

In partnership with



Week one

WINTER 2024

# Environment Matters

even more than ever

## Welcome



As the final leaves from our magnificent trees are soon completely swept away from our streets, Veolia's recycling collection teams are also gearing up for the busy Christmas period.

Early present buying typically results in additional cardboard recycling coming through our paper and card recycling collections, with more recycling expected over the festive period. It is all part of our year round work, keeping our streets neat and continuing to be London's top recycling borough and we all have a part to play in this.

Please take a moment to familiarise yourself with the revised recycling and waste collection schedules for the festive season, which are outlined inside Environment Matters. Try to recycle as much as you can, including bottles, cans and food waste. Thank you for your support with this. Minimising waste and maximising recycling makes both financial and environmental sense.

I am pleased to share that this winter, as part of our tree planting initiative, we are again planting over 1000 trees, which is tremendous news! If you are interested in this work, why not also consider becoming a Tree Friend, one of the many ways you can be a Friend, with details on our website. Thanks for your support.

Happy Christmas

Councillor Will Rowlands  
Executive Councillor for Environment



## Unsafe Disposal of Electrical Items Causes Fires

Vapes, electrical items and batteries are extremely flammable and cause fires when crushed inside collection vehicles. This puts our crews, staff at our processing facilities and the public at risk of burns, chemical exposure and smoke inhalation - injuries that can be life-changing.

**We have launched a campaign to highlight items that cause fires when disposed of incorrectly.**

### PLEASE REMEMBER:

- **Used vapes** should be taken back to retailers, and **never** placed in household recycling and rubbish bins or on-street litter bins.
- Electrical items with batteries (including hidden batteries), plugs or cables can be recycled, **but** they must be taken to dedicated recycling points. You can find your local recycling point at [recycleyourelectricals.org.uk](http://recycleyourelectricals.org.uk)
- **Batteries** can be taken to your local library and supermarkets to be recycled.

## Street Friends and Our Nominees

Street Friends help keep our communities neat and tidy. To show our appreciation for their support, we asked residents to nominate a Street Friend who has gone above and beyond to help keep Bromley clean and safe.

**We received dozens of responses from residents. Thank you for helping us share our appreciation with these amazing people. To find out more or become a Street Friend visit [bromley.gov.uk/streetfriends](http://bromley.gov.uk/streetfriends)**





# Your Waste is Your Responsibility

## Let's tackle fly-tipping together

Bromley Council and Veolia are working together, with the support of our Street Friends, to keep the borough clean. Furniture, fridges, mattresses and other household items dumped on streets and alleyways in the borough are fly-tips. This is illegal and we have to stop it together.

If you see anyone dumping rubbish, please report it to us at [bromley.gov.uk/envirocrime](https://www.bromley.gov.uk/envirocrime). Please provide a description of any persons involved, vehicle registration, photograph or any other information which could be used as evidence which could be used as evidence for prosecution.

### How to dispose of large household items

**Option one:** Visit your local Reuse and Recycling Centre at Churchfields Road or Waldo Road. Please check the opening hours before you visit.

**Option two:** Book a Bulky Items collection service. Please visit [bromley.gov.uk/bulkyitems](https://www.bromley.gov.uk/bulkyitems)

**Option three:** You can sell or donate online good quality items



## Snow Friends

Are you prepared for the next snow episode?

With around 500 miles (800km) of roads and 870 miles (1400km) of pavement in the borough, we do our best to ensure Bromley keeps moving during periods of heavy and repeated snowfall. However, we must always prioritise main travel routes and key locations – and this is where our Snow Friends come in! We provide salt, snow scoops and hi-vis vests to residents who want to keep their neighbourhoods safe in wintry weather (free of charge and subject to availability).

