

LambethTalk

YOUR FREE LAMBETH COUNCIL MAGAZINE

SPRING 2026



Lambeth services rated Good **p.4**

Budget priorities **p. 6**

Supporting the homeless **p.17**

Street cleaning **p. 26**

A borough of
equity and justice



Lambeth

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WELCOME

Dear residents,

In 2022, Lambeth Council set out to deliver great public services for residents, and we've worked hard every day to deliver on that promise.

The progress over the last four years is clear. Lambeth's Youth Justice Service was rated 'Good' in 2026 for the first time since before 2014. All Lambeth secondary schools are now rated 'Good' or 'Outstanding'. Our housing services received the second-highest grade from the regulator, and OFSTED's latest inspection found Children's services at Lambeth Council are now 'good' with Outstanding support for care leavers, a huge improvement from 'inadequate' in 2015.



Last year, Lambeth was also named Borough of the Year, recognising progress on affordable housing, jobs and skills.

We'll keep working hard to deliver the great public services you deserve.

**Councillor Claire Holland,
Leader of Lambeth Council**

Green flags across the borough Page 10



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Edited and designed by the Lambeth Communications team. Contact us: communications@lambeth.gov.uk

NEWS

A round up of the biggest news and events in your borough



Services for Lambeth Children transformed

Ofsted say children’s services in Lambeth have dramatically improved since the last inspection in 2022, when they were judged to require improvement. Their latest inspection found Children’s services at Lambeth Council are now ‘good’ with Outstanding support for care leavers.

The service was previously rated as ‘requires improvement’ in 2018 and 2022, and ‘inadequate’ prior to that in 2015.

Councillor Ben Kind, Cabinet Member for Children and Families, said: “Ofsted’s

judgement that Lambeth’s children’s services are now Good, with Outstanding support for care leavers, is a powerful endorsement of the progress made by the people who support children and young people in our borough.

“We are proud of the progress made since the last inspection in 2022, and we are already continuing to strengthen services, including the way families access help at the front door, so children receive the right support at the earliest possible stage.”



A ‘Good’ Youth Justice Service

Lambeth Youth Justice Service (YJS), which supports young people in contact with the criminal justice system, has been praised by His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Probation.

In a report, inspectors highlighted strong work across assessment, planning and delivery, and praised the service’s trauma-informed approach. They said staff understood how trauma affects children’s wellbeing, worked closely with young people, and made sure their voices shaped support plans.

Lambeth YJS received an overall rating of **Good** with outstanding features, a clear improvement on previous ratings.

Cabinet Member for Safer Communities, Cllr Dr Mahamed Hashi welcomed the findings, saying strong interventions can change young lives and help make Lambeth safer.

Chief Inspector Martin Jones said staff understood children’s diverse needs. Inspectors recommended improvements to victim work, including stronger resourcing and more consistent support across the service.



Cllr Donatus Anyanwu with Alex Wheatle’s daughter, Serena.

Alex Wheatle reading room

A reading room at Brixton Library was named after author Alex Wheatle MBE, the “Brixton Bard”, as Lambeth Council marked a year since his passing with a celebration of his life.

The Alex Wheatle Reading Room was inaugurated on Wednesday 4 February in partnership with Stepping Into Stories Kids’ Lit Fest. Councillor Donatus Anyanwu said Alex was “a giant of storytelling” and a voice for his community.

Alex’s books drew on his teenage years in Brixton and time in care,

highlighting Black communities in Lambeth and the Windrush Generation. He also inspired young writers through workshops, talks and Lambeth Libraries.

The event featured authors influenced by Alex, reading from his work and sharing memories. The unveiling creates a space for generations to read and write, and also launches Lambeth Libraries’ National Year of Reading programme and a Black Classic Literature Collection.

My Beautiful Laundrette

A new commemorative plaque for My Beautiful Laundrette was unveiled on Wilcox Road on Saturday 28 February.

A screening of the film then took place at the Ritzy. Guests from Wilcox Road headed to the cinema for a drinks reception, before cast and crew joined a post-film Q&A.

The reinstatement linked to LGBT History Month, the film’s 40th anniversary and the Ritzy’s 115th anniversary. Planning conditions secured the commemoration, with the developer funding the replacement plaque and reception.

Support from the Community Connections Fund helped oversee the project and also supported future heritage work, including a planned Paul O’Grady plaque and the next phase of the Rainbow Plaque project with LGBT Hero. Guests included Hanif Kureishi, Stephen Frears, Gordon Warnecke and Rebecca O’Brien.



David Robson LGBTQ Forum, Leader of Lambeth Council Cllr Claire Holland

40 years of care and community

Joe Hunte Court, Lambeth’s sheltered housing scheme in Knight’s Hill, has marked its 40th anniversary, celebrating four decades of care and community for older and vulnerable residents.

