

aroundealing | summer 2026

around
ealing

Park life

GET INVOLVED

Out in nature p14

FILM FRENZY

BAFTA winner p28



London Borough of
Ealing

**WIN FESTIVAL
TICKETS p17**

Exciting new homes

Three exciting, new developments will have homes for sale this summer:

Esprit, Fleming Road, Southall, UB1 3FW

A collection of 1 and 2-bedroom apartments for sale with shared ownership*. The development is close to an abundance of nearby green spaces. Each home has its own private balcony or terrace, integrated kitchen appliances, and underfloor heating throughout. Shares are available to buy from just £122,850.

Visit: redloftproperty.co.uk/esprit

Rathbone Terrace, Northolt, UB5 6NH

This is a rare opportunity to buy a 4-bedroom mews townhouse located in a leafy residential neighbourhood in Northolt. Each of the 8 family homes is arranged across 3 floors with a private roof terrace and access to a shared children's play area.

Visit: redloftproperty.co.uk/rathbone-terrace

The Zinc Works, Steyne Road, Acton, W3 9EQ

A collection of 1, 2 & 3-bedroom apartments for sale on the open market, and through shared ownership*. The homes have generous private balconies, many with far-reaching views over London.

The Zinc Works is in the heart of Acton, with lots of independent shops, cafes, bakeries and restaurants. Also nearby is the popular Acton Market, just a few minutes' walk away, offering its blend of fresh produce, street food, and other unique finds.

Visit: thezincworks.co.uk



Esprit, Fleming Road, Southall

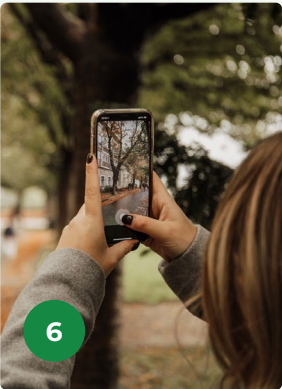


Rathbone Terrace, Northolt

Interested?

For further details, or to register interest, call the Red Loft sales advisors on 020 7539 3745 or email Ealing@redloft.co.uk

*Subject to eligibility criteria, shared ownership allows you to buy an initial share in your new home, and pay a subsidised rent on the share you don't own.



6



14



16



28

Contents

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 4 | LEADER'S NOTES
Council leader Peter Mason | 16 | SUMMER FESTIVALS
What's on? |
| 6 | ROUND UP
Photo winner and more | 20 | COST OF LIVING
Changes to benefits |
| 7 | WARREN FARM
A haven for nature | 23 | YOUNG PEOPLE
Caring for family |
| 8 | 4-YEAR PLAN
Looking ahead | 25 | JOBS
Learning and skills |
| 11 | COUNCIL MONEY
How is it spent? | 26 | HOUSING
New homes |
| 14 | VOLUNTEERING
Ealing Wildlife Group | 28 | REEL LIFE
BAFTA winner |
| | | 30 | COUNCILLORS |

Summer 2026 Editorial

The summer edition of Around Ealing celebrates everything that makes the borough shine. From its green spaces and community spirit to the inspirational people who live here.

This issue takes you outdoors, from Warren Farm's flourishing wildlife haven to the packed programme of summer festivals happening across the borough. You can be in with a chance to win tickets too, so make sure to take part the competition. So, whether you're after tranquil moments in the wild or the buzz of loud music and dancing, there's plenty here to inspire your summer plans.

You can also read about the volunteers helping nature thrive through Ealing Wildlife Group, and the support on offer to young carers quietly helping their families with strength and compassion.

We also reveal the latest Seasons of Ealing photo competition winner, capturing the beauty of the borough through local eyes, and spotlight a home-grown BAFTA winner. Alongside this, you'll find updates on the council's plan for the future, new homes, support with the cost of living and more. It's your guide to what's happening, what's changing and what you can enjoy in the borough this summer.

Verity Adams
Deputy Editor

Contributors: James Bird (photography), Christine Bramble, Quinton Drawbridge, Richard Nadal and Alex Sturrock (photography).

aroundealing.com

Check out the extra magazine content at:
aroundealing.com/around-ealing

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Seasons of Ealing entry by Chris Van Dyk



Perceval House

The ground floor of the council's Perceval House headquarters building is opening up to the public. The new atrium area is a vibrant space for the whole community and will be available for groups to book. There will be a programme of activities and events, from fitness classes and children's parties to meetings, weddings and exhibitions. Keep an eye on [aroundealing.com](https://www.aroundealing.com) and our social media accounts for more details.



Meet the borough's new mayor

Councillor Faduma Mohamed was formally inaugurated as the new Mayor of Ealing in May. As mayor, Councillor Mohamed will undertake civic and ceremonial duties, including representing the borough at civic and community events and charring meetings of the full council. Councillor Ghulam Murtaza has been appointed deputy mayor. Read an interview with the new mayor at ealing.pagetiger.com/around-ealing-summer-2026

The council's new cabinet members announced

After the local elections in May, leader of the council Peter Mason has appointed new members to the cabinet, the council's main decision making body. In addition to the leader there are 9 cabinet members, each with a specific area of responsibility (a portfolio) and they are accountable for the council's decisions. Read more at [aroundealing.com/news/new-cabinet-members-announced](https://www.aroundealing.com/news/new-cabinet-members-announced)



Back row, left to right: Councillors Dominic Moffitt, Monica Hamidi, Kamaljit Nagpal, Lauren Wall, Blerina Hashani. Front row, left to right: Councillors Paul Driscoll, Louise Brett, Peter Mason, Jasbir Anand and Steve Donnelly. See pages 30-31 for a full list of all the councillors on Ealing Council.

Leader's notes

'Our values will be at the heart of our decisions'

Council leader Peter Mason



A home that is affordable. A job that pays a decent wage. A neighbourhood that is beautiful and clean. Our parents growing older in good health and independence. Our children getting a great education and getting ahead in life. A community free from crime that has a strong sense of pride and identity.

These are the basic things in life that every person, whatever their background or status should be able to enjoy. They are the priorities of our administration because time and again residents of this incredible borough tell us so.

The Labour Party was deeply humbled to have once again been elected to govern our borough in the local elections in May, and I am grateful for the trust that has been placed in me to once again lead the council.

Despite the challenges we have all faced over the last decade, our administration has been focused on delivering for residents.

