছেন।

'আশা' প্রতিপাদ্য বিষয় নিয়ে এবারের নাট্যাংশসবে অংশ নিতে আগ্রহী স্থানীয় এবং জাতীয় নাট্যকার বা সংস্থাগুলিকে তাদের আগ্রহপত্র জমা দেওয়ার জন্য স্বাগত জানানো যাচ্ছে।

উৎসবের জন্য জমাকৃত নাটক হতে হবে নতুন এবং পূর্ব লন্ডনের দর্শকদের জন্য প্রাসঙ্গিক। আগ্রহ প্রকাশের সময়সীমা ২৬ মার্চ ২০২৪ মঙ্গলবার সকাল ১০ টা।



আন্তর্জাতিক মাতৃভাষা দিবস উদযাপন

কেন্দ্রীয় শহীদ মিনার কমিটির সাথে অংশীদারিত্বে, টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিল ২১ ফেব্রুয়ারি আন্তর্জাতিক মাতৃভাষা দিবসের বার্ষিক স্মরণ অনুষ্ঠানের আয়োজন করেছিলো। শহীদ দিবস হিসাবে পরিচিত, ভাষাগত ও সাংস্কৃতিক বৈচিত্র্যের প্রচার ও উদযাপনের জন্য এই দিনটি এখন আন্তর্জাতিক মাতৃভাষা দিবস হিসেবে বিশ্বজুড়ে পালন করা হয়। একুশের প্রথম প্রহরে পূর্ব লন্ডনের আলতাভ আলী পার্কের কেন্দ্রীয় শহীদ মিনারে পুষ্পার্ঘ্য অর্পন করেন (উপরের ছবিতে বাঁ থেকে) নির্বাহী মেয়র লুৎফুর রহমান, কাউন্সিলের স্পীকার কাউন্সিলর জাহেদ চৌধুরী এবং যুক্তরাজ্যে নিযুক্ত বাংলাদেশের হাই কমিশনার সাঈদা মুনা তাসনীম। এরপর বিভিন্ন রাজনৈতিক, সামাজিক, সাংস্কৃতিক ও পেশাজীবী সংগঠনের নেতৃবৃন্দ সহ সর্বস্তরের বিপুল সংখ্যক জনগণ তাদের শ্রদ্ধাঞ্জলি নিবেদন করেন।

আগামী নির্বাচনে ব্যক্তিগতভাবে ভোট দেওয়ার জন্য ভোটার আইডি প্রয়োজন

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ভোটারদের এখন ভোট দেওয়ার আগে তাদের পরিচয় যাচাই করার জন্য কিছু নির্বাচনে ভোট কেন্দ্রে ব্যক্তিগতভাবে ভোট দেওয়ার সময় অনুমোদিত ফটোগ্রাফিক আইডি দেখাতে হবে। এর মধ্যে রয়েছে লন্ডনের আসন্ন মেয়র এবং ২ মে বৃহস্পতিবার লন্ডনের এসেঞ্চলি নির্বাচন।

ফটো আইডির স্বীকৃত অনুমোদিত ফর্মগুলি অন্তর্ভুক্ত কিন্তু এতে সীমাবদ্ধ নয়: - ইউক, চ্যানেল আইল্যান্ডস, আইল অফ ম্যান, একটি ব্রিটিশ ওভারসিজ টেরিটরি, একটি ইইএ এস্টেট, বা একটি কমনওয়েলথ দেশের দেয়া পাসপোর্ট, উত্তর আয়ারল্যান্ড, চ্যানেল আইল্যান্ডস, আইল অফ ম্যান বা একটি ইইএ এস্টেট কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত ড্রাইভিং লাইসেন্স।

কিছু কনসেশনারি (রেয়াতি) ভ্রমণ পাস, যেমন একজন বয়স্ক ব্যক্তির বাস পাস বা ওয়েস্টার ৬০+ কার্ড। - একটি পরিচয়পত্র যাতে প্রফ অফ এজ স্ট্যাভার্ড স্কিম হলোগ্রাম ('পাস' কার্ড)।