Deputy Lieutenant for Greater London Mr Anthony Griffiths and the Mayor of Lambeth, Councillor Adrian Garden, joined residents and families and paid tribute to scheme manager Tara Solanki, who has worked at Joe Hunte Court since the first residents moved in on 20 February 1986.

Tara’s son Emile presented her with a letter from 10 Downing Street offering congratulations and thanks on behalf of the Prime Minister. Named after community activist Joe Hunte,



the scheme has reflected Lambeth’s diversity from the start, and Tara said supporting residents over 40 years has been “a real privilege”.

As part of social value commitments with contractors T Brown Pinnacle and SER, the scheme has received upgrades including a refurbished laundry room and a new en-suite guest

room for visiting relatives.

Resident Christine, 62, moved in during 2024 after the death of her husband and now runs art therapy sessions and teaches digital skills. “It’s about staying connected and supporting each other,” she said. Supported by contractor OCO, the anniversary celebrated inclusion, dignity and care.

Budget: What we plan to do

More than 5,000 Lambeth residents shared views on council spending over the next four years, as rising demand and costs put pressure on local services.

Lambeth must find £84 million in savings over four years to set a legally balanced budget. Residents said spending should prioritise waste and street cleaning, cutting violence and anti-social behaviour, and support for

vulnerable residents. They also backed efficiencies such as renting out council buildings and increasing income through commercial events.

Councillor Judith Cavanagh, interim Cabinet Member for Finance, thanked the 5,155 people who completed the survey and others who attended in-person meetings. The council also produced an Easy Read version and held discussions with under-25s through the Children in Care Council,

SEND Youth Council and Youth Council.

Top priorities were cutting violence and anti-social behaviour (40%), waste, recycling and street cleaning (39%), and children’s social care (31%).

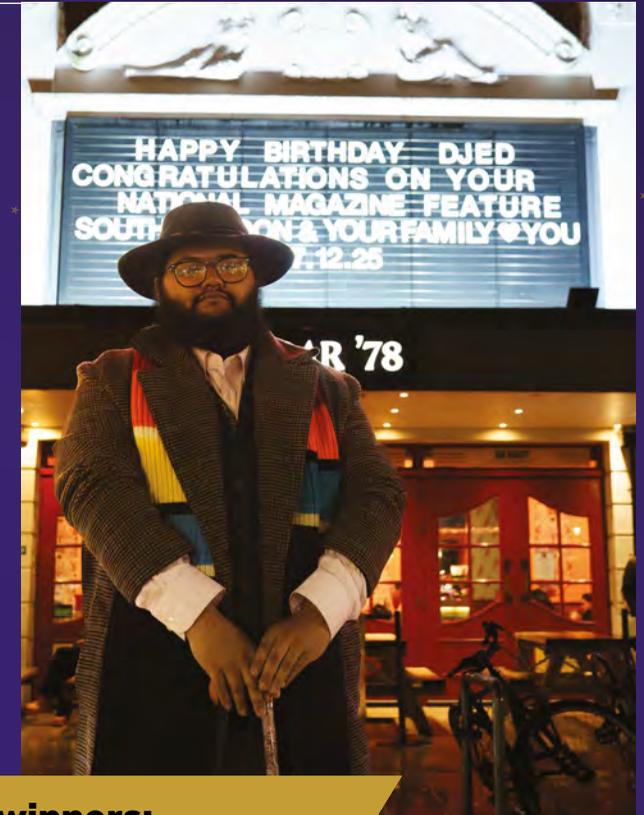
A new report sets out how feedback will shape decisions, including renting out office space, reducing senior managers, expanding digital and AI-enabled services, and raising income through commercial events.

Lambeth Civic Awards 2026

The Lambeth Civic Awards celebrate the outstanding contributions of residents, volunteers, community groups and organisations across the borough. The awards recognise those who dedicate their time, passion and skills to strengthening communities, championing local causes, protecting the environment, supporting health and wellbeing, inspiring young people and enriching Lambeth’s cultural life.

Between Thursday 18 December and Sunday 25 January, the Lambeth community nominated individuals, groups and organisations whose work makes a meaningful difference to others. We celebrated the winners and recognised their achievements at an event held at the Town Hall on 17 March 2026.

This year’s ceremony is made possible thanks to the kind and generous support of our sponsors: Marston Holdings, APCOA, Capita, WPS (Wates Property Services), CDER Group and Higgins Partnership.



Here are our winners:

Mayor’s Award for Volunteer & Community Champion (Sponsored by Capita)

Djed Khan-Warsop (Individual)

Climate and Green Spaces Award

Myatt’s Fields Park Project (Organisation)

Safer Lambeth Award (Sponsored by Wates)

Dr Ron Dodzro, Juvenis (Individual)

Arts and Cultural Heritage Award

The Boury Academy (Organisation)

Social Enterprise Award

Helping Hands Collective CIC (Organisation)

Health & Wellbeing Award

Healthcare Team HMP Brixton

Empowering Young People Award (Sponsored by Marston Holdings)

MINDHEART Creative Therapies C.I.C



SAFER STRONGER TOGETHER

BRIXTON

A Safe Hub on Windrush Square

Brixton has a new Safe Hub on Windrush Square, launched as part of a Home Office-funded "hyperlocal" initiative to reduce knife crime in Brixton Town Centre. The hub is delivered in partnership by Lambeth Council, the Home Office and Brixton Business Improvement District (Brixton BID), and is managed day-to-day by Brixton BID's Street Team.

