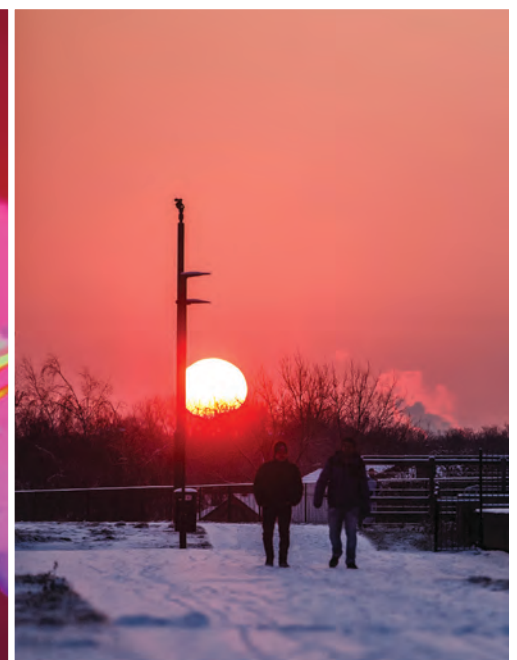


WE ARE TOGETHER.

WE ARE NEWHAM.



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WE ARE CULTURAL

Get Newham Boosted: wear a mask, regularly test and get vaccinated

Visit newham.gov.uk for more information



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For information on all Newham Council services visit www.newham.gov.uk

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 www.facebook.com/newhamcouncil

 @NewhamLondon

If you do not receive the **Newham Mag** at home, or know someone who doesn't, and you would like a copy email newham.mag@newham.gov.uk

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR.

WELCOME TO THE WINTER EDITION OF THE NEWHAM MAG.

It's been another challenging year for so many of us, but we have achieved so much by acting together as a Newham community.

In response to the latest Covid-19 variant, we must stand together as a community to make all of us safe by:

- Getting fully vaccinated including your booster
- Wearing masks in shops, public transport and public indoor spaces
- Leading by example, especially with those we know and love.

I got my Covid-19 booster jab late last month at the Sir Ludwig Guttman Health Centre in Stratford and I urge you to get yours too.

I wear masks on public transport and in shops, not just because it is the government's legal requirement, but because it is also the right thing to do to protect other people in Newham.

I also regularly test myself to make sure I don't spread Covid to those of you I meet.

You can make a difference this Christmas by encouraging those you know and love to:

- Get vaccinated and get a booster
- Wear their mask on public transport and in shops.

This magazine details how we are taking action that makes a difference.

On Climate Change we are taking action now. We've doubled our electric vehicle charging points this year, we're planting more than 400 trees and hedgerows, expanded our recycling and taken action on polluting cars. We have committed to net zero carbon emissions as a council by 2030 and as a borough by 2045 and you can read how we are leading by example.

Newham Sparks is central to our plan for the jobs of the future. Newham Sparks is our ambition to become a catalyst – and London's destination – for innovators and investors in the growing data sector. We plan to unlock the value of data and digital in everything we do as a Council – from keeping our streets clean, managing refuse collections, promoting sustainable transport and improving the air we breathe. Find out how to get involved on page 13.

Newham is now recognised as a community with ambition, and that is why the Council received almost £40 million from the government's 'Levelling Up Fund, more than all the other Councils in London combined.

The right to fair wages for all local people is at the heart of our plans for building a better Newham.

My ambition is to make Newham a place where all people are paid what they deserve so they can securely enjoy a good life. That's why we pay a Living Wage at Newham of £11.05 an hour as a minimum. The people of East London have always been at the forefront of standing up for their rights at work for over 125 years since the ground breaking fights by the Match Girls, dockers and gasworkers and as your Mayor I will be your voice for fair wages. You can read more about the Living Wage campaign launch in Newham.

In this magazine there is advice about how you can get the help and support you need and deserve.

As always, I look forward to meeting and speaking with as many of you as I can.

I wish you all a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Rokhsana Fiaz OBE
Mayor of Newham
 @rokhsanafiaz



WE ARE GREENER.

Newham Council's Cabinet has approved measures to decarbonise its Dockside headquarters with new LED lighting and more energy efficient heating systems.

The investment in the decarbonisation measures, funded by the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) and costing around £2.2 million, will allow for new solar panels and energy-saving LED lighting to be extended to all of the Dockside building. It is hoped that the works will be completed by 31 March 2022.



WE ARE RECYCLING.

Residents in Newham can now put more of their recycling into the orange-lidded recycling bins or orange sacks as part of our commitment to reduce waste and protect our environment. The new scheme means glass bottles and jars, clean foil, empty aerosols, clean plastic pots and tubs, yoghurt pots and fruit punnets have been added to the list of items we already collect such as paper, cardboard, plastic bottles and tin cans.

For more information please visit www.newham.gov.uk/recycle

WE ARE ELECTRIC.

By the end of 2021 we'll have installed 140 new electric charging points to help support the transition of our residents and businesses to electric vehicles.

We're working with potential funders and charge point operators to speed up this programme of delivery, with the potential for a further 500 chargers being delivered by the end of 2024, bringing the total electric vehicle points to around 640.

