

# Livin' Kingston

THE MAGAZINE FOR RESIDENTS

Autumn 2006



## Goodbye Mr. Chips

Hello healthy school meals

- Nurturing community groups
- Neighbourhood News
- PLUS a four page Police supplement

[www.kingston.gov.uk](http://www.kingston.gov.uk)  
Council Information 020 8547 5757



# Contacting Kingston Council

## In Writing

The Royal Borough of  
Kingston upon Thames  
Guildhall, High Street  
Kingston KT1 1EU

## By Phone

### Council Helpline

**020 8547 5757**

Monday to Friday  
8.45am – 5.00pm

## By Text

SMS

**07797 806 521**

## Online

[www.kingston.gov.uk](http://www.kingston.gov.uk)

## In Person

### Chessington Helpdesk

Neighbourhood Office  
Elm Road, Hook  
Chessington

**020 8547 6254**

Monday to Friday  
9am – 5pm,  
Saturday 9am – 1pm

### New Malden Helpdesk

Malden Centre,  
Blagdon Road, New Malden

**020 8547 6252**

Monday to Friday,  
9.30am – 5.30pm,  
Saturday 9.30am – 1.30pm

### Guildhall Complex

High Street, Kingston

**020 8547 5757**

Monday to Friday,  
9am – 5pm

### Visitor Information Centre

Market House  
Market Place, Kingston

**020 8547 5592**

Monday to Saturday,  
10am – 5pm

## Information in other languages and formats

If you are unable to read a Kingston Council document because of disability or language, we can assist you. Please call the Council Helpline on **020 8547 5757** or ask someone to call on your behalf.

## A-Z of Services

Phone numbers for some of our most frequently used services are shown below. For non-local calls, all numbers begin 020.

A	
Abandoned Vehicles	8547 5973
Access (Disability)	8547 5314
Adoption	8547 6042
Adult Education	8547 6700

B	
Benefits (Council Tax & Housing)	8547 5198
Benefit Fraud Hotline	8547 5700
Births, Deaths & Marriages	8547 4600
Building Control	8547 4702

C	
Cemeteries & Crematorium	8546 4462
Children's Information Service	8547 6582
Complaints	8547 5757
Councillors & Council Meetings	8547 5021
Council Tax	8547 5196

D	
Disabled People's Services	8547 6364
Drug & Alcohol Advice	8549 9279

E	
Education & Schools	8547 5234
Environmental Health	8547 5536

F	
Fly Tipping	8547 5560
Food Safety	8547 5536
Fostering	8547 6042

G	
Graffiti	8547 5560

H	
<b>Housing</b>	
■ Housing Advice Line	8547 5468
■ Housing Repairs (Council tenants)	8547 4656

L	
Libraries	8547 6400
Licensing	8547 5080

M	
Markets	8547 5861
Mayor's Office	8547 5030
Museum	8547 6460

N	
Neighbourhood Committees	8547 5021

O	
Older People's Services	8547 6008

P	
Parks & Open Spaces	8547 4601
<b>Parking</b>	
■ Car Parks	8547 4687
■ General Enquiries	8547 4683
■ Parking Appeals	8547 5995
Planning	8547 5330

R	
Roads & Highways	8547 5929
Rubbish & Recycling	8547 5560

S	
School Admissions	8547 4610
<b>Social Services</b>	
■ Adults	8547 6008
■ Children	8547 6587
Sports & Leisure	8547 5207

T	
Tip (and Recycling Centre)	8549 2522
Trading Standards	08454 04 05 06

V	
Voting & Elections	8547 4630

Y	
Youth Services	8547 5815

You can also pick up a copy of the full A-Z Guide to Kingston Council Services at local libraries, leisure centres, Council reception areas and Helpdesks – or download it from our website [www.kingston.gov.uk](http://www.kingston.gov.uk)

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### Cover photo:

Yazmin Hoath enjoys an apple as part of her healthy school meal (photo by Chris Gray)

### Editorial Team:

Gerry Sevenoaks, Karen Carpenter, Jack Taylor and Charlotte Fitzgerald.  
Telephone 020 8547 4614  
news@rbk.kingston.gov.uk  
livinguide@rbk.kingston.gov.uk  
Guildhall, High Street,  
Kingston upon Thames, KT1 1EU

### Design:

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020 7323 4121  
info@thechungpartnership.com

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If you require a translation of the text in this publication please contact the Kingston Council Helpdesk on 020 8547 5757.

## welcome to Livin' Kingston

Welcome to the Autumn issue of Livin' Kingston, which is our biggest yet and packed with news and stories from across the Royal Borough.

We are pleased to welcome Kingston Police as our partners for this issue and introduce a new twice yearly feature, of four pages dedicated to the crucial role of the Police in the Royal Borough.

Our cover story focuses on the new hot and healthy meals service introduced into Kingston's schools earlier this term. The innovative contract set up by Kingston Council provides a daily choice of four main meals and two desserts, using locally sourced fruit and vegetables.

We also look at how community groups are benefiting from financial grants from Kingston Council; how businesses are helping to transform Kingston town centre; the plans for attracting new homes and jobs to Kingston through K+20 and a full guide to forthcoming events.

In addition we include a summary of Kingston Council's accounts for 2005/06. So as you can see, it really is a bumper edition. We hope you enjoy it.

The next issue of Livin' Kingston will be published in December.





## Adult Education Programme

It's never too late to learn something new or brush up on an old hobby.

Kingston's Adult Education prospectus offers a huge selection of evening and daytime courses to choose from.

Copies of the prospectus are available from local libraries and adult education centres, or you can search online for a course to suit you at [www.kingston.gov.uk/adulteducation](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/adulteducation)

You can also get details or enrol on a course by telephone:

North Kingston Centre  
**020 8547 6700**

King Charles Centre  
**020 8547 6875**

Email:  
[adult.education@rbk.kingston.gov.uk](mailto:adult.education@rbk.kingston.gov.uk)

### *Inclusive Learning*

You may be eligible for additional assistance if you have a mental health difficulty; require help with reading, writing or using numbers or have a specific learning difficulty.

If you would like to discuss in confidence your particular needs in confidence, please contact Julie Bennett on **020 8547 6764**.

## Self Assessment pilot project

**Kingston Council is one of 11 local authorities that have been chosen to run a self-assessment pilot project.**

**The aim is to improve access to services and equipment for people who have long-term health and social care needs.**

The Council has been successful in bidding for £62,000 of funding from the Department of Health to set up an Internet-based self-assessment system that will allow residents to assess their own support needs and access services and equipment, including home adaptations, directly.

The technology behind the new service will be developed by ADL Smartcare Limited, working in partnership with the Council. Kingston Centre for Independent Living and Age Concern will also play important roles in the project by offering friendly help and advice to residents on how to access and use the new service.

The online self-assessment service will be introduced as an additional point of access for local services, rather than a replacement for traditional methods of assessment.

The pilot will launch in October and run until 30 September 2007.

For more information, call **020 8547 4737**.



### **A simulation of the potentially tragic consequences of driving too fast will mark the start of National Road Safety Week (6 – 12 November).**

The realistic demonstration by the emergency services in Kingston's Ancient Market Place on Saturday 4 November will include the re-enactment of a rescue scene involving a crashed car and motorcycle. The event is intended to show the serious nature of road traffic crashes and the skills that our emergency services use to rescue casualties.

The focus of National Road Safety

## Kill Your Speed

Week is staying safe on our roads, with particular emphasis on reducing accidents that involve young people. 6,500 young riders and drivers (aged 16-25 years) were involved in collisions in London during 2005. The RAC, RoadPeace, South London Advanced Motorists and the Metropolitan Police BikeSafe Team will all be on hand in Kingston to provide information and advice. For further information about road safety issues contact Kingston Council's Road Safety Education Office by: Email - [road.safety@rbk.kingston.gov.uk](mailto:road.safety@rbk.kingston.gov.uk) Telephone: **020 8547 5865**



## Black History Month

Kingston is set to celebrate *Black History Month 2006* with a vibrant celebration of Black Culture throughout October.

A wide range of performances, workshops and events are being organised across the borough that will be aimed at all age-groups, all faiths and all communities. The programme of events will provide us all with an opportunity learn more about some of the many cultures that help make our borough such an exciting and interesting place to live.

There will be something that appeals to everyone, including live performances by the inspirational Sakoba Dance Theatre (see p24), Carnival instrument-making workshops, book readings in Kingston Libraries, drumming sessions and much more.