পোস্টাল বা প্রক্সি দিয়ে ভোট দেওয়ার জন্য ভোটারদের ফটো আইডি দেখাতে হবে না। যদি কেউ কারও প্রক্ষে ভোট দেওয়ার জন্য প্রক্সি হিসাবে কাজ করতে চাইলে তাদের ভোটকেন্দ্রে তাদের নিজস্ব ফটো আইডি দেখাতে হবে। যদি আপনার কাছে অনুমোদিত ফটো আইডি না থাকে, তাহলে আপনাকে www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-এ ভোটার অথরিটি সার্টিফিকেট (VAই) নামে পরিচিত একটি বিনামূল্যের ভোটার আইডি নথির জন্য আবেদন করতে পারেন।

একটি Vঅঙ্গ-এর জন্য আবেদন করতে হলে, আপনাকে অবশ্যই ভোট দেওয়ার জন্য নিবন্ধিত হতে হবে, একটি ছবি প্রদান করতে হবে এবং একটি ভোটার অথরিটি সার্টিফিকেট জারি করার আগে শনাক্তকরণ প্রদান করতে হবে। আপনাকে www.gov.uk/register-to-vote-এই ওয়েবসাইটে গিয়ে ভোটার হিসেবে নিজে নাম নিবন্ধন করতে পারেন।

২ মে নির্বাচনে ব্যক্তিগতভাবে ভোট দেওয়ার জন্য নিবন্ধন করার শেষ দিন হল মঙ্গলবার ১৬ এপ্রিল ২০২৪।

ফটো আইডি হিসেবে গ্রহণযোগ্য সকল আইডির সম্পূর্ণ তালিকা সহ ভোটার আইডি সম্পর্কে আরও তথ্য জানতে ভিজিট করুন electoralcommission.org.uk/voter ওউ অথবা ০৮০০ ৩২৮ ০২৮০ নম্বরে কমিশন হেল্পলাইনে কল করুন।

২ মে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে দু'টি নির্বাচন

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২ মে বৃহস্পতিবার লন্ডনের ভোটাররা লন্ডনের মেয়র এবং ২৫ জন লন্ডন অ্যাসেম্বলি সদস্য নির্বাচনের জন্য ভোটাধিকার প্রয়োগ করবেন। ভোট গ্রহণ শুরু হয় সকাল ৭টায়, শেষ হয় রাত ১০টায়। ফলাফল ঘোষণা করা হবে ৪ মে শনিবার।

এই বছর লন্ডনের নির্বাচন দুটি ভিন্ন মূল উপায়ে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।

প্রথমত, সকল ভোটারকে ভোট দেওয়ার জন্য ভোট কেন্দ্রে যাওয়ার সাথে করে কটি অনুমোদিত ফটো আইডেন্টিফিকেশন (ফটো আইডি) নিয়ে যেতে হবে। দ্বিতীয়ত, লন্ডনের মেয়রের জন্য শুধুমাত্র একটি ভোট হবে, (যাকে

বলা হয় ফার্স্ট-পাস্ট-দ্য-পোস্ট সিস্টেম)। অতীতে লন্ডনের মেয়রের জন্য প্রথম এবং দ্বিতীয় পছন্দের ভোট হয়েছে (যাকে বলা হয় সম্পূর্ণ ভোট)।

যোগ্য ভোটারদের নির্বাচনের আগে পোল কার্ড পাঠানো হবে যা আপনাকে জানাবে আপনার ভোটকেন্দ্রে কোথায়। আপনি যদি আপনার পোল কার্ড কোথায় রেখেছেন, তা ভুলে যান, তাহলে www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/elections ওয়েবসাইটের পোলিং স্টেশন ফাইন্ডার অপশনে গিয়ে নির্বাচনের সময়সূচী, এবং নিবন্ধনের জন্য আবেদন করার মতো অতিরিক্ত তথ্য জানতে পারবেন।

Ku samee dabaasha bilaashka ah

HARMONY SOMALI NEWS

Dabbaasha bilaashka ah ee qaar ka mid ah dadka degan Tower Hamlets ayaa si rasmi ah loo bilaabay.