In addition to the 'home charging' electric vehicle points, the Council is also aiming to deliver a further 20 rapid charger sites along main roads and at main destinations within the borough to make it easier for electric vehicle drivers to top up.



WE ARE ACTION.

WE ARE OFF!

Newham is once again supporting the London-wide anti-idling campaign 'Engine Off. Every Stop' as part of our pledge to improve air quality for residents. According to the UK Health Security Agency, Newham residents are exposed to high levels of toxic pollution from vehicles. Please help to improve Newham's air quality by doing your bit and switching off your engine when your car is stationary.



WE ARE PLANTING.



Newham Council was delighted to receive a £297,000 grant from the Forestry Commission to plant over 400 trees and hedgerows to help tackle the borough's climate crisis.

Planting is underway, starting in parks, followed by residential streets, estates and schools, finishing in late February.

Newham has one of the lowest levels of tree coverage and we know that residents are keen to see that change. The funding will contribute to our work, increasing the number of trees across Newham and continuing our work to transform our borough into a greener, cleaner and more environmentally friendly place to live where residents can feel healthier and happier.

Trees bring huge benefits, providing shade and lowering temperatures in hot weather, reducing pollution and helping with drainage. They also improve the local environment, making the area a more pleasant place to live.

Parks and green spaces will include:

- Brampton Park
- Gooseley Recreation Ground,
- Central Park
- Plashet Park
- Priors Park
- Cundy Recreation Ground,
- Canning Town Recreation Ground
- King George V Park
- Plaistow Park
- May Green
- Valetta Grove
- Chandos Open Space.

WE ARE INVESTING.

Newham is getting more than £500,000 of funding from the Greater London Authority (GLA) to develop two key projects supporting green economic opportunities in the borough.

The award came from the government's UK Community Renewal Fund.

The projects will help us look at ways we can reuse material from the construction industry across London.

The successful award means plans can be built to create affordable workspaces that attract and support green industries in the borough.



WE ARE WELL.

STAY WELL THIS WINTER WITH OUR GUIDE!

Winter has arrived and there are many ways we can look after ourselves and each other during the colder months.

Check out our guide to staying well, warm and healthy!

Act quickly

If you feel unwell – even if it’s just a cough or cold – get a Covid-19 test and speak to your pharmacist. If you need more advice or help, call NHS 111 or visit www.nhs.uk for details of local services.

Tips for staying well:

- Stock up your medicine cabinet – and ask your pharmacist or GP about your repeat prescriptions.
- Speak to your pharmacist about common winter illnesses such as a cold, sore throat, cough or earache.

Preventing flu and Covid-19

Flu and Covid-19 look set to be circulating at the same time again this year.

The best way to protect against both illnesses for yourself and your family is to have the Covid-19, flu and Covid-19 booster vaccinations.

The flu vaccine is updated every year to fight the latest version of the illness, so it is important you have this year’s vaccine even if you had a jab last year. The NHS flu vaccine is free for many people. For more information, visit www.nhs.uk/flu

It is important to get both your Covid-19 vaccinations and your booster when you are offered them, to get the maximum protection. For more information and to book your Covid-19 vaccination, visit www.newham.gov.uk/bookyourvaccine

Staying warm during winter

One of the best ways to stay well during winter is to keep warm at home. Here are our tips:

- Make sure you are receiving any benefits you are entitled to such as the Warm Home Discount, the Cold Weather Payment and the Winter Fuel Payment.
- Draw your curtains in the evening, keep doors closed and block out draughts.
- Wear several light layers of warm clothes (instead of one chunky layer).
- Stay active in your home.

- Wrap up warm and wear shoes with a good grip if you need to go outside.
- Try to keep your bedroom at 18°C (65°F) and your living room at 21°C (70°F).

You can make sure your home is ready for winter by:

- Insulating your hot water cylinder.
- Getting a Gas Safe Registered engineer to check your boiler to make sure it is safe and working properly.
- Checking your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are working, and electric fires are properly guarded.

For more information on how to reduce your bills and make your home more energy efficient, go to the Government’s Simple Energy Advice website www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk or call the helpline on **0800 444 202**.

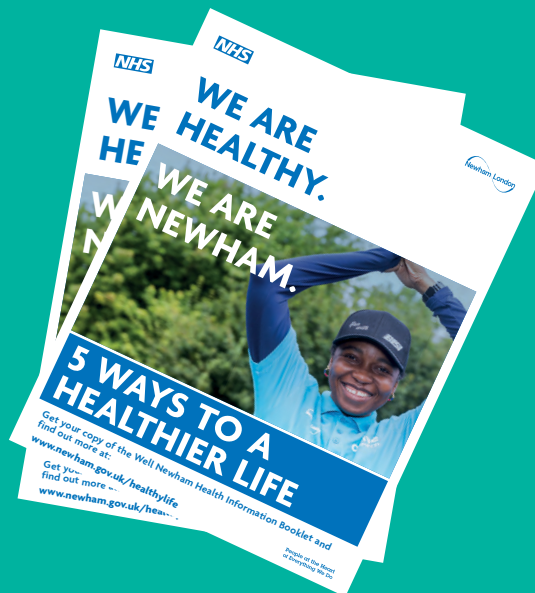
Check in on vulnerable neighbours and relatives

Check on older neighbours and relatives, and those with health problems, to make sure they are safe, well and prepared.