Visit the online calendar at [www.kingston.gov.uk/blackhistorymonth](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/blackhistorymonth)



## Music on a different scale

Kingston is well known for its vibrant arts and cultural scene, but we must be unique in London, having no less than three successful marching bands based in the borough.

One of these bands, the 1st Hook Scout and Guide Band, are rightly pleased to blow their own trumpet. They have retained the title of National Marching Band Champions of the Scout Association since 1994 and recently picked up three gold medals at the European Open Parade Band Championships.

Deputy Bandmaster, Michael Creffield, says:

"New members are always welcome." With more than 50 members, aged between eight and 25 years, from both within and beyond the scouting community, he believes it is about more than just learning to play an instrument. "The band becomes a

second family and there is tremendous spirit and camaraderie among members."

The band meets for two hours every Monday evening and regularly performs at national events including the Royal Tournament, the Lord Mayor of London's Parade and Hampton Court Palace Flower Show. They will be performing throughout the borough during the autumn, including the Surbiton Festival (see p24).

If you are interested in joining the band, or would like information about forthcoming performances, contact Michael Creffield on **07776 130555**. [www.firsthookscouts.co.uk](http://www.firsthookscouts.co.uk)

## Rubbish **web** pages

**The Rubbish, Waste & Recycling pages on Kingston Council's website have received an overhaul, to reflect the wishes of users.**

The new pages are designed for easy navigation, to prioritise services and provide useful contact information. So whether looking for rubbish collection times, recycling opportunities or



information on how to reduce your waste, take a lot at the pages at the website:

[www.kingston.gov.uk/rubbish\\_waste\\_and\\_recycling](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/rubbish_waste_and_recycling)

# Charity Walk



**A Sunday stroll along the Thames Towpath could help raise valuable funds for a local mental health charity.**

The Fircroft Trust, formerly known as Mental Aid Projects, is inviting families to join them for the six mile walk on Sunday 1 October.

“The walk is more of a gentle stroll,” says Jill Fletcher Meloun from the Fircroft Trust. “It is an easy path and is good enough for buggies and wheelchairs as well - though it may be bumpy in some parts.”

For added incentive the Trust will be awarding prizes to the individual and the group/family that raises the most money, but you must be registered in advance to qualify.

Based in Surbiton, The Fircroft Trust is open six days a week, and provides support for adults living in the community with mental

health problems and/or learning disabilities. Mental health problems affect one in four people at sometime during their lives. It is also one of the least understood conditions that affect people’s relationships, work and their quality of life.

The aim of the charity is to enable people to maximise their potential through positive action for mind and body

To find out more or to register for the sponsored walk, either:  
Telephone: **020 8399 1772**  
Email: [office@thefircrofttrust.org](mailto:office@thefircrofttrust.org)  
Or visit their website at [www.thefircrofttrust.org](http://www.thefircrofttrust.org)

Alternatively you can visit the Fircroft Trust Stand at the Surbiton Festival on 30 September (see p24).

# Grow your own and get fit



**You don’t have to own a garden to grow your own vegetables, flowers and fruit.**

There are 23 allotment sites in the Royal Borough and with plot rentals at just one pound per week (with further concessions available), running a productive garden is within everyone’s budget.

If you are prepared to roll up your sleeves you can reap the benefits of the open air, exercise, comradeship and fresh home-grown produce of allotment gardening.

Application forms are available from [www.kingston.gov.uk/envsvcs](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/envsvcs) or by telephone on **020 8547 5507**.

The Kingston Federation of Allotment Gardeners assists the Council with allocation of sites and provides support and advice for all allotments throughout the borough. Contact Gloria Wallis on **020 8942 9686**.



# Home composting

**A significant amount of the waste that is produced in the Borough is sent to costly landfill sites, but it could be recycled or composted.**

We can all do more to reduce the waste we produce and the amount we put out for refuse collection. Home composting is a great way of reducing the amount the amount of waste we throw away.

By composting kitchen and garden waste you can easily improve the quality of your soil and be well on your way to a more sustainable garden.

More information about composting is freely available from London CRN Compost Network.

Telephone: **020 7324 4690**  
Email: [compost@lcrn.org.uk](mailto:compost@lcrn.org.uk)

Thames Water is currently offering a range of water butts and composters for their customers at [www.getcomposting.com/thames/index2.htm](http://www.getcomposting.com/thames/index2.htm)

## Neighbourhood News

### Kingston in Bloom

**Kingston in Bloom was re-launched this year with a new emphasis on sustainability.**

Sustainable gardening is about creating long term green spaces that enhance local biodiversity and many of the entrants demonstrated their sustainable gardening practices, including composting, use of water butts and planting of native species.

The winners:

**Best Front Garden**

Brenda Kelly, New Malden.

**Best Containers**

Mrs E P Barnes, Chessington.

**Best Education**

**Establishment Display:**

Maple Infants School, Surbiton.

**Blooming Pub's**

Mr & Mrs Turnes,

The Wych Elm, Kingston

**Best Public buildings**

Christ Church New Malden

**Best Community Space**

Angel Levick, Maureen Deacon,

Cara Hallsworth & Sarah

Funcan, Tolworth

**Most Sustainable Garden**

Richard Taylor, Kingston

**One for the children**

Year 5, Fern Hill Primary School.

Kingston Council is encouraging the formation of a Sustainable Gardening Group to increase knowledge and understanding of sustainable gardening across the Borough. Anyone who would like to get involved, should contact Carlos Queremel, Kingston Council's Community Environment Officer on **0208 547 5347** or email [carlos.queremel@rbk.kingston.gov.uk](mailto:carlos.queremel@rbk.kingston.gov.uk)



## Chessington Pathfinder school gets planning go-ahead

**The £23 million redevelopment of Chessington Community College has now received planning permission and work on the exciting project is now underway**

The flagship design – both in terms of a new educational environment and the sustainable design aspects – received a positive reaction from residents and parents when it was unveiled at Open Forum events at the College in the summer.

The swift planning approval and the innovative partnership between the College, Kingston Council and the design team, is ensuring that Chessington will be one of the first secondary schools in the country to be totally rebuilt

under the government's *Building Schools for the Future* programme.

Paul Rayment of building consultants Tuffin Ferraby Taylor, who lead the project team, says: "To have achieved full planning within four months of being commissioned is a remarkable achievement, which shows the effectiveness of our collaborative approach."

The redevelopment of Chessington Community College is due for completion in September 2008.

## Listening and Learning

**The Government is currently conducting a national survey, inviting people to say what they think about their local Council.**

These surveys are carried out every three years and the information obtained from is used by councils and the Government to plan better services for the future.

The current survey is being carried out in Kingston (and all London boroughs) by Ipsos-MORI.

You may find that you are one of the several thousand residents in the Royal Borough selected at

random and sent a questionnaire.

If you receive a questionnaire, please take the time to fill it in and return it FREEPOST to Ipsos-MORI.

The survey provides you with an excellent opportunity to make your views about local services known and help influence the way these are developed and delivered in the future.

## Council services **closer to home**

For a range of council services on your doorstep, why not visit the **New Malden Helpdesk**. Conveniently located just off the High Street, in the Malden Centre on Blagdon Road, the Helpdesk is open from Monday to Saturday.



The Helpdesk provides a one stop shop for council services where you can pick up information leaflets and forms, report a problem or fault, book evening classes and event tickets, view planning applications online and much more. For no charge, you can also call Kingston Council or use our website, direct from the Helpdesk.

Doris Crane, 81, who has lived in New Malden for over 20 years, finds the Helpdesk a convenient option.

"The Helpdesk is really easy to

drop into when I am out and about in New Malden. I have picked up useful information there and find the staff really helpful in answering my questions. If there is anything they can't answer they put me in touch with the council service, there and then, by telephone."

Situated on the ground floor with level access from the street, the New Malden Helpdesk is suitable for visitors using prams or buggies and wheelchairs. Local residents who commute during the week also find the Saturday morning

opening hours convenient as a time to pop in and pick up information.

The Helpdesk offers a wide range of publications including a selection in Korean. Our staff can also assist customers who are unable to read a council document because of disability or language.

New Malden Helpdesk is open Monday to Friday, from 9.30am to 5.30pm and on Saturdays from 9.30am to 1.30pm. You can contact the team by calling **020 8547 6252**.