What the Safe Hub offers

The Safe Hub provides practical, immediate support for anyone who needs it, including phone

charging, first aid, and a safe space for people who feel threatened. It is designed to help at the times crime is more likely to spike.

Opening days

The hub operates Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, focusing on busy after-school and evening periods.

Early impact and wider action

In its first weeks, the Safe Hub has already supported over 300 people. Alongside the hub, safety

work includes additional CCTV targeted at known hotspots and data-driven, intelligence-led policing around key transport links. Youth-focused interventions are also part of the approach, including on-street outreach and "active bystander" training delivered locally, plus knife amnesty pop-ups.

These targeted efforts sit within wider borough progress, with Lambeth reporting a 36% decrease in recorded knife crime between January 2025 and January 2026.

L-R: Leader of Lambeth Council Cllr Claire Holland, Crime and Policing Minister Sarah Jones, Superintendent Mark Gallacher, Lambeth and Southwark BCU.



Standing united against hate crime

Lambeth Council and the Metropolitan Police are encouraging anyone who experiences or witnesses a hate crime to report it.

Lambeth is proud to be one of London's most diverse boroughs, with hundreds of languages spoken, communities from every faith, a long legacy of welcoming people from around the world, including the Windrush Generation and those fleeing recent conflicts in Ukraine, Syria and Afghanistan. The borough has the highest proportion of LGBTQ+ residents in London – 8.3%.

The vast majority rightly see that diversity as a unique strength that makes them proud to call Lambeth home. However, hate crime continues and is a serious concern for local communities.

Cllr Dr. Mahamed Hashi, Lambeth's Cabinet Member for Safer Communities, said: "One of Lambeth's great strengths is the diversity, but sadly we still see

those who would seek to target this diversity with hatred.

"So, it is vital we continue efforts to raise awareness of hate crime locally, improve reporting of incidents, and ensure that survivors receive appropriate support. We believe people can be reluctant to report hate crime, so we're encouraging our communities to officially share incidents."

Hate Crime is any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim to or any other person

to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person's race or perceived race disability, faith, gender identity, or sexual orientation, or any other protected characteristic.

If you experience or witness a hate crime in Lambeth, report it to the police on 999 or 101.

Alternatively, you can report hate crimes to the independent advice and support services listed below. They can provide help and advocacy you may need to deal with this issue.

VICTIM SUPPORT – victimsupport.org.uk or call 08 08 16 89 111

COMMUNITY SECURITY TRUST (CST) – Anti-Semitic hate crime – online at cst.org.uk/report-incident

TELL MAMA – Anti-Muslim hate crime – online at tellmamauk.org

GALOP – LGBT hate crime – call 0800 999 5428, more info at galop.org.uk/helpline

SCOPE – disability hate crime, call 0808 800 3333 or visit scope.org.uk/advice-and-support/hate-crime

Green flags across the borough

Lambeth's growing collection of Green Flag parks is a clear sign of borough-wide success in protecting and improving public green space. In 2024, Lambeth achieved its highest-ever total with 25 sites meeting the recognised standard for high-quality parks and green spaces through the Green Flag scheme, awarded by Keep Britain Tidy. Lambeth also held two Green Heritage Award-accredited spaces and four Green Flag Community Award sites, underlining both long-



term care and strong community involvement.

These awards reflect everyday experience, parks that are safe, welcoming, sustainable, well maintained, and accessible. They

also recognise the partnership.

Council teams working with residents and community groups so parks can support exercise, play, contact with nature, and wellbeing across the borough.

Free walks in Brockwell Park



century kitchen garden, is now a richly planted public space supported by volunteers from the Friends of Brockwell Park. Brockwell Lido, opened in 1937, includes a Grade II listed Art Deco building renovated in 2007. The ornamental ponds, now home to ducks and swans, began as watering holes for farm animals and were later used as a bathing lake until the Lido opened.

Free guided group walks are also led by Black Prince Trust, meeting outside the Brockwell Hall café at 11am every Friday. Funded by the National Lottery Heritage programme as part of restoration work at Brockwell Hall, and developed with Brockwell Park Community Partners.

“Traces of the Landscape” is a new self-guided walking trail that helps visitors explore Brockwell Park’s history. A free trail map is available from the exhibition space in Brockwell Hall. The route explains how the Hall was once framed by a landscaped “pleasure ground,” with flowerbeds and planned

viewpoints across the parkland, and how the park changed during the Second World War, when air raid shelters and Dig for Victory allotments were created.