For more information about keeping well this winter, visit www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/keep-warm-keep-well

5 WAYS TO A HEALTHIER LIFE BOOKLET

Our new booklet is being distributed throughout Newham. You can also get your copy from our website www.newham.gov.uk/healthylife



WE ARE HEALTHY.

This winter all residents aged 65 and over can get FREE vitamin D tablets.

Vitamin D helps keep bones, teeth and muscles healthy.

Our body makes most of our vitamin D from sunlight on our skin. It's also found in a small number of foods. It can be hard to get enough vitamin D in winter because the sun is not strong enough, so doctors recommend taking vitamin D supplements (tablets) to keep healthy.

To help older residents stay healthy this winter, the council is running a six-month offer of free vitamin D tablets for residents aged 65 and over, from November 2021 to April 2022.

If you are a Newham resident aged 65 or over, you can get free vitamin D supplements from many locations across Newham. To find out more, including where to collect, visit your local library, call the COVID-19 Helpline on **02074739711** or visit **www.newham.gov.uk/vitaminD**



BOOST YOUR IMMUNITY THIS WINTER

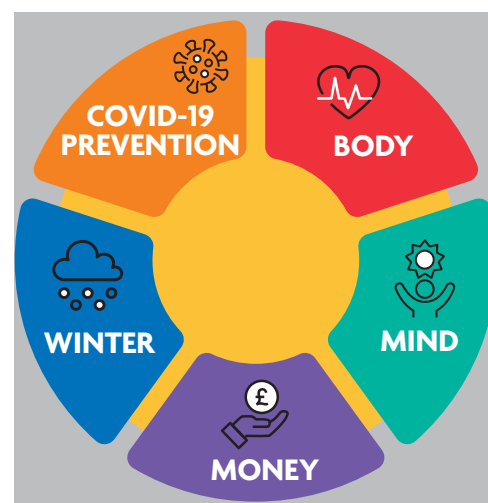
○ FLU JAB
+ COVID-19
○ BOOSTER

Flu and Covid-19 can be life-threatening and spread more easily in winter.

Most adults and children will be eligible for a Flu jab, Covid-19 booster or both.

Don't delay, book your vaccinations now.

Visit your GP or pharmacist, or book online:
www.northeastlondonhcp.nhs.uk/wintervaccinations



www.newham.gov.uk/healthylife

WE ARE SUPPORTING.

ADDITIONAL WINTER SUPPORT FOR KEEPING WELL

PUSHING THE PANDEMIC BACK, TOGETHER

It is more important than ever to look after our health. Early in December 2021, as the new variant of COVID-19, Omicron, started to appear in our community, the government announced that 'Plan B' would be coming into effect to slow the spread and protect communities.

It is now more important than ever to keep following the '5 Steps for COVID-19 Wellbeing' to stay safe and protect one another.

Contact the COVID-19 Helpline for information, advice and support about COVID-19, including testing, vaccines and free support if you are required to isolate. The Helpline is open 9am – 7pm, 7 days a week. Call handlers can speak multiple languages.

You can reach the Helpline by phone – **020 7473 9711** – or by email: **covidhelp@community-links.org**

The council will continue to share COVID-19 information and guidance as it changes with community groups, the COVID-19 Health Champions, the media and through our website (**www.newham.gov.uk/coronavirus**).

WE ARE HELPING

Keeping warm is one way to help yourself stay healthy. Fuel bills have increased for many people and, with the need to keep our homes well ventilated to stop COVID-19 hanging around, some residents are worried about the impact on their finances this winter.

Our Newham Money can help you stay warm by offering help and advice on your gas and electricity bills. Our Newham Money can also provide a wide range of financial support. Contact them for assistance on 020 8430 2041 or visit **www.ournewhammoney.co.uk**

SHINE – SHINE is an energy advice service for Londoners. They have a dedicated helpline to support residents and signpost to immediate support services. To speak to an advisor, please call **0300 555 0195** between 9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday.

WE ARE CONNECTED

Staying connected with others is important all the time but can be even more important and challenging in colder weather and when daylight hours are shorter.

Connect Newham is a chat service for all adult residents who would like to have a weekly or fortnightly chat with a friendly local person, for anything from three to 20 phone calls. Visit the Age UK website (**https://www.ageuk.org.uk/eastlondon/**) for more information or call **020 3954 3224**.

If you are care for others and would like some support please visit **www.carersfirst.org.uk/newham** or call **0300 303 1555**.

Mental Health Support

Mental health is like physical health – it needs care to keep it in the best possible shape. If you feel that you would appreciate some support, qualified mental health professionals are here to help.

Support is available for people of all ages and your call will never be a waste of time: **https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/mental-health/find-an-urgent-mental-health-helpline**

Alternatively, you can telephone **0300 555 1000**.

5 STEPS FOR COVID-19 WELLBEING

STAY SAFE



Do the basics
- Hands, Face,
Space, Fresh
air

BE KIND



Look after yourself
and those
around you

STAY HOME



If you have
symptoms, test
positive or are a
contact - we can
help

GET TESTED



Know your
COVID-19 status

GET VACCINATED



Protect yourself
and others

www.newham.gov.uk/coronavirus

WE ARE CARING.