## The driver on the bus says 'Ho Ho Ho!'

Kingston's award-winning seasonal Park and Ride service will start again in November 2006 and run into January 2007

During the peak Christmas trading period, more than 500,000 visitors flock to Kingston town centre every week.

While this surge in visitors is vital to our retail-led economy, Kingston Council has the task of keeping our roads moving freely. The seasonal Park & Ride service plays an important role in achieving this.

Last year nearly 60,000 people, including under 16s who travel

free of charge, used the service as a convenient alternative to driving into the town centre during the busy Christmas and January Sales period. This was an impressive 10.3 per cent increase on previous passenger numbers, earning the service a prestigious *National Transport Award*.

The Park and Ride service is operated by London United on behalf of Transport for London and the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames – in

conjunction with Chessington World of Adventures and Kingston Town Centre Management. The service is sponsored by The Bentall Centre, Eden Walk Shopping, The Rotunda Kingston, Bentalls, John Lewis and Marks & Spencer.

At the time of going to press the start date and times of service were still being confirmed. Once available they will be published in local press and on the Council's website - [www.kingston.gov.uk/parkandride](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/parkandride)

# feature

Unlike their jungle counterparts, they won't be asked to jump out of planes, swim through snake-infested swamps or spend a fortnight sleeping on a bed of leaves next to Tony Blackburn



## Councillors face their own 'bush tucker' trial

But that may do little to help settle the nerves of five local Councillors about to take part in *I'm a Councillor, Get me out of here!*

***I'm a Councillor  
Get me out of here!***

The fun and games start on 9 October, when five (yet-to-be-announced) Councillors, representing the three political parties on Kingston Council, launch their special manifestos online. During the next two weeks students from eight borough secondary schools will have the opportunity to question and cross-examine the five hopefuls via the Internet. One by one, the Councillors will be voted off until only the winner remains.

Whilst the event is designed to be fairly light hearted, it also has the very serious objective of encouraging young people to participate in the political process, often for the first time, and gives them a chance to voice their opinions in a constructive way. The event will also enable councillors to actively engage with young people and learn more about their needs and concerns.

*I'm a Councillor, Get me out of here!* is one of ways that Kingston Council will celebrate Local

Democracy Week 2006 (16 - 20 October) – an annual event which encourages councils across the country to become more relevant and interesting to young people.

Gillian Hall, Head of Youth Service at Kingston Council, explains: "It can be difficult to get young people interested in local politics. There is a perception amongst many young people that politicians are boring and that they talk about things that aren't of any importance to them. It is really important that we correct that misconception.

"The Council works hard all year round to involve young people in the democratic process. Local Democracy Week is a good opportunity for us to showcase what we are doing, but it is important that engaging with young people is high on the agenda at all times."

One of the groups making sure this is the case is Kingston Youth Council (KYC). It's position as a

formal consultative group to the Council ensures that the views of members are heard and taken seriously. Set up three years ago, members meet on a regular basis to consider local issues. They also organise the annual election for the Member of Youth Parliament for Kingston and publish the quarterly magazine, Youth Unlimited.

Gillian Hall concludes, "It is too easy to say that young people aren't interested in democracy and local government. On the contrary, I find that young people can't wait to get involved, as long as they feel they are being listened to. I hope that events such as Local Democracy Week and organisations like Kingston Youth Council will reassure the young people of Kingston that they are being heard loud and clear."

Contacts:  
Kingston Youth Council –  
**020 8390 2056**  
kyc@rbk.kingston.gov.uk  
www.younglivin.org.uk

“This project is a great example of a community-based development going from strength to strength”



Trevor Willis

## **FREE make-over** for **community centre**

A traditional pavilion, once earmarked for demolition, has received a welcome facelift thanks to an **innovative partnership** between Kingston Council and one of its private sector partners, the Mears Group.

**The Canbury Gardens Pavilion previously served bowls players using the adjacent greens. In 2003, it was converted into a modern community centre to provide an essential space for local organisations.**

The ambitious project was masterminded by Trevor Willis, who established the Canbury Community Trust to maintain and run the building for the benefit of local residents. Since its launch in 2003 the pavilion has welcomed a range of organisations, including mother and toddler groups, Age Concern, community choirs and a Russian language school.

The recent refurbishment work stems from the Council's successful new partnership with the Mears Group to provide day

to day repairs to council property. A Partnership Board has been established to oversee the contract, in which Mears have also committed to undertake repairs at a number of other locations at no cost to council tax payers.

Ron Skipp, Mears' Partnership Manager, oversaw the work and explained what was undertaken: "We have built on the original restoration work and have repaired the roof, replaced the kitchen and toilets and overhauled the windows and doors, which should make the centre warmer throughout the coming winter months."

Hilary Garner of Kingston Voluntary Action, who has supported the Canbury Community Trust since the outset, said: "This project is a great example of a community-based development going from strength to strength. The facility is already

used extensively by a large number of local groups and the Trust is currently working with the Safer Neighbourhood Team to involve more groups for younger and vulnerable people."

Delighted with the recent work, Trevor Willis says: "It is important that we continue to maintain and upgrade the facility for the benefit of the groups that are based here. Without the ongoing support and foresight of Kingston Council, the community centre wouldn't have been born and the history of the pavilion would have been lost."

The Canbury Community Trust has charitable status and welcomes volunteers who are able to give some of their time to help with the running and development of the facility. For further information about the Centre or the Trust contact Trevor Willis on **020 8549 3076** or **0788 9731264**.

Graham McNally has become a familiar face in Kingston since becoming **Town Centre Manager** at Kingston First in 2001



## Bidding for improvement

He played an instrumental role in setting up a **Business Improvement District (BID)** in Kingston, whereby businesses pay a one per cent levy on top of their business rates to fund additional investment in the town centre.

There are now 30 BIDs across the country, but Kingston's was the first and is widely considered to be the best – an achievement for which Graham was recently named **Town Centre Manager of the Year** at a prestigious national awards ceremony.

"The BID is our main funding mechanism, and it is absolutely critical to the work we do," explains Graham.

"It means that if we identify a problem in the town centre, instead of just moaning about it, we can actually get out there and do something to resolve it."

The BID was introduced last year, after 66 per cent of businesses voted in favour of the initiative. "The real test will come in 2009 when they will be asked to vote again," explains Graham. "The BID brings in £1 million of additional investment into the town centre. If that were to suddenly stop, it wouldn't be long before people started to notice a difference."

Asked what Kingston First's key achievements have been to date, Graham replies: "The *cleaning and greening* of the town. We are spending £65,000 per year employing a specialist company to steam clean the chewing gum off our streets. We have also just invested £32,000 in our own street cleaning machine which will patrol the streets for 30 hours every week."

Kingston First has also spent £30,000 on hanging baskets and planting; painted every lamppost in the town centre and applied a non-stick finish to all the junction boxes in a bid to counter-act fly posting.

Graham continues: "We have achieved a lot, but there is still a great deal to do. The priorities for the next few years are to make people feel safer in the town centre, to improve transport and access and to increase marketing activities to attract more visitors.

"By working in partnership with the Council and the Police, we

have made considerable progress. Initiatives such as the successful mini cab booking kiosks outside night clubs have contributed to a 26% reduction in violent crime in the town centre."

So things are undoubtedly moving in the right direction. But you get the feeling that Graham isn't one to rest on his laurels. "Kingston has always adapted and evolved – starting life as a market town before becoming a centre for manufacturing and then turning its attentions to retail. The challenge is to identify the right route for this continuous evolution, whilst being careful to protect the town's rich heritage.

"Kingston is a fantastically interesting and diverse town, with a thriving student community, fantastic tourism opportunities, a national-quality retail centre and residents who have high expectations. I am pleased to say that I have a uniquely challenging and exciting job."

[www.kingstonfirst.co.uk](http://www.kingstonfirst.co.uk)



# Goodbye **Mr. Chips**



Hot school meals are back on the menu in many of Kingston's primary schools this term after an absence of more than a decade, thanks to a new contract put in place by Kingston Council.

Every day there is a choice of four main meals and two desserts. Fresh, locally sourced fruit and vegetables feature on the menu every day – and there are no chips! The cost of the ingredients is 70p per meal – well above the Government's minimum required spend of 50p, and this is reflected in the quality of the end product (*We know, we've tried them....Ed*).

But without kitchens, how are these schools able to offer hot lunches to their pupils? The answer is an innovative hot meal delivery service that is being provided by the Council's contractor, Cygnet.