Investing in what matters most

Whether it is thousands more genuinely affordable homes, tens of thousands more jobs, more

trees and parks, better roads and pavements, great schools and transformed social care, our track record of delivering on the promises we make has been and will continue to be the hallmark of how we go about our business.

We will continue to ensure that we run our council with ruthless efficiency, keeping council tax as low as possible whilst investing in the things that matter most.

With a better financial settlement from a new government, this administration will be reinvesting into the front line services that have had to take the brunt of the cuts under austerity that forced councils up and down the country to prioritise the growing demands of family breakdown, homelessness, and those within our families in need of care, all of which still remain.

Supporting communities

Our values will be at the heart of our decisions. Ensuring that everything we do supports families and builds community networks to help and support one another during good times and bad. Ensuring every part of our borough, in every one of our 7 towns gets to benefit from a growing economy

and a better standard of living. Ensuring that everybody has the power and control over their own life and their community, and can play their full part in deciding our collective future.

Looking ahead

This summer's magazine has information about our plan for the borough. The plan will guide the things that the council delivers over the next 4 years, and the change we will continue to make in ensuring it remains truly the Queen of London's suburbs. One of the best places in the world to live, work and enjoy.

Thank you for entrusting us to deliver for you once again. I hope you have a great summer enjoying everything our wonderful borough has to offer.

Councillor Peter Mason
Leader of the council



Watch video: ealing.pagetiger.com/around-ealing-summer-2026



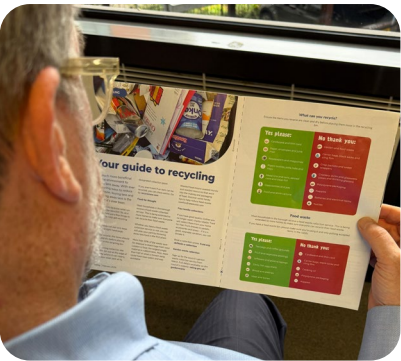
Photo winner and runners up revealed

Explore the new summer digital edition of Around Ealing and discover who has taken the top spot in our spring Seasons of Ealing photo competition. The winning photographer earns a great prize: a pair of tickets to enjoy a film at Ealing Picturehouse. Two runners-up will also each receive a cinema ticket. Enter our summer photo competition for your chance to be our next winner.



Go to: ealing.pagetiger.com/around-ealing-summer-2026





Your favourite way to get news

The number of you finding news (and preferring to find news) about the council and the local area, from Around Ealing has steadily grown. According to the latest independent, annual survey of residents: just under a third of people now find it from the Around Ealing website (aroundealing.com), a quarter from Around Ealing magazine and a fifth from our free, weekly Around Ealing Extra email that anyone can sign up for via the Around Ealing website. We have also seen an ever-growing audience for the digital version of the magazine, which you can find at aroundealing.com/around-ealing

We have a new council brand



It was created in-house by the council’s communications team, at no cost. And will be gradually introduced when things need replacing, to avoid unnecessary spending.

Ealing Council’s old logo had been around for decades with minor changes but was no longer fit-for-purpose. It failed national accessibility rules that the council has to follow, and predated the development of digital media.

The new logo is still a tree, to honour the old brand and the borough’s historic coat of arms; and the new tree has been created to have 7 components, reflecting the 7 towns in the borough. The distinctive ‘fingerprint’ shape reflects that, while the council supports those distinct 7 towns and their communities, it also believes in respecting the individuality of each of the people it serves and the council’s obligations to them. The title London Borough of Ealing, rather than the previous logo’s one-word Ealing, reflects the whole borough, rather than one town or just the council. So, it is a logo for the whole area as much as for the organisation.

Go to: aroundealing.com/news/new-logo-for-ealing-council



aerial view of Warren Farm

New legacy for nature

Warren Farm is London’s newest nature reserve – securing its future as a protected wildlife haven.

In the spring, Ealing Council formally declared Local Nature Reserve status for the site in Southall.

Under plans first revealed by the council in 2024, the 24.8-hectare Warren Farm will be ‘rewilded’ and preserved for wildlife and meadow habitats. The site is already an important site for skylark nesting and is also home to a wide range of wildflowers, butterflies and bees.

Work underway

The plan includes the demolition and removal of the old sports facility buildings, which began in May. The buildings have been unused for 15 years and have become derelict.

But that’s not the end of sport at Warren Farm, because there will also be a new community sports hub created on an adjoining parcel of land. This has been made possible after the council reached agreement with the owners of that land, Imperial College London and Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust.

The council is currently in discussion with a preferred contractor to run the new sports hub, and it will include

cricket and football pitches.

The council held a public consultation into the future of Warren Farm in 2022. More than 1,500 people responded, with 70% wanting the land to be preserved for nature, while many also called for sports provision.

‘A significant step for conservation’

Council leader Peter Mason said: “This declaration establishes a much-needed green lung for this part of the borough. The combination of nature reserve and sports facilities will be a huge benefit to Southall and Hanwell. Warren Farm is a key part of our plans to get people closer to nature and we are delighted to be working with the Brent River Park on the delivery of this community-driven proposal.”

Katie Boyles, who chairs the Brent River and Canal Society, said that she was delighted Warren Farm’s future had been safeguarded and the charity had campaigned for the site to become a nature reserve since 2021.

Regional park

Warren Farm is due to form an important part of the West London Regional Park stretching through the boroughs of Ealing and Hounslow with a series of connected green spaces and waterways.

The plan: next 4 years

After the local election in May, Ealing Council published its new 4-year plan for the borough. It sets out its key targets and projects for the years ahead.

The council plan for 2026-2030 also explains what the council's top 3 priorities will be, which are:

- a community for everyone
- growth across all 7 towns
- power in your hands

Where did the plan's aims come from?

Each year, 2022 until 2025, the council has commissioned an independent residents' survey.

Across those years, the survey has shown a rising confidence that the council is listening, communicating better, and involving residents in decisions.

The surveys are a key part of that process. And that openness will be built upon in the coming years, with an aim to put ever greater focus on working on projects with the full involvement of communities rather

than just providing services for them.

In addition, general satisfaction with the way the council runs things averaged 77% across the 3 annual surveys 2023-2025, up from 72% in 2022. It also compares very well with a national average of 56% for the same period (2023-25).

What did surveys say?

The surveys have shown many positive things about the borough as well as shining a light on things that need improvement.

This information has given the new council plan plenty of good things, and strengths, to build upon.

