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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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/coronavirus)

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](https://twitter.com/RBKC)  [www.facebook.com/royalborough](https://www.facebook.com/royalborough)

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

 [www.instagram.com/kensingtonandchelseacouncil](https://www.instagram.com/kensingtonandchelseacouncil)

For updates on Grenfell

 [@GrenfellUpdates](https://twitter.com/GrenfellUpdates)

 [www.rbkc.gov.uk/grenfell](http://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](http://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](mailto:northkennews@rbkc.gov.uk)

# Help and support with flood damage

Following a month's worth of rain falling in just one evening, North Kensington was badly affected by flash flooding on Monday 12 July. Since then, the Council has been working to ensure affected residents have suitable accommodation and support.

We have contacted all Council housing tenants and those residents in temporary accommodation to offer them support. All affected tenants who required accommodation were helped from their homes into safe accommodation.

Our housing management service has been dispatching roofers, plumbers, drainage teams, electricians and caretakers to any Council homes in need of emergency repairs.

We are continuing to make welfare calls to residents. The Council's Covid-19 Hub is offering support collecting food and medicines for people who may still be in need.



## FLOOD ALERT

Please call Streetline on 020 7361 3001 if you need any domestic items collecting which have been damaged because of the flooding.

For more information and guidance on flooding, visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk) and search 'flooding'.

# Get stuck into the Summer of Love

With a range of events, activities and attractions to enjoy, rediscover the borough over the summer holidays through the K&C Summer of Love.

Showcasing what local businesses, high streets, parks, markets, museums and more have to offer in #OurRBKC, the Summer of Love brings together a jam-packed schedule of what's on in Kensington and Chelsea up to the end of September, to suit all ages and interests.

Check out the latest at [www.rbkc.gov.uk/summer-of-love](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/summer-of-love) and follow our social media channels for exciting competitions with fantastic prizes including three-course meals and free family museum tickets.



To find out more scan this QR code

Hands Face Space  
#OurRBKC

## Easing of lockdown

**On Monday 19 July the Government moved to Step 4 of easing lockdown, meaning nearly all restrictions have gone.**

You can meet up with as many people as you want, inside or outside. However, Covid-19 has not gone away, and the Government is encouraging everyone to be cautious and think about where they are. If you are in an enclosed space, it may be safer to wear a face covering, even if you don't have to. Also, the Mayor of London has insisted that people using buses and the Tube must still wear a face covering.

If you are visiting a Council building, we would encourage you to wear a face covering if appropriate.



For more information, visit [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) and search 'lockdown'.

## Vaccinations

**Everyone aged 18 and over can now get a Coronavirus vaccination, predominately this is now Pfizer, although some places are offering Moderna.**

You can book an appointment at the Science Museum, online, by going to [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or by calling 119. You can also simply walk up to the Science Museum and get a jab without booking. Your second jab must be no sooner than eight weeks after your first.

You might also see our vaccine bus which is out and about in the borough three days a week, go to [www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk) and search vaccine bus to find out when it will be near you.

More than 80 million doses of the vaccine have been taken so far in the country, helping people protect themselves, their families and communities. If you have any concerns you can speak to your GP or go to [www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk) and search 'Coronavirus FAQs' for more information.

# ACAVA brings creative fun to families this summer

**ACAVA is calling all North Kensington families for Flourish 'Nurture', creative learning for families over the summer holidays, every Monday to Wednesday until 25 August.**

All workshops are led by professional artist-educators and look at ways to reconnect with our family members, friends, and neighbours, after 18 months of social restrictions. Expect storytelling

and foraging, learn new creative techniques, create imaginary worlds indoors and outside in the garden. Book a place for you and your family today by visiting [www.acava.org](http://www.acava.org)

ACAVA is also accepting referrals for Flourish in the Forest, a programme that offers creative garden play to families without access to private outdoor space. Register your interest on the ACAA website [www.acava.org](http://www.acava.org)



Photo by Jason Garcia on behalf of Young K+C



Photo by Ashleigh Ramel

## Make summer memories at the Kensington and Chelsea Festival

**It's not too late for you to take part in the Kensington and Chelsea Festival this summer.**

The festival features several free and fun activities like circus performances, dancing, poetry, art, and so much more running until Saturday 31 August.