Qualified chefs prepare the main part of the meals at Cygnet's kitchens in Nottingham. The dishes are rapidly chilled before being transferred that evening in refrigerated vehicles to the borough's 'hub kitchen' at St Andrew's and St Mark's Primary School in Surbiton. The meals are cooked the next morning and locally sourced fresh fruit and vegetables are prepared, before being delivered to the schools in temperature controlled units.

"I appreciate that some people will be concerned that the meals are part-prepared off site," says Chris Morgan, Procurement Manager.

Almost half of the borough's 36 primary schools are now serving up meals from the **new menu**.

For many of these schools, it is the first time that **hot meals** have been on offer since the early 1990s.

The new menus are **appetising and nutritious**, surpassing the strict Government guidelines that have just come into force, and are complementary to the objectives published in the Council's Obesity Strategy.

"In an ideal world, every primary school would have its own kitchen preparing high quality food on a daily basis. But, even if this were possible, there would be major issues surrounding quality control as the quality of ingredients and the standard of food preparation could vary."

Kingston Council looked into all the options available and feel this is the best all-round solution for schools that do not have their own kitchens. The food prepared by Cygnet will be of consistently high quality and, at £1.75 per meal, will be very affordable.

Having sampled these dishes, Livin' Kingston can say they are very tasty and seem a great deal fresher and more nutritious than many of the ready-prepared meals you can buy in supermarkets. Taster sessions have been universally well received with some people saying the food tasted home-cooked.

Pippa Burge, a registered NHS dietician who works with schools in Kingston and Richmond, has been closely involved in the development of the new menus and will continue to work with the Council and Cygnet to ensure the high nutritional standards are maintained.

Pippa said: "The reintroduction of hot meals into so many schools is excellent news. These new menus are a great step forward and the methods of preparing, transporting and storing the food ensures that there is minimal nutritional loss. I would encourage any parent whose child's school is offering the new menus to give them a go.

"A hot school meal is a huge morale boost for children, particularly in the winter months. The unmistakable aroma of a hot meal filling a school's corridors together with the social experience



Frazer Hoath, Yazmin Hoath and Cameron Vincent

of eating a healthy meal together all has a very positive influence on a child's attitude towards food."

### A typical menu

#### Meat/fish option

Shepherds pie, seasonal vegetables and a bread roll

#### Vegetarian option

Broccoli & cauliflower pasta bake, seasonal vegetables and a bread roll

#### Salad option

Chick peas, lettuce and red pepper salad

#### Jacket potato option

Jacket potato topped with baked beans

#### Dessert

Fruit crumble & custard or fresh fruit



# K+20 Action Plan

The **planning blueprint** that will guide the development and improvement of Kingston town centre over the next 15 years is nearing completion

**The K+20 draft Area Action Plan sets out eight key objectives to deliver the vision for the future and ensure that Kingston remains a thriving metropolitan centre:**

1. Maintaining a buoyant and diverse economy with improved employment opportunities
2. Enhancing the quality and range of attractions
3. Providing a high quality environment with well designed buildings and spaces
4. Protecting and enhancing the historic environment
5. Promoting and enhancing the riverside
6. Improving transport links
7. Providing a clean, safe and well managed town centre in the day time and at night
8. Providing infrastructure to support new development and minimising the risk of flooding.

Protecting Kingston's distinctive character, historic environment and riverside is central to the draft Plan. The Old Town Conservation Area around the Market Place is a key area for conservation and enhancement. High quality development is being proposed at 20 sites across the town centre where there is potential for significant change and improvement.

**Some key elements of the proposals include:**

- Developing the local economy, attracting new jobs and quality business/office space
- Strengthening Kingston's position as a sub-regional shopping centre
- Enhanced cultural, leisure and entertainment facilities and more tourism
- 1000 new homes, including private and affordable housing
- Improvements to faith, voluntary and community facilities
- Better facilities for Kingston University and Kingston College
- New high quality buildings and open spaces. These should be fully accessible and reduce opportunities for crime
- Improvements to the street environment and creating attractive gateways into the town
- Enhancing the riverside environment and improving leisure, sport and recreation opportunities
- Enhancing the Ancient Market
- Maintaining and improving the quality and distribution of parking provision
- Improving public transport
- Late night transport by train, bus and taxi/mini-cab
- Improving Kingston Station
- More frequent trains
- A new bus station on the Ashdown Road site
- More attractive pedestrian routes, better cycle routes and three secure cycle parking centres
- Promoting park and ride schemes
- Maintain and improve Community Transport and Shopmobility
- Adopt an After Dark strategy
- Working with partners Kingston First/ Kingston Town Centre Management and private interests to provide a clean, safe, friendly and well maintained town centre in the daytime and at night.

There will be public consultation on the draft plan following its completion and submission to the Secretary of State.

To find out more about K+20 visit [www.kingston.gov.uk/kplus20](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/kplus20) or email [Kplus20@rbk.kingston.gov.uk](mailto:Kplus20@rbk.kingston.gov.uk)



Dale, Ted and Gary

Kingston Council is keeping on top of local environmental issues with a dedicated team of Rangers patrolling each of our four neighbourhoods.

## The eyes and ears of our **neighbourhoods**

Dale Gossington, Ted Rhodes and Gary Sheagold have worked as South of the Borough Neighbourhood Rangers for over three years

**Their work includes daily patrols in their van, dealing with on-the-spot problems such as clearing litter, broken glass, tidying overgrown vegetation, or reporting issues such as graffiti and fly tipping to their colleagues for swift action.**

They aim to visit every road in the neighbourhood at least once a week and target any known 'hot spots' with more regular attention. Dale says: "We are the eyes and ears of our community, working closely with residents and businesses to decide which improvements should be prioritised. We regularly attend community and neighbourhood meetings and make visits to local schools to talk to young people about graffiti and litter."

The Rangers also make a positive impact on our environment by clearing untidy land and undertaking planting schemes. In South of the Borough, this has resulted in the creation of shrub beds in Kent Way and attractive planters along the Tolworth Broadway.

Ted says: "We welcome feedback

from local people and would encourage residents to approach us directly if they see us out and about. In the past we have cut back trees on the spot and reported uneven paving as a direct result of the public approaching us."

The Rangers work across all of the Council's environmental services trying to ensure that nothing 'on the ground' is overlooked. They check street lamps, clear blocked drains and gulleys and work with traders to keep pavements accessible and free from obstruction by advertising boards. They also target fly-tippers and have had a recent success in removing builders' rubble and furniture from public spaces and rivers. On one recent patrol they even contacted the RSPCA to report an injured fledgling crow.

Dale says: "No two days are ever the same. Our work is driven by the seasons and the improvements that the residents would like to see. I enjoy being out and about and making a difference to the area."

In the South of the Borough Neighbourhood, the work of the

two Environmental Rangers is complemented by the Neighbourhood Buildings' Maintenance Ranger, Gary Sheargold. Gary is an experienced builder and is able to carry out improvements and repairs to Council property.

There is a team of Neighbourhood Environmental Rangers for each of the borough's four neighbourhoods - Maldens and Coombe, Surbiton, South of the Borough and Kingston Town. If you see the Rangers out and about in your area, stop and have a chat and let them know the issues that are important to you. Our Neighbourhood Rangers are there to help improve your local environment and welcome feedback and suggestions from residents.

If there are any issues that you wish to report, contact the Environmental Services Customer Care Hotline on **020 8547 5929** or visit Kingston Council's website at [www.kingston.gov.uk/contact\\_us](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/contact_us)



Joe Xavier

# Nurturing our **community**

**New life** is being breathed into a huge number of community projects across the borough through Kingston Council's comprehensive programme of grants.

## To be eligible for a grant, organisations must have:

- **A constitution**  
or set of rules setting out the organisation's aims and objectives
- **A management committee**  
or equivalent of at least three members
- **Bank or building society account**  
in the name of the organisation (with at least two signatories)
- **An accounting system**  
such as annual accounts to record income and expenditure.

## Community groups of all sizes can apply for financial support under a number of Council initiatives.

Three groups, which have successfully applied for grants, have seen their ideas come to fruit and have a positive impact on the community around them.

Joe Xavier from Surbiton set up the Tolworth Organic Gardening Society (TOGS) two years ago with the aim of providing older people with an opportunity to meet and grow produce together.

