

Southwark Life

Spring 2023

Cost of Living

The community groups supporting local people

Southwark 2030

Tell us what you want to see in the borough

Keeping Southwark Safe

Meet our community safety wardens



PLUS WIN!
Merchandise from
the new feature
film Rye Lane

Your magazine from Southwark Council

DO YOU HAVE A SPARE ROOM

TO FOSTER A CHILD?



Children in Southwark urgently need foster carers.

0800 952 0707 | southwark.gov.uk/fostering
Support 24/7, training and allowance provided.



 @lb_southwark  facebook.com/southwarkcouncil  @southwarkcouncil

Contents

- 4 Need to know** – all the latest news from around the borough
- 7 New council housing** – our latest on new council homes, plus repair news
- 8 Rye Lane** – taking a look at the new film based in and around Peckham's high street and the local businesses who were involved
- 10 Grow your own** – how you can grow plants and vegetables at home
- 12 Do you accept the challenge?** – can you reduce your household waste to one bag a week?
- 14 Cost of Living support** – supporting local people during the Cost of Living crisis
- 16 Southwark 2030** – what residents would like to see in Southwark in the future
- 18 Council budget** – a look at where our funding comes from and how we are spending it
- 20 Meet the wardens** – our community safety warden team who are helping keep Southwark's streets safer
- 22 Cancer checks** – the importance of cancer screening
- 24 History** – how Southwark has been kept safe throughout the years
- 26 Streets for People** – improving our roads and pavements for pedestrians, cyclists and other non-car users
- 28 What's on** – events, plays, exhibitions and activities around Southwark
- 30 Voter ID** – do you have the right ID to vote at polling stations under new rules?
- 31 Business news** – the latest news and services for local businesses



welcome...



Spring 2023



Hello and welcome to our spring edition of Southwark Life.

It's been a busy month as we launched our new anti-social behaviour taskforce, strengthened our Cost of Living support with new funding in place to help a further 20,000 households through the crisis this coming year, and announced our new one-year targeted pilot to extend free healthy school meals to our secondary schools, to help end child hunger.

We've also been busy with our Southwark 2030 campaign. I've really enjoyed getting out and meeting residents to hear what they would like to see for our borough in the future. Knowing what people want and need allows us to build on the work we are already doing and keep heading in the right direction.

As well as planning for the future we are still managing services now and in this edition we take a look at our budget for the year ahead. With dwindling funding from the Government and increased demand on our services, especially during the Cost of Living crisis, we are having to make some difficult decisions about where we spend money. We've laid out the situation in our Budget feature, but the good news is funding has been found for some exciting new initiatives that will help people across Southwark.

We also have our regular features, some ideas for how you can get gardening in the smallest of outdoor spaces and some tips on how to take up the One Bag Challenge and recycle more.

And in exciting news, Peckham will be welcoming film stars this month as the PeckhamPlex hosts the premiere of new British film Rye Lane, which was filmed in and around Rye Lane and featuring local businesses. Find out more inside.

Cllr Kieron Williams
Leader of Southwark Council



Contact us

Do you have something to say about Southwark Life?
email southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk

Front page photo is one of the new lambs at Surrey Docks Farm. Photo courtesy of Surrey Docks Farm.

The Southwark Life team

Editor Kim Hooper

Contributors Sophie Adams, James Senior, Ella Rogers, Jane Evans, Carlotta Rauch, Clara Fiti, Justin Ashworth, Sarb Atwal, Nabil Ali, Liz Crook, Dr Patricia Dark, Oli Newnam.

Design Whatever Design Ltd

Print brokered by CDS




Printed on 100% recycled paper

Distribution London Letterbox

All information correct at time of going to press

Keep in touch

You can contact the magazine at southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk but for more regular updates on council news and events, follow us on social media at

 facebook.com/southwarkcouncil
 @lb_southwark
 Instagram.com/southwarkcouncil

Need to know...

This year has started with a bang with lots of new projects, activities and initiatives taking place all across the borough. Here are a few of the things that have been happening

For news and events follow us on social media or find out more at [southwark.gov.uk/news](https://www.southwark.gov.uk/news)

 Follow us on Facebook facebook.com/southwarkcouncil

 Follow us on Twitter [@lb_southwark](https://twitter.com/lb_southwark)

 Follow us on Instagram Instagram.com/southwarkcouncil

FixMyStreet app goes live in Southwark

From Thursday 23 March, residents in Southwark will be able to report street and environmental problems like fly-tipping, graffiti and overgrown grass, using FixMyStreet Pro, built specifically for Southwark Council.

FixMyStreet allows residents to report faults using an interactive map, which also displays already reported issues. By putting in your email address, residents can also receive updates on the issues they have reported. To report a street or environment fault, download the FixMyStreet app or go to www.report.southwark.gov.uk



Aged 16–25? Get new job opportunities by email

The council sends a regular e-newsletter with jobs, training, volunteering and other career opportunities for young people. The newsletter details opportunities at Southwark Council as well as opportunities across Southwark and London. Sign up to get the **newsletter** www.southwark.gov.uk/nextstepmailinglist



Local children design new hoardings

Local children in Southwark have been drawing themselves as superheroes for a new art project, located next to Tower Bridge. In a collaboration with Free To Be Kids, Global Street Art and FORE Partnership, the children were asked to draw themselves as 'future heroes' whose mission is to make sure that their community is happy and living in a healthy environment. These drawings have now been transformed into a hopeful and joyous new mural on the hoarding panels around the new office building for TBC.London.

Empty homes loans and grants

We can provide help to bring your empty property back into use. There are many options available at www.southwark.gov.uk/emptyhomes including grants and loans of up to £40,000 and £70,000 respectively, to help with refurbishment or conversion works to long-term empty properties.

For properties in good condition and ready to let, we offer benefits such as guaranteed rent, free management schemes and incentive payments. Please visit www.southwark.gov.uk/housingsupply to see available schemes.

If you are interested in bringing your property back into use, please contact empty.homes@southwark.gov.uk to arrange an appointment. You can also report an empty property online at www.southwark.gov.uk/emptyhomes

Are you a business owner?

For regular updates on business support and advice, funding, training and much more, sign up to our free business e-newsletter at www.southwark.gov.uk/business

Could you volunteer to join our team of digital champions?



We're looking for volunteers to help and support local people access online services and improve their digital skills. You don't need to be a digital expert, but should have a good understanding of digital devices such as phones and computers, and be keen to help others. You will receive certified training and support.

The role is flexible and designed to fit in around your availability. An hour every fortnight is the minimum requirement. Our volunteers are based at a local community digital hub with free internet access.

For more information visit www.southwark.gov.uk/digitalchampions or email digital.inclusion@southwark.gov.uk

A new theatre for Elephant and Castle

A brand new theatre, Southwark Playhouse Elephant, has opened in Elephant and Castle. The purpose-built, 300-seat theatre, delivered as part of the regeneration of Elephant and Castle, sits at the base of the Highpoint/UNCLE building at Newington Butts.

You can read about the Playhouse's upcoming show in our What's On guide on pages 28 and 29.

Find out more at southwarkplayhouse.co.uk

Southwark school scoops top architecture award



Southwark Inclusive Learning Service (SILS) has won two prestigious New London Architecture awards for its new school building, known as SILS3.

SILS3 replaces a 70s children's home that was not fit to be reused as a school. The SILS3 design provides a calm, optimistic and nurturing setting which responds to the individual needs of its students, some of whom experience vulnerabilities that impair their ability to fully engage with education.



Leader visits Marlborough Sports Garden

In January, Cllr Kieron Williams visited Marlborough Sports Garden in Bankside for an afternoon of sport for primary school children. The Garden is a rare, inner city, outdoor space that provides local people with much-needed access to sports, exercise and leisure through free after-school sports activities, community events and low-cost hires for groups.