Register now at [bromley.gov.uk/snowfriends](https://www.bromley.gov.uk/snowfriends)

## How Do I? ? ?

### Report a missed collection

Please wait until 5pm on your collection day before you report a missed collection at [recyclingservices.bromley.gov.uk/waste](https://www.recyclingservices.bromley.gov.uk/waste)

### Report a fly-tip/dumped rubbish

If you see anyone dumping rubbish illegally make a note of the vehicle's details and any persons involved and report it at [bromley.gov.uk/envirocrime](https://www.bromley.gov.uk/envirocrime)

### Leave a compliment or make a complaint

Please share your compliments and complaints at [bromley.gov.uk/complaintcomplimentsuggestionform](https://www.bromley.gov.uk/complaintcomplimentsuggestionform)

### Dispose of bulky Items

- Donate them to your local charity shop.
- Take them to your local Reuse and Recycling Centre.
- Arrange for a retailer to remove and dispose of your unwanted item(s) when delivering new goods.
- Book a Bulky Items collection at [bromley.gov.uk/bulkyitems](https://www.bromley.gov.uk/bulkyitems)

## Flatten cardboard boxes

Please remove any polystyrene before flattening large cardboard boxes and placing them in your recycling box. This makes it easier for crews to collect.





# Tips for a zero food waste Christmas

## Buy loose

Choose loose fruit and vegetables instead of pre-packaged options. This allows you to buy exactly what you need, as well as cut down on plastic packaging.

## Make a list

Before you go shopping, write a list, take it with you and stick to it. Avoid impulse buys and only purchase what you know you will use.

## 'Use By' or 'Best Before' dates

"Use By" is about safety. Do not use food after its use by date. "Best Before" is about quality. You can still eat the product after its best before date.

## Make your meal go further

Use your leftovers to create new meals. Leftover vegetables can become a tasty vegetable soup, and leftover turkey can go into sandwiches and curries. Freezing leftovers can also extend their life.

# SITE TEMPORARILY CLOSED

## Waldo Road Reuse and Recycling Centre 2025 upgrades and closure

Due to major infrastructure upgrades, the Waldo Road Reuse and Recycling Centre will be temporarily closed. Works will get underway early in 2025, with the Waldo Road Reuse and Recycling Centre closed from Sunday 2 February, with the site then expected to reopen in 2026.

While Waldo Road Reuse and Recycling Centre is closed, residents can still:

- Visit Churchfields Road Reuse and Recycling Centre. A booking system will be introduced to manage demand.
- Garden waste weekend sites will continue to be open. To find out more, please visit [bromley.gov.uk](http://bromley.gov.uk) and search Garden Waste Temporary Sites.
- Donate items to your local charity shop, if they are in a good condition
- Book a bulky items collection at [bromley.gov.uk/bulkyitems](http://bromley.gov.uk/bulkyitems)

For updates on the site closure visit [bromley.gov.uk/recycling-sites](http://bromley.gov.uk/recycling-sites)

# Food Waste Recycling is Easy

Recycling your food waste is easy!

## ✓ Yes, please:

Fruit and veg peelings  
Eggshells  
Plate scrapings  
Mouldy food  
Meat and fish bones  
Tea bags and coffee grounds

## ✗ No, thanks:

Plastic bags  
Liquids and oils  
Packaging  
Nappies  
Garden Waste

Order a **FREE** kitchen caddy, use compostable liners or newspaper and fill your caddy with food waste.

Scan to order a **FREE** kitchen caddy!

**Food waste recycling collections take place every week - it's so easy!**



## Recycling Heroes

We have visited over 24 primary schools in Bromley to talk about recycling, waste minimisation and how to protect the environment. The programme is completely free. If your school is interested, or would like to find out more, visit [bromley.gov.uk/recyclingheroes](http://bromley.gov.uk/recyclingheroes)

# Collection Calendar

This is your waste and recycling collection calendar, starting from December 2024.

This calendar applies to collections from houses only. There are different arrangements for residents in flats. Please note particular changes to collections in Bank Holiday weeks where typically collections will be later than usual.

**1** All waste and recycling **must** be correctly presented for collection by **7am on collection day**.

**2** All waste must be contained securely and placed within arm's reach of the pavement, **but not on it**.

**3** Leave your recycling and waste out for collection until **5pm** before you report a missed collection.

December 2024						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25**	26**	27***	28	29
30*	31**					

January 2025						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1**	2**	3***	4	5
6*	7*	8*	9*	10*	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February 2025						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

March 2025						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

\*One day later than usual \*\*Two days later than usual \*\*\*Three days later than usual

	<b>Green week:</b> Tins, cans, glass and plastic containers   Food waste
	<b>White week:</b> Paper and cardboard   Food waste   Non-recyclable refuse

**Green Garden Waste subscribers:**

If you are a Green Garden Waste subscriber, your bin will be collected on your usual collection day. Please remember to cut up your Christmas tree and place it in your garden waste bin.