A *Small Grant* from Kingston Council funded the purchase of tools and their first packets of seeds, enabling them to transform their Tolworth allotment. Since then TOGS has grown from a simple idea into a club of more

than thirty members (aged eight to eighty), sharing their harvests with the local community.

Joe says: "The grants that we received were critical to the success that the club has enjoyed. Looking back it is easy to forget that TOGS started as a simple desire to make life better for the older people in our community. If anyone has an idea that they believe in, I would recommend that they contact Kingston Council Voluntary Sector Unit who provide the support needed to get projects off the ground."

Another group to have benefited is Dickerage Kids, which was formed in 2001 by a group of New Malden parents who wanted to improve local facilities. With the financial support they received, Dickerage Lane Adventure



Applying for a grant from the Council is a good way to start



Denise Ross with two *Dickerage Kids*

# groups

Playground has been developed to include new play equipment.

The group holds social events for parents and their children. "It's a good way for parents to make friends and provides children with entertainment on their doorstep," explains Denise Ross, Treasurer of the Group. "The Council Grant was one of the first we applied for. Once you have obtained one grant successfully it is much easier to attract further funding. In that sense the funding we received from Kingston Council was instrumental to our success."

Jackie Child, fundraiser for the Parents and Friends of Kingsnympton agrees: "After you've gone through the process

once it becomes easier year on year. Applying for a grant from the Council is a good way to start and the Voluntary Sector Unit can advise where else you can apply for funding."

Their programme is open to all children on the Kingsnympton Estate aged between eight and 17 years. The scheme has been providing a summer programme of activities for 25 years, which this year included trips to Brighton, Thorpe Park, the Hampton Outdoor Pool and Sandown Ski Centre.

Jackie says: "It's worth all the effort to bring the children together and provide them with a summer to remember."



## Kingston Council offers five different types of grants for local voluntary organisations

- **Small Grants**  
Provide up to £750 for projects working across the whole borough.
- **Neighbourhood Grants**  
Provide up to £750 for projects providing activities and services specific to one neighbourhood.
- **Project Grants**  
Provide funding for activities such as *Dickerage Kids*, which meet or complement the Council's priorities and plans.
- **Strategic and Development Grants**  
These tend to be larger scale for voluntary organisations with a strategic role in the borough.

The deadline for *Small, Project, Development* and *Strategic* grant applications is the end of October. *Neighbourhood Grants* may be applied for throughout the year.

For further information about applying for a grant contact Kingston Council's Voluntary Sector Unit on **020 8547 6068** or **6072** or visit [www.kingston.gov.uk/grants](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/grants)

## Give a disabled child a break

If you think your weekends are busy with all your chores - shopping, washing, ironing, feeding the family and entertaining the children - imagine how much tougher that can be for parents and carers of disabled children.

The care and attention that a disabled child may require can mean that fitting in the regular household chores, let alone time for yourself, becomes an impossible luxury.

Thankfully, for many such families in the Royal Borough, there is an opportunity to recharge their batteries with the help of a Short Breaks Foster Carer. Vilma Watt is one such carer. She has her own child, two foster children and yet still finds time to look after a young girl with learning disabilities every third weekend.

"I get a lot of enjoyment from her enjoyment," says Vilma.

"Sometimes we go for walks and picnics in the countryside and on other occasions we just spend time at home. The child I care for is quite hard work and I get a lot of satisfaction from knowing that her full-time carers are having a rest. For us it is just a weekend and we are fresh and have the time and energy to listen. It has



made me appreciate what a demanding job it would be to look after a disabled child all the time."

One person who really benefits from the service is a single mum with two children, one of whom is severely autistic. She says that the one weekend each month when her eight-year-old son is looked after by a Short Breaks Carer is her lifeline.

*"I love my son and I would do anything for him but coping on my own just wears me out sometimes. I am so grateful to his foster carer for giving me the opportunity to spend some time alone with my daughter."*

*Mother with autistic child*

She says that her son also thoroughly enjoys his weekends away. "He has built up a good relationship with his carers over the last year and they take him out to do things that I probably couldn't. It does us both good to have a bit of a break."

New Short Breaks Foster Carers are always welcomed. As a carer you will receive a fee and full training, which can count towards an NVQ qualification.

If you feel that you have the energy and understanding to look after disabled children for two weekends a month in your own home, please call Kingston Council's Family Placement Team on **020 8547 6042** [fostering@rbk.kingston.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@rbk.kingston.gov.uk) [www.kingston.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/fostering)

# Kingston Police

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER LONDON

Autumn 2006

## Key messages from the Borough Commander

Chief Superintendent Angela List



### Kingston continues to be one of the safest boroughs in London. During the last 12 months:

- Overall crime has been reduced by 13%
- More offenders have been brought to justice and our detection rate is currently amongst the highest in London
- In May 2006 the Reform Group identified Kingston as the safest borough in London ([www.reform.co.uk](http://www.reform.co.uk)).

### Each year we consult widely to help develop our crime reduction targets.

Our targets for the year 2006 – 2007 are:

- To reduce all crime by 8.4% (inclusive of Burglary, Robbery, Street Crime and Vehicle Crime)
- To solve at least 20% of all our crimes.

### To date our figures currently show that:

- Overall crime has been reduced by 13%
- The current detection rate is 27%.

Up to date information about crime, in each ward, and at borough level, can be found online at [www.met.police.uk/kingston](http://www.met.police.uk/kingston)

Kingston Police continue to work alongside Kingston Council and other local organisations in the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP), to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

To find out more about the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership visit the Kingston Council website [www.kingston.gov.uk](http://www.kingston.gov.uk)

I hope the following pages will provide you with an insight into the range of work that is conducted by Kingston Police.

For more information about Kingston Police, visit our website at [www.met.police.uk/kingston](http://www.met.police.uk/kingston) or contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Team - you all have one!

### Did you know that Kingston has:

287	Police Officers	44	Volunteers
41	Police Community Support Officers	32	Volunteer Cadets
66	Police Support Staff	16	Safer Neighbourhood Teams
32	Metropolitan Police Special Constables		



METROPOLITAN  
POLICE

Working together for a safer London



Kingston has **16 Safer Neighbourhood Teams**, one for each ward. The role of the teams is extremely varied, **with no two days ever the same**



## Maintaining quality of life

The teams work a 10-hour shift and each tour of duty begins with an update on any reported crimes and new intelligence relating to their ward.

The Sergeant will brief and task officers with directed patrols in line with the ward community priorities and the morning's research.

Throughout the day, using intelligence gathered from the morning briefing, the teams conduct high visibility patrols around their

wards, local schools and any other areas that may have been identified because they have experienced crime.

Whilst out and about on patrol in their neighbourhood the teams are pleased to meet with residents and visit victims of crime, offer reassurance and advice about crime prevention.

All of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams benefit from working in strong partnership with all departments within Kingston Council. In fact, it is not unusual for local councillors to accompany the teams on patrol around specific problem areas to assist in dealing

with quality of life issues that may have been raised by residents.

Each Safer Neighbourhood Team produces a local newsletter, in addition to organising and promoting a range of community meetings and events. Community meetings provide residents with a forum to have their say and help determine the priorities for their neighbourhood.

To find out how you can become more involved with your local team visit the Kingston Police website ([www.met.police.uk/kingston](http://www.met.police.uk/kingston)) or telephone the Safer Neighbourhood Co-ordinator on **020 8721 5880**.

## Community Support Officers

are key to how the Police engages with local communities

**Building bridges with residents, a Community Support Officer is a reassuring presence, deterring crime and making a visible difference to people's lives.**

**We currently looking to recruit Police Community Support Officers to:**

- Focus on the needs of our community
- Interact and engage with residents and businesses
- Help create safer neighbourhoods.

If you would like to make a positive difference in your community and earn up to £25,000 please visit [www.metpolicecareers.co.uk/pcso](http://www.metpolicecareers.co.uk/pcso)

# Positive action against Domestic Violence

**Kingston Police take positive action against domestic violence, which represents 67% of all violent crime in Kingston**

Domestic Violence is a serious crime that has a massive impact on the physical and emotional well being of its victims.

It also affects the lives of those children that have to live in a household where domestic violence occurs.

Anyone can experience domestic violence. It can happen in all kinds of relationships and for any reason, regardless of age, race, sex, sexuality, wealth, and geography. It is rarely a one off event.

The Community Safety Unit has a dedicated team who investigate all allegations of domestic violence. They provide support and protection to victims and their families and, wherever possible, ensure that those responsible are held to account through the Criminal Justice System.