Golaha Tower Hamlets waxa uu keenay maamulka todobada xarumood ee wakhtiga firaaqada ee gudaha guriga si ay golaha u siiyaan kontoroolka tooska ah ee ay ku bixinayaan wakhtiga firaaqada, iyada oo hoos imanaysa odhaahda 'Be Well'.

Be Well waxay raadisaa inay taageerto safarrada dadka deegaanka si ay u helaan qaab nololeed caafimaad leh. Iyada oo qayb ka ah tan, Be Well waxay bilawday dabaasha bilaashka ah ee haweenka iyo gabdhaha da'doodu tahay 16 iyo wixii ka weyn, iyo ragga da'doodu tahay 55 iyo wixii ka weyn.

Tower Hamlets waa degmo caafimaadkeedu liito, oo kala badh dadka waaweyni ay yihiin kuwo cayilan ama naaxsan. Haweenka degmada ku nool waxay aad ugu dhow yihiin inay ka hawl-gabaan ragga, iyadoo rajada nolosha dumarku ay toddoba sano ka yar tahay tan ragga. Dadka waaweyn ayaa leh heerka ugu hooseeya ee dhaqdhaqaaqa jireed marka loo eego kooxaha da'da kale.

Lutfur Rahman, Duqa Degmada Tower Hamlets iyo Xildh Mohammed Kamrul Hussain, Xubin Golaha Wasiirada ee Dhaqanka iyo Madadaalada, ayaa si rasmi ah u daah furay barnaamijka dabaasha bilaashka ah ee cusub ee Xarunta Madadaalada ee Poplar Baths iyo Gym Isniintii 15 Luulyo.

Ali Noyce oo ka socda Swim England iyo Matt Croxall oo ka socda Royal Lifesaving Society (RLSS), oo ah la-hawlgalayaasha dabaasha cusub ee degmada, ayaa ka soo qayb galay furitaanka si ay uga hadlaan faa'iidooyinka dabaasha iyo muhiimada badbaadada biyaha.

Lutfur Rahman, Duqa Fulinta ee Tower Hamlets, ayaa yiri: "Waxaa naga go'an inaan dhimno sinnaan la'aanta caafimaadka iyo maalgelinta caafimaadka iyo ladnaanta.

"Caymiska adeegga madadaalada iyo abuurista Hab-Wanaagsan waxay ahayd mid ka mid ah tillaabooyinkayaga badan ee aan ku gaarnay tan."

Xildh Mohammed Kamrul Hussain, Xubinta Golaha Wasiirada ee Dhaqanka iyo Madadaalada, ayaa yiri: "Dabbaasha bilaashka ah ee haweenka iyo gabdhaha da'doodu tahay 16 iyo wixii ka weyn, iyo ragga



da'doodu tahay 55 iyo wixii ka weyn waa hab la beegsaday si meesha looga saaro caqabadaha hortaagan isu keenidda bulshooyinka, si loo abuuro xaafad caafimaad qabta.

"Waan ku faraxsanahay inaan daah-furo barnaamijkeena cusub waxaan rajeynayaa inaan arko faa'iidooyinka ay tani u keeni doonto bulshada."

Booqo [be-well.org.uk/what-we-offer/swimming/freeswimming/](https://www.be-well.org.uk/what-we-offer/swimming/freeswimming/)

Shuruudaha diiwaangelinta:

• Si aad ugu qalanto dabaasha bilaashka ah, waa inaad tahay degane Tower Hamlets.

Haweenka iyo gabdhuhu waa in ay da'doodu tahay 16 jir iyo ka weyn iyo ragga da'doodu tahay 55 iyo ka weyn.