For example, satisfaction with the area you live averaged a score of 90% across the 3 annual surveys 2023-2025, up from 84% in 2022. It also compared very well with the national average of 74% for the same period (2023-25).

Access to nature and parks have featured strongly each year as a reason for satisfaction, along with safety, and community support. In fact, community pride and cohesion have consistently scored above London and national averages; more

people have said they are satisfied with parks, playgrounds and street lighting; and satisfaction with primary education is at an all-time high (based on past surveys).

However, the cost of living and housing remain a concern for people, despite rising overall satisfaction with housing.

Over the course of the 4-year period 2022-26, on average, the 3 top local concerns of residents were: safety and crime; availability of affordable housing; and street cleanliness. And, more generally, the cost of living in the UK was the largest concern.

How does council plan address concerns?

Crime and antisocial behaviour: Looking more closely at the crime concerns, in the latest residents' survey 96% said they felt safe in the day, but that number plummeted at night to 54%. Over the course of the last couple of years, the council has already been taking measures to tackle this problem – building on the findings of its male violence against women and girls (MVAWG) strategy that incorporated views from more than 3,000 women. In the coming years, the council

intends to increase the CCTV network by an extra 50 cameras (taking the total to almost 800), targeting known hotspots; extend the council's alley gating scheme to another 50 locations; invest even more money in improved street lighting; and work more closely with the police, including using the new safer neighbourhoods ward panels to make sure residents are able to have their say.

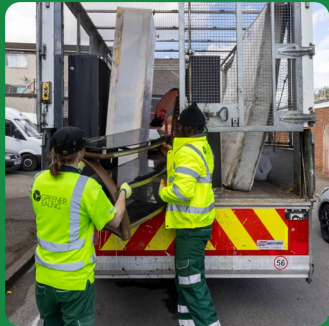
Housing: After leading the way in London for homebuilding in recent years, the council will continue to work hard to boost the supply of genuinely affordable homes in the borough – including trying to unlock any stalled projects and through agreements with partners and developers. Meanwhile, it is intended to keep up the significant investment in upgrading council housing, to make sure it all meets the Decent Homes Standard (90% already does). And, the legislation and regulations brought in over the last couple of years will closely govern the borough's private rented sector homes and help officers to tackle rogue landlords and illegal HMOs. The new Ealing Private Renters' Association will also help the council to make sure the Renters' Rights Bill is enforced locally.

Street cleaning: The year-long campaign against fly-tippers (including name-and-shame video footage) will continue. But a new rapid response street enforcement team will also mean officers will be visible on the borough's streets

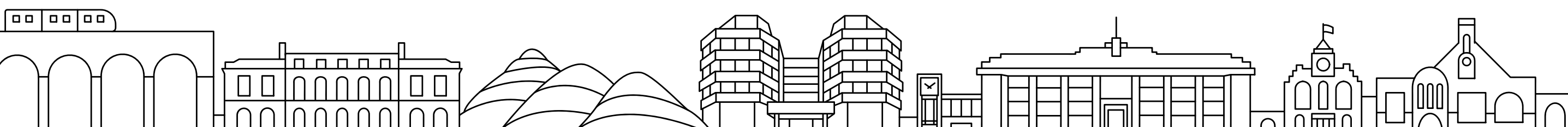
too, tackling parking problems, fly-tipping and more. And it will see the introduction of an all-day tow-truck that can be on-hand any time to remove abandoned cars, and a trial of a 'mobile skip' van visiting towns. CCTV will also keep an eye in the sky on known hotspots.

Cost of living and opportunities: One of the most generous council tax support schemes in the country will continue as part of a wide range of options for help. And those who are digitally excluded and need training or access to the internet will continue to be supported, including in the borough's 7 community hubs that were set up in recent years. Meanwhile, decent, well-paid jobs will be a driving force of the council's priorities over the next 4 years – which means supporting those facing the toughest barriers of getting into work, helping companies paying the Living Wage, opening a new skills hub at Perceval House in Ealing, and using the Ealing Borough Apprenticeship Scheme to continue to grow the number of apprentices thriving at local companies and building careers.

After reopening the Southall Young Adult Centre following a £2million refurb led by young people's ideas, the council will continue to expand and improve the borough's network of playgrounds, youth centres and adventure activities to provide opportunities for things to do in the evenings, weekends and holidays.



Read more about the council plan at aroundealing.com/leaders-notes/4-year-plan





We need more foster carers

Ealing Council is looking for foster carers to provide loving, stable homes for the children we care for.

To recognise the vital role foster carers play, we offer an excellent package of support and benefits:

- council tax exemption for Ealing borough residents, and reimbursement for carers living elsewhere
- highly competitive fees and allowances
- free parking in resident controlled parking zones across the borough
- free garden waste collection
- dedicated therapeutic support from clinical psychologists
- out of hours support, peer networks and the Mockingbird scheme
- discounts at council leisure centres
- bespoke training and additional incentives



Contact us
Phone: 020 8753 1075
Make an enquiry: ealingfostering.co.uk
Make an enquiry: www.fosterwithwestlondon.org.uk/contact/ealing

*Council tax exemption applies to band 2 carers and above while a child is in placement. Parking and garden waste incentives apply for band 1 carers and above.

How is the council's spending sliced up?



When you get your council tax bill each year, you will see a lot of numbers but perhaps wondered what they all meant.

Council tax is only one source of the council's overall budget, which it needs to allocate to important services that people depend on.

This financial year (up to 31 March 2027), Ealing Council plans to spend more than £400million on running day-to-day services, which it has to carefully manage. There are, literally, hundreds of services the council will provide with that money. Services that have ever-greater demand put on them.

Every council has a legal obligation to set a viable budget for the coming year. You may have heard that, this year, 36 councils (almost 10% of all the councils in England and Wales) had to be granted 'exceptional financial support' by the government. This was the only way to help those councils achieve a balanced budget and allowed them to borrow extra money or sell off assets (buildings or investments) for day-to-day spending on services.

However, careful financial management has meant Ealing Council has not had to do this.

So, how is the money spent?

You can turn the page to see a specially-created graphic that slices it up into easy-to-understand chunks. And then visit the online article with far more details.

But, in essence, 28% of the council's spending in 2026/27 will go on looking after adults in need of help; and supporting public health in general. And, of course, it also means taking care of older people.