This can sometimes mean prosecuting an abuser against the wishes of their victim. DI Porter from Kingston Police Community Safety Unit explains: "In the past, many perpetrators of domestic violence have benefited from their victim's reluctance to give evidence against them. They have believed themselves to be 'untouchable'. That is no longer the case. If you commit domestic violence in this borough, the police will arrest you and take you to court. Your partner's silence will not protect you from prosecution."

Kingston Police work in partnership with many other agencies to protect and support victims and their families. A One Stop Shop operates every Monday from the Baptist Church, Union Street, Kingston, providing victims with access to support, advice (legal, housing etc.) and counselling services all in one place.

Domestic Violence is often a hidden crime, with many victims suffering in silence. Kingston Police would encourage anyone who is the victim of domestic violence or who is worried about domestic violence to report it to police, or one of the other agencies that can offer support and advice.

## Domestic Violence Useful Contact Numbers

Kingston Police	020 8541 1212
Kingston Police Community Safety Unit	020 8721 5859
Kingston Domestic Violence Outreach Service	020 8786 2128
Victim Support Kingston	020 8547 3202
ASKK Children Service	020 8547 5888

## Volunteering with the Police

Would you like to become a volunteer for the Metropolitan Police Service?

Kingston Police has a team of more than 40 volunteers, adding great value to the service it offers in areas including:

- Front Counter Customer Service

- Supporting Safer Neighbourhood policing teams

- Assisting the Criminal Justice Unit, and many more.

To volunteer, you need to be 18 years of age (with no upper age limit), demonstrate an awareness of your local community and be



able to donate a minimum of four hours each month. Training will be given for any role you undertake.

To find out more about what volunteer roles are available in the Royal Borough contact Angela Reeves, Volunteer Co-ordinator, on **020 8721 5840**

## The Burglary and Robbery Team



### Kingston's Burglary and Robbery Investigation Team (BRIT) has achieved some of the best detection rates in London

Kingston has a dedicated team of experienced officers led by two Detective Sergeants who investigate all allegations of burglary (both residential and commercial), robbery and street crime in the borough. Officers draw on their local knowledge, as well as technological and forensic resources, to ensure the prosecution of offenders.

#### Detective Sergeant Richard Reynolds of Kingston Police BRIT Team says:

"We have challenging targets set for us in terms of the amount of crimes we must detect and the overall reduction in robbery and burglary offences. We are confident that these targets can be achieved."

The public can assist by reducing their chances of becoming a victim of these crimes by adopting the following measures when out and about:

- Try and keep personal belongings such as mobile phones and i-Pods out of sight and avoid attracting unwanted attention
- Make sure bags and purses are secure, with zips fastened
- Be alert when withdrawing money from cash points and never show anybody your card or divulge your PIN.
- with a UV pen. If it's found we can return it to you
- Make sure that windows that are left open are secure and cannot be opened further
- Make sure garages and sheds are locked with a sturdy lock
- Fit locks and bolts to your windows and doors.

#### Around the home:

- Try and mark your property
- For more advice about crime prevention visit the Kingston Police website [www.met.police.uk/kingston](http://www.met.police.uk/kingston)

Kingston Police are working in partnership with Kingston Council, Kingston First, and Licensees to ensure that the town centre remains a safe place for people to live, work and visit.

Over recent months Kingston Police have supported a number of key initiatives, including:

- Increasing the dedicated Town Centre Team to ten police constables and one sergeant, who will concentrate on reducing crime and disorder

## Keeping Kingston safe

- The Grove Safer Neighbourhood Team will continue to focus on the residential community in and around the town centre
- The introduction of Street Pastors, who patrol the town centre at night and offer assistance to members of the public who may appear vulnerable
- Extending the Cab and Taxi Marshall scheme, which helps night time visitors get home.
- A newly appointed Night Time Town Centre Manager, who will work closely with Kingston Police and licensed venues to reduce the level of violent disorder.

Kingston is always looking to recruit Special Constables.

If you would like to join our team as a volunteer please visit the careers website [www.metpolicecareers.co.uk](http://www.metpolicecareers.co.uk)

# Great expectations

....as curtain goes up on the theatre



Sir Peter Hall, Sue Higginson, Liz Rideal, Deputy Mayor Shelia Griffin and David Jacobs

The news that the money required to fit-out the interior of Kingston's new theatre is now in place has generated **great expectation from theatre lovers across the region.**

At a meeting for residents and friends held in the theatre back in July, the Leader of Kingston Council shared a stage with Sir Peter Hall to explain his decision to fund the work and outline the tremendous opportunities that lay ahead for *Rose of Kingston*.

Well aware that there has been some concern as to whether the Council should be paying for the fit-out, Councillor Derek Osbourne said: "We have had to make some tough decisions in order for this project to get off the ground, but the stark choice was to either get this theatre up and running or let it die.

"For decades it has been an ambition of Kingston to have its own theatre and we did not want to lose the tremendous opportunity that Sir Peter Hall's team brings and be left with a land mark building lying empty and degraded for decades. Following our decision, audiences

in Kingston are now looking forward to a spectacular theatre with one of the world's leading directors, Sir Peter Hall, at the helm."

Kingston Council's Chief Executive, Bruce McDonald believes that *Rose of Kingston* offers exceptional value for money and an opportunity to fundamentally alter the night time balance of our town and provide a catalyst for further regeneration.

"You only have to look at examples such as the Sage Concert Hall in Gateshead and The Lowry in Salford Quays to see how iconic buildings with a cultural focus can transform entire areas. With its unique interior, *Rose of Kingston* has the potential to do the same for this borough, attracting visitors to the town from far and wide."

Sir Peter Hall, Director, *Rose of Kingston* has long-believed in the potential for Kingston's imaginative new theatre, saying:

"*Rose of Kingston* is a unique and very special performance venue and will be a centre of excellence and entertainment not only for our local audience but also for the wider theatre-going public. I can't wait to get started."

To mark the start of the eleven month fit-out a stunning graphic installation has been unveiled on the outside wall of the theatre on Kingston's High Street. The striking design by artist Liz Rideal depicts a pair of hands opening a giant pair of theatre drapes. The installation will remain on show until the opening of the theatre in the winter of 2007.

To learn more about how to become part of *Rose of Kingston's* future, as a private or corporate supporter of *Rose of Kingston*, please contact [theatre@rbk.kingston.gov.uk](mailto:theatre@rbk.kingston.gov.uk)

Further details at [www.kingstontheatre.org](http://www.kingstontheatre.org)



## Sakoba Dance Theatre present *Tiwa Tiwa*



Arthur Cotterell Theatre,  
Kingston Hall Road,  
Kingston KT1 2QA  
Friday 13 and Saturday  
14 October  
7.30pm

Renowned for their shape-shifting choreography, Sakoba Dance Theatre return to Kingston for their 20th anniversary show, *Tiwa Tiwa*.

Regarded as the UK's foremost modern African dance company, Sakoba celebrate the energy, passion and creativity of post-modern African dance.

Artistic Director, Bode Lawal, continues to create a new dance form that excites and challenges, fusing spell-binding choreography

with powerful, pulsating African rhythms. They will show-case new works and revive two highlights from the company's current repertoire.

Continuing their long and creative association with The Royal Borough's Arts Office, Sakoba will also host a number of educational workshops for students at Kingston College, Southborough and Coombe Girls' Schools, prior to their performances.

Tickets for the performances cost £8.50 (£5 for full-time students). Tickets are available online from [www.kingston.gov.uk/eticketing](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/eticketing) or by telephone from the box office on **020 8547 5205**

## Surbiton Festival

Until 30 September



### Wine Tasting

Thursday 28th September  
Barclays Bank, Victoria Road,  
Surbiton, 7.30pm  
Tickets cost £7.50  
Telephone: **020 8390 2963**

### Festival Saturday

Saturday 30 September  
Victoria Road, Surbiton  
10.00am – 4.00pm

Family fun throughout the day, includes:

- Street market with over 70 stalls in Victoria Road
- Street entertainment with clowns, jugglers
- Punch and Judy
- Fairground Organ
- Face painting
- Bouncy castle

Live music from 1st Hook Scout & Guide Band, Surbiton Royal British Legion Youth Marching Band and Mole Valley Silver Band.