**Say "No" to Wrapping Paper**

Let's try to avoid glossy or metallic gift wraps that are coated in plastic as these cannot be recycled.

## Christmas tree Recycling sites

To recycle Christmas trees and other garden waste, we will open temporary Green Garden Waste sites.

- Saturday 11 January, 11am to 4pm**
- Bromley: Norman Park, Hook Farm Road (off Bromley Common)
  - Salt Depot: Shire Lane Spur (off Sevenoaks Road)
  - St Paul's Cray: Cotmandene, Crescent car park

- Sunday 12 January, 8am to 12pm**
- Biggin Hill: Charles Darwin School, Jail Lane
  - Beckenham: Unicorn Primary School car park, Creswell Drive (off South Eden Park Road)

**Please remember:**

- Christmas trees and garden waste **must** not be left at these sites outside of the hours and dates above.
- Remove all decorations from your tree before you take it to the site.



**Reuse and Recycling Centre Opening hours**

Monday to Friday- 7am to 5:30pm  
 Saturday - 7:30am to 4pm  
 Sunday - 8am to 1pm  
 Good Friday and bank holidays - 8am to 4pm

**The centre is closed on 25 and 26 December and 1 January.**

The site must close at the times stated and you may not be allowed in if there is a queue of cars ahead of you.

**Did you know?**

You can visit your local Reuse and Recycling Centre to collect reused paint. To find out more please visit [bromley.gov.uk/wasteneews](http://bromley.gov.uk/wasteneews)



# New in Parks

The Council's £1million Platinum Jubilee Parks Fund

## Farnborough New Inn Recreation Ground

Farnborough Village Society received £20,000 for playground and biodiversity improvements, including a springer, wooden trim trail with lily pads and wobbly bridge. The Society plans to plant honeysuckle to attract butterflies and will also introduce bat boxes.



## Cudham Recreation Ground

The Friends Group received £20,000 towards playground improvements. Further fundraising resulted in a new accessible cradle swing, an exciting climbing frame and a challenging wooden trim trail.

## McAndrews Recreation Ground

Parents formed a Playground Group and were awarded £17,000. Further community funds raised and from West Wickham Residents' Association resulted in a four-way rocker, a fire engine and thermoplastic markings. A fence was removed joining two playgrounds to improve flow and accessibility.



## Queensmead Recreation Ground

The Playground Regeneration Group's £20,000 award with further fundraising financed a new climbing frame and an accessible train with ticket office. An accessible picnic bench and more seating were paid for by Clarion Futures.



## Whitehall Recreation Ground

The Friends of Whitehall Recreation Ground applied for £20,000 and combined with their own funds have improved the playground area with a wooden trim trail and log swing. A new basketball goal was also installed.

## Hoblingwell Wood Recreation Ground

Active Communities were awarded £15,000 to refurbish the pavilion, including new showers, sinks, toilets and changing room space for younger and older football teams.



There is still time before the new 31 December deadline to apply for Wards where funds remain. Visit [www.bromley.gov.uk/jubileeparksfund](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/jubileeparksfund)



# Council Tax

## SUCCESS!

But for how much longer without fairer funding?

**Outstanding Children's Services**



**First in London for recycling**



**5,000 more street trees planted**



Bromley Council has fought for many years for a fairer funding settlement for residents and we are fast approaching crisis point

**“H**ave you ever thought how Council services are funded? Yes, of course, your Council Tax goes towards paying for services that we all depend on, but Council Tax itself is only part of the story. Much of the remainder of our budget comes from Central Government funding.

Bromley's ongoing campaign for the reform of the current financial system now spans a quarter of a century, a campaign that must be won because the allocation criteria remain flawed for three main reasons.

Firstly, because it has always disproportionately funded Inner London at Outer London's expense.