And about a quarter of the money the council has budgeted to spend will go on services that support children. This ranges from paying for social care for young people and looked-after children; to early years support for babies and toddlers; and also helping those children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).

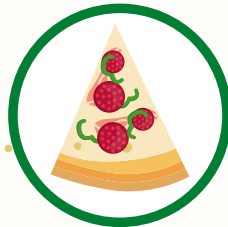
There's also 7% to provide temporary housing for families at risk of homelessness and in desperate need of somewhere secure to stay. It is an area of need that is rising every year.

So far, we have accounted for 60% of what the council will spend in the 2026/27 financial year. What about the rest?

Turn the page, and visit our digital magazine to find out (use the link and QR code over the page).

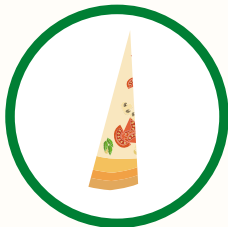


What will the council spend its money on this year?



13.6%

Other costs: maintaining and running council buildings and IT networks, and support services



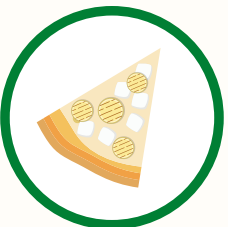
4.3%

Freedom Pass and London-wide levies: paying for public transport for disabled and older residents, and costs for flood prevention



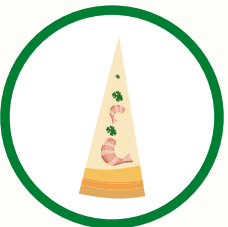
9.3%

Corporate items: this includes funds set aside for emergencies; and repayments on capital investments, such as revamping playgrounds



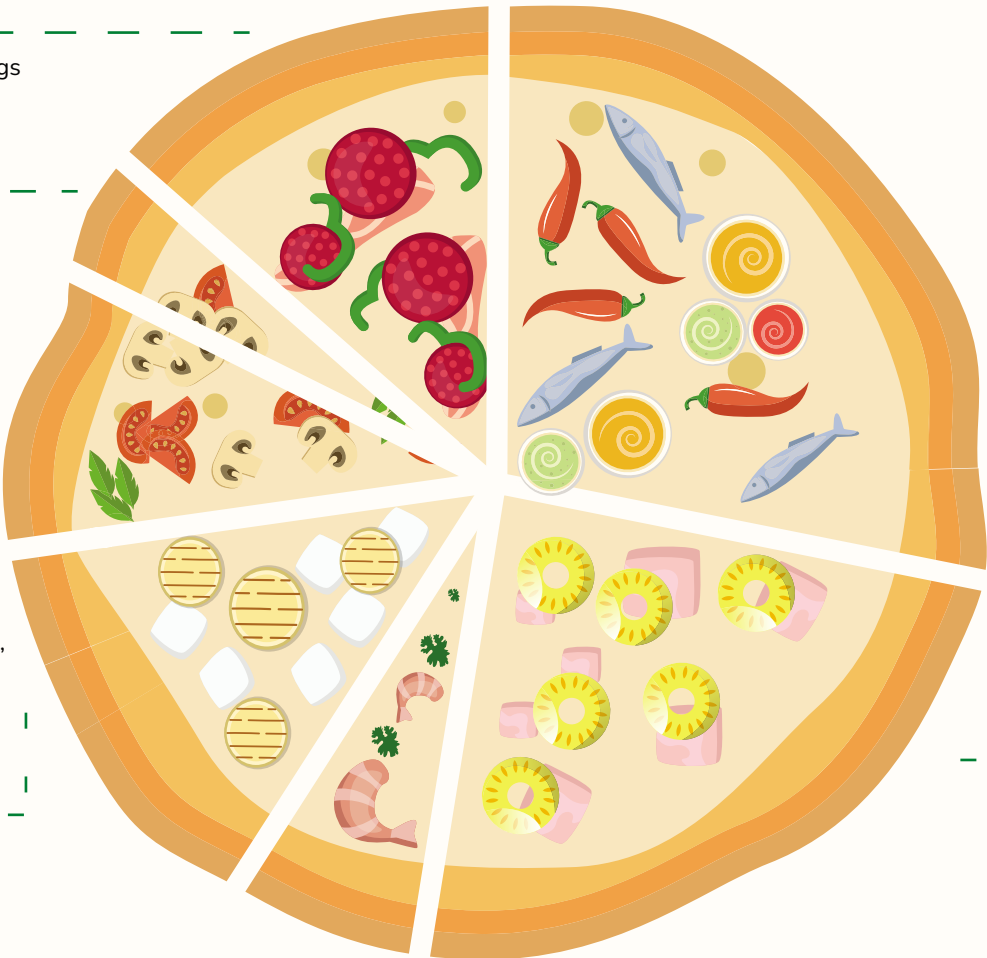
13.4%

Environment, economy, safety and leisure: Cleaning our streets (like fly-tipping), recycling waste and collecting bins, West London Waste Authority, street repairs (like potholes), community safety (like CCTV), libraries, heritage and arts, leisure, and employment support



6.8%

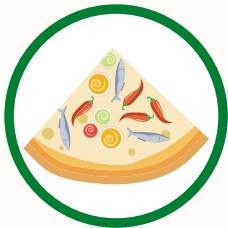
Housing: Temporary housing and housing demand



24.5%

Children's services:

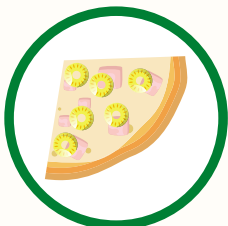
- Children's social care
- Early years support for babies and toddlers
- Children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND)
- Fostering and adoption
- Other children's services



28.1%

Adults and public health services:

- Mental health support
- Learning disabilities support
- Older people support services
- Independent living support services
- Other adults services



You can read the full story, and see this graphic, a video explainer and more details, in the digital edition of Around Ealing magazine.

ealing.pagetiger.com/around-ealing-summer-2026

Helping wildlife thrive

From creating hedgehog highways to breeding harvest mice and returning them to the wild, Ealing Wildlife Group's band of volunteers have been instrumental in boosting biodiversity in the borough.

Perhaps best known for its leading role in the Ealing Beaver Project, which has established a thriving colony of beavers at the council-owned Paradise Fields site in Greenford, the group also runs lots of community conservation events and offers volunteering opportunities.

Sandra Adar is the fundraising officer for Ealing Wildlife Group (EWG) and has been a volunteer since 2019.

