

Lambethtalk

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WINTER 2020

FREE TO YOUR DOOR



TOGETHER WE CAN FIGHT COVID-19

A cooperative council

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Lambeth

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Photo © James Hopkirk
See his record of contemporary Lambeth lives at
www.southlondonstories.com

As the pandemic unfolded, we took urgent steps to re-target our grants programmes in response.

We offered our knowledge and networks to bring an additional £330,000 into Lambeth, to support local people.

Along with our own grants, we supported more than 60 Lambeth community groups and schools with grants amounting to £870,000 helping them adapt and respond to the impact of the virus on Lambeth's lowest income families and young people.

We are proud of Lambeth's voluntary sector for the way it responded to the unexpected. Read some of our Lambeth Lockdown stories at walcotfoundation.org.uk/covid-19

The end is not yet in sight. And even once Covid-19 is brought under some control, the enduring fact of modern day poverty remains: 43% of Lambeth's children are growing up in poverty.

Our work is to help those affected by low-income in Lambeth. We aim at whole-life change. We don't give handouts but a hand up.

If you are in a position to channel any of your own money through our networks you'll be helping those who most need it. We make no deduction for our administrative costs, so 100% of what you give reaches its target - more if you Gift Aid it.

Please visit our website to find out more, or email grants@walcotfoundation.org.uk. *Thank you.*

We are Lambeth's principal independent grant-making charity and we date from the 16th century. We work to improve the whole-life prospects of those affected by modern day poverty and disadvantage. Over the ten years to March 2020 we made 3,372 grants totalling £19,655,000.

Welcome

Dear resident

I continue to be incredibly proud of the people of Lambeth. Every single one of us is going through an incredibly difficult and challenging time, some more than others, but all of us nonetheless. And the strength of community and kinship in Lambeth is something that is keeping us all going.

Which is why in October, Lambeth council acted to provide free school meals during half-term for local children who needed them, after the UK government refused to do so. Councils shouldn't have to do that, but the fact remains that the economy is not working for many in our borough.

We will continue to argue with Government for the resources and protection that our residents deserve. But what it shows us is that if people from all walks of

life come together to demand a better situation for themselves and their neighbours then we can effect change. Whether it be Marcus Rashford MBE, a footballer campaigning against a wrong that he himself had endured, to our teachers, parents, businesses and communities who help put food on the table, we all have a role to play.

So we must all ask ourselves at Christmas time what we can do for our neighbours, our friends and our communities. Throughout the pandemic, and more recently the calls to arms for October half term food, I have also been overwhelmed by the hundreds of people to ask what they can do to help, whatever their own personal circumstance.

If you have the spare time or resources, please consider volunteering in your community,



donating to food banks or looking out for your neighbours. You can sign up for our Team Lambeth volunteering at <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/forms/volunteer-to-help-your-community> or look for more details on pages 12 or 23.

While we will always lobby the government to take more action on issues like food poverty, we can also work together to help our neighbours and use the resources of our community to ensure that no-one is left without the support they need.

Merry Christmas

Cllr Jack Hopkins
Leader of Lambeth Council

For the latest information go to [lambeth.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/coronavirus)

For translation of articles in any other language, large print format, or to opt-out from receiving the magazine contact: lambethtalk@lambeth.gov.uk

Shopping service for vulnerable residents



Are you vulnerable or self-isolating? Let us do the shopping for you.

Call the MYcommunity Gateway service on 0333 360 3700 or email mycommunity@ageuklambeth.org Open Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm

NEWS



Brixton based architects Squire & Partners will continue their award winning Winter Windows installation – now in its fourth year – as a collaboration between local young people and the practice’s modelmaking team. Previous installations have been created with Stockwell Primary, Hill Mead Primary and Landsdowne School. This year, recognising that opportunities are extremely limited for young people as we navigate through Covid-19, Squire & Partners is working with We Rise – the award winning local organisation working to empower young people – to offer a group of young adults the change to not only design the installation, but learn problem solving, software and technical skills to physically make the artworks too. It’s hoped the project will become a valuable experience for their future careers.

Free meals for children

Lambeth Council provided free school meals to all school children in the borough who needed them during the school holiday in October.