Make sure you check out the programme to find a creative and inspiring outdoor activity you'd like to give a try. The events are for people of all ages and interests including displays from hypnotic aerialists and entertaining dancers. Whatever you pick for you and your loved ones to enjoy, it is bound to be unforgettable.

A promotional poster for the Kensington + Chelsea Festival. The background is a vibrant blue with falling confetti in various colors. The text is white and arranged in a clean, modern font. At the top, it says 'KENSINGTON + CHELSEA FESTIVAL'. Below that, it lists activities: 'DANCE', 'MUSIC', 'SPOKEN WORD', 'ART', 'WEEKENDER', 'OUTDOOR ARTS' on the left; and 'CIRCUS', 'THEATRE', 'OPERA', 'FILM', 'LITERATURE' on the right. At the bottom left, it says '21 JUNE - 31 AUGUST 2021'. At the bottom right, it says 'KCFESTIVAL.CO.UK' and '@KCFESTIVALUK'.

**See what's on at:**  
[www.kcfestival.co.uk/programme](http://www.kcfestival.co.uk/programme)

# Last call to apply for Black History Month grants

**Interested in putting on a local event to celebrate Black History Month this year? It's your last chance to access up to £500 in funding via the Black History Month small grants scheme.**

The scheme is back for a second year and open to all who would like the opportunity to host an event for Black History Month this October. Last year, we saw a variety of local organisations host online workshops, produce informative documentaries and much more to pay tribute to the influence Black British, African and Caribbean people have had on the borough, London and the UK as a whole. If you have an idea, why not make it a reality with some help from the Council?

Applications close on Monday 9 August so make sure you don't miss out and email [culture@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:culture@rbkc.gov.uk) for more details.



# Make the most of summer with Our City

**Young people have been enjoying a summer full of fun, creativity, sport, and activities to suit every interest through our Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme for 2021, offered in partnership with Westminster City Council, Young Westminster, Young K&C and the Department for Education.**

Those aged five to 16 across both Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster are spoiled for choice with over 100 local providers sharing what they're offering this summer on one handy website, making deciding how you'll spend the summer an absolute breeze.

A guiding principle of the HAF is to ensure that young people stay occupied and entertained during the summer break and that free lunches are provided to those who need them. Places will be prioritised for this group but there's plenty of room for all young people to get involved and activities to meet the needs of those with special educational needs and disabilities too.

It's not too late to find something to make the rest of this summer one to remember!



# Government publishes soil sampling report

**Full results of the second stage of environmental checks carried out on the soil around the Grenfell Tower site have been published.**

The soil sampling was carried out by independent environmental specialist AECOM to identify any significant contamination from the Grenfell tragedy and assess any health or environmental risks that may have arisen.

The findings show that the levels of chemicals discovered are typical of those generally found in urban areas. The sampling has not found any evidence of land contamination or an elevated risk to people's health due to the Grenfell Tower tragedy.

AECOM found that no further action was required at 43 of the 45 sites tested across the two stages. The results from two sites – Treadgold House and Avondale Park Gardens – showed variations in the lead levels in a small number of samples which are unrelated to the Grenfell tragedy.

Further testing will be carried out in both locations and the Council is communicating directly with residents.

These results do not change the existing advice from Public Health England which applies to anyone handling soil in an urban area, which is to follow general good practice such as washing your hands after gardening, working or playing in soil and washing and peeling homegrown fruit and vegetables.