"I've lived in Ealing for nearly 40 years," she said. "One of the best things about the borough is the variety of public green spaces. It's important to me that they are protected and evolve too."

nurturing wildlife habitats. The group also receives support from Ealing Council and its park rangers.

She added: "Getting involved in nature has so many benefits. It's great to spend time outdoors, learn more about our local wildlife, and spend time with a positive group of people."

"We're grateful for all the help we receive, and if you want to lend a hand it can be for an hour, an afternoon or a whole day."

Want to get involved?

EWG was recently awarded £10,000 of funding from the council's Your Voice, Your Town programme. The scheme is designed to bring people from each of the borough's 7 towns together to improve their neighbourhoods.

The money will help to continue to transform the former Costons Lane allotments, in Greenford, from a once neglected site into a thriving wildlife sanctuary. Over recent years, volunteers have created diverse habitats, including a wildlife garden, wildflower meadow, pond, hedgerow and woodland – demonstrating what a community can achieve when it cares for shared spaces.



Volunteers Sandra and Emily

Sandra is one of many volunteers who willingly donate their time, whether it be to carry out administrative tasks, help to host events or getting their hands dirty



Helping hands



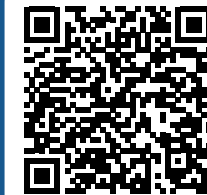
Teamwork at Costons Lane Nature Reserve

Sandra explained that this latest funding will support the introduction of a secure space to host outdoor community wellbeing events, including yoga and sound baths. If you would be willing to donate some services like this, the group would love to hear from you. Email: hello@ealingwildlifegroup.com

Come along

A volunteer day is held at Costons Lane nature reserve once a month and everyone is welcome, whether you want to help out with the work or simply enjoy the reserve. In addition to the wild habitats, there is a bird hide overlooking the pond and a sunny deck to sit back and relax with a cup of tea.

It is a great place to spot foxes, woodpeckers, slow worms, newts, frogs, dragonflies, butterflies, birds, and all manner of pondlife.



Watch video at
[ealing.pagetiger.com/
around-ealing-summer-2026](http://ealing.pagetiger.com/around-ealing-summer-2026)

Interested in volunteering?

Ealing Wildlife Group is looking for someone to manage Costons Lane Nature Reserve and help them to provide a series of events and create and maintain habitats for wildlife. This volunteer role is perfect for someone who enjoys connecting with people and wants to make a real difference in their local community.

For more details on this role, other volunteering opportunities, and upcoming events, visit ealingwildlifegroup.com



Feel-good festival vibes

Ealing Summer Festivals promises another vibrant season of live music, laughter and community spirit in the heart of the borough.

Produced by The Event Umbrella on behalf of Ealing Council, the comedy, blues and jazz festivals are deeply rooted in the area's musical and comedic history.

And, throughout July and over the first weekend of August, Walpole Park in Mattock Lane will once again transform into a buzzing cultural hub.

Across all events, festival goers can expect a welcoming atmosphere, high quality food and drink, and space to relax with friends and family. With affordable ticket options and free entry for under 11s at many events, Ealing Summer Festivals 2026 once again offer something for everyone — right on your doorstep.

A stellar line-up

If you're looking for plenty of laughs, the Ealing Comedy Festival is the place to be. Now in its 32nd year, it will run across 2 weekends, 23-24 and 30-31 July, under the iconic Big Top tent. This year's line-up includes Harry Hill, Milton Jones, Paul Chowdhry, Lou Sanders and Jamali Maddix, alongside a host of much-loved comedians and rising stars.

Grab a look at who will be performing and buy tickets online at ealingsummerfestivals.com

Crank up the volume

Music takes centre stage with the Ealing Jazz Festival on Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 July, celebrating more than four decades of jazz in the borough. This year's festival is delivered in collaboration with programming partners Continental Drifts and Banger Factory Records, bringing together a dynamic mix of global sounds and the new London jazz movement.

Headliners include acid jazz pioneers Galliano and the high-energy sounds of London Afrobeat Collective, alongside a line-up that balances heritage influences with contemporary and emerging talent across 2 stages.

The season comes to an end with the Ealing Blues Festival on Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 August, in partnership with the Ealing Blues Club and PRB Presents. The weekend combines classic rhythm and blues with blues-rock, ska and Jamaican-influenced sounds.

On Saturday, Grammy-nominated Robert Finley headlines a programme that pays tribute to the borough's musical heritage while celebrating modern talent. On Sunday, Misty In Roots return for a special homecoming headline show, marking their 50th anniversary, as the London International Ska Festival takes over both stages to celebrate the influence of Jamaican music on British blues and wider UK culture.



Win tickets

Around Ealing and Ealing Summer Festivals have teamed up to give away 4 tickets to readers in this exclusive competition.

There are 2 chances to win, because 2 lucky entrants will be able to win 1 of the following prizes:

- 2 tickets with VIP bolt on for Ealing Blues
- 2 tickets with VIP bolt on for Ealing Jazz



Find out how to enter by visiting the Around Ealing summer digital magazine. There is lots of fun in store for those people lucky enough to win the tickets. Go to: ealing.pagetiger.com/around-ealing-summer-2026



Ealing Summer Festivals

Dates for your diary...

As One in the Park (over-18s)

On: Saturday 18 July
From: midday-10pm

For tickets and more information, go to: asoneinthepark.co.uk

Latino Life in the Park

On: Sunday 19 July
From: midday-10pm

From Latin beats to fresh sounds by emerging artists, this is the UK's largest Latin music and culture festival. Under-18s must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

For tickets and more information, go to: latinolifeinthepark.com

New Gen Festival

On: Wednesday 29 July
From: 2pm-9pm

This event is aimed at 16-25 year-olds and is the ultimate spot to support the next generation of trailblazers and enjoy some fresh new sounds.

Tickets cost from £3. For more information, go to: newgenfestival.com



For more information about these events go to: ealing.pagetiger.com/around-ealing-summer-2026

Making lives better through sport

For many people across the borough, rugby is what first introduces them to Ealing Trailfinders. But the club's impact now reaches far beyond the pitch.

The Ealing Trailfinders Foundation uses sport to improve wellbeing, build confidence, and create opportunities. Its purpose is simple: to make lives better through sport.

Through programmes focused on health, education and social connection, the Foundation is helping more people across the borough's 7 towns feel active, supported and connected.

