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About your North Ken News

North Ken News is a dedicated newsletter for North Kensington communities produced by Kensington and Chelsea Council.

Have you got news for us?

We are always on the lookout for good news stories, whether they are about an event you are running, a local hero who is working wonders in your community or a programme or course that local residents could benefit from.

If you would like to get in touch with an idea or story, please email northkennews@rbkc.gov.uk and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

Tell us what you think?

We're interested in hearing your feedback about North Ken News. We want to produce a newsletter which you enjoy reading and you find useful, so please let us know what you'd like to see more of. Email us at northkennews@rbkc.gov.uk

Staying in touch

There are other ways to keep up to date with borough-wide news as well as news and announcements from Kensington and Chelsea Council.



@RBKC
royalborough



www.facebook.com/royalborough



www.nextdoor.co.uk



www.instagram.com/kensingtonandchelseacouncil

For updates on Grenfell



@GrenfellUpdates



www.rbkc.gov.uk/grenfell



To stay up to date with the latest news and events sign up to our newsletter mailing list, visit www.rbkc.gov.uk and search K&C Life

If you would like to opt out of receiving North Ken News or would prefer to read it online, please let us know at northkennews@rbkc.gov.uk

Covid-19

Information on our Coronavirus response and guidance is correct at the time of going to press. For the latest updates, visit www.rbkc.gov.uk/coronavirus



“Act like you’ve got it” says new campaign

New material from the Government and NHS has been released to encourage us all to live our lives as if we have Coronavirus to help prevent the continued spread. One in three people who contract the virus show no symptoms, meaning they may be passing it on to those more vulnerable without knowing they were ever ill.

Cases spiked at the start of this year and continue to be critically high. Only through assuming we have the virus and isolating, washing our hands and wearing face coverings where necessary can we reduce cases.

The NHS website has a wide range of information and advice on how to prevent the spread.
Visit www.NHS.uk/coronavirus

Do you have queries about the vaccine?

We have pulled together a series of FAQs to address some of the most common queries, concerns and misconceptions about the Covid-19 vaccine. People are rightfully inquisitive about the vaccine but it's important that when it's your turn to receive the vaccine, you attend your appointment. It's the quickest way we can beat Coronavirus.

The FAQs cover queries about the safety of the vaccine, those who are pregnant getting the vaccine, how it will combat new strains and a range of other queries.

Visit www.rbkc.gov.uk and search “vaccine” to read the FAQs.

Coronavirus hotspot in North West London causes concern

Figures from last month (January) showed a spike in the number of Coronavirus infections in North West London, with parts of South Brent, North Kensington and North Westminster displaying some of the highest case rates in London.

At the time of going to print cases across the borough had started to reduce but were still high in Golborne, Dalgarno and Notting Dale wards with St Helen's and Colville not far behind.

The increase in this area was being attributed to residents not wearing face coverings in communal areas of blocks of flats and households sharing lifts, young people gathering and playing football at the Westway on pitches that have been closed and people not adhering to social distancing or mask wearing in and around Ladbroke Grove transport hub and nearby supermarkets.

The Council has written to residents in this area to remind them to be vigilant within housing settings and to ensure they're protecting themselves and other residents when moving around their buildings. Improved signage has also been produced so residents are clear on how to use the lifts safely.

Our supermarkets have been a lifeline for many during this pandemic and it is so important we protect our hardworking key workers and keep them safe. Please do shop alone if you can, continue to wear a face covering when shopping in supermarkets or when queueing - it's vital for your safety and the safety of the staff.

Our Community Safety Wardens, together with the Police are visiting supermarkets and public spaces to offer advice and to check that people are wearing face coverings and adhering to social distancing. You could be fined if you're found to be flouting the rules. **You can find out more about our wardens on page 14.**

We are also working with local youth organisations and providers.

Teams are in the area talking to those who they see not sticking to the guidelines. We know that many young people feel this virus won't affect them but the NHS are reporting that more and more younger adults are being admitted to hospital with Coronavirus.



We know that lots of our residents are unable to work from home as they are delivering vital services, so we are offering rapid Community Testing for those without symptoms. You can find out more about this on **page 18** of this newsletter.

If you do have symptoms, remember you must stay at home unless absolutely essential but you are able to leave your home for medical reasons and get a PCR test. The nearest site in **North Kensington is at 2 – 4 Malton Road, W10 5UP**. It is just by Ladbroke Grove station and is open seven days a week, from 8am to 8pm. It is a walk-in centre so please ensure you socially distance and wear a face covering on the way to get a test. You must book in advance by going to www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or calling **119**.