The Garden, which is run by Bankside Open Spaces Trust (BOST), won a New London Architecture Award, last year, for proposals (designed by architects, Cullinan Studio) to improve the facilities. The scheme will make the site fully accessible, replace temporary infrastructure with permanent solutions and vastly increase the scope of sports and activities the space can offer. More than £1m from Southwark Council's CIL fund is going into the project and BOST is currently seeking funding for the remainder.

Find out more at www.bost.org.uk/marlborough-sports-garden

Southwark shelves get healthy

Southwark's shelves are being stocked with healthier food thanks to local shops joining a pilot supported by the council. The trial included 35 stores in low-income areas in the borough. They now offer 22% more products that are lower in salt, sugar and fat. This equates to between eight and nine new products available per store.

The Good Food Wholesale and Retail project launched in 2019, delivered by Rice Marketing in partnership with the council, Bestway Wholesale, and Impact on Urban Health. The aim is to increase access to healthy, affordable food for all residents. Southwark is the first London council to take an aligned approach between public health and economic development.



New green energy advice centre for Southwark residents

Southwark Council has joined forces with London South Bank University on the new LSBU Energy Advice Centre. The free service is now providing green homes advice and information on things such as home improvements, retrofitting, and grants and funding for green upgrades. It can also give you advice on energy efficiency around the home – such as tips to get more out of your central heating, or guidance on whether you should change to LED lightbulbs.

Get free advice online at www.southwark.gov.uk/green-homes-ad or visit in person by going to the Energy Advice Centre, between 10am to 1pm on Thursdays, at Clarence Centre for Enterprise and Innovation, 126 London Road, Southwark, SE1 OAE.

New fund for employers to hire more apprentices

We have launched a funding scheme to help local employers hire more apprentices and train their staff. The apprenticeship levy is a form of tax paid by large employers. Now the council can transfer up to 25% of their levy funds to employers in Southwark. Employers can access funds to upskill staff or hire a new apprentice. Benefits include:

- 86% of employers have said that apprenticeships helped them develop skills relevant to their organisation
- 78% of employers said apprenticeships helped them improve productivity
- 74% said they helped improve the quality of their product or service
- Successful apprentices often become loyal employees as 90% stay on after their qualification has finished

To find out more about the support we offer to help you take on an apprentice or upskill your workforce, visit www.southwark.gov.uk/apprenticeships



RESIDENTS WELCOMED TO NEW COUNCIL HOMES IN BERMONDSEY

Joyce Newman House in Bermondsey opened its doors to residents at the end of 2022. This new development provides 40 new council homes for local people, made up of 34 flats and six three-bedroom townhouses.

There is also a new playground and a community garden at the heart of Lawson Estate, both of which were designed and planted by local residents.

The development is named after the late Joyce Newman, a prominent figure in the local community who was the Chair of the Lawson Estate Tenants and Residents Association (TRA) for 40 years between 1940 and 1980.

BUILDING MILESTONE ACHIEVED ON 79 NEW COUNCIL HOMES IN CANADA WATER

Building works have reached the roof level at the first council homes site in the Canada Water masterplan redevelopment.

The K1 Roberts Close site in Canada Water will provide 79 new homes in a five and six storey building as well as car parking, bike storage and outside communal areas. Most of the homes will have two or more bedrooms, making them well-suited for families.



HOUSING NEWS

ESTATE ACTION DAYS

We will be doing Estate Action Days to tackle repairs at estates across the borough. Our repairs teams will set up a drop-in service where you can:

- Complete feedback forms on a repair you have experienced and suggest ways we can improve.
 - Report a new repair to us.
 - Chase up an existing repair directly with us.
 - Book a repairs appointment.
 - Speak to our communal repairs officer about any communal repairs
 - Speak to our technical quality officer about damp/mould and any other complex issues.
 - Get to meet some of the repairs team, operatives and some of our trade apprentices.
- There will be a team of operatives on site ready to carry out any small repairs on the day. If you have a job we can't do on the day, we will book another appointment on the day and follow this up with you.
- Our new Damp and Mould team will also be there to do out damp and mould assessments, treatments and answer any questions you may have.
- The timetable for our estate visits is below – we look forward to seeing you soon.

Event date	Estate	Area	Cllrs
Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 March	Rockingham Estate	Chaucer	Cllrs Helen Dennis, Laura Johnson, Joseph Vambe
Wednesday 29 March	Four Squares Estate and Marden SHU	North Bermondsey	Cllr Rachel Bentley, Cllr Hamish McCallum, Cllr Emily Tester
Wednesday 5 April	Downtown Estate	Surrey Docks	Cllr Adam Hood, Cllr Nick Johnson, Jane Salmon
Thursday 13 April	Brimmington Estate	Old Kent Road	Evelyn Akoto, Richard Livingstone, Michael Situ
Friday 21 April	Cossall Estate inc Cossall Walk SHU	Nunhead and Queens Road	Cllr Gavin Edwards, Cllr Reginald Popoola, Cllr Sandra Rhule
Thursday 27 April	Bells Gardens Estate	Peckham	Cllr Leona Sabina Emmanuel, Cllr Barrie Hargrove, Cllr Cleo Soanes
Thursday 4 May	Park Street Estate	Borough and Bankside	Cllr Victor Chamberlain, Cllr Irina von Wiese, Cllr David Watson

DAMP AND MOULD

If you are a Southwark Council tenant with damp or mould in your home, you can get in contact with us by emailing dampandmould@southwark.gov.uk or calling us on 020 7525 2600 and choosing option one and then option five.



Lights, camera, Peckham!

Peckham's Rye Lane is the background and inspiration for a new British rom-com out in cinemas this March.

TV and film fans have been spotting Southwark locations in their favourite programmes and films for years, but this year one Southwark address is placed centre stage.

New British rom-com, *Rye Lane*, will be out in cinemas this spring. Filmed largely in and around the famous Peckham street, the film features a number of local businesses as key locations.

Craig Jamieson is the owner of Peckham Soul, one of the Rye Lane shops that is featured as a location in the film. He said: "The film shows a real Peckham, in all its gritty humour, diversity and vibrancy. It also shows the importance of music to the people of South East London, and it's this relationship between music and diversity that has been fundamental to its unique creative energy. And a film that puts A Tribe Called Quest as one of its main stars - who wouldn't feel it an honour and a privilege to take part in that."

Included in the film, and also the venue for the film's UK premiere, was the Peckhamplex cinema. Speaking just before the premiere, chairman John Reiss said: "The filmmakers approached Peckhamplex during lockdown when planning the shoot of *Rye Lane*. We have remained in touch ever since and hosted their cast and crew screening with us in December 2022. Of course we had always suggested they held the UK premiere at Peckhamplex. Where else in the universe would be more appropriate?"

"We were pleased that the film's distributors Disney/Searchlight agreed to our request for an allocation of tickets for the local community and our regular customers. Demand has been huge and we are having to decline a lot of requests. The film will be screening from Friday 17 March so those disappointed can come and see it then and spot their favourite locations.

"The Directors of Peckhamplex are as excited about this film premiere as they are about all the extensive involvements they have with the local community and arts scene."

Rye Lane

Rye Lane is a romantic comedy starring Vivian Oparah (*Class*, *The Rebel*) and David Jonsson (*Industry*, *Deep State*), as Yas and Dom, two twenty-somethings, both reeling from bad break-ups, who connect over the course of an eventful day in South London - helping each other deal with their nightmare exes, and potentially restoring their faith in romance.

Searchlight Pictures will release the film in cinemas on Friday 17 March.