Inspiring the next generation

For younger people, 'Fit Futures' combines tag rugby with nutrition and healthy lifestyle education. Free girls' rugby sessions and TrailfindHERS are also helping more young women find confidence and belonging through sport.

Delivered with players from Trailfinders Women, TrailfindHERS helps break down barriers around girls' sport. Built on fun, comfort, choice, and freedom from judgement, it is already making a difference in schools.

Trailfinders Women prop Flo Long, who helps deliver sessions

at Ellen Wilkinson School for Girls, described the experience as 'incredibly rewarding'.

"You could see the girls realising that sport is for them too," she said. "Watching their confidence grow each week and seeing them believe in their own abilities has been brilliant."

Tackling isolation and building community

The Foundation is also tackling social isolation. Through 'Team Talk' and 'The Movement Hub', older residents can stay active, meet people and build connections.

Delivered with Age UK, Team Talk offers weekly sessions based on the '5 ways to wellbeing', including seated exercise that supports physical and social health.

The Movement Hub encourages men aged 65+ to stay active through activities such as walking rugby, an inclusive version of the game centred on movement, teamwork and enjoyment.

Inclusivity is also central to the Foundation's mixed ability rugby programme with Mencap. Open to people aged 16+ with physical or learning disabilities, the sessions focus on fun, confidence, and connection.

A place to feel at home

For participants like Kiyan, the impact has been life changing.

Kiyan, who has cerebral palsy, joined through the sessions and found not just a chance to play rugby, but a place where he felt valued and included.

He has since become a familiar face around the club, volunteering on matchdays and beginning a journey into coaching and commentary himself.

Stories like Kiyan's show what sits at the heart of the Foundation's work. Sport is the starting point, but the outcomes often include confidence, friendship, purpose and opportunity.

That impact is visible across the borough, from school visits to community sessions and matchday activations, strengthening the bond between club and community.

It is helping make the borough healthier, more inclusive and more connected.



Girls' rugby at Ealing Trailfinders

HOLIDAY CAMPS

TRAILFINDERS SPORTS CLUB, £30 PER DAY, 10AM-3PM

HAF/MULTISPORTS MONDAY - FRIDAY

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27- 31 JUL
3 - 7 AUG
10 - 4 AUG
17- 21 AUG
24- 28 AUG

RUGBY CAMPS

THU 13 AUG - FRI 14 AUG
£30 PER DAY OR £50 FOR
BOTH (U7-U12)

THU 20 AUG - FRI 21 AUG
£30 PER DAY OR £50 FOR
BOTH (U7-U12)

RUGBY MASTERCLASSES

THU 13 AUG - BOYS
MASTERCLASS £30 (U13-U16)

THU 20 AUG - GIRLS
MASTERCLASS £30 (U12-U16)

WWW.EALINGTRAILFINDERS.ORG.UK/CAMPS



FOLLOW YOUR TRAIL





School meals and extra help for families

Thousands more children in the borough will have access to a hot, healthy meal at school from September, which could make a real difference to family finances too.

When the new school year begins, free school meals will be extended to all children in England whose families receive Universal Credit, removing the current income cap.

In the borough, this could see the number of eligible children rise to around 32,500. Read more about this at:

aroundealing.com/news/benefits-change

But, this isn't the only change that will benefit households that are feeling the pressure of the rising cost of living.

Do you know about all the help that could be available to you?

Following a series of recent changes to benefits, Ealing Council's cost of living team has been encouraging residents on low incomes to check what they are entitled to.

Councillor Kamaljit Nagpal, the council's cabinet member for decent living incomes, said: "Since the benefits calculator was introduced in December, more than 68% of residents who used it to check their entitlement discovered they were 'missing out' on unclaimed benefits. That is more than we were expecting.

"It goes to show that, because of all the recent changes, including the removal of the two-child benefit cap, it's worth investing half an hour of your time to check."

A quick way to check

To make this easier for people, the council has created a simple online benefits calculator, designed to give residents a clearer picture of what they could be missing out on.

It takes just a few minutes to get started:

- go online and find the calculator at ealing.gov.uk/benefitscalculator
- complete a short 'benefits indicator' with 8 quick questions to answer. In under a minute, you can find out if you are likely to be eligible for benefits, what you should be claiming and how much you should be getting
- if the benefits indicator highlights you are eligible, you can go on to complete the full 'benefits calculator'. You will receive a more accurate calculation and guidance on how to claim.

What's changed?

Recent updates to benefits mean many households could now qualify for additional support.

Universal Credit

Since April, families can claim the child element of Universal Credit for all children, rather than being limited to the first 2 children.

- existing claimants should see payments adjusted automatically
- families who have not claimed before, particularly those with more than 2 children, are encouraged to check now

In the borough, this change is expected to benefit

around 1,800 families and more than 6,500 children.

In addition, there has been an above inflation increase of standard allowance of Universal Credit and an increase in the amount of childcare costs that can be claimed.

Child benefit

Child benefit payments increased from 6 April 2026 to:

- £27.05 per week (£1,406.60 per year) for the eldest or only child
- £17.90 per week (£930.80 per year) for each additional child

There is now no limit on the number of children that parents can claim for.

Help in a crisis

For those facing immediate financial difficulty, support is also available.

Since April, the Crisis and Resilience Fund has replaced the Household Support Fund. Funded by the UK government, it provides tailored, short-term help for residents in urgent need.

Applications and further details are available on the council's website.

Find out more

There is a wide range of support available for residents struggling with the cost of living. There is even an online calculator which tells you what you could be claiming for and how to apply. Go to: ealing.gov.uk/benefitscalculator





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*Data from Mollor London Report 27 November 2025. Southall Grove named as the most affordable multi-unit development with available stock in West London as of 27 November 2025. †Deposit help paid on selected plots and on new reservations only. Up to the value of £27,000. No cash alternative. ‡Terms and conditions apply. On selected homes only. This ad entitles the referrer to £10,000 which will be paid upon legal completion of the property purchase. Recommendations must be identified upon the buyer's first visit to site. Only one recommend a friend voucher may be used per purchase. Details and prices correct at time of going to press. Images for illustrative purposes only.

Interested in becoming a carer?

Your lives, our lives...