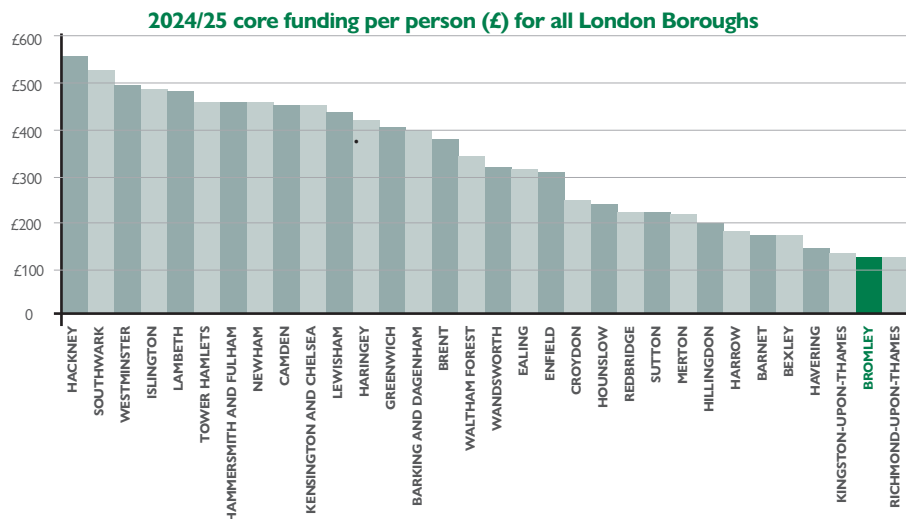
Secondly, because the system was further tweaked in 2003/04 to make that bias against Outer London even worse.

Thirdly, because successive Governments since that time have continued to duck the difficult question of Local Government Funding reform.

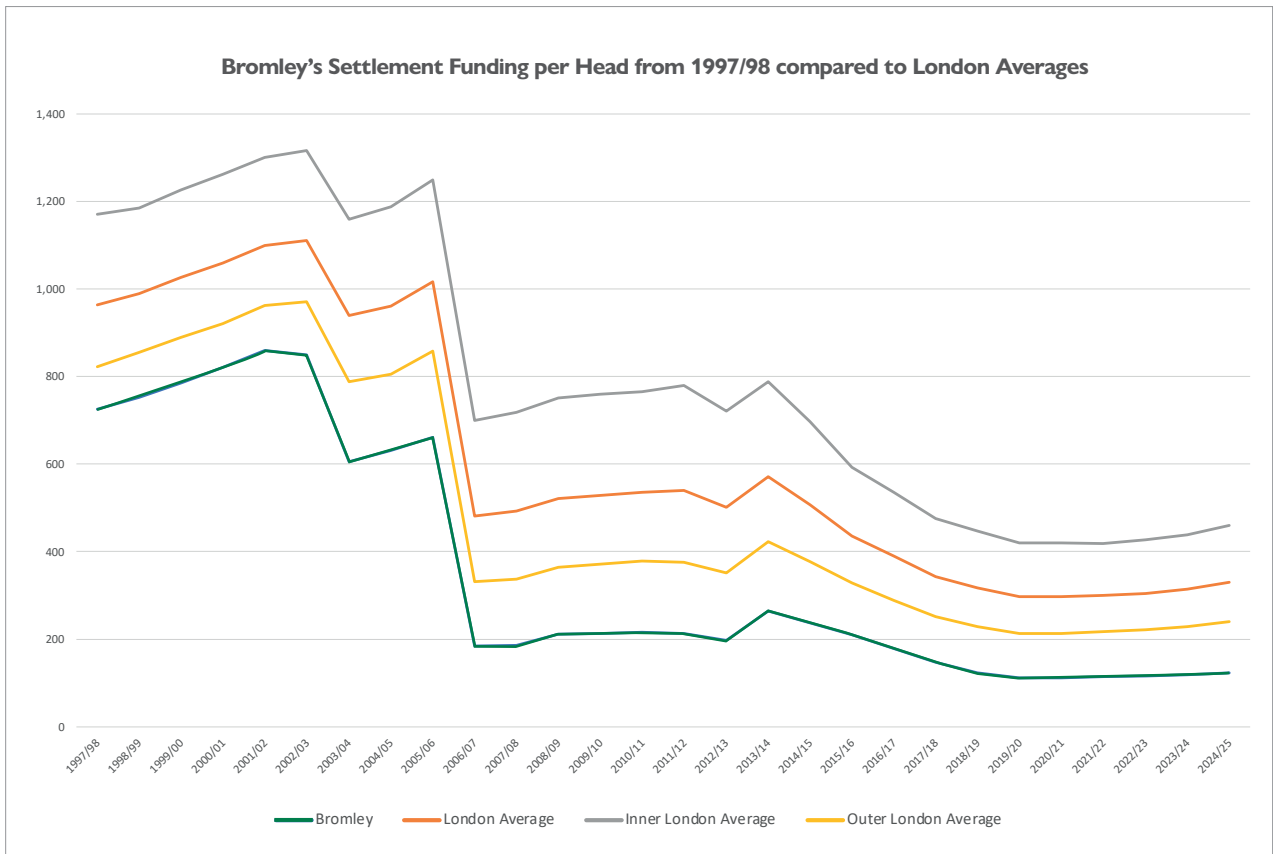
As a result, we are witnessing Boroughs across the Outer London belt, increasingly struggle to balance their books and a number are set to fail completely because the disparity in funding between Inner and Outer London has now become unmanageable.