Several stops focus on features still central to park life today. The Walled Garden, once a 19th-



Voltaire Road: A Seven-Day Success for Clapham

Voltaire Road’s new car-free zone is already proving what many local businesses and residents hoped, giving Clapham a calmer, more welcoming street that’s better for trading, walking, and spending time outdoors. Building on the strong turnout from three years of car-free weekends, the scheme has now made that energy part of everyday life, turning a busy cut-through into a place people actively choose to linger.

The impact on local hospitality has been immediate. With more room for tables and chairs, cafés, bars, and restaurants have extended outdoors in a way that feels natural rather than squeezed. Traders report stronger footfall and a livelier street throughout the week, not just on peak weekend hours,

as people stop for coffee, meet friends, or eat outside on their way to and from Clapham High Street. With fewer vehicles, movement is smoother and safer, and the street feels easier to navigate for everyone, including wheelchair

“Less traffic, safer walking, easier access, and a high street atmosphere that lasts beyond the weekend.”

users, families with buggies, and people using mobility scooters. Extra public space, created by repurposing parking areas, has made a noticeable difference, with seating and planters softening the street and encouraging people to stay longer.

Access still works for the practical needs of the area. Servicing and loading continue during set morning hours on weekdays, keeping businesses supplied while protecting the calmer feel for most of the day.

With monitoring in place and continued opportunities for feedback, Voltaire Road is now being held up as a clear example of how rebalancing street space can support the local economy and create a more people-friendly town centre.

Lambeth Borough

Council Elections

Thursday 7 May 2026

Lambeth Borough Council Elections take place every four years. Elections will be held to elect 63 ward councillors, representing 25 wards for the London Borough of Lambeth on **Thursday 7 May 2026**.

Who can Vote at these Elections?

To vote in these elections you must:

- Already be registered to vote in Lambeth or apply to be registered to vote by **midnight on Monday 20 April 2026**
- Be aged 18 years old on polling day (**Thursday 7 May**)
- Be a British citizen or an Irish citizen.
- You can also vote if you have permission to enter or stay in the UK, Channel Islands or Isle of Man, or you do not need permission, and you're a:
 - Commonwealth citizen
 - Citizen of Denmark, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal or Spain

– Citizen of another EU country, if you have had permission to enter or stay - or not needed permission - since 31 December 2020, and this has continued without a break

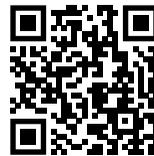
How do I Register to Vote?

The quickest and easiest way to register to vote is at gov.uk/register-to-vote – you will need to enter your date of birth and National Insurance number, if you have one.

The deadline for registering to vote at these elections is **midnight on Monday 20 April**. Applications received after this deadline will not be eligible for these elections.

Voter ID Requirements

All polling station voters must present an accepted form of photographic Voter ID to receive their ballot paper. A full list of accepted ID is available at lambeth.gov.uk/vote



If you do not have an accepted form of photo ID, you can apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate at gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate

The deadline for new Voter Authority Certificate applications for this election is **5pm, Tuesday 28 April**.

Polling Stations and Poll Cards

Your designated polling station will be included on your poll card. Poll cards will be sent to voters from **Friday 27 March 2026**. You do not need your poll card to vote.

Your polling station may have changed since the last time you voted, so please read the information on your poll card carefully.

Polling stations will be open from 7am to 10pm on polling day, **Thursday 7 May 2026**.

What if I can't go to my designated polling station on polling day?

If you can't attend your polling station on polling day you can apply for a postal or proxy vote.

Voting by post means we will send you a posting voting pack before polling day so you can complete your ballot paper at home and return it in the post. Voting by proxy means someone you trust voting on your behalf.

How does postal voting work at the Council Elections?

1. Submit your postal voting application by **5pm, Tuesday 21 April 2026 (the postal vote deadline for these elections)**.
2. A postal ballot pack will be sent to you by first class post before polling day.
3. You'll need to provide your signature and date of birth on a postal voting statement and return it in the pre-paid envelope provided, along with your completed ballot paper(s).

How do I apply?

The quickest and easiest way to apply is online at: gov.uk/apply-postal-vote

You will need:

- ✓ Your date of birth
- ✓ Your National Insurance number, if you have one
- ✓ To upload a photo of your



handwritten signature, using black ink on plain white paper

What if I can't complete an online application?

You can ask us to send you a paper form, or visit our offices to make an application in person.

When will you send my postal vote?

Postal ballots will be dispatched for the Borough Council Elections from Monday 20 April 2026. We'll tell you when your postal voting pack is being dispatched on your poll card. Dispatch dates are also published on our web pages.

If applying for a postal vote because you are travelling away from home, you will need to consider whether it will reach you in time and may wish to apply for a proxy vote instead.