You can view the full Stage 2 report and an information sheet from Public Health England at [www.gov.uk/guidance/grenfell-environmental-checks-stage-2-report](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/grenfell-environmental-checks-stage-2-report). If you have any questions about the environmental checks, please email [environmental-checks@communities.gov.uk](mailto:environmental-checks@communities.gov.uk)

If you have concerns about your health, you should discuss them with their GP or access enhanced health checks offered by the NHS. More details can be found at [www.grenfell.nhs.uk/physicalhealth/enhanced-health-check](http://www.grenfell.nhs.uk/physicalhealth/enhanced-health-check)

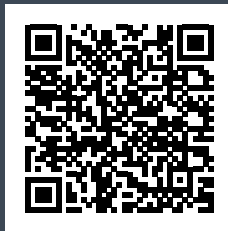


# This month's update from the Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission

## Learning from others

The independent Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission is working with the community to decide on a memorial to those who lost their lives in the Grenfell tragedy. The Memorial Commission is keen to learn from the experiences of other memorials, and, at a recent meeting, heard from a guest speaker from the 9/11 memorial and museum.

Scan the QR code or visit the link to read minutes from all the Memorial Commission's meetings: [www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/news/meeting-minutes-and-upcoming-meetings-schedule](http://www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/news/meeting-minutes-and-upcoming-meetings-schedule)



## Ideas so far

The Memorial Commission has recently talked about some of the ideas and thoughts it has heard from people for a future memorial, which include a green space, water, and a place for reflection, education and the names of those that were lost. You can read more about that at [www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/news](http://www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/news)

If you've not seen it already, you can also see the community representatives speaking about their hopes for the memorial in their commemorative video: [bit.ly/gtmcvideo](https://bit.ly/gtmcvideo)

The Memorial Commission is keen to hear from you. Share your thoughts and ideas on a future memorial with them by:

- Using their contact page [www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact](http://www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact)
- Emailing [GTMCSecretariat@communities.gov.uk](mailto:GTMCSecretariat@communities.gov.uk)
- Calling **0303 444 4831**
- Attending community meetings. For details go to the meetings page on the website [www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk](http://www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk)
- Coming to the Memorial Commission's informal monthly drop-ins – the next one is on Saturday 4 September. Look out for further details at [www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact](http://www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact)

Follow the Memorial Commission's news and updates:

- Sign up to their newsletter and email notifications at [www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact](http://www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact)
- Twitter [@GrenfellTowerMC](https://twitter.com/GrenfellTowerMC)
- Instagram [www.instagram.com/grenfelltowermc](https://www.instagram.com/grenfelltowermc)

## Join our residents' panel to help oversee the Grenfell Projects Fund and Community Leadership Programme

If you live in North Kensington and are passionate about influencing and shaping these two Grenfell community recovery projects, we'd love to hear from you.

Please register your interest by highlighting the reasons why you would like to join the residents' panel by or scanning the QR Code or visiting this website <https://consult.rbkc.gov.uk/communities/87cbc50b> by 31 August 2021.

Incentives for your time and expenses will be offered. You will also have access to training.

For more details on the Grenfell Projects Fund and Community Leadership Programme visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk/grenfell-projects-fund](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/grenfell-projects-fund) or call Valeria Spada on **07855 160947**.



# Carnival to go online

Notting Hill Carnival will be off the streets for a second year running over the August bank holiday weekend (29-30 August 2021) due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic. Instead, the Carnival community has come together to create Carnival Culture In The Park. This is a programme of smaller events featuring an itinerary of all the elements we know and love including steel pan bands, sound systems, food and Soca music. Events will take place at Opera Holland Park on 19, 20 and 21 August. Much of this will be streamed, so you can enjoy Carnival from the comfort of your home.



Safety is a top priority for the Carnival organisers, so these smaller events will serve as a way to reduce the amount of people in any one space. However, the organisers look forward to returning to the streets as usual in 2022.

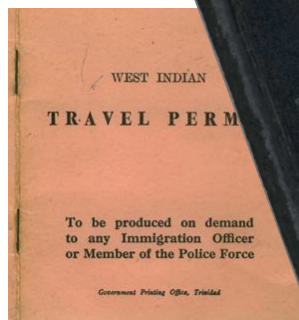
The organisers, Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster City Councils and the Police are working together to ensure we all stay safe, and do not support any unlicensed events or street parties taking place in the borough over the weekend.