**If Bromley were to get an average share of London's funding it would provide us with an additional £53.7 million each year and the problem would disappear.”**

**EXTRA £53.7 MILLION PER YEAR**  
The amount Bromley would get if it received the average Central Government settlement for London.







“As you can see from the chart below and the graph above, the cumulative loss to Bromley over the years has topped in excess of £1.3 billion even using today’s lower figure for illustrative purposes.

Amazingly, despite all of these challenges, Bromley Council has thrived hitherto by becoming the most cost-efficient Council in London and by bearing down relentlessly on cost and driving

efficiency at every turn. Sadly, even that isn’t going to be enough moving forward.

**Broken Beyond Repair**

There is widespread agreement that the current system of Local Government funding is broken beyond repair and needs to be replaced by a fairer funding model which fundamentally addresses the financial disparity between the 32

London Boroughs. The longstanding problem, ignored by consecutive Governments for far too long, has now reached crisis point, posing serious threats to vital public services set in place to protect our Borough’s most vulnerable residents.

**Bromley’s residents deserve fairer funding**

In summary, Bromley’s residents have long since deserved far fairer funding and better treatment from Central Government and that remains the simple key message which Bromley Council is continuing to press upon key decision makers.”

**Councillor Colin Smith  
Bromley Council Leader**

**“Bromley only remains amongst those best placed to survive the impending financial storm thanks to years of careful planning and marshalling of its reserves. However, even Bromley will struggle to set a balanced budget by 2028 on current projections and the conclusion is inescapable. Urgent change to the current system is essential.”**

# Grow your family with adoption



## Can you give a loving home to a child?

Coram welcomes people with a whole range of backgrounds and life experiences, who are able to reflect and support the needs of the children waiting for adoption.

When you adopt with us you won't be alone. We'll guide you through the adoption process - all the way to building a family, and beyond.

**Bromley are proud to be part of the regional adoption agency Coram Ambitious for Adoption.**

If you want to find out more, scan the QR code or visit [coramadoption.org.uk](http://coramadoption.org.uk)



## Bromley Well

For help call Freephone

**0808 278 7898**

Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm

Or use our online referral form  
[www.bromleywell.org.uk/refer](http://www.bromleywell.org.uk/refer)

## Supporting health, wellbeing and independence

Bromley Well provides help for you to stay emotionally and physically well and to remain independent. Our services are free for Bromley borough residents.

Delivered by



Funded by







# Residents at the Heart

Exciting new ways of working will enhance the quest for older people in the Borough to live and age well

Imagine a fiercely independent older person who lives alone, but after a hospital stay everyday living is a little more challenging. An assessment on leaving hospital suggests sensors around their own home would enable close relatives to monitor routines and provide support for a few weeks until they are able to return to living safely on their own.

That’s just one way ‘assistive technology’ can help pave the way for living in one’s own home for longer; central to Bromley’s aim for residents to live and age well while retaining as much independence as possible.

“Our Adult Social Care is on the threshold of momentous change as we transform how it’s delivered, employing innovative ways of using new technology to help people enjoy being in

their own homes for longer,” says Donna Glover, Bromley’s new Director of Adult Services.

The Council has teamed up with the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) to work through the possibilities and practicalities of where a digital approach and assistive technology can take the Council and its partners’ services to the next level and benefit the Borough’s ageing population.

“We will be exploring ways of using technology to support our staff and make life better and simpler for our residents. Of course, we won’t force a digital route where it’s not wanted, but our aim is to modernise our social care offer based upon a model of support that encourages independence and allows residents, if they are able, to do things for themselves.”