What if I forget to return my postal vote or it gets lost?

You can hand deliver your completed postal voting pack to a Lambeth polling station or to Lambeth Town Hall, up to 10pm

on polling day. Replacements for lost postal ballots can be issued from **Thursday 30 April 2026** up until **5pm on polling day**.

Can I still vote at my polling station if I choose to vote by post?

No. If you decide you'd rather vote at a polling station, you'll need to cancel your postal vote by **5pm on Tuesday 21 April 2026 (the deadline for new postal voting applications and changes to existing postal and proxy votes)**.

Can't provide a consistent signature?

You may be able to apply for a signature waiver. Get in touch using our contact details below.

How do I apply for a proxy vote?

The quickest and easier way is to apply online: gov.uk/apply-proxy-vote

The deadline to apply to vote by proxy at these elections is **5pm, Tuesday 28 April**

Find out more information about voting and electoral registration in Lambeth at lambeth.gov.uk/vote or phone our Helpline on **020 7926 2254**.

Apply for a postal vote



COMMUNITY NEWS

Smart local climate action

Millennium Community Solutions (MCS) is working with residents to build a fair, inclusive response to climate change in Lambeth. MCS listens to local people and responds to what residents say they need.

As climate impacts become more visible, many households are looking for practical ways to cut costs, reduce energy use and protect their communities. One growing area of opportunity is everyday home technology.

Smart devices can help residents manage energy use in simple, affordable ways. Heating and cooling account for a large share of household energy use, so smart thermostats, lighting and connected appliances can make a real difference. Devices such as Hive thermostats and smart bulbs help people reduce waste, lower bills and cut carbon emissions.

Technology can also improve safety and resilience. Portable solar-powered backup devices,

such as EcoFlow generators, can provide power during outages, helping families stay connected and maintain essential services in emergencies.

When people have access to clear information and practical tools, they feel more confident and better prepared. Climate action becomes something done with communities, not to them. MCS is helping residents take steps towards a greener, fairer and more resilient Lambeth.

Find out more: Tuesdays, 1–3pm, Southwyck Hall, SW9 8UR.

Volunteer and help Lambeth get online

Community TechAid (CTA) is calling on Lambeth residents to volunteer and help tackle digital exclusion in the borough.

CTA refurbishes and redistributes donated laptops, tablets and smartphones to individuals and families across Lambeth. These devices help people apply for jobs, complete schoolwork, access NHS and council services, and stay in touch with friends and family.

Volunteers support every stage of this process: refurbishing devices, preparing them for reuse, helping with distribution and assisting with day-to-day activities. You do not need to be a tech expert. CTA provides training, guidance and a

welcoming environment, whether you can offer a few hours a week or occasional support.

Volunteering with CTA also offers a chance to build skills, meet new people and contribute to a positive local project. For young people aged 18–25, CTA’s Digital Futures work experience programme offers hands-on experience in device refurbishment, sustainability and digital inclusion. It helps participants build confidence and develop practical workplace skills for the future.

CTA is especially keen to hear from people who enjoy practical tasks, teamwork or supporting their local community. Alongside volunteers,

the charity also welcomes donations of unused laptops, tablets and smartphones, plus financial support to help refurbish more devices.

Volunteering with Community TechAid is a meaningful way to give back locally while helping make Lambeth more connected and sustainable. By reusing devices and widening access, CTA supports both digital inclusion and environmental goals.

Find out more by scanning the QR code or contact **020 3488 7742**

contact@communitytechaid.org.uk



Strong, Connected, and Resilient

Catriona Macleod



Binki Taylor



Mala Naicker



The Brixton Project is bringing together a **community-led Lambeth Emergency Community Resilience Network** to work alongside the Borough Resilience Forum during serious emergencies.

This network connects community organisations, faith groups, grassroots networks and residents to help map local needs

and ensure statutory services are better informed and linked to trusted local partners.

The aim is to help make sure everyone is accounted for in a crisis and can access vital resources such as food, shelter, clothing and support services.

Through community-led discussions, local people have

already explored the types of emergencies Lambeth may face and how communities can respond together. These conversations centre local knowledge, lived experience and trusted networks in emergency planning.

This spring, the network will reconvene to agree community protocols and emergency plans, keeping community voices at the heart of Lambeth’s resilience work.

Join the network by scanning the QR code.



To suggest groups, tenants’ associations or services, contact: **hello@thebrixtonproject.com**



Greater London Pet Crematorium
Forever in your heart

Book the cremation now



Streatham Cemetery, Garrett Lane, Tooting, London SW17 0LT

Learn local, move forward

Practical courses for Lambeth residents to build skills, confidence and new opportunities — from English, ESOL and digital skills to wellbeing, care, teaching support, animal care and photography. Whether you're preparing for work, changing direction or just ready to try something new, there's a supportive course to help you take the next step.