For further information please contact **020 8399 5326**

### Counterfeit ABBA Age Concern fundraiser



Friday 13  
October  
The Hawker  
Centre,  
Lower Ham  
Road, Kingston.

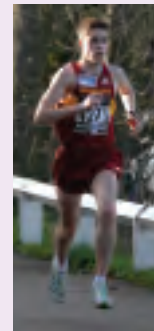
Tickets cost  
£25.00 and

include a hot buffet, performance from the popular ABBA tribute band and after-show party.

Telephone: **020 8942 8256**

### ASICS Kingston Running Festival

Sunday 8 October



Ancient Market  
Place, Kingston  
8.00am start

Runners can choose between two distances, 8.2 or 16 miles, over a very flat and scenic looped course between Kingston

and Hampton Court.

For further information and to download an entry form, visit [www.humanrace.co.uk](http://www.humanrace.co.uk)

### Buckland Womens Club

Chessington Methodist Church,  
Moor Lane, Chessington.  
Meets every Tuesday evening  
at 7.45pm

The club hosts a variety of activities, with guest speakers, social events and outings.

New members are always welcome. For more information telephone Annette Streetley on **020 8397 3081**

## Community

### Fireworks

Friday 3 November



Kingsmeadow Athletics and Fitness Centre, Kingston Road, Kingston  
Fireworks at 8.00pm  
(Doors open from 6.30pm)

A family event with fairground rides, catering, Radio Jackie and a full firework display set to music.

Tickets (available from 2 October):  
£4.00 adults  
£2.50 children under 12  
(under 5's are free)

In person:  
Kingsmeadow Athletics and Fitness Centre; Kingston Visitor Information Centre, Market House, Kingston; Tolworth Recreation Centre; The Malden Centre and The Kingfisher Leisure Centre.

Online: [www.kingston.gov.uk](http://www.kingston.gov.uk)

Tickets may also be purchased on the evening:  
£5.00 adults  
£3.00 for children under 12  
(under 5's are free).

All surplus proceeds from the event will go to local charities.

For further information telephone **020 8547 5016**.

## Kingston Family Fortnight

7 – 21 October



Two weeks of fun that seeks to encourage family members to share the experience of trying a new activity together.

All the events are being organised in support of Family Learning Week and National Parents' Week. Most are completely free and all are open to children and adult family members.

### Family Fortnight Launch

Saturday 7 October  
Eden Walk and Memorial Gardens, Kingston  
10.00am – 4.00pm  
Stalls and activities for all the family, including trails, learning about comedy, cake decoration, learning to draw, mini tennis and family information.

### Who let the dad's out?

Surbiton Children's Centre, Alpha Road, Surbiton  
10.00am – 12 Noon  
£1.50 per dad  
Dad and the kids can enjoy a wide selection of games, crafts, toys and refreshments.  
Telephone: **020 8391 1100**  
[www.dadsladslasses.com](http://www.dadsladslasses.com)

### The Big Family Draw

Saturday 14 October  
Piper Hall, Piper Road, Kingston  
1.00pm – 4.00pm  
Artists will be on hand to help the whole family get the most out of drawing and creativity. No booking required.

### Bottle Gardens

Surbiton Library, Ewell Road, Surbiton  
Make a garden in a bottle. Suitable for children aged 7 and over. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Two one-hour sessions available. Booking required on **020 8547 6444**.

### Time for Families

Saturday 21 October  
Chessington World of Adventures  
Join a day of free activities and parent consultation. The Parents' Forum are seeking to set up new groups for parents across the Borough. This is an opportunity to have your say about the priorities for you and your children.  
Telephone: **020 8547 6582**  
[www.kingstonparents.co.uk](http://www.kingstonparents.co.uk)

### Family Computers

North Kingston Centre, Richmond Road, Kingston  
10.00am – 12 Noon  
Design a poster on computer and enter a competition. Suitable for ages 6 and over. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Booking required.  
Telephone: **020 8547 6720**

### Bottle Gardens

New Malden Library, Kingston Road  
Make a garden in a bottle. Suitable for children aged 7 and over. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Two one-hour sessions available. Booking required on **020 8547 6490**

For details of many more activities taking place during the fortnight visit [www.kingston.gov.uk](http://www.kingston.gov.uk)

## Music

### Way Out West JAZZ

Ram Jam Club  
(behind Grey Horse Pub),  
46 Richmond Road, Kingston  
Wednesdays (£8.00)  
Saturdays (£9.00)  
8.00pm - 11.00pm

Way Out West, is co-operative of jazz musicians and now has a monthly weekend date in addition to its popular Wednesday night residency.

#### October

**Wednesday 4** The Mike Outram Quartet, featuring four acoustic guitarists.



Vasilis Xenopoulos

**Wednesday 11** Bob McKay Quartet

**Saturday 14** Tim Whitehead Quartet, with BBC award-winning singer Ian Shaw.

**Wednesday 18** Vocalist Nette Robinson and band *On the Edge*, featuring the trumpet of Martin Shaw.



**Wednesday 25** Singer/songwriter Katriona Taylor promotes her new CD *One Night Live*.

#### November

**Wednesday 1** Guitarist Tony Heiberg, plays melodic/jazz crossover originals with his quintet.



**Wednesday 8** Pianist/composer Kate Williams and her band play a tribute to Bud Powell.

**Wednesday 15** Eddie Harvey's *Birthdays Bash*

Tony Kinsey and guests celebrate the long and distinguished career of pianist Eddie Harvey

**Wednesday 22** The Avalon Trio

**Wednesday 29** Nick Haward's Band

**Saturday 25** The Vasilis Xenopoulos X Quartet, featuring the dazzling young Greek tenor sax player (pictured).

Reservations: **020 8549 8709**  
Club information: **020 8567 2004**  
email: [wayoutwest@jazzinlondon.net](mailto:wayoutwest@jazzinlondon.net)  
[www.jazzinlondon.net/wayoutwest](http://www.jazzinlondon.net/wayoutwest)



#### German Christmas Market

Ancient Market Place, Kingston  
11 November - 21 December

#### Christmas Craft & Gift Fair

All Saints Parish Church, Kingston  
(opposite John Lewis)  
16 November - 24 December

#### Christmas Merrie Day

Eden Walk Shopping Centre,  
Kingston

Sunday 10 December  
11.00am - 4.00pm

FREE family fun with Santa's Grotto.

## Festive Lights

#### Kingston town centre

Thursday 16 November  
2.00pm - 7.00pm  
(with the lights switched on by Father Christmas at 6.00pm).

Includes a nativity farm, children's workshops, entertainment and Christmas carols. Late night shopping until 8.00pm.

#### Tolworth

Wednesday 22 November  
From 4.00pm  
Children's entertainment, carols and music provided by Radio Jackie.

At 5.30pm Father Christmas will switch on the Christmas Tree lights at Princes Avenue/Ewell Road junction and make his way up the Broadway to switch on the Tolworth festive lights.

#### New Malden

Friday 24 November  
From 4.00pm  
Festive children's entertainment and carols at St. George's Square. Father Christmas will ride on his sleigh to switch on New Malden's sparkling lights at 5.45pm, making his way to St. George's Square.

#### Surbiton

Thursday 30 November  
From 5.45pm  
Festive children's entertainment and carols outside Surbiton Railway Station. Father Christmas will ride on his sleigh up Victoria Road to switch on the Christmas lights.

For further information contact Kingston Council Tourism & Events on **020 8547 5016**.  
[www.kingston.gov.uk](http://www.kingston.gov.uk)

# Kingston Council's

Accounts for 2005/06



← Please turn **here**

# Kingston Council's **Accounts for 2005/06**

## Director of Finance's Statement

The information below provides an overview of Kingston Council's revenue and capital spending for the year 2005-06 and a summary of the Royal Borough's balance sheet. It sets out where we receive our funding from and how we used this money last year to provide services in the Royal Borough.

## Revenue Spending

This is money the Council spends over the course of the year on delivering public services, and includes staff salaries and running costs. Revenue spending is financed from government grants, council tax, business rates and other income.

## Capital Spending

This is money spent on items or projects which bring benefits to the community for more than one year and which adds value to our assets. Capital spending is financed from loans, government grants, capital receipts, revenue and other contributions from third parties.

## Balance Sheet

This shows the net worth of the Council and provides a summary of our assets and liabilities.