## Timeline to the Future

**2023** – ‘Ageing Well in Bromley’ Strategy launched to ensure older people retain independence for as long as possible.

**2024** – Bromley launches 10-year Adult Social Care Digital Strategy to make better use of digital technology.

**Occupational Therapist Claire with the sensor equipment that allows families to monitor routines remotely on desktop, tablet or phone.**



[www.bromley.gov.uk/CaringForAdults](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/CaringForAdults)



**“As a former physiotherapist who worked in the NHS for over 25 years with a clinical interest in rehabilitation and reablement, this model of supporting independence very much resonates with my thinking. But now we have an additional tool – assistive technology. We look forward to working with staff and partners to develop innovative ways to provide improved services for our most vulnerable residents.”**

Councillor Diane Smith, Executive Councillor for Adult Care and Health



# Healthy Living

Public Health works with the NHS and other partners to improve health and wellbeing in the Borough

## The 'silent killer'

High blood pressure may not present symptoms but can lead to serious health problems. It's good to know that well over 1000 residents dropped by to get theirs checked during this year's Know Your Numbers annual drive in Bromley. Around 300 with high blood pressure and just under 50 with irregular pulses were advised to get further checks. Even the Mayor stopped by! Learn more: [www.bromley.gov.uk/bloodpressure](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/bloodpressure)

## Breathe easier in 2025

Start your own smoking quit journey today and you'll soon see the health benefits and savings in your pocket. As the New Year approaches, this could be the best resolution to start and stick to, especially with the support on offer for the Borough's residents through Smokefree Bromley.

[www.bromley.gov.uk/stopsmoking](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/stopsmoking)

## Tough times?

The festive period can be difficult for some, especially when dealing with personal pressures, isolation, or loneliness. If you are finding things hard, please do seek support. More details at [www.bromley.gov.uk/mentalhealth](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/mentalhealth)

## How's your pharmacy?

Help improve pharmacies in your area and shape their future by sharing experiences of the ones you use. Please complete the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) Survey by the end of February 2025. [www.bromley.gov.uk/PharmaceuticalNeedsAssessment](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/PharmaceuticalNeedsAssessment)



## Winter Health

Viruses such as Flu and COVID-19 spread more easily in winter when we spend more time together indoors and can cause serious illness. Vaccination is the best protection for you and those around you. By getting your Flu and COVID-19 vaccines, you are likely to have milder symptoms and recover faster, reducing the risk of ending up in hospital. Find out more and book [www.bromley.gov.uk/health](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/health)



# Homes for

# Ukraine

Supporting our neighbours fleeing from war



- The Ukraine war started on 24 February 2022.
- Since the Homes for Ukraine Scheme launched on 14 March 2022, Bromley has welcomed **1044** Ukrainian guests across **461** residents who have opened their homes.



To find out more about Bromley's Homes For Ukraine Scheme and how you can support those fleeing from war:

Scan the QR code or call our team on 020 8313 4698 or email [ukrainesupport@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:ukrainesupport@bromley.gov.uk)

Councillor Mike Botting signed Bromley's Armed Forces Covenant in his Mayoral year



# Lest we forget

Lest we forget

Remembrance in Bromley goes beyond November through the Council's Armed Forces Covenant

**C**ouncillor Mike Botting is passionate that Bromley continues to honour the commitment of our Armed Forces community. As Bromley's Armed Forces Champion, he and his wife Councillor Kim Botting work tirelessly with the Royal British Legion to recognise the extraordinary contribution of local uniformed services.

"We are excited that Bromley gained a bronze award from the Ministry of Defence for the work we are doing under our Armed Forces Covenant. Now, we are going all out for a silver award," said Cllr Botting.

"One of the things we are looking at is how we get more young people involved to secure the legacy. We are talking to Local Cadet Forces, for example, as these young people are

amazing, turning up at a variety of community events, helping out and gaining vital team and leadership skills. Another initiative gaining momentum is attracting businesses to sign up to support our uniformed forces. We would like interested businesses to get in touch.

"I am also keen to meet as many Bromley service people and veterans as possible. We have a regular hub, kindly hosted by Bromley Football Club, where those from across the armed forces community are welcome to come together at Hayes Lane on the last Friday of every month, to keep in touch over a hot drink and a snack."