Peckham Soul, photo by @benrowephotos

Peckham Soul can be found in the Bussey Building, 133 Rye Lane, SE15 4ST. Visit www.peckhamsoul.co.uk for more information.

Cast and crew

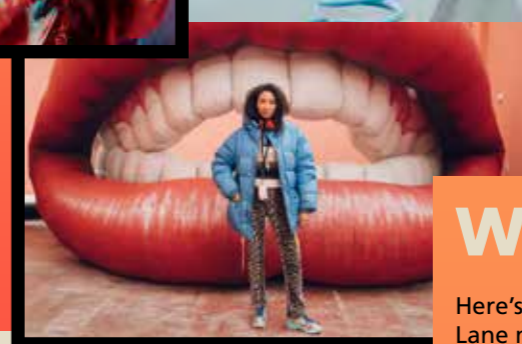
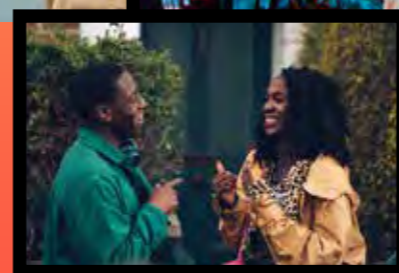
Rye Lane marks Raine Allen-Miller's feature directorial debut. "I don't want to put the film solely in a rom-com box," she said. "It's a film that spends time with two people who you just love immediately. Yes it's funny, and yes it's romantic, but it exists as much more than that."

Allen-Miller also felt the main character's background was essential to the authenticity of the film. "It was originally written to be set in Camden. I'm from Manchester but I moved to South London when I was 12. It's an important part of London for me, but it's just an important place in general - the history of it, its identity, the multicultural influences. Growing up there, going to Nour Cash & Carry with my Gran to get seasoning did so much for me and I really wanted to showcase it in a different way."

The film begins with the spotlight on Dom (Jonsson), who is reeling from a breakup with his long-term partner. "Dom is struggling with what he wants to say, how he wants to say it, and what's going through his head," said Jonsson, "and that works because Yas knows how to pull stuff out of him."

Crying in the toilets at his friend's exhibition is a low point, but things begin to look brighter for him when he meets Yas, whom Dom doesn't know has overheard his breakdown.

"Yas is this fireball, she's just crazy," explains Oparah. "I love her and she deserves to be loved because she's so cool but also so in need of love. It's so easy to assume that people who are outwardly fine, are fine - but sometimes they're not really, and I liked that about her character."



WIN

Here's your chance to win a Rye Lane merchandise bundle including headphones and a hoodie.

To enter just email your answer to the following question, along with your name, address and contact number to southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk (subject Rye Lane Comp)

Q. Director Raine Allen-Miller changed the film's setting to Rye Lane but which part of London was the film originally going to be set in?

Your email should arrive no later than 5pm on Friday 7 April. All correct answers will be entered into a prize draw and one winner will be picked at random.

Southwark Council will not share entrants' details with any other organisation but the winner's address will be shared with the production company so they can send the prize bundle.





How to get started

It's a common myth that you need a big garden to grow your own food. Windowsills, balconies or containers outside your front door can all be good spots for growing. This could be at home, at work or at school.

Ruth Arnott is the council's community gardening coordinator. Here are her top tips for growing food in whatever space you have:

- Start with easy fast-growing crops to build confidence. Mixed salad leaves, radishes and pea shoots are all great in a small space, and can take 4 to 6 weeks from sowing to eating.
- Use any vertical space you have in a balcony or small garden – walls absorb heat and are great for plants to grow up like cucumbers, tomatoes, sugar snap peas, and green beans.
- Reduce waste and save money by reusing yogurt pots and plastic tubs for seed sowing. Remember to make drainage holes!
- Wormeries can fit into small space gardens and are a great way to make some of your own compost from your food waste.
- Herbs are easy, low maintenance plants you can eat which are also great for bees, butterflies and moths. Oregano, thyme and mint are hardy and evergreen so look good all year round.
- Hanging baskets are good space savers. Leafy greens, strawberries, some types of tomatoes and herbs all do well in hanging baskets.
- Grow new plants from an existing one by learning to take cuttings. It means free plants forever. Watch 'how to' guides on YouTube or visit your local community garden.
- Mix up flowers, fruit and veggies to attract pollinators and put off pests. This is known as companion planting. Examples include; tomatoes and marigolds, basil and peppers, nasturtiums and beans.



Your invite to get outside and start growing

Spring is the beginning of the new growing season. Everyone can get involved, no matter where you live.

Taye Tsega is Head of Food Growing at Urban Growth. He said: "Growing your own food brings many health benefits for the body, mind and soul. Many people find it helps them relax. It's also a fantastic way to meet people. There's a strong social side to community food growing plots and gardening clubs.



"Food growing can save you money by growing vegetables that are expensive to buy or that you can't easily find in the shops. It also cuts down your carbon footprint. Air pollution and carbon emissions are reduced as planes, ships, trucks and cars are not used to transport own-grown food from source to market.

"At Urban Growth, we help people reconnect to nature. We run workshops on how to create and maintain green spaces in communities across London. Among other things, we teach people how to grow vegetables in a way that is good for the environment. It's a joy to see people enjoying the outdoors, learning to grow, and coming away feeling refreshed!"

Urban Growth work with the council to deliver food growing sessions to groups on Southwark estates. If you'd like to get involved in a food-growing plot, search the Southwark map of community gardens and allotments at www.goodtogrowuk.org/map/southwark/

Give biodiversity a boost

Jon Best is the council's ecology officer. His job is to protect the nature and wildlife in over 130 parks and green spaces across Southwark. He looks at what we do as humans and how this can impact wildlife, plants, and their environment.

What are the most common birds found in Southwark's gardens and parks? What are some ways we can support them?

Our most common birds include blackbirds, blue-tits, robins, starlings, crows, collared doves and magpies. Southwark is also home to plenty of parakeets! You can support them by planting bushes and trees that provide seeds and fruits, such as hawthorn, rowan and guelder rose. Leaving a patch of uncut grass helps chicks to grow as they rely on eating the insects that live in the grass.

What can you do to encourage more wildlife?

All wildlife needs a helping hand. The key is providing habitat. This is the natural home for wildlife that has all they need to survive like food and shelter. A garden pond is one of the best ways you can help wildlife. But there are also plenty of small everyday things you can do. You can help by putting up boxes for bats and birds, and feeders in trees, such as fat balls. Create a compost heap and leave dead wood in your garden for beetles and other insects. Make sure there small gaps around your boundary to allow hedgehogs and other animals to move around. Choose the best plants for pollinators in your garden, balcony or windowsill. Bees, butterflies and moths love coneflower and honeysuckle.



For more ways to get involved in gardening and growing in Southwark, including allotments, visit www.southwark.gov.uk/parks-and-open-spaces/gardening-growing-and-conservation



Let's talk less rubbish



Are you up for the challenge?

For more information on how to reduce your waste to just one bag a week, check out some handy hints and tips by visiting southwark.gov.uk/one-bag-a-week



Can you reduce your household's rubbish to just one bag a week?

During summer 2022, people living on four Southwark estates cut their black bin bag waste to just one bag a week. The experiment was run by Veolia, our waste management contractor, and they reported an eight per cent reduction in rubbish and a 12 per cent increase in recycling, from the estates involved.

Around two thirds of the rubbish that goes into the average household bin in Southwark is recyclable. If everyone in Southwark recycled the right way, the impact on the environment would be the same as taking around 3,200 cars off the road.

By doing something as simple as putting recyclable items in the right bin, you are reducing your waste. This helps to protect the planet, but it can also save money. In Southwark, up to half of the waste collected in the rubbish is food. By planning your meals and freezing leftovers, you could save up to £60 a month.