## Audit Arrangements

The Council's accounts are currently with the Audit Commission. When these figures have been checked the Commission will let us know whether

they present fairly the financial position of the Council at the end of the year (on 31 March 2006), and its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

The Council's accounts are prepared according to the requirements of the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting (Statement of Recommended Practice), published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountancy (CIPFA).

## Further Details

The full Statement of Accounts is available online from Kingston Council's website:  
[www.kingston.gov.uk/information/your\\_council/financial\\_information](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/information/your_council/financial_information)

**Tony Knights**, Director of Finance

## The Consolidated Revenue Account Statement

This table shows the revenue cost of running the Council's services over the past year, and where the money came from to fund these costs. It also shows the surplus for the year and the end of year position on the general fund balance.

2004-05 Net Expenditure £m		2005-06 Gross Expenditure £m	2005-06 Gross Income £m	2005-06 Net Expenditure £m
	Service Area			
82.1	Education	119.0	(33.8)	85.2
8.5	Environmental Services	10.8	(1.5)	9.3
2.4	Planning and Development Services	4.1	(1.7)	2.4
17.8	Highways and Transportation	29.1	(9.6)	19.5
15.2	Housing Services	82.9	(71.3)	11.6
8.0	Leisure, Parks, Libraries and Culture	9.9	(1.6)	8.3
40.9	Social Services	70.6	(25.4)	45.2
5.2	Central Services	34.8	(32.8)	2.0
4.1	Corporate and Democratic Services	4.6	(0.1)	4.5
184.2	Net Cost of Services	365.8	(177.8)	188.0
(25.4)	Less; Internal Charges for Use of Assets (included in cost of services - above)			(24.1)
1.6	Net Interest - Paid on Loans and Received on Investments			1.7
0.8	Levies paid to other Statutory Bodies			0.5
(5.3)	Technical Accounting Adjustments			1.4
155.9	Amount met from Government Grant and Local Tax Payers			167.5
	Financed by;			
(50.6)	Revenue Support Grant - from Central Government			(49.7)
(42.0)	National Non-Domestic Rates - from Government Pool			(50.1)
(64.8)	Council Tax - from Local Tax Payers			(68.2)
(1.5)	Net General Fund Surplus for the year			(0.5)
	Overall General Fund Balance			
(2.8)	Balance Brought Forward at the Beginning of the Year			(4.3)
(4.3)	Balance Carried Forward at the End of the Year			(4.8)

NOTE: The four Neighbourhood Committee's underspent by £0.3m in 2005-06. After taking into account their ability to carry forward these sums to spend in 2006-07, and the use of £0.8m from general balances to fund the 2006-07 budget, the unallocated General Fund Balance is £3.7m. This represents approximately 3.5% of the Council's Net Budget Requirement for 2006-07.

## The Consolidated Balance Sheet Statement

This table shows a summary of the Council's assets and liabilities as at the end of the past year. It also shows the Council's net worth (equity) and how this is financed by useable and non-useable reserves.

31 March 2005 £m		31 March 2006 £m
	<b>Assets</b>	
714.6	Fixed Assets (Land, Buildings, Vehicles and Equipment owned by the Council)	665.7
4.6	Long Term Debtors	1.6
84.0	Short Term Investments	104.1
33.7	Sundry Debtors (Amounts owed to the Council)	32.8
2.5	Cash, Bank, Stock and Work in Progress	2.5
<b>839.4</b>		<b>806.7</b>
	<b>Liabilities</b>	
(49.8)	Sundry Creditors and Short Term Borrowing (Amounts owed by the Council)	(50.6)
(158.6)	Pensions Liability	(157.4)
(129.7)	Long Term Borrowing	(150.5)
(3.4)	Provisions	(4.0)
<b>(341.5)</b>		<b>(362.5)</b>
<b>497.9</b>	<b>Total Assets less Liabilities</b>	<b>444.2</b>

31 March 2005 £m		31 March 2006 £m
	<b>Financed by;</b>	
467.1	Non Useable Reserves (technical accounting balances)	407.4
30.8	Useable Reserves (see below for breakdown)	36.8
<b>497.9</b>	<b>Total Net Worth (Equity)</b>	<b>444.2</b>
	<b>N.B. Breakdown of Useable Reserves</b>	
4.3	Useable Capital Receipts	4.5
21.9	Earmarked Reserves	25.9
4.2	General Fund Balance	4.8
0.7	Housing Revenue Account Balance	1.6
(0.3)	Collection Fund Balance	0.0
<b>30.8</b>		<b>36.8</b>

NOTE: The main earmarked reserves include Schools Reserves (£6.1m) for use in schools only; Capital Reserve Fund (£5.1m), Education Standards Fund (£3.2m) and Section 106 Reserves (£1.8m), all of which are earmarked for programmed capital projects; Insurance Fund (£2.1m) which is available to meet future claims arising; Repairs and Renewals Fund (£2.3m), which provides for the future replacement of vehicles, plant and equipment.

## The Council's Capital Investment Programme over the past Year

The Council has approved a Capital Investment Programme of £137m over the period 2005-06 to 2008-09, of which £38m was incurred in 2005-06 and £16.5m was contractually committed as at the end of May 2006. This table shows the capital cost in the past year of creating or improving assets which were or will be used to provide the Council's services, and where the money came from to finance this expenditure.

2004-05 £m		2005-06 £m
	<b>Expenditure</b>	
6.3	Schools, Youth and Lifelong Learning	13.1
12.1	Environmental Services (including Highways and Transportation)	11.1
6.4	Housing Services (including HRA and House Renovation Grants)	8.1
1.2	Leisure, Parks, Libraries and Culture	3.1
0.8	Social Services	1.0
1.7	Central Services	1.8
<b>28.5</b>	<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>38.2</b>
	<b>Financed by;</b>	
(7.4)	Borrowing	(15.3)
(21.5)	Capital Grants and Contributions	(16.1)
(5.0)	Direct from Revenue	(4.6)
(0.8)	Earmarked Reserves	(0.9)
(0.1)	Useable Capital Receipts	(1.3)
6.3	Sundry Creditors and Accruals Adjustment (inc 2003/04 accruals)	0.0
<b>(28.5)</b>	<b>Total Capital Financing</b>	<b>(38.2)</b>

## The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Statement for the past Year

As at 31st March 2006, the Council managed 4,886 dwellings with a gross book value of £302 million. This table shows the income and expenditure relating to the provision of council housing by the Council. The overall surplus for 2005-06 was £0.89m, which comprised a planned contribution to revenue balances of £0.47m and an underspending during the year of £0.42m.

2004-05 £m		2005-06 £m
	<b>Income</b>	
(18.4)	Rents from Dwellings and Non Dwellings	(19.5)
(4.1)	Service Charges and Other Contributions	(3.4)
<b>(22.5)</b>		<b>(22.9)</b>
	<b>Expenditure</b>	
4.9	Repairs and Maintenance	4.0
9.3	Supervision and Management	9.0
16.1	Capital Financing Costs	15.1
4.0	Housing Subsidy (Negative)	4.2
0.4	Other Costs	0.4
<b>34.7</b>		<b>32.7</b>
<b>12.2</b>	<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>9.8</b>
(0.1)	Interest Received on Investments	(0.1)
1.3	Direct Revenue Funding of Capital Expenditure	0.4
(12.1)	Technical Accounting Adjustments	(11.0)
<b>1.3</b>	<b>Net Deficit / Surplus (-) for the Year</b>	<b>(0.9)</b>
(2.0)	Balance Brought Forward at the Beginning of the Year	(0.7)
<b>(0.7)</b>	<b>Balance Carried Forward at the End of the Year</b>	<b>(1.6)</b>

# Live or work in New Malden?

Getting in touch with **Kingston Council** is easier than you think



**Conveniently**  
located just off the  
High Street, New Malden  
Helpdesk is open from  
**Monday to Saturday.**

## Why not visit the Helpdesk to:

- Pick up information leaflets and forms including a selection in the Korean language
- Apply for a grant or benefit
- Drop off post for the Council
- Report a problem or fault
- Book evening classes and play-scheme places
- View planning applications online

## New Malden Helpdesk

Malden Centre,  
Blagdon Road,  
New Malden.

**020 8547 6252**

Monday to Friday: 9.30am–5.30pm

Saturday: 9.30am–1.30pm

Our customer services staff will be happy to help you with any enquiry. You can also call the Council or use our website direct from the Helpdesk.

Pay it > Report it > Find it > Book it  
[www.kingston.gov.uk](http://www.kingston.gov.uk)