Ealing Shared Lives

Supporting adults with additional needs

ESL is recruiting carers for long-term, respite and day support opportunities

Search 'shared lives' on the council's website ealing.gov.uk

020 8825 5166




‘I just thought it was normal’

Hundreds of young people across the borough are quietly **caring for family** members at home, and it is not always easy for them. But support, fun and friendship are closer than they might think.

Young carers have to juggle their own school work, friendships and wellbeing alongside supporting a member of their family. That could be a parent, a grandparent or a sibling who is unwell.

And, although a number of young carers in the borough are already getting support, many more may not realise that their role has a name and they could be missing out on help that is available to them.

That was the case for Bella, aged 14, who helps to care for her mum and grandparents.

‘I didn’t realise I was a young carer’

Ealing Young Carers Project (EYCP) supports young people between 8 and 18 years old who have caring responsibilities at home.

Commissioned by Ealing Council and run by Brentford FC Community Sports Trust, the project provides a safe, welcoming space where young carers can relax, connect with

others and build confidence.

For Bella, the EYCP has been a chance to focus on her own interests and meet new people.

Bella said caring was something she had always done. “I didn’t realise I was a young carer – I just thought it was normal,” she explained. “But it can be hard sometimes. The EYCP has helped me to realise you can still have fun and be happy if you’re caring for someone.”

Her mum, Tamara, says the project has made a real difference. “Bella is amazing, and I don’t want her to miss out because she helps to care for me. This is an opportunity for Bella gets to go out, have fun and just be a young person,” she said.

Bella recently took part in a 3-day drama workshop. “I loved it,” she said. “I want to be on stage in the West End one day – or maybe become a drama or music teacher.”

‘Isolation is huge’

Kathryn Sobczak is the EYCP manager and was once a young carer herself. She said: “Isolation is huge for many young carers, which is why the project is so important.

“We’ve got one to one and group support sessions to help young carers cope, as well as 2 after school youth clubs in Northolt and Ealing.



Young carer, Bella

“These are spaces where young carers can play games, enjoy activities like arts and crafts and spend time with other young people who understand exactly what they’re going through.”

The project also runs holiday activities at its hub in Brentford, and offers the older teens practical help with CVs, confidence, and finding employment. Young carers also get the chance to take part in day trips and activities including, bowling, cinema outings, and even visits to the beach.

Here to help

If you are a young carer, or know someone who may need support, email Kathryn at ksobczak@brentfordfcst.com

For more information about young carers and the support available, visit: brentfordfcst.com/en/young-carers

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JOBS



Great things on the horizon for Luca

Bright future is on track

“My **internship** has opened my eyes to what actually goes on at work and given me more experience and stability.”

This is what Luca, a young Perivale resident, said about his placement on high-speed railway project HS2. It has, he said, provided more than just work experience – it has been a step into a new world where he can gain ‘confidence, skills and opportunity’.

Luca secured the 1-year placement with Balfour Beatty VINCI Systra (BBVS), HS2’s construction partner for Old Oak Common Station, Acton, with the help of employment charity Shaw Trust, commissioned by Ealing Council.

“The internship was my first proper job, so everything was completely new to me,” said Luca. “Adjusting was a bit of a challenge at first, but I really grew into it. Knowing I gained experience made it worth it, and the team was very supportive and made me feel included.”

Supported internships are designed for 16 to 24 year-olds with special educational needs who have an education, health and care plan and want to move into employment. but may need a little extra support to get there. It gives young people the chance to grow in confidence, earn qualifications and apply for paid roles.

A route to employment

An internship is a great way to get hands-on experience, qualifications and a route to paid employment.

Luca’s internship, which came to an end in March, included a mix of on-the-job learning and coaching. He completed work placements with 3 different teams at BBVS, and gained qualifications in maths and English.

It also offered him the chance to tour the depot where HS2 trains will eventually be built – a highlight for him as both a learning opportunity and a chance to get up close to the trains.

Lilian, Luca’s job coach at Shaw Trust, said: “Luca was a really dedicated member of the team. He did brilliantly, especially at the beginning when he had to learn lots of technical terms while working with the procurement team.”

Luca has now been offered an 8-week work placement with BBVS, a joint venture between Balfour Beatty, Vinci and Systra, which was formed to build Old Oak Common Station as part of the HS2 scheme.

Are you an employer?



Could you offer a role in your business to someone like Luca? The council can help you recruit through an internship. For more information, email buzuleacc@ealing.gov.uk

The council can also help you to hire an apprentice, and even pay for the training costs. Email apprenticeships@ealing.gov.uk



Hundreds of new council homes on the way

Almost 600 new council homes will be completed and ready for local families to move into by the end of this year.

That is more than 3 times the normal amount of new homes provided to families each year. And it means that, in time for Christmas, hundreds more people should have a safe and affordable place to live, in locations right across the borough.

Housebuilders are struggling across the UK. But, Ealing Council has been bucking the national trend. In fact, according to data from the Greater London Authority, Ealing ranks second out of all 32 London boroughs for building new affordable housing.

With more than 6,000 local families on the waiting list for a socially rented home, this new wave of homes will make a real difference to them. In recent years, the cost of housing in the borough has been sharply rising. The cost of renting privately increased by almost 15% in 2024/25 alone, leaving many families priced out of living in their own communities.

All of these new homes are 'genuinely affordable',

which means the cost of the rent will be no more than 40% of an average local household's total income. With an average cost of just £530 a month for a 2-bed flat, the council's socially rented homes are some of the most affordable in London.

Councillor Louise Brett, the council's cabinet member for safe and genuinely affordable homes, said: "For the families who move into these homes, this is about much more than bricks and mortar. It means having a safe place to live, being able to plan for the future, and knowing that rent will be affordable. These new council homes will make life better for hundreds of local people."

Take a closer look at some of the new homes:

The Green Quarter, Southall

In the Green Quarter, near Southall Station, 180 new homes are due to be ready for families to move in from August. Originally intended for private sale, the council bought these homes while they were still being built so they could be let to local people instead. The homes will be let at social rent or London Living Rent.

Northolt Grange, Northolt

A total of 84 new council homes in Northolt Grange were completed in May and have begun to be let to tenants. As well as the safe, spacious flats that have between 1 and 3 bedrooms, the site also includes a children's play area and landscaped open space. And, a number of the flats have been fully adapted for wheelchair users.

Evelyn Sarpong is very excited to be one of the new tenants moving in to Northolt Grange. She said: "I can't wait to make a new home for me and my daughter, I think we'll be very happy there. I love it already."