## What can I do?

**Volunteer with the British Legion**

**Become a Cadet**

- Ages vary from force to force but for 12-18-year-olds there is camaraderie and experiences that will stand them in good stead for any future career.

**Visit the Veteran Hub**

- Bromley Football Club, Hayes Lane, 11am to 1pm, last Friday of every month, but please check Christmas arrangements.

[www.bromley.gov.uk/ArmedForces](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/ArmedForces)



**Remembrance Sunday** in November saw residents taking part in services in churches and at war memorials across the Borough with many attended by Bromley Councillors, many of whom took an active part in the proceedings.

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





## Spotlight on

# Autism

Bromley's Deputy Mayor is a high achiever and an example to others

“I like the variety,” says Cllr Jonathan Andrews, talking animatedly about his role as Deputy Mayor. “It’s great to get out and represent the Borough, and you really do get to see and be part of such a lot of different things. I attended a birthday party recently for a lovely lady of 103, though youthful beyond her years. I could be visiting a nursery where the passion of staff and families alike shines through, or opening an inclusivity festival – sometimes both on the same day! Usually, you’ll know when you have to say a few words, but sometimes it’s more impromptu.”

### Everyone is different

Considering the pressures of meeting new people as Deputy Mayor, sitting on many

committees (including as a Planning Chairman) and working as a lawyer, it may be surprising to learn Cllr Andrews is on the autistic spectrum, having been diagnosed when a schoolchild in the Borough.

**“I was never raised to feel that it should hold me back,”**

he asserts. “It gives me focus and determination, and being open about it has helped me and hopefully others in a similar situation. People are aware of stereotypes, but the thing to remember is that everyone is different.

Personally, I very much enjoy talking to people and hearing their stories – and you certainly



The Deputy Mayor joining the 15th anniversary celebrations of Friends of South Hill Wood and Kingswood Glen.

get to meet a lot of interesting people, doing great work across the Borough, in this role”.

The Deputy Mayor believes perceptions have changed over the years. “It’s partly generational,” he says. “As identification of autism improved over the nineties and noughties the number of diagnoses increased, and as those individuals – me included – have reached adulthood, this has brought more visibility and awareness to workplaces. I work in law, for example, and there is a lot more visibility now than 10 years ago when I first looked into being a lawyer.

### All-Age Autism Board

“Becoming the Councillor for Darwin Ward made perfect sense as I love the area. It’s where my grandparents have lived for over 50 years, and I’ve grown up with its beautiful green fields and woodland (and even wild deer) on my doorstep - it’s vitally important that we support and preserve that.” Also, as Chairman of the All-Age Autism Board, Cllr Andrews

has collaborated on autism understanding and acceptance and brings his own insight and experiences to the Board.

### “I’d urge others with autism not to be afraid or ashamed of your special interests

– indeed, you may be able to harness these and perhaps even make a living out of them in the right circumstances”, advises Cllr Andrews.

### “Employment rates for those with autism are unfortunately low across the country,

but with the right mindset, support and understanding, there’s a way forward. It’s about encouraging people to have the confidence to pursue their interests, and encouraging employers to see the very real benefits of hiring motivated and focused people who think differently.”

### Singled out for praise

Cllr Jonathan Andrews has been shortlisted for Innovator of the Year in the Local Government Information Unit and asset manager CCLA’s awards for 2024.

The nomination is for going ‘above and beyond’ for residents and for his ‘trailblazing work on autism inclusion and passion for improving educational opportunities for young people’.



### Sensory Differences

The proximity of others and movement especially in crowded places for a person with autism can be overwhelming, as can new places and social situations generally. Learning styles may be different and planning and dealing with unpredictability and changes to routine may be more challenging as well as responding to social cues.



Incorporating Bromley Scope

### Bromley Mencap

offers training for work and on the job experience that builds on skills and confidence and increases the chance of getting a job. They have an Employment Advice Service, a Job Brokerage Service and a Training Centre staffed by experienced and knowledgeable professionals.

**For more information contact Matthew Catchpole, Bromley Mencap, Rutland House, 44 Masons Hill, Bromley BR2 9JG. Telephone 0208 466 0790 [www.bromleymencap.org.uk](http://www.bromleymencap.org.uk)**



**Autism Family Support is available at Bromley Children Project [www.bromley.gov.uk/bromleychildrenproject](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/bromleychildrenproject)**



# Boosted by Start Up Bromley

A Bromley resident's dream came true when his new products hit supermarkets across the country

**L**ocal Entrepreneur Adam Womersley developed his beloved brand, Potina, from a keen desire to find better drinks for children.