THREE-YEAR CARERS' PLAN LAUNCHED

Newham Council has launched a comprehensive three-year plan to recognise and support the borough's growing numbers of unpaid Carers.

Government figures show Newham has more than 24,500 Carers but the real figure is likely to be even higher, because of the impact of the pandemic and residents not identifying themselves as Carers.

During lockdown, Carers delivered an average of 25 extra hours a week of unpaid care on top of their normal caring responsibilities, as older people and those with disabilities and long-term health conditions were impacted disproportionately by the virus.

Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz said: "Lockdown has been hard on everyone but Carers of all ages, who go above and beyond, have faced even greater challenges during the pandemic.

"We have worked alongside 500 Carers and local partners to develop this three-year action plan to recognise, enable and empower all of Newham's amazing Carers and make a real, positive difference to their health and wellbeing.

"The Council recognises this huge amount of unheralded and unseen work by unpaid carers and that they deserve a voice and the right support."

Councillor Zulfqar Ali, Lead Member for Health and Adult Social Care, said: "As part of this plan, we will co-design and implement a Carers' Charter to promote a culture of working in partnership with, and supporting, our Carers.

"We want to make our Carers' lives easier by listening and responding to what they need, so they can continue to provide their crucial care and enjoy positive lives."

The Council has identified five 'expert by experience' Newham Carers to sit on the multi-agency Carers Strategy

delivery board and to work in partnership with officers to deliver the action plan.

To find out more about our new Carers Strategy visit www.newham.gov.uk/carersstrategy

If you are a Carer who would like to get involved in co-designing the delivery of the plan over the next three years then please email carersqueries@newham.gov.uk or call **020 3373 1457** for more information.

For more information about Carers support in Newham visit www.newham.gov.uk/carers

NEWHAM CARERS 'ISSUES & ACTIONS' FORUM

If you are an unpaid Carer in the borough, the Newham Carers Forum is a platform to raise ongoing issues, discuss recent experiences and suggest service improvements.

To raise an item for discussion, email carersqueries@newham.gov.uk or visit www.newham.gov.uk/newhamcarersforums for forum dates and times.

CARERS FIRST

Carers First provides personalised information and support including one-to-one appointments, groups and workshops. Call **0300 303 1555** or email info@carersfirst.org.uk



WE ARE FIGHTING.

NEW HUB WILL FIGHT FOR WORKERS' RIGHTS

Newham Council has launched the Employment Rights Hub to advise residents of their rights at work.

Minimum wage underpayment, wage theft, discrimination, unfair dismissal and bogus self-employment seem to be the most widespread and damaging forms of employment rights abuses in Newham.

As many as 36,000 Newham residents may have been underpaid the minimum wage in 2018, when there were also around 3,900 "bogus" self-employed workers. This is when employers claim their workers are self-employed when they should be classed as employees, denying them their statutory rights.

Race discrimination and maternity discrimination are also significant issues for Newham workers.

The Employment Rights Hub, run by the Our Newham Money team, is a free and confidential service which is open from Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm.

Contacts: **020 3373 6494** or **employmentrights@newham.gov.uk**

NEW PANDEMIC FUND

Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz has provided a new hardship fund with £330,000 to help residents hardest hit by the pandemic.

The Mayor's Hardship Fund, distributed by Our Newham Money, will help residents survive the daily challenges brought about because of the pandemic.

This team will allocate payments based on the impact of Covid-19 on each claimant and any family they have, assessing their claim on the information gathered.

NEWHAM TO PROVIDE EXTRA SUPPORT AS FURLOUGH ENDS

Our Newham Work will provide additional support to residents who have been made redundant or are at risk of redundancy as furlough and the Universal Credit uplift end.

This is to include priority access to advice, fast-track registration and the allocation of a dedicated adviser.

Specialist teams are being set up to respond to specific needs, enabling the rest of Our Newham Work staff to provide more support to residents who have the greatest needs.

The number of people in Newham claiming Universal Credit (UC) has soared by 220 per cent since the start of the pandemic – compared with an increase of 143 per cent for London as a whole. More than 22,000 Newham residents were receiving Universal Credit in October.

Newham also had one of the highest furlough take up rates in London, with 12,100 residents on furlough in September.



WE ARE HOUSING.



The Council's house building programme reaches a new milestone in February 2022 with the completion of a new block of flats on Idmiston Road in Forest Gate.

These eight homes represent the Mayor's commitment to start building 1,000 new affordable rent homes by 2022 and so tackle the borough's housing crisis.

Currently 229 homes are under construction. In addition, 441 new homes either have or will have planning permission this financial year where construction will begin by the end of March 2022.

More than 400 of these homes will be eco-friendly, built to Passivhaus Classic or low energy building standards.

This entire programme is amongst the most ambitious in London, benefitting from the highest grant allocation of £107 million from the Mayor of London's Affordable Homes for Londoners programme.

Mayor of Newham Rokhsana Fiaz is ensuring that local residents are fully involved in all Council-led housing developments and estate regeneration programmes through adopting co-design and co-production approaches to what the Council does. The new homes will be let at London Affordable Rents and will only be available to those on the Council's housing waiting list, in accordance with its allocations policy.