A proposal to extend the current free school meals for school holidays nationally was voted down in Parliament, a decision that caused frustration to many families. Taking inspiration from Marcus Rashford’s campaign, Lambeth Council took the decision to act locally and fund the free school meals programme for the October half-term to ensure that children that are most in need will be provided with vouchers over this holiday period. Cllr Jack Hopkins, Lambeth Council Leader, said: “Levels of poverty are only increasing due to the economic hardship of the Covid-19 pandemic

and now is the time for us all to recognise the need for compassion and support for all.” Cllr Ed Davie, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, said: “We’ve seen a powerful national campaign by Marcus Rashford that has forced action on the issue of child food poverty. We have done the same during summer holidays for many years. “The council will fund the scheme, costing approximately £165,000 and distribute it via vouchers. It will support over 10,000 children from families on low incomes.”

SignLive Service

Sign Live, a live translation service enabling deaf residents to be able to communicate both face to face and via the telephone, went live in the Lambeth Customer Centre late in 2019. It is now also available when calling the Lambeth Call Centre. With the customer centre and many other Council offices closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it means that deaf residents can still contact the Council to access essential services.

The app is free for end users and can be downloaded onto a personal device (for example, mobile phone tablet or laptop) via the Sign Live web page: <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/signlive>

Residents need to create an account using a one-time log in and then select one of the Lambeth tile options (from the community directory), where they will be connected to an interpreter.



How you can help

A great way to support people in your community is donating to the Lambeth Foodbank Fund via:

<https://uk.gofundme.com/f/the-lambeth-food-bank-funde-lambeth-food-bank-fund>

Lambeth challenges government over statue 'power grab'

Lambeth Council has written to the Government calling for an urgent clarification after media reports claimed that Ministers could be set to restrict the power of local governments and their communities in making locally agreed changes to policies around statues and public heritage. Councillors have attended the meetings, alongside community and voluntary organisations, and the focus has been on listening to residents and their concerns.

Councillor Sonia Winifred, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture, who sent the letter, is leading a borough-wide public listening exercise with residents, community and faith-based groups to decide on the next steps to assess and review locations in the borough with

historic direct and indirect links to the trans-Atlantic slave trade and colonialism.

Cllr Winifred said if the actions proposed by ministers reported in the media are correct, then would represent a “power grab that



would override the wishes of local communities” – and a decision that had been made without any consultation or engagement with local authorities.

Read the full letter on love.lambeth.gov.uk

100 Great Black Britons

We sent one copy of the new book celebrating our rich heritage '100 Great Black Britons' to every school and Library in Lambeth. The authors Patrick Vernon OBE and Dr Angelina Osbourne honour the remarkable achievements of key Black British individuals over history. Patrick, the co-author of the book is also a Windrush campaigner and has previously helped the borough by working as the council's Independent Equalities Advisor.

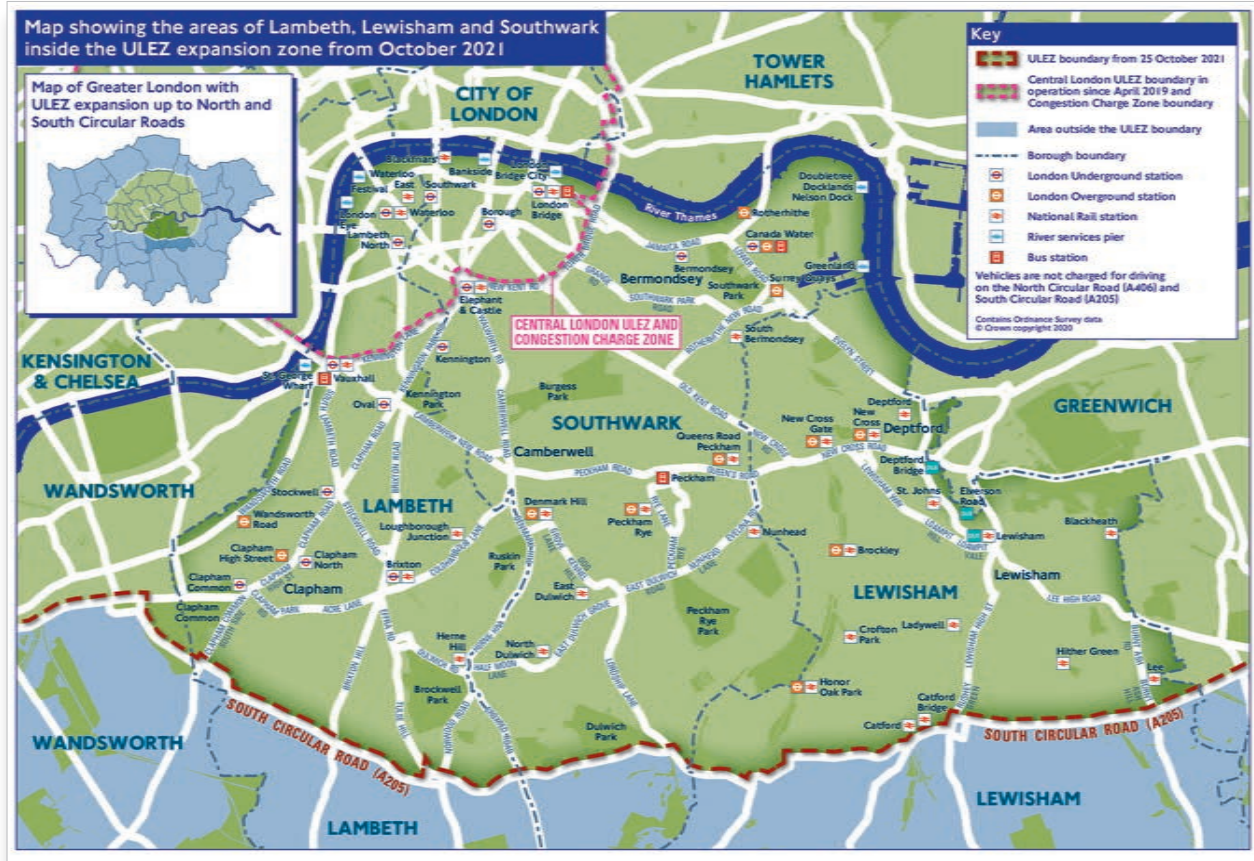
<https://www.100greatblackbritons.co.uk/>