Processing rubbish also costs us six times as much as recycling. This is money that could be better spent on much needed services, like social care or maintaining our council homes.



Meet Kryisia

Kryisia has lived in Southwark for more than 20 years. She took part in the One Bag a week trial and told us how she manages to reduce her waste.

Q: What's one piece of advice for people who want to waste less and recycle more?

K: "I try to be careful when I'm choosing fruit and veg, if there's loose things I'll pick that over packaged things. I do a lot of batch cooking now, which is really good because it saves money but also it's making sure there's not a lot of food that's going into the bin at the end of the week. I always freeze a few portions, so you have your very own ready meals at home, which is really good."

Q: Sometimes it can be hard to change our daily habits, especially when we're so busy. What's been the most difficult part of this challenge?

K: Sometimes convenience wins, and it's about having the recycling bin in your house as easy to get to as possible. We've got one bag in our living area, which is in a really convenient spot. I think it means there's just zero excuse and doesn't put barriers in the way.

Q: In what other areas of your life do you try to live more sustainably?

K: I try to buy local and have started to grow my own herbs, salad and vegetables. This is definitely a work in progress! I am also eating a lot less meat and batch cooking has helped reduce food waste and frees up time in the week for my hobbies.

Recycling tips

Here are some tips to help you become a top recycler:

- Make sure everyone in your household knows all of the items that can be recycled in Southwark.
- Put recyclables into bins, boxes or recycling bags loose. Never put recyclables into black bags as this will mean they are treated as rubbish.
- Make sure you rinse out your bottles and jars before you recycle them – it will help keep your bin smelling fresh!
- Perhaps you've already got an extra bin in your kitchen to collect recycling but what about the bathroom? All those plastic bottles for shampoo, conditioner and shower gel sometimes get forgotten.
- If you have a brown bin collection service, make sure you are making full use of it by including all your food waste.
- You can recycle plastic shopping bags at most supermarkets, so take yours down to give them a new lease of life.
- Make use of the borough's network of recycling banks for small electrical items and help keep old appliances such as hair dryers, toasters, mobile phones or irons out of landfill.
- Dispose of large bulky items such as fridges, mattresses and old furniture responsibly. Make use of our bulky waste service and items will be collected from your door and recycled wherever possible.
- Batteries can be easily recycled so keep an eye out for collection points in shops, workplaces, schools and libraries. Buy rechargeable batteries that you can use again and again – saving money!

COMMUNITIES TACKLING COST OF LIVING CRISIS



COMMUNITIES TACKLING COST OF LIVING CRISIS



We know it has been a tough winter for many people and that living costs remain high.

By the end of spring this year, Southwark Council will have distributed over £30million of local and national support, one of the biggest support packages in the country. This includes direct payments to residents in need through our Cost of Living Fund last autumn and winter.

The council is just one of the many organisations in the borough that has been providing support during this crisis. Our amazing schools and community organisations continue to go above and beyond to help Southwark residents. As part of our Cost of Living package we have been funding a number of local organisations who are supporting local people.



PECAN

Pecan is a charity based in Peckham. It was one of the largest referrers to the Southwark Cost of Living Fund, making over 4,000 referrals.

Pecan runs the Southwark Foodbank. Over the past year they have seen a 20 per cent increase in referrals. Since 2019, Pecan has also operated Peckham Pantry, a membership scheme where you pay £4.50 a week and can take home fresh fruit, vegetables and cupboard favourites. Use of the Pantry has also increased, and they are now seeing over 50 people a day use the service.

Together is Pecan's community hub in Peckham. People can come for a hot drink and chat in a warm space on Mondays and Tuesdays between 1pm and 3pm. They also run employment support sessions and community discussion groups. Finally, Pecan runs the Southwark Women's Hub, which helps women seeking support. There is particular support available for women affected by the criminal justice system.

You can get in touch with Pecan to find out more about their services – or to volunteer with them – online at www.pecan.org.uk or call 0207 732 0007.

SURREY SQUARE SCHOOL



Surrey Square has been doing wellbeing surveys to hear what their families need. From these, they are able to provide support including referrals for mental health support and foodbanks.

They have been a referral partner to Southwark's Cost of Living Fund, but also partnered with Impact on Urban Health to provide fuel vouchers through the Old Kent Road Family Zone for those who need them.

In addition, Surrey Square works in partnership with a lot of local organisations. They refer families for help with immigration issues, link parents up with employment support and help them access ESOL classes. They also work with organisations to deliver advice sessions at the school on issues like housing.

As well as providing Universal Healthy Free School Meals, which are available to all primary school children in Southwark, Surrey Square run a breakfast club in partnership with Magic Breakfast. Finally, Surrey Square runs a monthly 'Community Corner Marketplace' for local families on the last Saturday every month. Here food is served and families can take part in free sports and art activities, as well as a clothes swap.

Find out more at surreysquareprimary.co.uk

TIME & TALENTS

Time & Talents is a local community organisation offering activities for residents in Rotherhithe and Bermondsey.

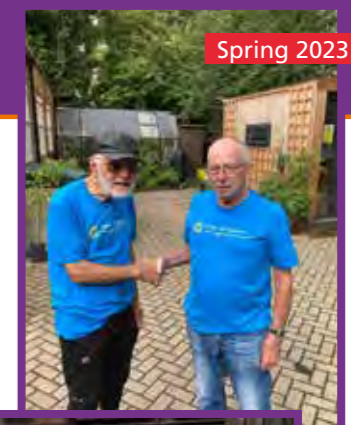
This winter, they joined efforts with the council to encourage older people to claim pension credit, making them eligible for more money to help with living costs.

Meanwhile, their warm space runs twice a week on Mondays between 10.30am and 12.30pm and Wednesdays between 1pm and 3pm. Hot drinks, lunch and games are available and scarves, hats and slipper socks are free to take away as needed. Advice and support is also available. At times they are seeing over 100 people per session seeking help. Staff and volunteers have already made more than 1,800 referrals to the Southwark Cost of Living Fund as well as signposting to other forms of support.

Alongside other partners of the Consortium of Older People's Services in Southwark (COPSINS), they have distributed 'winter warm bags' to vulnerable older residents unable to access warm spaces due to limited mobility.

Time & Talents also runs a holiday activity and food club for primary-aged children during the school holidays. Last year they distributed over 400 meal packs for children to take home to families.

You can find their full programme of activities and volunteering opportunities at www.timeandtalents.org.uk or contact by phone 020 7231 7845.



HERE TO HELP

SUPPORTING YOU THROUGH THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS

You can find details of all the cost of living support available in Southwark on our Here to Help web pages at www.southwark.gov.uk/here-to-help

ENERGY BILLS:

Southwark Energy Savers can advise you how to keep your bills low and help you see if you could get more help to pay your bills. Go to www.southwark.gov.uk/energy-savers or call 080 8278 7849.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT:

You can make sure you are getting all the benefits you are entitled to by checking online www.gov.uk/check-benefits-financial-support. Call the council's local support team on 020 7525 2434 if you are vulnerable and facing severe financial difficulties.

FOOD:

If you don't have enough food to feed yourself or your family, there are many organisations that can help. Go to www.southwark.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/cost-of-living-support/food-banks-food-pantries-and-other-food-help or call Southwark Foodbank on 020 7732 0007.

COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT:

Check whether you can get a Council Tax reduction and apply online or over the phone. Visit www.southwark.gov.uk/benefits-and-support



What will Southwark be like in 2030?

Residents have been getting involved in Southwark 2030 and sharing their vision for what they want our borough to look and feel like.