• Caddaynta da'da iyo ku noolaanshaha degmada waa in lala yimaaddaa. Dadka deegaanka waxaa la siin doonaa kaadhka xubnimada dabaasha bilaashka ah kaas oo siinaya kala doorasho ay ku ballansan karaan fadhigada inta lagu jiro dhammaan waqtiyada dabaasha ee loogu talagalay 'dabbaasha fayaqabka' ee 'haweenka kaliya' ee bilaashka ah.

• Fadhigadu (waqtiga dabbaashu) waxay ahaan doonaan hal saac. Macaamiisha imanaya bilaa ballan waxa la siin doonaa fursad haddii waqti la helo.

USEFUL INFORMATION SERVICES AND CONTACTS

Advice

Account 3 (welfare and debt advice)

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

Age UK East London

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

Bromley by Bow Centre

St Leonard's Street, E3.
020 8709 9700

Carers Centre Tower Hamlets

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

Citizens Advice Bureau

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

Island Advice Centre

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

Legal Advice Centre

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

Limehouse Project

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

Praxis (New Residents) Immigration, benefits and general advice

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

Tower Hamlets Community Advice Network

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

Tower Hamlets Law Centre

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

Careers

Adult education services

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

WorkPath

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

Young WorkPath/Tower Hamlets Careers Service

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@healthwatchtower
hamlets.co.uk
www.healthwatchtower
hamlets.co.uk

LinkAge Plus

Toynbee Hall, Commercial
Street, E1.
020 7392 2913

Reset

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

Safe East (under-19s)

compass.towerhamlets
yphws@nhs.net
020 3954 0091

Stop Smoking services

www.quitrightth.org
020 7882 8230

Tower Hamlets Advocacy Real

020 7001 2170
hello@real.org.uk

Housing

Choice-based lettings

020 7364 2826

Homeless service

020 7364 7474
Out of hours
020 7364 4079

Homeseekers

www.thhs.org.uk

Housing advice

020 7364 3558

Repairs

0800 376 1637 ext 1

Tower Hamlets Homes

020 7364 5015

Idea Stores and libraries

Bow

Gladstone Place, E3.

Canary Wharf

Churchill Place, E14.

Chrisp Street

Vesey Path, E14.

Whitechapel

321 Whitechapel Road, E1.

Local History Library and Archives

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

Leisure centres

John Orwell Sports Centre

Tench Street, Wapping, E1.
020 7488 9421

Mile End Park Leisure

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

Poplar Baths

170 East India Dock Road,
E14. 020 3795 0599

St George's Leisure Centre

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

Tiller Leisure Centre

Tiller Road, Isle of Dogs
E14. 020 7987 5211

Whitechapel Sports Centre

55 Durward Street, E1.
020 7247 7538

York Hall Leisure Centre

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

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

Parent & child

Family Information Service

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

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

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

Tower Hamlets National Childbirth Trust

0300 330 0700
www.nct.org.uk

Report it

Anti-fraud (housing and tenancy related fraud)

0800 528 0294

Black Women's Health and Family Support

020 8980 3503

Childline

0800 1111

Domestic Violence Team

0800 279 5434

Environmental

Protection (Noise) Team

020 7364 5000

Haven Whitechapel (sexual assault referral centre)

020 3299 6900 /
020 3299 1599

Karma Nirvana (honour-based abuse helpline)

0800 5999 247

Men's Advice Helpline

0808 8010 327

National LGBT domestic abuse helpline (Galop)

0800 999 5428 /
0300 999 5428

Non-emergency crimes

101 Textphone
18001 101

NSPCC Child Protection Helpline

0800 800 5000

Respect (for perpetrators)

0808 802 4040

Rights of Women

020 7251 6577

Samaritans

116 123

Shelter

0808 800 4444

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

020 7364 7474

Victim Support Tower Hamlets

0808 168 9291 /
0808 168 9111

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