PROPERTY LICENSING – HAVE YOUR SAY

Property licensing helps define standards for tenants and landlords alike on the quality of the private rented sector.

Licensing helps us to tackle poor property conditions, deprivation, anti-social behaviour, crime and substandard management of properties by some landlords. Whether you are a private tenant, landlord, local resident or business, we want your views on property licensing, as the current scheme expires in 2023.

We really welcome your views, as they are important to us. You can view and respond to the consultation by the 26 January 2022 by following the link below or scanning the QR code. www.newham.gov.uk/propertylicensingconsultation



WE ARE FAIR.

We celebrated the commitment that Newham Council has made to pay at least the London Living Wage to directly employed staff - including apprentices.

In February 2021, Newham Council was declared a Living Wage employer and became officially recognised by the Living Wage Foundation.

Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz said: "The right to fair wages for all local people is at the heart of our plans for building a better Newham. My ambition is to make Newham a place where all people are paid what they deserve so they can securely enjoy a good life.

"The people of east London have always been at the forefront of standing up for their rights at work for over 125 years, since the ground breaking fights by the Match Girls, dockers and gasworkers and it is no surprise the Living Wage campaign started here. As the elected voice of the people of Newham I stand proudly in the tradition of speaking up for better rights at work, and that is why Newham has a community wealth building policy, with paying people fairly at its the heart."

The Council will also be phasing it into all regular third party staff whenever contracts are extended or renewed.



CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR REVISED REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION TIMES

NORMAL COLLECTION DAY

Monday 27 December 2021
 Tuesday 28 December 2021
 Wednesday 29 December 2021
 Thursday 30 December 2021
 Friday 31 December 2021
 Monday 3 January 2022
 Tuesday 4 January 2022
 Wednesday 5 January 2022
 Thursday 6 January 2022
 Friday 7 January 2022
 Monday 10 January 2022
 Tuesday 11 January 2022
 Wednesday 12 January 2022

REVISED COLLECTION DAY

Wednesday 29 December 2021
 Thursday 30 December 2021
 Friday 31 December 2021
 Tuesday 4 January 2022
 Wednesday 5 January 2022
 Thursday 6 January 2022
 Friday 7 January 2022
 Saturday 8 January 2022
 Monday 10 January 2022
 Tuesday 11 January 2022
 Wednesday 12 January 2022
 Thursday 13 January 2022
 Friday 14 January 2022

Thursday 13 January 2022
 Friday 14 January 2022
 Monday 17 January 2022
 Tuesday 18 January 2022
 Wednesday 19 January 2022
 Thursday 20 January 2022
 Friday 21 January 2022

Saturday 15 January 2022
 Monday 17 January 2022
 Tuesday 18 January 2022
 Wednesday 19 January 2022
 Thursday 20 January 2022
 Friday 21 January 2022
 Saturday 22 January 2022

From 24 January, 2022, collection dates return to normal.

To check your collection dates go to www.newham.gov.uk/myneighbourhood and enter your postcode.

For opening times of Jenkins Lane Reuse and Recycling centre go to www.eastlondonwaste.gov.uk

WE ARE INCLUSIVE.

Newham is the most diverse borough in the country. It's part of what makes it such a great place to live and work, with so many people coming together to share ideas, experiences and knowledge.

Tackling Racism, Inequality and Disproportionality (TRID) sits at the heart of our strategy for the borough, to ensure everyone has the chance to shine regardless of their background.

You'll have noticed some of the work we've already done, such as the Street Naming Campaign to ensure that new road and building names recognise the history and diversity of the borough. For example, Siemens Brothers Way became Kamal Chunchie Way, in tribute to the Newham race relations campaigner.

In October last year, the TRID pledges were launched. You can read more about both of these areas of work at: www.newham.gov.uk/streetnamingcampaign

An innovative 'Open Conversations' programme took place from last November with parents and families from Black, Asian and ethnically diverse backgrounds and cultures in to order better understand the lived experience of those families and parents.

This year, diverse and non-hierarchical recruitment panels have been introduced at the Council so our staff reflect our community. Community 'Time to Talk' events were launched focusing on racism and inequality within the borough; an "Embracing Diversity and Inclusion" toolkit was introduced; and the Newham Race Equality Alliance started.

These are just a few of the many initiatives that are Tackling Racism, Inequality and Disproportionality within the borough and the Council. Find out more about TRID: www.newham.gov.uk/tridnews



WE ARE DATA.

‘Newham Sparks’ is the Council’s call to action to make the borough a national hub for businesses working in robotics, artificial intelligence, virtual reality and numerous other ‘Data Sector’ technologies.

Our ambition is to unlock the value of data and digital in everything we do as a Council – to benefit residents and deliver better for them in improving the environment and promoting inclusive economic growth.

We see Newham as a catalyst – and London’s destination – for innovators and investors in the growing Data Sector, supporting our residents and local businesses to seize the chance to benefit from the growth of the data economy throughout London, the UK and globally.