Talking and listening to residents is important to us. Southwark 2030 isn't the first time we've spoken with residents about Southwark. In fact, over the last five years, we've had over 75,000 responses on our consultation portal and you've told us lots of important things.

- You told us that tackling inequalities matters to you. We know that average income levels are very different across the borough. That's why we are creating apprenticeships and training opportunities so local people can take up exciting careers close to home.

- You told us that building more safe and affordable homes matters to you. We know there are over 17,500 people on our housing waiting list. That's why we currently have 2,000 new council homes under construction.
- You told us you want us to work together to tackle the climate emergency. That's why we've already halved the council's own emissions, planted over 17,000 new trees and we have an ambition for the borough to be net zero by 2030.

Across these themes, and others that matter to you, Southwark 2030 is now looking at what needs to happen to make Southwark the place we all want it to be by 2030.



What's happened so far?

Southwark 2030 builds on previous conversations with residents, and aims to shape the future of our borough. People from all parts of our community came together to talk about the place we all want Southwark to be by 2030. Over 1,000 people joined in-person and online conversations to share their ideas, completed our online survey or joined a listening event.

Janet

"My name is Janet and I live in Herne Hill and have lived there for 35 years. My vision for Southwark in 2030 would be an area where public transport is good and cars are not needed as much because we all live in integrated neighbourhoods where everything you need is within 15 minutes of where you live."



Israel

"My name is Israel and I work in Southwark. I've been working in Southwark for the last 6 months. My vision for Southwark 2030 is for the area to be more pedestrianised so there's fewer cars on the road, which reduces air pollution and also makes people healthier."



Tasha

"My name is Tasha and I live in Elephant and Castle. My vision for Southwark in 2030 is being an urban village where people are able to play and get together as a community, adults and children alike. This will allow us to integrate well."



What have people been saying?

So many interesting ideas about what Southwark could be like in 2030 have been shared. People talked about how we can work together to deliver in these areas and also about what's already being done. Some themes that emerged included:

1) Green spaces

- ✓ Lots of residents have been telling us about the importance of having green spaces in the borough. We have been working with residents on our estates to introduce gardening spaces and we have already made significant investment in our parks and open spaces while our new Southwark Plan will designate 22 new sites of importance for nature conservation and the equivalent of over 16 full-sized football fields of protected open space.

2) A borough that cares

- ✓ Another theme that came through the events was supporting more vulnerable people in our communities. The council supports children and young people to thrive with guaranteed mental health support when they need it and we also support older people with the care they need through new residential and home care support.

3) A good place to live

- ✓ Southwark is a place people want to live in and we are working to make it even better. We are keeping our communities safe with our anti-social behaviour task force, improved lighting and other improvements that make people feel safer. We are addressing misogyny and violence against women and girls, youth violence and hate crime. We also continue to celebrate the diversity and heritage of our borough, supporting community-led, expanding our library services and supporting new community facilities.

Across all these themes, and others, we know there is much to do. It was fantastic to talk with residents and partners about how we can work together to make Southwark the place we all want it to be by 2030.

What's next?

Once the engagement phase is finished we will be analysing all the comments and feedback we've received. We'll share the findings and next steps for the council, partners and communities in the spring. Watch this space for details of our Southwark 2030 conference this summer!

Get in touch!

We want to hear from as many local people as possible, and it's not too late to have your say about the future of Southwark.

There are a few local Conversations being held at Multi-ward Forums that you can join, you can still run your own listening exercise with neighbours, colleagues or friends, or you can complete the online survey by Friday 31 March to make sure your views are included. All the information you need is at southwark.gov.uk/southwark2030



Council budget

We are working hard to make each pound that the council spends on your behalf go further

Everyone knows that council budgets have shrunk in recent years. However, by spending money wisely we have continued to improve local services. Around 98% of our schools are rated Good or Outstanding. Our parks have been rated the best managed in London. We have created more apprenticeships than any other London council. We have opened a new high quality nursing home in Camberwell and we are building a new leisure centre at Canada Water, plus thousands of new council homes. In April we launched our new antisocial behaviour taskforce to tackle crime hot spots. In December we agreed a new Thriving High Streets Fund to invest in our local town centres, and in May we hit our target to halve the council's carbon emissions.

We have invested in all of these things because local residents have told us they are important and we have done this whilst protecting services for vulnerable residents.

Since 2010, Southwark has faced unprecedented cuts from central Government so we have had to make tough choices on funding for non-essential services.

Because of the cost of living crisis, the Government has given councils the power to charge a social care precept and to raise the cap on council tax. This will raise around £2.62m and so while it won't fill the gap, it will help lessen the impact on services for some of our most vulnerable residents.

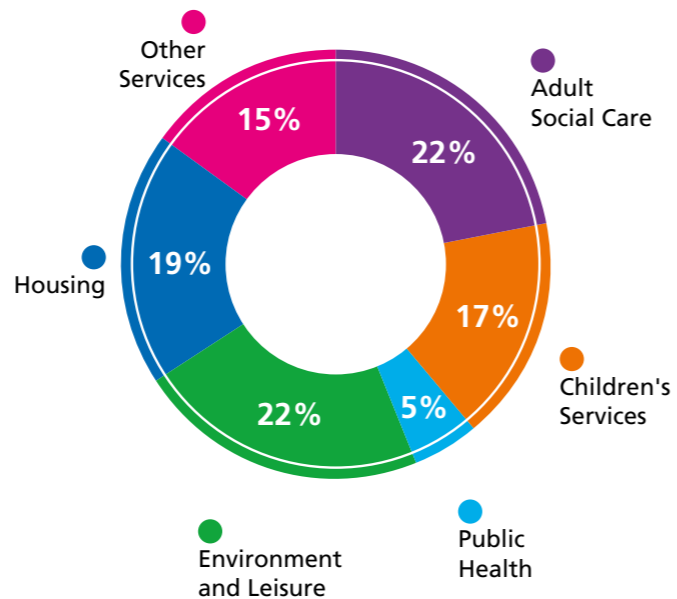
As a result of inflation, and like other councils across London, the council has had to make the difficult decision to raise council tax this year by 4.99 percent. This will mean an average increase of £1.15 a week for residents in band D properties.

Around two fifths of this increase will be used to improve social care for older people. The other three fifths will be used to provide support to residents hardest hit by the cost of living crisis.

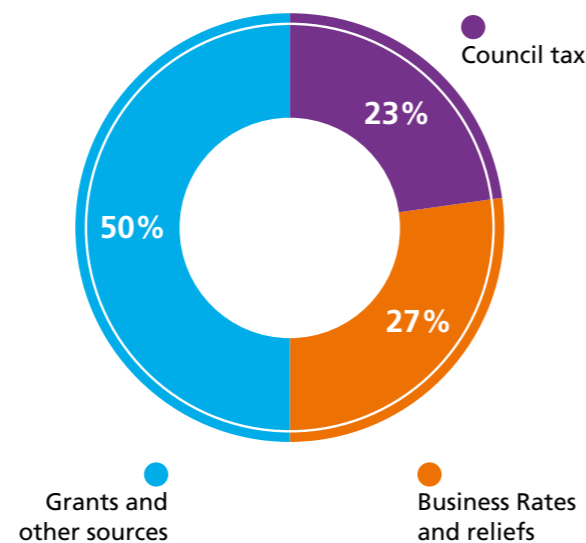
Despite the increase in council tax, Southwark will continue to have one of the lowest council tax rates in London.

We have done all that we can to support those struggling, allocating payments to look after those who are in desperate financial situations, sometimes having to choose between eating, staying warm, or paying for the roof over their heads. We have opened Warm Spaces, funded the Citizens Advice Bureau to offer bespoke advice on bills and money, and made sure that residents can contact us if they are struggling. Find out more about this support at www.southwark.gov.uk/here-to-help

How does Southwark Council spend its budget?