Course	Start Date	End Date	Day	Provider & Location	Phone
Functional Skills English at E2/E3	02 April 2026	14 May 2026	Thu & Fri	MISDC Brixton, 47A Bellefields Road, Brixton, SW9 9UH	020 7501 6450
ESOL Reading at E2/E3	13 April 2026	26 May 2026	Mon & Tue	MISDC Brixton, 47A Bellefields Road, Brixton, SW9 9UH	020 7501 6450
Introduction to Teaching Assistant	20 April 2026	28 April 2026	Mon & Tue	MISDC Brixton, 47A Bellefields Road, Brixton, SW9 9UH	020 7501 6450
ESOL and Sustainability	22 April 2026	08 July 2026	Wed	Baytree Centre, 300 - 302 Brixton Road, SW9 6AE	0207 733 5283
English For All – Entry 1	25 April 2026	11 July 2026	Sat	IRMO, Unit 9, Warwick House, Overton Road, London, SW9 7JP	020 7733 5672
Essential Digital Skills for Work at E3	27 April 2026	22 May 2026	Mon-Fri	Train2Work Academy, 410 Streatham High Road, SW16 6EX	020 3981 1990
Stress Management	29 April 2026	20 May 2026	Wed	Baytree Centre, 300 - 302 Brixton Road, SW9 6AE	0207 733 5283
Award for Professions in Animal Care (Level 1)	30 April 2026	03 July 2026	Thu & Fri	High Trees, 220 Upper Tulse Hill, SW2 2NS	020 8671 3132
ESOL Pre-Entry	06 May 2026	29 May 2026	Wed & Fri	Train2Work Academy, 410 Streatham High Road, SW16 6EX	020 3981 1990
Level 2 Award Support in Schools and Colleges	11 May 2026	20 July 2026	Mon	MISDC Brixton, 47A Bellefields Road, Brixton, SW9 9UH	020 7501 6450
Digital Skills for Work Entry 3	11 May 2026	13 July 2026	Mon	High Trees, 220 Upper Tulse Hill, SW2 2NS	020 8671 3132
Access to Care	26 May 2026	05 June 2026	Mon-Fri	Train2Work Academy, 410 Streatham High Road, SW16 6EX	020 3981 1990
Step Up Photography	26 May 2026	08 July 2026	Tue & Wed	Photofusion, Unit 2, 2 Beehive Place, Brixton, SW9 7QR	020 7738 5774



Tackling rough sleeping

More than 200 rough sleepers were helped off the streets by Lambeth Council last year, and its homelessness prevention services have helped thousands more people keep a roof over their heads.

On-street teams go out on early morning shifts and throughout the day, liaising with the police and other agencies. They have experience of working with Lambeth's communities and knowledge of the range of services on offer.

The on-street engagement work across the borough addresses rough sleeping as well as drug and alcohol addiction. Most recent figures show more than 300 adults in Lambeth were helped into treatment compared to the previous year, to just under 2,000 adults in total.

Via thestreetlink.org.uk or by scanning the QR code residents in Lambeth can help someone sleeping rough.



Are you affected by a family member or friend's drinking or drug use?

We're here to help! Our service for carers looking after someone with alcohol and substance misuse issues offers:

Tailored Support for Carers of All Ages

.Peer Support Groups for Young Adult Carers & Adult Carers

Helpful Information



020 7501 8970

www.carershub.org.uk

connect@carershub.org.uk

Charity Number: 1182120 Company Number: 11403363





How Lambeth cleaned up its air

If you walked down Brixton Road a decade ago, the numbers told a bleak story. In 2015, the roadside monitoring station recorded 883 breaches of the legal air-quality limit. By 2024, that figure had fallen to zero, dramatically reducing the pollution that once “plagued the main road”, says Lambeth Council’s Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) review.

The review charts a reduction in traffic-linked pollutants, including nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and particulate pollution from vehicles, construction, commercial activity and domestic heating. Lambeth now complies with UK standards and says it is working towards the World Health Organization’s tighter guidelines.

The borough credits a layered approach. More than 45 “School Streets” schemes restrict traffic outside schools, cutting congestion and children’s exposure to fumes. Its kerbside strategy has delivered 2.8km of protected cycle tracks and hundreds of electric-vehicle charge points, while over 12,000 trees have been planted. Citywide action matters too: Lambeth cites estimates that NO₂ across London is 27% lower than it would have been without the Ultra Low Emission Zone.

The new AQAP replaces the 2023–2025 plan and sets out seven priorities, from cleaner transport and fleet action to

controls on emissions from developments and buildings, plus freight, local solutions and public-health awareness. Next steps include a dedicated officer to monitor construction-site pollution, trials of indoor air monitoring in some council homes to understand retrofit impacts and tackle damp and mould, and more support for low-emission freight, bike hangars and EV charging.

Residents can track conditions through a borough-wide network of lightweight monitors. Brixton’s turnaround offers a lesson for other high-street hotspots: set ambitious targets, then deliver.