More details will be released closer to the time but information on how to enjoy Carnival this year is available at [www.nhcarnival.org](http://www.nhcarnival.org)

## Windrush exhibition postponed

**We promoted an upcoming exhibition on the Windrush Generation in the last edition of North Ken News (July). Unfortunately, to ensure public health and safety measures are maintained during this recent peak of Coronavirus cases, we have decided to postpone the Windrush Generation: London is the Place for Me exhibition.**

Instead, the exhibition will take place on Windrush Day, Wednesday 22 June 2022. Not only will this postponement ensure visitors to the exhibit are kept safe and well, it will also allow more time to expand and enrich the collection. We'll be sure to let you know details closer to the time.



If you would like to contribute your Windrush era artefact or story, please contact [Windrush1@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:Windrush1@rbkc.gov.uk)



# An update on New Homes

Consultation has been progressing on the four sites making up phase two of our New Homes Programme: **Barlby Road, Cheyne, Edenham and Silchester Arches.** A total of 97 homes have already been approved in phase one of the New Homes Delivery Programme, with construction underway at Kensal Road and Hewer Street. For general updates on new homes in the borough, visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk) and search 'New Homes Delivery Programme'.



**Building  
for the  
Future**

## Silchester

An application for planning permission to build 11 social homes for rent on the Silchester Arches site in North Kensington, has now been submitted to the Council's Planning Department. Silchester Arches is one of our phase two sites which forms part of the New Homes Delivery Programme. The programme aims to build 600 new homes in the borough, 300 of which will be for social rent.

The planning application follows two rounds of consultation with local residents and stakeholders and two "You said, We did" resident engagement sessions where we were able to outline how we had adapted plans following resident feedback.

Once validated, the plans will be visible on the Council's planning application page [www.rbkc.gov.uk/planning/searches](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/planning/searches) where residents will be able to comment formally. The Planning Department will also erect a notice on the Silchester Arches site confirming details of the consultation process.

### Comments are able to be made:

- Online – via the planning application page detailed above
- Via email – to [planning@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:planning@rbkc.gov.uk)
- In the post – to Strategic Development Team, Kensington and Chelsea Council, Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8 7NX

Any comments provided will then be considered by the Planning Department.

You can find out more information about the Silchester new homes plan on the Silchester Arches web page [www.rbkc.gov.uk/new-homes-silchester-arches](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/new-homes-silchester-arches)

## Barlby Road

Thank you to everyone who took part in the second round of consultation into plans for new Council-owned homes on Barlby Road.

The consultation closed on 21 July and we are now using your feedback to shape a final set of plans which will be shared with the community at the start of September. Check out the latest updates at [www.rbkc.gov.uk/new-homes-barlby](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/new-homes-barlby)

## Edenham

Following feedback from residents on plans for new homes and community improvements at Edenham, we are holding an additional round of consultation to ensure concerns and feedback from residents are captured. The round 3 sessions took place on Wednesday 14 July, Saturday 17 July and Saturday 24 July. You can stay up to date with this scheme at [www.rbkc.gov.uk/new-homes-edenham](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/new-homes-edenham) and comment on the latest proposals until Friday 20 August.

## Cheyne

In the south of the borough, two consultation events took place on a new nursery, children's centre and social rent homes at Cheyne. These were attended by 49 residents who shared their feedback, thoughts and concerns on the scheme. We are currently in the process of organising the next consultation event at which we will present updated plans that incorporate and respond to the queries raised at the first round of consultation events. You can stay up to date with this scheme at [www.rbkc.gov.uk/new-homes-cheyne](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/new-homes-cheyne)

# Shop to give back to your local community

**Your monthly shop could be working harder to protect the environment and give back to your community.**

The Society Company (SoCo) is a new grocery delivery service enabling residents to reduce their plastic waste while supporting local initiatives. Not only do they package their dried goods in paper packaging (ready for recycling) they also collect customers' empty bottles to be refilled for the next delivery.

SoCo is supporting The Pantry, a new partnership between the Council, Venture Centre and local housing providers which offers a reduced-cost shop to people in Kensington and Chelsea who need support to afford their weekly shop. For every £1 spent by Kensington and Chelsea residents at SoCo, 15p will be donated towards the running and longevity of The Pantry.

There's a direct link between the money you spend on your household's shop and aid provided to people in your community.