“ We are determined that the huge contribution of our Black residents, in so many different walks of life is recognised, highlighted and taught in our schools all year round. ”

Cllr Manley-Browne, Lambeth's Education and Schools champion.

Lambeth councillors Nanda Manley-Browne and Cllr Ed Davie, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People with Patrick Vernon OBE and Dr Angelina Osbourne at the African War Memorial.



ULEZ expanding

Air pollution is not just a central London problem. There are many areas still exceeding the legal limits for pollution across the city.

That is why from 25 October 2021, the central London Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) is expanded to create a single, larger zone up to the North Circular Road (A406) and South Circular Road (A205). The North and South Circular Roads themselves are not in the zone. This is part of the commitment by the Mayor and TfL to help every Londoner breathe cleaner air.

The ULEZ will continue to operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including weekends (except Christmas Day), with a £12.50 daily charge for vehicles that do not meet the required emissions standards.

Cars, motorcycles, vans and other specialist vehicles (up to and including 3.5 tonnes) and minibuses (up to and including 5 tonnes) will need to meet the required ULEZ emissions standards when driving within

and into the expanded zone, or pay a daily charge.

Four out of five cars already meet the ULEZ emissions standards, but we need owners of the remaining older cars, motorcycles, lighter vans and minibuses to take action.

Check your vehicle meets the ULEZ emissions standards and the interactive map of the zone.

Visit tfl.gov.uk/ulez-2021

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Back in April, Lambeth became the first London borough to put in place a plan to protect residents from road danger and to enable more people to walk and cycle safely to keep our borough moving.

This was because during the first phase of lockdown, speeding on London's roads increased significantly. We also foresaw that as more people began to move around as restrictions eased, there would be a risk that our roads would be gridlocked by even more people – from both Lambeth and beyond – using a car to get around and overwhelming our streets.

Recent data published has shown this to be the case, with traffic levels regularly peaking over 150% of pre-coronavirus levels, meaning there is more traffic than ever on Lambeth's roads.

Therefore it is important to make our streets safer to enable people to walk, cycle, wheel or scoot safely to free up Lambeth's streets for those that need to use a car.

Safer streets for Lambeth

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, released his Streetspace Plan for London to guide our city through the significant transport challenges that coronavirus poses. Lambeth was allocated £2.6 million from Transport for London to make our streets safer and to enable safe walking, cycling, scooting and wheeling.

We have moved quickly since then to implement low traffic neighbourhoods to make our side streets safe to walk, wheel, cycle and scoot and have built new protected cycling infrastructure at several locations in the borough. We knew we had to enable our residents to continue to get around Lambeth safely – to get to the shops and local businesses, to the park and to schools –

particularly given that around 60% of households in our borough do not have access to a car.

Progress so far

Projects to make our streets safer extend from Oval to Stockwell, Railton, Ferndale, Streatham Hill and Tulse Hill. Additionally, we have built protected walking and cycling infrastructure on Kennington Road, Norwood Road and Rosendale Road.