New social housing



Lambeth Council has made strong progress in providing more safe, secure and genuinely affordable new homes for local people over the past year. The latest project to be completed is at Fenwick Place in Clapham, a development of 27 new council homes for Lambeth residents.

In Brixton work will soon start on phase two of the Somerleyton Road project to build 378 new homes, with more than 50 per cent of them to be affordable.

On top of that the council’s plans for 49 Brixton Station Road, aiming to bring 288 new homes, including social rent homes, new workspace, shops and improved public areas for residents, is progressing.

The council’s New Homes Hexagon partnership with Countryside will start work on new homes across six Lambeth sites later this year, while a Leigham Court Road, Streatham scheme will provide 92 homes, including council-owned social rent homes.

“We face deep housing crisis, but we are acting with urgency, creativity and determination.”

There has also been good progress on the regeneration of Westbury Estate, where around 1,000 new homes are planned, with at least 40 per cent of them to be affordable.

Cllr Danny Adilypour, Deputy Leader of Lambeth Council and Cabinet Member for Housing, Investment and New Homes, said: “Every new home delivered in Lambeth is a life transformed – a family moving out of temporary accommodation, a key worker finally able to live near their job, a young person able to stay in the community they love.

The Charters Close, Gypsy Hill scheme will create 18 affordable independent living homes for young adults and the council is also buying 51 homes to house homeless families.

Alongside building and buying homes, the council has also identified 40 more council-owned sites for future affordable housing.

Brockwell Bark (Woof)

Brockwell Bark, a new community dog show, comes to Brockwell Park this May Bank Holiday on **Monday 4 May 2026**, reviving a much-loved local tradition last seen in 2015. Held on the lawn of the historic, recently reopened Brockwell Hall, the free, non-profit event welcomes everyone, dog owners, neighbours, families and friends, for an inclusive afternoon celebrating South London's dog-loving community while raising funds for animal welfare.

The event's main sponsor is Brockwell Vets, Herne Hill's independent vet practice. Expect classic dog-show fun with a playful Brockwell twist, including



light-hearted categories such as Happiest Tail, Pup Star, Village Veterans, Rescue Runway and fancy-dress capers, building to Best in Show-Biz. Audience participation is encouraged through public voting and a judging panel, with local food and drink available.

Dog entries are pay-what-you-can (recommended £5). Proceeds



support Blue Cross Victoria. Details and entry: brockwellbark.co.uk – Updates: [@brockwell_bark](https://twitter.com/brockwell_bark).



Hábitos Saludables

Para la comunidad de habla hispana y portuguesa en Lambeth

Si te preocupa tu peso y eres residente o estás registrado en un centro médico/médico de familia en el municipio de Lambeth, apúntate a nuestro programa gratuito de peso saludable de 12 semanas.

Disfruta aprendiendo hábitos saludables y duraderos. Un programa impartido por profesionales de habla hispana, respetuosos con tu cultura.

- Programa de cambio de hábitos
- Actividad física divertida
- Basado en evidencia científica
- Planificación de comidas
- Alimentación consciente
- Cómo leer etiquetado comercial

📞 Para más información llama al teléfono 07394866548 (Maria Urquijo)

📅 Comienza en abril de 2026

📍 Ferndale Community Sports Centre, Nursery Road, London SW9 8BP

Hábitos Saudáveis

Para a comunidade de língua espanhola e portuguesa em Lambeth

Se você está preocupado com seu peso e é residente ou está registrado com um centro médico/clínico geral no bairro de Lambeth, participe do nosso programa gratuito de 12 semanas para ter um peso saudável.

Voce aprenderá hábitos saudáveis e duradouros, ministrados por profissionais que falam espanhol e respeitam a diversidade cultural.

- Programa de mudança de hábitos
- Atividade física divertida
- Baseado em evidências científicas
- Planejamento de refeições
- Alimentação consciente
- Leitura de rótulos

📞 Para obter mais informações, entre em contato com 07394866548 (Maria Urquijo)

📅 Começa em abril de 2026

📍 Ferndale Community Sports Centre, Nursery Road, London SW9 8BP

Drive Clean. Charge Local. Go Electric

Lambeth's growing EV charging network makes it easy to power up where you live, work, and relax.

- Charge overnight near home.
- Plug in close to work or leisure spots.
- Support smarter operations for your business.

Find your nearest charger today on Zap-Map and join the move to cleaner air.



#DriveLambethElectric
#CleanAirLambeth #EVCharging



A place we can all call home



ARE YOU AFFECTED BY SOMEONE ELSE'S DRUG OR ALCOHOL USE?

Adfam is here to help you cope. We provide FREE one-to-one sessions, to explore your experiences and get support around your needs to find a positive way forward. Sessions are by Zoom or by phone.