Where do Southwark Council's resources come from?



What will the impact be?

Council tax will increase by

4.99%

(Even with this increase, Southwark has the 8th lowest council tax in London)

Residents in band A-C, that's over 55% of people, will see a rise of less than

£1.03 a week

The council tax reduction scheme will continue to ensure that

8,000

eligible pensioners will continue to receive **100% relief**

16,000

residents continuing to receive support through the local council tax reduction scheme (CTRS) will receive **relief of up to 85% off their bill**

Additional support with council tax bills for **pensioners and working-age households** who receive a council tax reduction so they won't face an increase in their bills, in April, this year.

We will continue to exempt foster carers from council tax and for the first time we will extend this to our **young care leavers**

Despite the pressures on our budgets the council will continue to support residents throughout the cost of living crisis.

Extending the cost of living fund to support an additional

20,000

households, those hardest hit by the cost of living crisis. By the end of spring we will have delivered over

£30 million

of support for those in greatest need through our Southwark Cost of Living Fund including helping over

11,000

residents on low incomes.

Investing

£80 million

a year on adult social care enabling our most vulnerable residents and people with care needs and their carer to live healthy, independent and fulfilling lives in their communities and committing to deliver top quality care as outlined in Southwark's Residential Care Charter.

Investing

£12 million

in our communities, prioritising community safety, including a special **£200,000** fund for making our streets safer for women and girls.

Use a

£2 million

investment to create fairer, greener, safer streets, as part of our commitment to tackle the climate emergency, including through our Streets for People Programme. We are also building a new leisure centre at Canada Water and will soon open the Una Marson Library on the Aylesbury Estate.



Keeping Southwark Safe

Our team of community wardens is out and about daily to help keep people safe on the streets and in their homes.

There is something reassuring about knowing there is someone on hand to support you if you are scared or concerned about something. People might reminisce about the time there used to be a policeman on every corner, but that reassuring presence is still there today – just in a slightly different uniform.

Southwark Council's Community Wardens and Park Liaison Officers provide a uniformed patrol presence on the borough's estates, streets, town centres, parks and open spaces, talking to residents and addressing concerns of crime, anti-social behaviour and environmental crime.

They have also been on the front line during some of the borough's most recent crises including reassurance patrols around London Bridge following the terror attack in 2017, providing essential support to particularly vulnerable residents during the COVID-19 lockdowns and entertaining and supporting the crowds queuing through the borough to pay their final respects to HM the Queen.

In April 2022, the former Community Warden Service was reshaped to form the new Community Warden Taskforce. Around £2 million is being invested in the council's community safety service over four years to bolster front-line service provision through community wardens and CCTV operators to tackle crime and Anti-social Behaviour.

New wardens have been recruited to expand the team, supported by a further investment into the CCTV service, including new cameras and two new CCTV operators.

Did you know? Community Warden jobs include:

- Making witness statements for court prosecution
- Reporting incidents of hate crime
- Community reassurance and engagement
- Crime prevention, including bike marking and maintenance sessions and talking to students about safety
- Enforcement for things like dog fouling, littering and ASB
- Supporting street sleepers
- First Aid/on street triage
- Counter Terrorism – watching out for any signs of potential issues

Meet Miguel and Amy

Miguel has been with the wardens' team for four years and can often be seen out and about in the Peckham area.

"I love to be out and about, talking with the public and working in such a diverse community. It can be a difficult job but we get a lot of support and I love knowing that every day is different."

Miguel has even been called into action at times he wasn't officially working; such as during a road accident in Borough.

"I just happened to be passing and I like to jump in and be able to use my training. Every incident is different but I just see where I am needed and say 'where can I help?'"

Amy is a relatively new starter with the team having joined towards the end of 2022. However, having grown up in and around Peckham Rye and East Dulwich, she is keen to get to work helping the community.

"I love meeting new people and it can be a nice chilled job, but every day is different. We work closely with police and on my first day I was helping the police follow someone who had an arrest warrant out on him.

"But it's not all about enforcement. Our main role is directing people to the right support. Engaging with people and educating them. Sometimes people think we are traffic wardens, and we do have some enforcement powers, but we're mainly here to help. We want to help create a nice community vibe."



Your local police team



Safer Neighbourhoods teams (SNTs) were set up by the Metropolitan Police in 2004. The police and partner agencies like Southwark Council, work together with local communities to identify and tackle issues of concern such as anti-social behaviour, graffiti and other issues that can negatively impact on people's lives.

These priority issues are selected every three months by a panel of residents on each ward who represent the local community.

Each of Southwark's 23 wards has its own SNT made up of 2 police constables and 1 PCSO, supervised by a specific sergeant. They work a 7 day shift pattern, including evenings, but please note that they are not on duty 24 hours a day.

If you have an emergency please report it by calling 999 or 101 as usual.

You can identify and contact your local SNT by putting your address in the "Find your area" box on the MET website at <https://www.met.police.uk/>



Check it out

We focus on the importance of cancer screening and awareness.



Getting checked

We have screening programmes for bowel, cervical and breast cancer in the UK. If you're invited it's important to take up your appointment. Both the bowel and cervical screening can spot signs of cancer before it starts. Make sure you're registered with a GP so you get invited.

In Southwark:

- Bowel cancer screening is offered every two years, if you're aged 56 to 74
- Cervical screening is offered to women and people with a cervix aged 25 to 64 every three to five years (depending on age)
- Breast cancer screening is offered every three years to women aged 50 to 70, and is available for some trans men and some non-binary people (talk to your GP or gender identity clinic about this).

In parts of Southwark, there is also a lung health check programme. Where available, it's offered to people aged 55 to 74, registered as current or former smoker with a GP. Even if you feel fine, you should go. Find out more at www.southwark.gov.uk/cancer

Better to be safe

Patricia Cuenca, Community Health Ambassador: "I work mainly with people of Latin backgrounds and older ages in Southwark. It's important to talk about screening and cancer in Spanish, and possibly in other languages for other communities, so people of different backgrounds can understand better.

"It is important to tell people about cancer screening which is vital in identifying the possibility of cancer. Screening helps early detection. It is also important to talk about having a healthy lifestyle, a balanced diet and daily exercise. If we notice anything unusual in our bodies, such as a lump, it is important to go and see a doctor. It is better to be safe."



Support your community's health and wellbeing

To join our team of over 130 health ambassadors, like Patricia, go to www.healthwatchesouthwark.org, email isabella@healthwatchesouthwark.org or call 07599 653 484.

Do you know how to reduce your risk of cancer?

Cancer Research UK's awareness roadshow returns to East Street Market, SE17. You can drop by between 10am and 4pm, from 11 April to 13 April or 12 September to 14 September.

Get a free BMI test, and grab a chat with a friendly cancer awareness nurse about how small health changes can reduce your cancer risk. Spotting cancer early can make a real difference. Find out more at cruk.org/roadshow



Reduce your risk of falls

Falls aren't inevitable. If you're worried about falling then you may benefit from exercises to improve your strength, balance and confidence when walking. Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust offer a variety of exercise programmes that could help you. To find out which class would suit you best call 020 3049 5424 or go to bit.ly/strengthandbalanceclasses for more information.

Get more advice about mobility at southwark.gov.uk/help-with-mobility



Health tips

Protect your child from serious illness

It's really important to make sure your child is up to date with their polio vaccine. To be fully vaccinated children need five vaccinations at:

- 8, 12 and 16 weeks old as part of the 6-in-1 vaccine
- 3 years, 4 months old as part of the 4-in-1 pre-school booster
- 14 years old as part of the 3-in-1 teenage booster.