There are also testing centres open on various days at Kensington Olympia and Royal Hospital, go to www.rbkc.gov.uk homepage to find out more. You will need to book online or call in advance to use these, they are drive-in centres.

Responding to the challenges of 2020

Last year saw the world face some of the most challenging adversity in living memory. Despite this, staff, groups and residents in Kensington and Chelsea responded exceptionally and creatively to minimise the impact as much as possible. To provide a snapshot of this, we produced #RBKCWrapped, a series of graphics shared on our social media channels. See the graphics to find out more.

Why not share with us on Twitter a resident, group, or service that helped you last year? Tweet us @RBKC and hashtag #RBKCWrapped. www.twitter.com/rbkc

Support with food and funds for those isolating

The Council is supporting those who are unable to work due to a positive Coronavirus test or exposure to Coronavirus with payments of up to £500 through funding from central Government.

As well as this, those isolating who are unable to access or afford their weekly shop can contact the Council to discuss the support best suited for them, which may include a food delivery service or information on a local foodbank.

If you have any questions about what support is available, you can call the Covid-19 Hub Monday to Friday between 9am and 6pm and Saturday and Sunday between 10am and 4pm.

Telephone: 020 7361 4326
Email: C19Hub@rbkc.gov.uk



Grenfell Recovery Community Update



Grenfell Recovery Community Update

Our aims

We are now almost two years into the Council's five-year Grenfell Recovery Strategy. The programme was set up to support bereaved, survivors and the local community.

We know there is a lot still to do and we want to work with the community as an equal partner as we move into the next phase.

In particular, we want to ensure that:

- ➡ Local people are more involved in shaping and controlling their recovery.
- ➡ The remaining funding has maximum impact for residents and reaches as many people as possible.
- ➡ We support a community-led recovery, with people involved on an ongoing basis.

You can find out more about the Council's Grenfell Recovery work to date on our website www.rbkc.gov.uk/grenfell-response-and-recovery.

The costs of designing and printing this booklet were not met from the ringfenced £50m Grenfell Recovery budget.



What we have heard

As we work with the local community to shape the next phase of the recovery programme, residents have asked us to focus on:

Collaboration

Working with the community as an equal partner, making sure people can shape recovery services.

Impact and inclusivity

Ensuring recovery services reach as many people as possible, and that we can clearly show their impact for local residents.

Legacy

Working with the community to look ahead to the future, focusing on building a long-term sustainable legacy from the tragedy.

How you can shape the programme

- ➡ You can write to us directly with feedback via the contact details at the end of this booklet.
- ➡ You can tell us what you think about plans by responding to the planned consultations in each of the key areas.
- ➡ You can talk to us if you are interested in being involved in regular conversations about the programme.
- ➡ You can read and comment on the annual impact reports that we will be publishing from Autumn 2021.

Key areas of focus

For bereaved and survivors, we will be focusing on providing tailored support against the backdrop of the next phase of the Public Inquiry and decisions about the future of the Tower. We will continue to work with the Dedicated Service Steering Group and other bereaved and survivors to shape plans for longer term support.

Alongside this, we want to work with residents to shape the next phase of the programme for the local community. Here are some of the ideas we'd like to work with local people on:

Targeted support - working with brilliant grassroots providers and launching new initiatives

School-based provision

Our commitment

We want to ensure we reach more children and young people in the local area, working with providers and schools to provide specific support and help build resilience.

What this looks like

New arrangements with providers and schools, shaped by the views of children and families.



December 2020 to March 2021

Engage with children and families, providers and schools to understand their needs and aspirations.



September 2021

New commissioning arrangements in place in schools.

Community-based provision for children and young people

Our commitment

Reaching more children and young people in the community and ensuring that services celebrate and champion the voices of young people.

What this looks like

New arrangements with providers like Latimer Community Art Therapy and Kids on The Green and new initiatives to support children and young people in the community.

Community-based provision for adults

Our commitment

Increasing support to adults in the local community, with a particular focus on culturally appropriate support that people feel comfortable accessing.

What this looks like

New arrangements with the providers delivering services under the 'Together 4 Grenfell' umbrella and a new peer support programme for local residents which will build on community strengths.

Targeted support for children and families

Our commitment

Providing targeted, trauma-informed support to children and families with key local priorities, such as exclusions.