Our support may include:

- ✔ A chance to express your feelings.
- ✔ Understanding addiction and why it causes people to make choices that are hard to understand.
- ✔ How to provide support and look after yourself and your family.
- ✔ What to expect from treatment services.
- ✔ Coping with stress and feeling overwhelmed.
- ✔ Communicating positively and reducing conflict.
- ✔ How to support and explain things to children.

Refer to the service via our website:

 adfam.org.uk/lambeth



FREE sessions to help families achieve a healthier diet and a more active lifestyle.

New courses will be starting in April 2026.

To register or make a referral please use our online link at lambeth.gov.uk/ready-steady-go

Contact the team on **020 7926 0619** or email readysteadygo@lambeth.gov.uk

All staff are really friendly and knowledgeable. We will miss the sessions!



Ferndale Community Sports Centre

ACTIVE PUTT & PLAY Mini Golf

Putt a spring in your step

- Explore & discover from as little as £5 per person*
- 15 themed holes inspired by iconic Lambeth landmarks
- Fun obstacles, bridges, twists and turns
- Perfect for families, friends, dates and groups



BOOK NOW



Add a strike of fun to your day and enjoy Active Bowling at **Brixton Recreation Centre** too.

active.lambeth.gov.uk

only a 5 min walk 

Repeat prescriptions? Only order what you need.



By Lelly Oboh, pharmacist in south east London

If you take regular medicines, you'll know how easy it is to tick "re-order" on your repeat prescription. But before you do this, it's worth having a quick look at what you already have at home. If you still have enough medicine to get you through, you don't need to order more just yet.



Only ordering what you need helps keep you safe. Having lots of extra medicines at home increases the chance they'll go out of date, meaning they may no longer work as they should.

"Ask your GP practice for a medication review."

If you've stopped taking a medicine or aren't sure you still need it, ask your GP practice for a medication review. This review is to make sure everything on your prescription is right for you.

"Unused medicines cost around £300 million every year."

It might feel like a small thing, but it genuinely makes a big difference. Across the NHS, unused medicines cost around £300 million every year. Ordering only what you need helps reduce this waste and helps prevent shortages for others who rely on the same medicines.

A quick check before you re-order is all it takes. When it comes to repeat prescriptions, only order what you need.

Only order  what you need



From 1st January 2026 young children will be offered protection against chicken pox



Ask your GP practice or nurse about the MMRV vaccine



Keep our streets clean – tackle fly-tipping

At Lambeth Council, we're asking residents to help us tackle illegal fly-tipping by reporting it and using the simple, legal ways to get rid of waste and unwanted items. Fly-tipping is a criminal offence, and it also wastes public money.

Clearing each fly-tip costs the council around £50 on average. Across the borough, that adds up to more than £500,000 a year—money that would be better spent on parks, youth services, and support for vulnerable residents.

Fly-tippers also risk serious penalties. Illegal dumping can

lead to fines of up to £50,000, and in the worst cases prison. If you see fly-tipping, please report it so we can take action.

We're also encouraging everyone to choose legal and responsible options: donate reusable goods through our re-use charity partners, arrange a collection through the council or private firms, or use our waste and recycling services.

As Cllr Rezina Chowdhury, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Sustainable Lambeth and Clean Air, said: "I want to thank Lambeth residents who

care for their area, care for their neighbours and legally dispose of their unwanted goods and waste. We're working hard to improve our neighbourhoods and keep our streets clean. Help us make a difference by backing this push to tackle the anti-social blight that is fly-tipping."

Please report them at [lambeth.gov.uk/report-fly-tipping](https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/report-fly-tipping)



Start the gardening season on the right foot!

Let me, Gordon the Garden Gnome, help you!

Q: Can I put garden waste in my rubbish bin?

A: No, garden waste shouldn't be put in your rubbish bin. The council may not empty your rubbish bin if it contains garden waste.

Q: If I subscribe to the council's garden waste service, will it be recycled?

A: Yes, it'll be turned into compost and used on farms to grow more food!

Q: Can I recycle all my garden waste?

A: Yes! Grass cuttings, leaves, twigs and small branches, weeds, hedge trimmings, and even fruit fallen from trees can all be recycled with the council's garden waste service.



Subscribe Now

Sign up at wasteservice.lambeth.gov.uk/gardenwaste or scan the QR code.

For more facts and info, visit www.lambeth.gov.uk/gardenwaste



Lambeth Borough Council Elections, Thursday 7 May 2026



Apply for your **POSTAL** **BALLOT** now!

**Can't get to your polling station on polling day?
Apply to vote by post and your postal ballot pack will be
sent to you before polling day.**

The deadline to apply to vote by post at these elections is 5pm, Tuesday 21 April.

Read the article inside this edition or apply now at: gov.uk/apply-postal-vote

You will need:

- Your National Insurance number
- To upload a photo of your handwritten signature, using black ink on plain white paper



Find out more at lambeth.gov.uk/vote or phone our
Helpline on **020 7926 2254**