Our vision ties in with the Government’s ‘Levelling Up’ programme, which recently saw Newham awarded around £40million in the Comprehensive Spending Review – the highest award to any local authority in London. This may



well help us to deliver Newham Sparks’ ambitions.

Newham was successful in both its bids to the government’s new Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, securing £19.8million for its Connecting to Opportunity programme related to the use of data and digital technologies, and just under £20million for its 15-Minute Neighbourhoods scheme to provide residents with access to most of their needs within a short walk or bicycle ride of their home.

Newham residents will be at the heart of this initiative, with effective use of data for the public good helping to keep our streets clean, manage refuse collections, promote sustainable transport and improve the air we breathe.

Learn more about how Newham Sparks could help you and download our publication Newham Sparks: Chapter One at: www.newham.gov.uk/NewhamSparks



SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESSES.

Small businesses have needed all the support they can get during the pandemic and Newham Council is helping support them with the aid of our residents. We promoted the national “Small Business Saturday” campaign which saw businesses across the borough sign up to promote their businesses in the run-up to Christmas.

The day was a call to the public to support small businesses by shopping locally whether in-store or online. It also provided small businesses with support such as mentoring and online training workshops.

But it’s not just in the festive period where businesses need support - we want to promote these vital businesses all year round to help Newham’s recovery.

Since the start of the pandemic the Council has supported small-businesses by processing crucial government funding. Over 5,000 businesses have received £119m worth of grants and 2,880 businesses have received over £100m in business rates relief. Councillor Gen Kitchen, Deputy Cabinet Member for Community Wealth Building and Inclusive Economy, said: “Spending money locally in our borough is a key value of our community wealth building principles. As a council we recognise the critical importance of small businesses. I’d urge everyone in Newham to do as much of their shopping as possible locally and for businesses to sign up to the small business finder to market and list themselves to spread the word about their fantastic goods and services.”

WE ARE CULTURAL.

The latest art installation in Newham Council’s £1.5m public spaces town centre improvement is now on show in Plaistow Park.

The Place of Play Mural was finished at a recent Newham Unlocked Festival community painting day. Local residents and park visitors put the finishing touches to the work, whose creation was managed by Wood Street Walls.

It was co-designed with young people from Lister Community School in Plaistow and REIN (Rights & Equalities in Newham) and reflects their thoughts and views on living in Plaistow.



WE ARE BRIGHTER.

Residents may be more familiar with the work of the Brighter Futures team than its name. Brighter Futures consists of the Youth Empowerment Service (YES) and, through children’s centres, the Best Start in Life (BSiL), as well as the Children’s Health, Early Help and Youth Safety services.

They deliver preventative services to children, young people and their families, laying a firm foundation for the more than one third (37 percent) of our population who are under 25.

Brighter Futures provides critical lifesaving services from birth through to the age of 25, so Newham children, young people, families and communities can grow, develop, be happy, healthy and safe – enabling them to thrive and reach their full potential.

“We aim to ensure children and young people are in the DNA of everything the Council does,” said Councillor Carleene Lee-Phakoe, Cabinet Member for Brighter Futures.

Here are some highlights of Brighter Futures’ work:

- Youth Empowerment Fund helps young people achieve their ambitions, providing financial assistance for them to learn and develop new skills. One young person, who received £2,500 towards post-graduate studies, said: “I couldn’t be happier. Hopefully, I will be able to utilise my postgrad to help Newham people.” More at: www.newham.gov.uk/youthempowermentfund
- Community-led action on Youth Safety is of paramount importance and, since May, Brighter Futures has been leading ‘community conversations’ with Newham residents and colleagues across partnerships including the voluntary and community sector, Metropolitan Police and representatives of the Education and Health

sectors. A recent ‘roundtable conversation’ last month focused on three themes raised by residents: policing, education and communications. Learn more at:

www.newham.gov.uk/youthsafety

- Mental health and wellbeing services are key and the range of support services in Newham includes the HeadStart Board. One young person said the Board “gives young people a platform to share what’s going well and where things could be better”. Find out more at: www.headstartnewham.co.uk
 - In March, Next Gen Newham started bringing young people up to 25 and families together with senior leaders from across the borough to listen, genuinely hear and together design solutions for change. If you’re a young person who’d like to be involved, email: newhamcyp.commissioner@newham.gov.uk
 - Newham’s Year of the Young Person enjoys a successful partnership with the Newham Recorder and has an ‘In-Focus Week’ in December to highlight the wide range of activities. When the year ends in February 2022, a Young Person Legacy campaign will replace it.
- Newham’s Children and Young People’s Commissioner Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney said: “Brighter Futures seeks out those with no voice including children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability and those who are not neuro-typical and who are invisible – and involves them in shaping our future.
- “The 37 percent of our population today aged under 25 represent 100 percent of our future. Investing in all aspects of the journey of a child from birth to 25 means investing in our children today for them to grow into productive and positive adults, contributing to society and shaping generations to come.”

WE ARE IMPROVING.

INVESTMENT STUDY OPTIONS FOR QUEEN'S MARKET AND HAMARA GHAR ARE REFINED

We want to continue the investment we have been making to improve Queen's Market and Hamara Ghar so we're now going to focus our efforts on what can be achieved by keeping these important buildings.