What this looks like

A targeted project looking at ways to prevent and reduce exclusions in North Kensington schools.



January to March 2021

Engage with children and families and the local community to understand their key priorities.



April 2021 to July 2021

New support in place which reflects feedback from children and young people in the local community.



April 2021

New Together 4 Grenfell services in place and peer support programme codesigned with the community.



By June 2021

New peer support programme to launch.



January 2021

Begin codesign of new project with residents.



September 2021

New initiative targeting school exclusions in place.



Community Programme

- building on community strengths to encourage community-led recovery

Grenfell Projects Fund

Our commitment

Supporting grassroots initiatives and championing local priorities, through work with the community to design the next year of the Grenfell Projects Fund with a focus on participation and impact.

What this looks like

Another successful round of the Grenfell Projects Fund, incorporating learning and feedback from local residents and community groups.



December 2020 to January 2021

Work with the community to co-design year two.



April 2021

Community decisions on next round of projects.

Community Leadership Programme

Our commitment

Supporting local people who want to lead their communities in recovery, building on the successes of the programme to date and adapting it to ensure it is delivering the right kind of support.

What this looks like

An accessible and open programme which offers residents support in a wide range of areas and is co-designed with them.



December 2020 to March 2021

Work with the community to adapt the next year of the programme.



April 2021

Launch new Community Leadership Programme.

The Curve

Our commitment

Supporting community-led recovery by making the most of The Curve and other community spaces to build on local people's strengths.

What this looks like

Working closely with the Board of Governors and the local community to support the continued evolution of The Curve, focusing on the things that local people value most.



Early 2021

Begin conversations with Board of Governors and local community about longer-term future and legacy.



Housing legacy initiatives

Our commitment

Building on learning from the tragedy in housing, working with residents to establish a lasting legacy from Grenfell.

What this looks like

- A fund to support housing legacy initiatives for estates in the area immediately surrounding the Tower, which will be codesigned with residents.
- A new allocations project which builds on learning from the Grenfell tragedy and focuses on residents' experience and ways of working with people in housing need.



January 2021

Start work with residents to codesign the Housing Legacy Fund.



May 2021

New fund launches.



January 2021

Begin work with residents to co-design the allocations project.

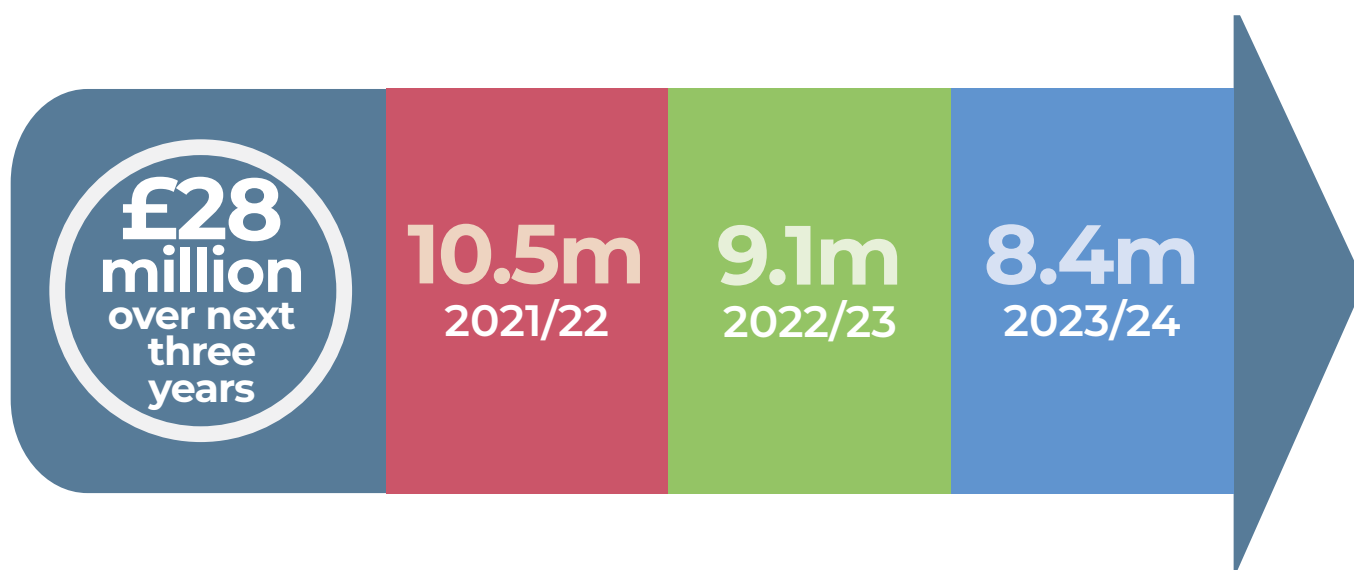


February 2021

Resident reference group established.