Find out more at: www.nhs.uk/polio

The number of children vaccinated against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) in Southwark is below the national average. In Southwark we recommend vaccinating children at one year, and again at 18 months old (earlier than the national advice). This is to give your child maximum protection against MMR at an earlier age, as there have been measles outbreaks in Southwark in the past.

Find out more at www.southwark.gov.uk/mmr



Get a free, four-minute health check at a local library

If you're over 18 you can check and monitor some key health measurements at local health kiosks until 1 April 2023. These include blood pressure, body mass index (BMI), mental health/stress levels, alcohol and smoking status. The self-service kiosks are at some libraries in the borough and at The Castle Leisure Centre, SE1. You don't need to book. Visit www.selondonics.org/how-healthy-are-you-free-health-check-kiosks-in-southwark

COVID-19 vaccines

Spring COVID-19 booster vaccines are available from 17 April. You're eligible if you are 75 years and over, a resident in a care home for older adults, or aged five years and over and are immunosuppressed. The NHS will contact you about getting your vaccine. Remember it's not too late to get a first or second vaccine. Call 119 or go to www.southwark.gov.uk/covidvaccine



Always safety first

Ensuring the safety of local residents has been a critical function of local councils for centuries.



The earliest local government bodies, the ten civil parishes, had the responsibility for paving and lighting local streets. Riverside parishes were also responsible for the rescue, retrieval, and identification of drowning casualties in the Thames.

Parish constables were perhaps the most safety-oriented parish officials. Like modern police officers, they were responsible for preventing crime in the local area, catching petty criminals and confining those due in court. But they were also responsible for their parish's stocks and pillory – restraint devices used to punish minor offences and anti-social behaviour via public humiliation – making them close to modern magistrates.

The creation of the metropolitan boroughs in 1900 split safety responsibilities among different teams of council officers. Public health departments protected the safety of local food supplies – a massive responsibility in the

area known as London's Larder. Their powers allowed them to inspect premises that stored, prepared, processed and sold food products, and to confiscate and divert or destroy items unfit for human consumption. The 1917 Medical Officer of Health report for Bermondsey notes that 13 percent of the food tested was adulterated – nearly twice as much as in 1915 – and nearly 300 tons of food was destroyed as unfit, with more being diverted for animal feed or other industrial uses. This improved with advances to technology.

Public health officials also took the lead on giving advice on safety in the home. Much of the advice from the 1950s and 1960s is familiar to us decades later: don't smoke in bed, don't overload electrical sockets, make sure floors are clear of trip hazards like loose cords or toys, turn pot and pan handles inward, keep medicines out of children's reach.

River safety was a key consideration for the Thames side metropolitan borough of Bermondsey. Press

cuttings in the archives note drowning fatalities there as early as the 1730s. By the late 1940s, after a spate of child drownings at the Tower Bridge beach, Bermondsey Council took action, including checks of riverside gates, new gates at the beach, testing the quality of river water and safety talks at the Trocette cinema's junior club. Eventually, the council decided that the Thames was too dirty to swim in safely, and that children's safety came before traditional free access to the river. The Road Safety Committee poster campaign that followed – whose tagline was "Would you swim in a sewer?" – drew protests from the City of Westminster and the London County Council.

But perhaps the most interesting of these is Bermondsey's road safety campaign. In the late 1940s and early 1950s, the metropolitan borough of Bermondsey had some of the nation's heaviest traffic. To make matters worse, much of this traffic was heavy goods vehicles carrying cargo to and from the wharves and warehouses that lined the river from London Bridge eastward.

The council started fighting back against road deaths shortly after the Second World War. The "Code of the Road" exhibition that ran for a week in early November 1949 featured Robert the Robot and interactive displays aimed at all ages. In 1952, it released a 50-page road safety guide to residents, timed to coincide with the Festival of Britain.

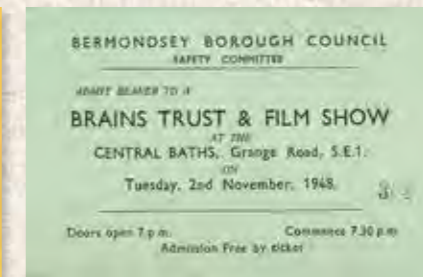


Bermondsey was keen to maximise the benefit of their safety work by targeting campaigns and taking advice from other local authorities all over the world. As early as 1952, some road safety signs were in Norwegian, to ensure their message was communicated to sailors landing at the local docks.



But perhaps the most important target audience was children, who in many cases had few options for play spaces other than the street. Robert the Robot was aimed at them. In the early 1950s Lobby Light, a traffic light mascot voiced by Vic Golds, joined him. Lobby visited local schools to communicate traffic safety messages. A "safety garden", with downscaled streets and traffic signs, provided a safe place for cyclist and pedestrian training aimed at children. The borough recruited children's entertainers to perform in local playgrounds and ventriloquists were paid to add road safety messages to their act for children's parties. A local man, Bob Smith, even trained his dogs, Rita and Rita II, to demonstrate how to cross the street safely.

As a result, local kids in Bermondsey were extremely well-versed in road safety. In 1954, the council gave 12 year old Dennis Clark a certificate and a cash reward, after he stopped Louisa Jones, a former mayor, from stepping out into the path of an oncoming car. A year later, a team of four children from Bermondsey were the London champions in the 1955 National Road Safety Quiz.





For more information on street improvements going on in the borough, visit www.southwark.gov.uk/streetimprovements

STREETS FOR PEOPLE

LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK

We're working to make our streets safer, greener and more welcoming

Last year, Southwark launched the Streets for People campaign across the borough. Through a range of new projects, Streets for People aims to improve air quality, create safer streets with fewer cars, make street improvements and encourage active travel (like walking or cycling).

Walking around Southwark, you may have noticed some streets that would have previously had cars going through are now paved and have green spaces and shared spaces.

One of the streets that has been transformed is Liverpool Grove in Walworth, which the community helped to redesign. The street has now been paved and traffic can no longer use it as a cut through. There are also benches and a green area known as a Pocket Park.

Work like this is going on across the borough and the community is already noticing the benefits.



Tracy Crossfield, Walworth resident:

"I have lived in Walworth for more than 50 years and I've been in my current home for 39 of those years. Before the traffic calming measures were brought in a couple of years ago, our street was busy with noisy traffic speeding and beeping their horns throughout the day and night. It was very dangerous; cars would speed down from Portland Street to Walworth Road. The road is now very quiet. Wheelchairs can now go down the middle of the street where there isn't enough room on the pavement. We can use the rooms at the front of the house at night as they are all peaceful. Children are safe when crossing what was before simply a cut through for many cars. It has changed our lives for the better in many ways."



Father Andrew Moughtin-Mumby from St Peter's Church, Liverpool Grove:

"Liverpool Grove has been totally transformed by the recent improvements. It has gone from being a slightly boring tarmac street crowded with cars to a really beautiful, high quality space. St Peter's Church is Walworth's only grade 1 listed building and the new design of the street really helps people enjoy a much better view of their parish church. The new street scene is really high quality. It is a really good way of showing how important our community is and means it will last for generations. It's also greener than it was before now that we have new trees and planting, which is so important as we face the climate emergency."

Controlled Parking

To make our streets safer for non-car users, we are suggesting we bring in more parking controls to reduce commuter traffic and prevent drivers from outside the borough using our streets for parking, and encourage people to use healthier transport like walking and cycling, or public transport.

By preventing non-resident parking, more space is available for things such as green spaces for people to enjoy, seating and communal areas and secure cycle storage.

We will be consulting on new parking controls by writing to residents in proposed neighbourhoods to gather their views and make sure that each parking scheme is unique and serves the local community.