We also want to look at what more we could afford as we would like to bring about a much needed health centre, new library and community centre and more social housing.

FIND OUT MORE OR CONTACT THE GREEN STREET TEAM:

Freephone: **0800 861 1532**

Email: green.street@newham.gov.uk

www.newham.gov.uk/greenstreet



WE ARE PROUD.

IN TUNE WITH NEWHAM

The winner of the Council-sponsored Entrepreneur of the Year category in the Newham Business Awards was Darryl Powis of Guitar Tuition East London. The award was presented by Councillors Gen Kitchen and Joshua Garfield.

In the past seven years 'Guitar Tuition East London' has grown from operating out of Darryl's home to smart premises in East Village, where it has a thriving customer base. The pandemic of 2020 presented new challenges but it immediately moved its lessons online and had to adapt how it taught.



WE ARE SUPPORTING.

HELP CARE LEAVERS - BECOME A SUPPORTED LODGINGS HOST!

Newham Council is working with national children’s charity Barnardo’s to find Supported Lodgings Hosts for young people leaving care. In Newham, more than 100 of our children in care turn 18 each year and the Council is determined that they enjoy the same kind of support as many young people get from their families.

Newham Council and Barnardo’s are working together to offer Supported Lodgings, where care leavers aged 16-21 are matched with a friendly and supportive host who provides a spare room in their home, for between eight weeks and two years. The Council is calling on residents to volunteer to be Supported Lodgings Hosts – welcoming a young person into their home and providing emotional support to help them prepare for adult life. If you have a spare room and the time and desire to offer practical and emotional support, you are who we are looking for.

Anyone wanting to apply to become a host will now need to complete a short enquiry form at www.barnardos.org.uk/what-we-do/services/london-supported-lodgings-service/enquiry-form. You can also call **0126 890 4228**.



WE ARE GREEN.

Newham Council’s improvements to its parks have been recognised in the prestigious ‘Good Parks for London 2021’ report, compiled by Parks for London. The report assessed London boroughs’ parks services from April 2020 to March 2021 against the ten Good Parks criteria.

Newham has jumped an impressive 10 places in the league table within two years of moving the maintenance of the borough’s parks in-house.

In 2021 Newham leapt 7 places in ranking and gained the rating of ‘significant improvement.’

In the categories of ‘Public Satisfaction,’ ‘Events,’ and ‘Health, Fitness and Wellbeing’ Newham achieved the highest tier rating.

Councillor James Asser, Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Sustainable Transport said: “We are delighted to see the improvements the Council has made to Newham parks being recognised in a London-wide league table. The results of this year’s ‘Good Parks for London’ report clearly show that

transferring the management of our parks in-house was the right thing to do and is improving our parks. Insourcing has enabled us to be more responsive to the needs of residents, to contribute positively towards residents leading healthier, more active lives and allowed us to deliver a far better service overall.”

This report follows on from two of Newham’s parks being awarded the prestigious Green Flag Award. Plashet Park retained the accolade for the sixth year in a row and this year Central Park in East Ham has been added to the list of award winners.

Cllr Asser added: “We know there is huge demand from residents for good parks and lots of people and community groups are working with us to achieve that. I would like to thank all those people who have helped us achieve this improvement and we will continue to work hard to achieve the highest standards.”

The report, an annual publication now in its fifth year, is highly competitive and this year’s edition highlights far greater use of London’s green spaces due to Covid.

WE ARE PERFORMING.

SEARCH FOR CULTURAL PARTNER FOR FLAGSHIP STRATFORD YOUTH ZONE

The search is on for a cultural partner to collaborate with Stratford Youth Zone, the borough's new flagship hub for young people, for an exciting arts and cultural programme.

The aim of the pioneering collaboration is to empower Newham's young people as well as providing creative opportunities at the specially adapted site in Theatre Square. The ambitious plans from the Youth Empowerment Service will offer a range of enriching opportunities for young people through an exciting curriculum anchored in culture, creativity and the arts.

Expanding exemplary youth provision is a central objective of the Council in its commitment to make Newham the best place for a child and young person to grow up.

Newham's Youth Zones offer young people an enriching programme of social and emotional learning experiences and activities where they are nurtured, positively challenged, empowered to be confident, make informed choices and reach their potential in life.

As well as health and wellbeing sessions, support with school work and career advice, the youth zone will provide pathways into apprenticeships, skills development and employment opportunities in the creative and cultural sector such as theatre, music production and dance. It will also be a transformative and inclusive space for all young people,

including those with special educational needs.

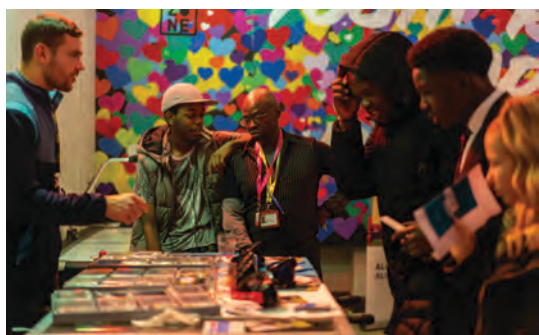
The Council has invested £496,000 as part of a programme of improvement works to transform the building into a state-of-the-art Youth Zone with an auditorium, theatre and rehearsal space, with future plans including a recording studio, visual arts studio and dedicated sensory space.