Our funding

The Council committed £50m to support Grenfell Recovery services over five years, from April 2019 to March 2024. There is £28m remaining for the next three years.



How to get involved

If you want to get involved in the next phase of the programme, you can email [**grenfellrecovery@rbkc.gov.uk**](mailto:grenfellrecovery@rbkc.gov.uk). Or if you already know which part of the programme you want to get involved in, you can get in touch directly with individual teams on the details below:

- ➔ Targeted support
[**grenfellcommissioning@rbkc.gov.uk**](mailto:grenfellcommissioning@rbkc.gov.uk)
- ➔ Community Programme:
[**communityparticipation@rbkc.gov.uk**](mailto:communityparticipation@rbkc.gov.uk)
- ➔ Housing Legacy fund:
[**housingconsult@rbkc.gov.uk**](mailto:housingconsult@rbkc.gov.uk)
- ➔ Allocations Project:
[**housingpolicy@rbkc.gov.uk**](mailto:housingpolicy@rbkc.gov.uk)



English

Information from this document can be made available in alternative formats and in different languages. If you require further assistance please use the contact details below.

Arabic

يمكن توفير المعلومات التي وردت في هذا المستند بصيغ بديلة ولغات اخرى. إذا كنت في حاجة إلى مزيد من المساعدة، الرجاء استخدام بيانات الاتصال الواردة أدناه.

Farsi

اطلاعات حاوی در این مدارک به صورتهای دیگر و به زبانهای مختلف در دسترس می باشد. در صورت نیاز به کمک بیشتر لطفا از جزئیات تماس ذکر شده در ذیل استفاده کنید.

French

Les informations présentées dans ce document peuvent vous être fournies dans d'autres formats et d'autres langues. Si vous avez besoin d'une aide complémentaire, veuillez utiliser les coordonnées ci-dessous.

Portuguese

A informação presente neste documento pode ser disponibilizada em formatos alternativos e em línguas diferentes. Se desejar mais assistência, use por favor os contactos fornecidos abaixo.

Somali

Macluumaadka dokumentigan waxaa lagu heli karaa qaabab kale iyo luuqado kala duwan. Haddii aad u baahan tahay caawinaad intaas dhaafsiisan fadlan isticmaal xiriirka faahfaahinta hoose.

Spanish

La información en este documento puede facilitarse en formatos alternativos y en diferentes idiomas. Si necesita más ayuda por favor utilice la siguiente información de contacto.

Contact us via email at

grenfellrecovery@rbkc.gov.uk for more details.

North Kensington soil testing update

You may have noticed some soil testing taking place around Kensington Leisure Centre and Kensington Aldridge Academy over the last two weeks of January.

The samples were extracted by hand as part of the planning sign-off for Kensington Aldridge Academy and the work is unconnected to the Stage 2 Environmental Checks Programme.

For further details, please email patrick.cooper@rbkc.gov.uk



Wardens keep the community safe

While out-and-about getting your shopping or other essentials, you might have seen our Community Safety Wardens around the borough.

To keep you safe, our Community Safety Wardens along with the police have been visiting supermarkets, food shops, cafes and markets to make sure that staff and customers are following the rules around face coverings and social distancing.

We're so grateful to the vast majority of people who are sticking with the rules and acting safely. For those who aren't following the rules, either on purpose or because they aren't sure of the latest guidance, the Wardens are there to provide a reminder. If we all follow the rules, we can get through this much quicker

Remember, you could be fined by the police if you're found to be flouting the rules. Visit www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home for a reminder on what we can and cannot do during this time.



Building homes for the future

Edenham site

The New Homes Delivery Programme has identified the site adjacent to Trellick Tower, known as Edenham, as a potential area to deliver new homes for the borough.

At the end of last year we consulted residents, local businesses and community groups about the proposals and this is what you told us.

98 feedback forms were received

49 local residents, organisations and businesses attended our two live chat sessions.