To find out more about the Society Company and browse their online store, visit [www.societycompany.co.uk](http://www.societycompany.co.uk)



To find out more about The Pantry or to query whether you would be eligible to benefit from a reduced-cost shop at The Pantry, email [alex.talbot@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:alex.talbot@rbkc.gov.uk)

# This month's update from the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government

Grenfell  
community  
updates

## The future of Grenfell Tower

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has written to residents to update them on the meetings they have held with the community on the future of the Tower. The letter shares what has been heard so far, and the responses to some of the most frequently asked questions.



Scan this QR code to read the letter online



Scan this QR code to read the advice that will inform a decision on the Tower:

## Some frequently asked questions are:

**Q.** Has a decision about the future of the Tower already been reached?

**A.** No. The Government has received advice from engineering experts, which we are carefully considering, and want to discuss with you, before a decision is made. We expect a decision to be made in September.

**Q.** Who is the new principal contractor and what will they do?

**A.** The new contractor is Deconstruct UK Ltd (DUK), part of De-Group. They have been working at the Grenfell Tower site since 2017 and understand the structure of the Tower and sensitive management of the site. They have not been appointed to carefully take down the Tower. If a decision were taken to deconstruct the Tower, we would procure a specialist contractor to carry out any future works on the Tower using our usual, thorough procurement process.

For more information, please go to:  
[www.gov.uk/grenfell-community-updates](http://www.gov.uk/grenfell-community-updates)

If you have questions about the future of the Tower, please email:  
[GrenfellTowerSite@communities.gov.uk](mailto:GrenfellTowerSite@communities.gov.uk)

or phone: 0303 444 0011

For the latest information on the future of the Tower go to:  
[www.gov.uk/grenfell-community-updates](http://www.gov.uk/grenfell-community-updates)

**Q.** Are you collecting ideas for a memorial?

**A.** The independent Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission has been established to enable bereaved families, survivors and local residents to decide together on the future memorial, ensuring the voices of the bereaved families are clearly heard. We will pass any ideas that we have heard onto the Memorial Commission and would encourage you to continue to share your ideas directly with them: [www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact](http://www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact)

# Have your say to help create a new borough-wide Markets Plan 2021-2026

We want to hear your thoughts on new proposals to make trading and visiting Portobello and Golborne and other markets in Kensington and Chelsea, even better in the future.

Following conversations with traders, businesses and residents earlier in the year, over 50 proposals have been developed which cover topics including sustainability, safety, events, active travel and supporting new enterprises. We would like to hear what you think about these so that the Council can write a new Markets Plan and launch it later this year.



## Markets Plan Consultation Document

July 2021



Get involved and help make our markets an even better place to be. See: [www.rbkc.gov.uk/communities/markets-plan](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/communities/markets-plan) or to receive a paper copy, please email [street.trading@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:street.trading@rbkc.gov.uk) or call 020 7727 7684. The consultation closes on Friday 17 September 2021.



# Have your say on the future look of Kensington Memorial and Avondale Parks

We are carrying out consultations on what facilities and planting Kensington Memorial Park and Avondale Park should have.

Much of the playground equipment and other facilities are reaching the end of their planned use, so we want to hear your views on what is needed now. Both consultations run until Sunday 5 September.

You can get more information about what is planned and take part in the online consultation by going to [www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk) and searching 'Kensington Memorial Park' or 'Avondale Park'.



## Kensington Memorial Park Improvements Consultation

We are seeking your views on improvements to Kensington Memorial Park (St Mark's Park).

This is your chance to give us your thoughts on:

- The future of park buildings
- New park proposals
- Improvements to the playground

Find more information and our online survey at [www.rbkc.gov.uk/kensington-memorial-park](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/kensington-memorial-park) or join us for consultation drop-in sessions in the park:

- Wednesday 21 July at 3pm to 5pm
- Thursday 29 July 3pm to 5pm
- Saturday 31 July pm to 3pm
- Tuesday 3 August at 10am – midday

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

The online consultation will close on Sunday 5 September.

If you require the survey in an alternative format, please email [kmpimprovements@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:kmpimprovements@rbkc.gov.uk)