While the search for a collaborative partner is underway, the Council will work with the pioneering and historic Theatre Royal Stratford East until August 2022 to deliver a year-long programme of creative and cultural activities for Newham's young people. The theatre already runs a successful programme for young people and community groups and in collaboration with the Youth Empowerment Service, will extend this work.

Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz said: "I have always been proud of the theatre's historic connection to the borough and reputation for nurturing home-grown talent. This interim partnership and our future plans build upon our substantial shift to invest in our young people, and our ambition for them."

Nadia Fall, Artistic Director and CEO of Theatre Royal Stratford East said: "We are delighted to be working with Newham Council and the Youth Empowerment Service. We passionately believe that all young people should have access to high quality arts provision, to develop their skills and to discover new creative opportunities."

To speak with one of the team at Stratford Youth Zone and to find out how to sign up, email stratfordyz@newham.gov.uk or call **07866153094**.



WE ARE SAVING.



TWELVE SAVES OF CHRISTMAS: top tips for coping with financial pressures this festive season

With the festive season upon us, many residents may feel anxious about making ends meet at such an expensive time of year. Don't let Christmas put pressure on your bank balance. Our Newham Money offers help with everything from budgeting for the big day, present buying and smart spending.

Here are our '12 Saves of Christmas' practical tips for smart seasonal spending.

THE 12 SAVES OF CHRISTMAS

- 01. WORK OUT A CHRISTMAS BUDGET** – and stick to it
Budgeting well is one of the best ways of coping with Christmas costs.
- 02. CUT THE COST OF A SUPERMARKET SHOP**
Make a shopping list and stick to it. Shop online to monitor your basket cost, and visit www.mysupermarket.co.uk to compare prices across shops. In store, scan-as-you-shop devices track your spend as you go.
- 03. TRY HOMEMADE**
Homemade decorations can look great at a fraction of the cost – and are great for keeping kids entertained.
- 04. SECRET SANTA**
Set up a Secret Santa with friends and family, with a pre-agreed budget so that you each only have to buy a gift for one person, instead of several.
- 05. PLAN FOOD SHOPPING**
Buy non-perishable food early to spread Christmas food costs across several weeks.
- 06. COMPARE PRICES**
If you know what you want to buy, shop around to get the best price.
- 07. PRESENTS THAT COST ME NOTHING**
Instead of buying presents, you could promise to do something the person will value such as breakfast in bed, babysitting or help in the garden.
- 08. VOUCHER HUNT**
Search the web for discount codes before paying full price.
- 09. SMALL SWAPS TO MAKE BIG SAVINGS**
Making small changes, such as choosing supermarket own brands, can make a big difference.
- 10. BOOK IN ADVANCE**
If you're hoping to travel by train or coach this Christmas, save on fares by booking in advance.
- 11. MAKE YOUR LOYALTY POINTS COUNT**
Loyalty points are usually worth more if you spend them online, see if you could use any loyalty cards you have to buy presents.
- 12. DON'T WORRY!**
Remember, the best Christmas gift is spending time with loved ones – not splashing out on expensive presents.

WE ARE SAVING.

Whatever our circumstances this Christmas, Our Newham Money can help and support you to become financially better off. We can help with:

BENEFIT AND INCOME ADVICE

We can help ensure you have access to all the help you need to pay bills and rent. Get in touch with us and we will check to see if you are getting all the help you are entitled to and resolve any outstanding benefit issues.

DEBT AND ADVICE

We provide free, impartial and confidential debt advice. We can provide an initial assessment and give you free, impartial debt advice on priority and non-priority debts.

EMERGENCY SUPPORT

If you are in financial difficulty Our Newham Money can support with food, energy and white goods.

ENERGY SAVER'S CLUB

We can help with energy bills and staying well and warm this winter.

SMART SPENDING

Improve your finances with our money saving tips. Our team has a range of useful tips and tools to help make your money go further, reduce expenses and suggest ways to help you make good buying decisions.

AFFORDABLE LOANS

We offer a range of affordable loans to suit your needs. With our loans you can borrow up to £1,500 and repay weekly or monthly, spread over two years or less.

DEALS GURU

Looking for a deal? Challenge our Deals Guru to find the best deals out there.

EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS HUB

You can access free confidential support and advice from the our Employment Rights Hub if you are a Newham resident. If you are having a problem at work, the Employment Rights Hub is here for advice and support to help provide a solution. Contact us in confidence by calling **020 3373 6494** or email **employmentrights@newham.gov.uk**





**OUR
NEWHAM
MONEY**

If you need financial advice or support, do not suffer in silence. Our Newham Money advisers can offer a raft of confidential support to help secure your financial wellbeing.

For more information, visit **www.ournewhammoney.co.uk** or call **020 8430 2041** from 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.

Find Our Newham Money on Twitter **@OurNewhamMoney**

WE ARE VACCINATING.

WE ARE NEWHAM.



Have you joined the millions already vaccinated? You need two doses of vaccine and your booster for maximum protection against COVID-19.

Let's keep Newham safe.

www.newham.gov.uk/bookyourvaccine