"As a father of two, I could see there were plant-based products available but none for children," said Adam. His two plant-based, high fibre milk substitute drinks contain no artificial additives or added sugar and are now available in 400 Tesco stores.

Adam was supported at every stage of the three year development period by Better's Business Start Up team at Bromley Central Library.

**"Now I tell people that the library is not just the place where you borrow books," said Adam.**

"We've got these amazing business resources on our doorstep but not everyone knows about them."

There's plenty on offer at the Library such as the business lounge where Adam hosted meetings and conference calls. He also won the 'Start-Up Pitch' competition, receiving a much-needed £2,000 prize.

**"I found their workshops on how to raise investment and PR and social media really useful."**

"A session on how to condense a complex business plan onto a single sheet was particularly helpful in focussing the mind."

"I've been greatly helped by the Start Up team's mentoring sessions each quarter. Watch this space, there's more to come!" he added.

## Don't start up without Start Up Bromley

If you live in Bromley and want to start your own business, check out what free support is on offer with Start Up Bromley.

- British Library webinars and workshops
- 1-2-1 Support
- Online resources
- Regular events for members
- Business lounges and room hire.

**[www.better.org.uk/library/services/community-support/start-up-business](http://www.better.org.uk/library/services/community-support/start-up-business)**







**FOSTER WITH BROMLEY**

# **WATCH 'EVERYTHING' AND BE INSPIRED TO FOSTER!**

**Start your own fostering journey with  
Bromley Council today!**

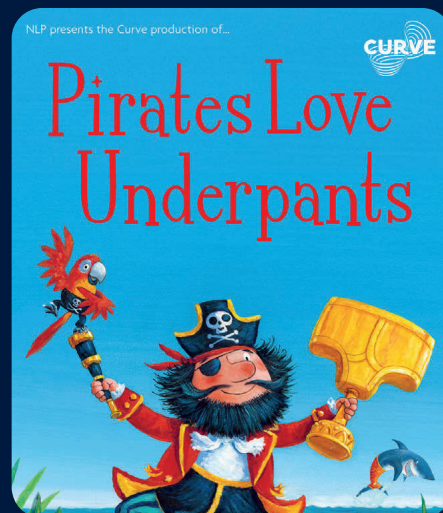
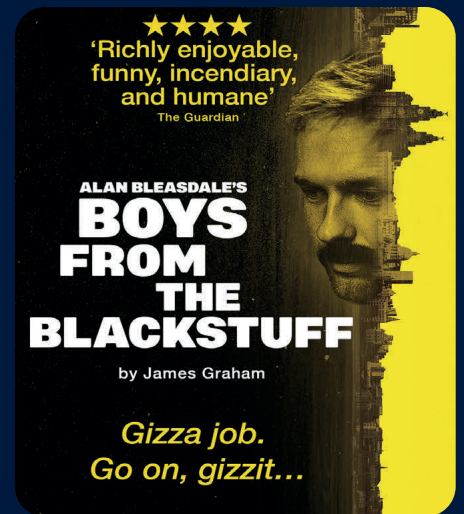
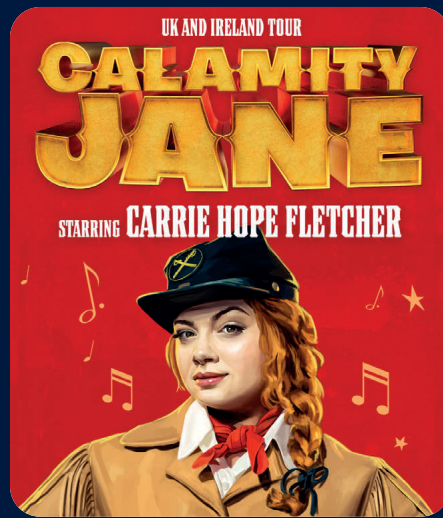
Open your heart and show a child a new start.

Call **020 8461 7701** to contact our friendly fostering team and  
learn more, it is just a chat to start with.

Visit: [www.bromley.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/fostering) to watch short film



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