Golf Links estate, Southall

More than 100 new council homes at the Golf Links estate were due to be handed over to tenants in June, as Around Ealing went to press. The 104 homes include 15 that have been designed to be more accessible for disabled residents. The project has also improved streets and green spaces, including new planting, better walking routes, and a play area. This is the third phase of a wider regeneration of the estate.



Golf Links estate



Watch video at ealing.pagetiger.com/around-ealing-summer-2026

Steyne Road, Acton

This new development of 71 homes for people aged 55 and over is due to be ready in November. With the number of older people in the borough rising, there is a pressing need for more good quality, well-connected housing designed to meet their needs. These homes on the Steyne Road estate are close to Acton High Street and public transport links, helping residents stay connected to local services, shops, and support.

Acton Gardens, Acton

In November, 110 new homes in Acton Gardens are expected to be finished, and ready for people to move in. The council bought these homes while they are still being built, and they will be let to council tenants at genuinely affordable council rents. Once completed, the 20-year regeneration of the neighbourhood will see almost 3,500 new homes built, with 40% of them let at genuinely affordable rents.

For all the latest news on the council's homebuilding projects, go to aroundealing.com/homes

BAFTA win for local talent



Watch a video and read Dean's tips for aspiring writers and filmmakers. Go to: ealing.pagetiger.com/around-ealing-summer-2026

"Winning the BAFTA means a lot personally," said poet, writer and now award-winning filmmaker Dean Atta back in his old stomping ground of Acton.

Dean's poetry often deals with questions of identity and social justice and has been commissioned by multiple prestigious and well-known venues and organisations.

However, he achieved success of a different kind recently when he won the British Short Animation award from BAFTA (British Academy for Film and Television Arts) for *Two Black Boys in Paradise*. It is about a pair of boys, Doula and Eden, in their own private paradise – one that is shattered by suspicion and fear.

Dean grew up in various places in north west London, was a pupil at Twyford High School in Acton and now lives in the borough. And it was at Act One Cinema in Acton (a popular choice with Dean) where *Around Ealing* – and the council's West London Film Office – caught up with him.

Fantasy and reality

"The film has had a long journey from poem to screen," said Dean. "I

wrote the poem 6 or 7 years ago. It's a poem inspired by a painting of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. When I saw that painting, I wanted to put black, queer people in Eden. "

In the film, when Doula and Eden are accused of being thieves, they are snatched out of their paradise and into another, crueler world.

Dean explained: "It's trying to show how we live in multiple worlds. The world we would love to live in and the world, unfortunately, that we face on a daily basis, full of discrimination."

'We're all so different'

The storytelling has a deep resonance for Dean himself; and it is also an attempt to broaden the voices and faces in film, to showcase the positivity of the difference in all of us.

"My idea of paradise is to be seen and accepted for who I am, and not being asked to change or to alter myself for anyone else's agenda. And we can do that for each other.

"And I think the importance of LGBT stories and having a diversity of LGBT stories matters. I think having the intersectional storytelling is super important because we're all so different."

'A special, special night'

After several unsuccessful funding attempts for his 'hugely ambitious project', One6th Animation Studio, led by Baz Sells and Ben Jackson, got financial backing – including from movie and theatre star Sir Ian McKellen – to embark on a long labour of love, featuring an intricate 18-month shoot involving puppets and props.

It came out in 2025 and good reviews were, of course, followed by BAFTA recognition this year. Dean wanted his mum to be the first person outside of the room on awards night to know that he had won.

He recalled: "After my acceptance speech and was backstage, I took my phone off airplane mode to tell my mum that I had won. I just wanted her to know before anyone else and then get back on to the interviews, the photo shoots, all the things you had to do backstage, which took ages.

"It's recognition for what is essentially my first film, which means it's a green light to keep doing this. I hope it also opens the door for other black queer stories to be told because, from the response we've had, it's such a joyous film and people really feel that joy."

Getting on-screen

The West London Film Office is on the lookout for local properties that could be transformed by film and TV crews. Could it be your home or business? Visit westlondonfilloffice.co.uk or email wlf@ealing.gov.uk to find out more.

PITSHANGER	 Rima Baaklini Labour 078 1621 1810 BaakliniR@ealing.gov.uk	 Shaira Karimi Labour 020 8825 8951 shaira.karimi@ealing.gov.uk	 Ben Wesson Labour 075 0242 8483 WessonB@ealing.gov.uk
HANGER HILL	 Mark Sanders Liberal Democrat 020 8825 8996 mark.sanders@ealing.gov.uk	 Athena Zissimos Liberal Democrat 020 8825 6690 ZissimosA@ealing.gov.uk	 Jonathan Oxley Liberal Democrat 020 8825 8198 jonathan.oxley@ealing.gov.uk
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NORTH HANWELL	 Louise Brett Labour 078 1691 6808 BrettL@ealing.gov.uk Deputy leader and Cabinet: Safe and genuinely affordable homes	 Lauren Wall Labour 075 2545 2812 lauren.wall@ealing.gov.uk Cabinet: Thriving communities	 Ray Wall Labour 073 8344 1885 WallRa@ealing.gov.uk
NORTH ACTON	 Hodan Haili Labour 075 7734 1614 HailiHo@ealing.gov.uk	 Blerina Hashani Labour 020 8825 6833 HashaniB@ealing.gov.uk Cabinet: A fairer start	 Subject to results of by-election on 25 June 2026
EAST ACTON	 Stephen Donnelly Labour 077 1409 3099 DonnellyS@ealing.gov.uk Cabinet: Inclusive economy	 Rabia Nasimi Labour 020 8825 8972 rabia.nasimi@ealing.gov.uk	 Hitesh Tailor Labour 079 9063 7183 TailorHi@ealing.gov.uk
SOUTH ACTON	 Husam Alharahsheh Green 020 8825 8987 husam.alharahsheh@ealing.gov.uk	 Katie Douglas Labour 020 8825 8213 KDouglas001@ealing.gov.uk	 Yvonne Johnson Labour 020 8993 4166 JohnsoY1@ealing.gov.uk
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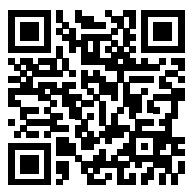
2

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Go to www.ealing.gov.uk/benefitscalculator

3

If you're struggling – reach out. Call 020 8825 7170



Scan the QR code or visit
www.ealing.gov.uk/costofliving

Ealing Council