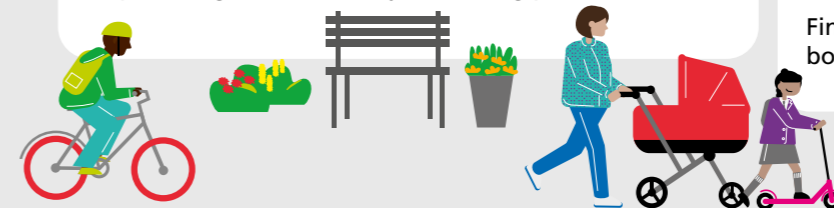
Controlled Parking is when local roads and streets are covered by different parking restrictions to meet the needs of residents, local businesses and key services.

There are three different types of bays which allow different types of parking:

- Permit holder bays which are solely for residents and businesses with permits to park
- Shared use parking bays which can be reserved with 'Pay by Phone' by residents, businesses, visitors and permit holders
- Disabled bays are for those that hold a disabled badge

Benefits of controlled parking:

- Space is prioritised for local residents, businesses and their visitors
- Reduces the amount of cars on your street and improves air quality
- Road safety is improved by removing obstructions and providing better visibility at crossing points



What is a Pocket Park?

A Pocket Park is a small outdoor space that aims to provide a spot for people to gather, relax and enjoy the outdoors. Pocket Parks have features like rain gardens, which are sustainable drainage features. They are designed to capture rainfall and use the water to sustain planting and help to increase biodiversity.



Get in touch

You can request Controlled Parking on your street. Just email highways@southwark.gov.uk or go to www.southwark.gov.uk/parkingzoneform

For details on permits for visitors, home care workers and professional health workers please visit www.southwark.gov.uk/parking/parking-permits/on-street-permits or for any further information email highways@southwark.gov.uk

For more information on the current parking projects going on in the borough, visit www.southwark.gov.uk/parking/parking-projects

Find out more about the different projects going on in the borough at www.southwark.gov.uk/streets-for-people

Events calendar

Spring 2023

Sp
Su



to watch the sheep get sheared and find
used with interactive demonstrations
Spinners, Weavers and Dyers. Plus
food and entertainment.

there will be low



P

London Bridge Medi-Culture Festival: Spring 2023

Join us this March for a celebration of health in London Bridge. The spring Medi-Culture Festival offers an exciting line-up of live events, talks, walks, workshops, stories and stand-up, all free to book.

21 to 26 March, times vary, see website

FREE
Various venues
www.teamlondonbridge.co.uk/medicuture



War Games: Real Virtual Worlds Entertainment

The UK's first exhibition about what video games can do about conflict, War Games is one of today's most powerful storytelling mediums with installations, never-before objects and perspectives from industry experts.

28 May, 10am to 6pm

London
www.teamlondonbridge.co.uk/events/war-games



Photo: Kathleen Arun

re... in the SLG's
Fire... new work made
duri... month residency.
The... life and loss
thro... , sound, scent, and
Cost... chives

31 I
Tue
Wed
FREE
Sou

June 2023,
lay 11am to 6pm,
n to 9pm

S

W
S

Thursday and Saturday 2.30pm

Various prices, see website for details
Bridge Theatre
bridgetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/guys-and-dolls

2.30pm and 7

£28 | £22.50
£16 | Pic
South
Pla



DON'T LOSE YOUR VOTE



You now need to show a valid form of photo ID when you go to cast your vote at a polling station.

New election rules in England mean that from May 2023, voters will need to show a form of photo ID before they can vote in local council elections in England, parliamentary by-elections, and police and crime commissioner elections in England and Wales.

From October 2023, photo ID will also be needed at UK parliamentary general elections.

Although there are no elections planned in Southwark until 2024, now is the time to get prepared and make sure you have one of the acceptable forms of photo ID.

Anyone who does not have one of the accepted forms of ID will be able to apply for a **free** Voter Authority Certificate. Applications can be submitted through the UK government's online portal at www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate

Applicants must be registered to vote and will need to provide their date of birth, National Insurance number and a photograph with their application.

Those that have an accepted form of ID do not need to apply for a certificate. Accepted forms of ID at polling stations include a UK, European Economic Area (EEA) or Commonwealth passport, a UK or EEA drivers' licence and some concessionary travel passes; such as an older person's bus pass or an Oyster 60+ card. Voters will be able to use expired ID if they are still recognisable from the photo.

Research shows that the vast majority of people already have the ID they need. Those voters only need to remember to bring it with them on polling day. However, anyone who doesn't currently have photo ID can now apply for free voter ID certificate.

Find out more on the Electoral Commission website at www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id

BUSINESS FRIENDLY SOUTHWARK

With local businesses continuing to face uncertainty, we have information on the initiatives and support available to you from the council and its partners.

NEW APPRENTICESHIP FUNDING FOR SOUTHWARK EMPLOYERS

Southwark Council can now transfer up to 25% of its apprenticeship levy funds to employers in Southwark who want to recruit apprentices or train their staff using apprenticeship qualifications.



Find out more about receiving transferred funds for new apprenticeships: new apprenticeships: www.southwark.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers/apprenticeships/employ-an-apprentice?chapter=5

SOUTHWARK PIONEERS FUND

If you are a local business founder or aspiring entrepreneur who wants to start or grow a business, the Southwark Pioneers Fund can help you reach your full potential.



The Fund offers two programmes for entrepreneurs at different stages. Launchpad supports entrepreneurs to launch their business idea, and Grow Your Enterprise supports micro-business owners to scale up and take their business to the next level.

Find out more at www.southwark.gov.uk/business/business-support-and-advice/southwark-pioneers-fund

PAID INTERNSHIPS WITH LONDON'S TOP EMPLOYERS

We have partnered with upReach, a social mobility charity, to provide free, personalised support for eligible Southwark students to improve their employability and secure a competitive internship in summer 2023.

To find out more and apply for this personalised support, please visit upreach.org.uk/southwark



JOIN OVER 275 LOCAL BUSINESSES AND BECOME A LIVING WAGE EMPLOYER

The Real Living Wage rate in London is £11.95. Research shows that paying it is good for workers and helps businesses with their recruitment and retention of talent and boosts their reputation.



Become a Living Wage accredited employer in three easy steps:

1. Pay the Real Living Wage directly to all employed staff
2. Have a plan to pay your contractors a Living Wage
3. Complete an application form to sign up and gain accreditation

Find out more about becoming part of the growing number of Southwark businesses pay the living wage www.livingwage.org.uk/become-a-living-wage-employer

SHOP LOCAL AND SUPPORT OUR HIGH STREETS

Southwark boasts some of London's most diverse and exciting town centres, and we are committed to keeping it that way. It is vital that we ensure our town centres and high streets remain vibrant, thriving and accessible spaces, that help keep our communities prosperous and working together.



By shopping local in one of our high streets, you can put money back into our local community. Our high streets are located in Bermondsey, Bankside, Camberwell, Canada Water, Elephant and Castle/Walworth, East Dulwich, London Bridge, Old Kent Road and Peckham.

Find out more about our town centres www.southwark.gov.uk/business/support-for-high-streets

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

For regular updates on business support, opportunities and guidance, sign up to our business e-newsletter at www.southwark.gov.uk/business/business-support-and-advice/business-e-newsletter. As always, we're on hand to answer any business-related questions you might have at SouthwarkBusinessDesk@southwark.gov.uk

Make sure you have the right photo ID to vote

From May 2023 you will need to show photo ID to vote in a polling station

No ID? You can apply for a free voter ID certificate



www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID

[#NoVoteNoVoice](#) [#VoterID](#)

 @lb_southwark  facebook.com/southwarkcouncil  @southwarkcouncil