Your thoughts on:

• the plans for new homes



Over **1/3rd** of those who responded supported the plans



49% objected due to concerns about loss of recreation space and loss of the graffiti wall

• size of new homes



25% one bed
37% two bed
31% three or more

• improvements you'd like to see on site



58% street lighting



55% accessible green space



50% feeling safe

• most important aspects of the site

29 comments on public art space/graffiti

27 comments on recreation/sports/play spaces

20 comments community/culture/history

We are now drawing up more detailed plans for the Edenham site, taking into account your feedback. The second phase of consultation will take place in February 2021. Read the Edenham new homes feedback report:

www.rbkc.gov.uk/housing/new-homes-consultation/edenham

Update from North West London NHS

The NHS is working to vaccinate everyone in the priority groups (those over 80, some over 70, those at high risk, those who live or work in care homes and health and social care workers) as quickly as possible. This will take time, but they are committed to getting all people in this group vaccinated by the end of February 2021.

We know it can be frustrating to see some people being offered the vaccine when you have not yet heard about your own; the NHS is opening vaccination sites as quickly as possible and will get to you soon.

They will also start vaccinating those over 75 from early February, but again this will take time to get to everyone.

The NHS will contact you when they are able to offer you an appointment, this will either be a letter or phone call from your GP.

If you miss the phone call please don't worry, they will call again or send you a letter.

One local resident, Sonia, had her vaccination in January. Following her vaccination, Sonia said: "It's an absolutely marvellous system that's been set up and



it's important that we respond to the invitation to have the vaccination. My own experience today was a very relaxed and happy one."

Another resident, John Antrobus, said: "The atmosphere is so healing. It's a miracle - so take the miracle."

Please don't contact your doctor or the NHS asking about vaccination; this is not a service that you are able to book in advance. The NHS will contact you when your turn comes in the months ahead. If you are contacted, please do attend the appointment.

Please also be aware some people may receive two invites. If this happens, please pick the site you would prefer to visit for your vaccination and follow the booking-in advice provided. You can ignore the second invite.

Travelling to and from a vaccination site is essential travel, but please remember to wear a face mask when visiting and adhere to social distancing measures.

For the latest information on who the vaccine is being offered to, search 'NHS Coronavirus Vaccine'.



How can you get more out of your local library?

We're consulting on how your library can do more for you and your community.



Getting more out of Kensal Library

The Council is looking at how community spaces can offer the most they possibly can for residents as part of our social investment strategy.

We are looking at how we can share the space at Kensal Library with a like-minded organisations to strengthen the library's sustainability well into the future. We're asking those living in the Kensal area to share their thoughts on this project through an upcoming consultation.

The consultation launched on Monday 11 January 2021 and will be open to submissions from all those

who live in the area and use the library. You have until Sunday 21 February to tell us your views. The consultation is available at the following link: consult.rbkc.gov.uk/communities/kensal-library

Follow @RBKCLibraries on Twitter and Instagram for more information and updates.

We know how well-loved our local libraries are and we're pleased that our three largest and most-used libraries have reopened for select and collect services as well as computer and internet use.

Find out the latest on our libraries, visit www.rbkc.gov.uk and search for Libraries.

Grenfell Tower – have your say

As the owner of the Grenfell Tower site, the Government wants to engage with bereaved family members, survivors, local residents and the North Kensington community on decisions and activity relating to the Tower.

Share your views with Kaizen, a community engagement specialist appointed by the government, by emailing info@kaizen.org.uk, calling 020 7082 5505 to arrange a conversation, or completing the online survey at: www.surveymonkey.com/r/grenfellmemorial

You can also talk to the team from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) at their next online question and answer event on Tuesday 2 February, 6 to 7pm. Join with the weblink bit.ly/2FebEvent.

Please email GrenfellTowerSite@communities.gov.uk if you would like the link to the event sending to you directly, or if you have a specific question that you would like to ask.

You can find the latest information about the Tower on the digital signs around the site and read all the Grenfell Tower community updates and letters online at www.gov.uk/grenfell-community-updates.

Community testing for people without Coronavirus symptoms

Coronavirus community rapid testing is being offered across Kensington and Chelsea as cases continue to rise sharply in London.

If you do not have any Coronavirus symptoms and fall into one of the following categories, please get a free rapid test:

- Cannot work from home
- Critical workers
- Essential retail workers
- Tradespeople who enter people's homes.

Please visit the gov.uk and search Covid-19 Critical Worker Status for further information on critical workers.

Since December, over 16,000 tests have been carried out at the three Kensington and Chelsea sites for those without symptoms, with over 700 people receiving a positive test result, helping prevent the spread of the virus before the residents fell ill.

You can visit any of the three sites to get a rapid community test. **Please do not attend if you have any Coronavirus symptoms.**

The Great Hall at Kensington Town Hall, Hornton Street

Opening hours:
8.30am to 6pm Monday to Friday
10am to 4pm Saturday and Sunday

The Café at Kensington Leisure Centre, Silchester Road

Opening hours:
10am to 4pm seven days a week.

Chelsea Old Town Hall, King's Road

Opening hours:
10am to 4pm seven days a week.



Thank you for getting tested

If you test negative, please consider having another test in three days in case the virus has not developed enough to register on the test.

If you receive a positive result, you should go home immediately and contact the NHS on **119** or www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test to order a home PCR test kit. Please do not return to the Testing Centre.

Self-isolate until you have the results of this test.

If you need support or advice during the national lockdown please visit www.rbkc.gov.uk/coronavirus



 **Together K&C**
Protect Lives, Protect Livelihoods

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THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

A rapid community test means you will get the results within one hour. Unlike the Coronavirus test (known as a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test) that you take if you have symptoms, you do not need to book to get the rapid community test.

If you receive a positive test you must self-isolate and book a standard PCR test as soon as possible. There is a permanent Coronavirus testing site in Malton Road and a mobile site two or three times a week at both Kensington Olympia and Royal Hospital for these tests. Visit www.rbkc.gov.uk and search Coronavirus Testing for information on these sites.

The test can only say if you have Coronavirus at the point of testing and not to check if you have had it previously. You must continue to follow the government advice of Hands, Face, Space.



Be aware of Covid-19 scams

Residents are being reminded to be vigilant against fraudsters exploiting the Covid-19 pandemic to scam people. The latest scam reported to Trading Standards and the Police fraudulently offers a Covid-19 vaccination.

The messages claim to be from the NHS, informing people they are eligible for the Covid-19 vaccine and asking them to apply and provide payment details.

The Covid-19 Vaccination is only available from the NHS and the NHS will contact you when it is your turn.

The NHS will never:

- ask you to press a button on your keypad or send a text asking you to confirm you want the vaccine.
- ask for payment for the vaccine or for your bank details.

Scammers have been taking advantage of the pandemic since March 2020, claiming to provide information, advice or support. Other scams to look out for include:

- Messages claiming to be HMRC offering a support payment and scam emails from the government offering a tax rebate in light of the recent pandemic. These scams ask for bank details. Genuine emails from the government will never ask for bank details.
- Scammers taking advantage of those working from home, claiming to be from well-known broadband providers and gaining access to the victim's computer or phone.

Avoid falling victim to a scam:

Don't click on links or attachments in unexpected texts, emails or instant messages.

Challenge every request for your personal details.

Don't respond to unexpected phone calls, regardless of what they say or know about you, hang up and verify their claims via a trusted method (such as the official website or official phone number).

To report a scam visit
www.actionfraud.police.uk

For more information about how to spot scams visit
www.which.co.uk/consumer-rights/advice/how-to-spot-a-scam



Phone CNWL if you need help in a mental health crisis

The NHS Central and North West London Foundation Trust (CNWL) has seen a rise in the number of people calling its mental health crisis line.

The 24-hour Single Point of Access service can help de-escalate crisis and refer callers to the First Response service should an urgent face-to-face assessment be needed. This minimises the number of people having to go to A&E – better for the

individual and better for hospitals during the pandemic.

Call 0800 0234 650 or
email cnw-tr.spa@nhs.net;
they also take calls from 111.

For more information on the support offered by CNWL, visit their website
www.cnwl.nhs.uk

Kick off 2021 by participating in local Council meetings

The new year can be the perfect time to start new habits, including attending local Council meetings online.

You can attend virtual Planning, Leadership Team, Overview and Scrutiny meetings and more from the comfort of home. Participate by sending in questions in advance (where applicable) and learn about upcoming changes and decisions in the borough. Find out how you can take more of an active role in having your say.

Add upcoming meetings to your calendar online by using the add to calendar feature.

Visit www.rbkc.gov.uk/committees/Meetings.aspx



Subscribe now to our Council newsletter, K&C Life

Would you like to know about service disruptions to parking, rubbish collection and more a bit sooner? Need ideas on how you can get involved in your local community or receive support?

Then make sure you are subscribed to our weekly newsletter K&C Life.

K&C Life is emailed every Thursday to your inbox with the latest information concerning the borough. **Stay connected and informed.**

K&C Life



Subscribe today