We are closely monitoring the schemes and continue to make improvements off the back of feedback from local residents. We have made dozens of improvements already including enabling more people to shop locally by providing more cycle storage outside businesses, as

well as improving road markings to make it clearer for motorists. We are monitoring traffic flows inside and outside of the project areas, and we will be undertaking an air quality project to assess the changes in air pollution.

Emerging findings of council research shows an overall decrease in traffic across the area (including roads within and outside of the low traffic neighbourhood project), whilst numbers of people cycling on some key roads within the LTN have risen by 80%. We expect to see a more diverse group of people cycling too as our changes enable more children, women and Black, Asian and minority ethnic people – who are underrepresented when it comes to cycling – to pick up a cycle.



Look to the future

These schemes were implemented as emergency measures to mitigate the challenges posed to our transport system by Covid-19. Therefore we weren't able to conduct the deep consultation that we usually do on projects like these in Lambeth.

However we will be out and about in the community as much as Covid restrictions allow over the coming months, speaking to residents, schools, businesses and community organisations to hear from them. You can find out more about all of our projects at <https://lambethtransportcovidresponse.commonplace.is/>



REHOME YOUR BIKE

Despite it being unsafe, many young people from Lambeth's ethnically diverse community have had to continue to travel to work, school or to care for family members throughout the pandemic. Many others are facing extreme financial difficulty and can't afford to travel by public transport.

upCYCLE was founded in response to the Black Lives Matter movement and the adverse effect that Covid-19 was having on London's ethnic minority community. We work out of The Remakery in Brixton and have one simple mission: to take second-hand or unused bikes and refurbish them before donating them to charities that specialise in working with young people from ethnic minority groups, so they have a free and safe way to travel. If you have an old bike lying around that you'd like to rehome then visit www.upcycleldn.co.uk or email info@upcycleldn.co.uk to organise a pick up or drop off.

Remakery, 51 Lilford Rd, Vassal, London SE5 9HY

Help on offer



support for residents

Support is available for all Lambeth residents who are, or have become, vulnerable due to Coronavirus.

Get help for you or someone you know

If you need assistance a list of food, medicine, and social wellbeing support options is available to you on the Council's website lambeth.gov.uk

You can also call the **MyCommunity Gateway Helpline** for help with social support, advice and support to connect you up with local services: **0333 360 3700** Monday to Friday between 9am to 5pm or email mycommunity@ageuklambeth.org

Get help if you are clinically extremely vulnerable

Residents who have been informed that they are clinically extremely vulnerable to Covid-19 by the Department of Health are encouraged to sign up for the **National Shielding Service System** (NSSS). This will enable them to access priority online shopping with: Asda, Sainsbury's, Tesco, Morrisons, Iceland, Waitrose and Ocado.

You can sign-up via the Government website: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus-shielding-support>

If you are not able to access the website, please call the MyCommunity Gateway Helpline: **0333 360 3700**.

Help organisations

Social and wellbeing support

If you are struggling with your mental health, domestic violence or need emotional support, you are not alone. Please visit <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/get-support-for-yourself-or-a-vulnerable-person/mental-health-domestic-violence-emotional-support>

Financial support

Opportunity Lambeth, a service which provides urgently advertised employment opportunities.

Please contact <https://opportunity.lambeth.gov.uk/> or **0207 926 0500**.

Covid-19 Financial Support, for more information on financial help from the Council or Emergency Support Scheme please visit: <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/COVIDSUPPORTPAYMENT>

Advice and guidance

Citizens Advice Bureau, advice and guidance for a range of problems people face. Please call the Lambeth Adviceline: **0344 488 9625** Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm.

Centre70 Advice, support adults who are facing social, mental, financial or other personal

difficulties through a holistic programme of free and affordable services including: advice, counselling, training and advocacy. Email enquiries@centre70.org.uk or counselling@centre70.org.uk

Brixton Advice Centre, advice line: **0207 733 7554** between 10am and 3pm, Monday to Thursday or send your question online: brixtonadvice.org.uk/advice-form/

Food support

Lambeth Larder, an online directory of local community organisations that offer food parcels, hot meals, and food deliveries. Please visit <http://www.lambethlarder.org/>

Medicine support

Connect Lambeth, an emergency medication pick-up service for Lambeth residents.

Please contact **020 7346 6800** (option 6) or mycommunity@ageuklambeth.org

NHS Volunteer Responders, volunteer prescription pick-up and delivery from the pharmacy.

Please contact **0808 196 3646** operates 8am to 8pm every day.



“

We must take every opportunity if we are to make major progress towards our bold aim of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.”

Cllr Claire Holland,
Deputy Leader

Green Homes Grant

Applications open

Residents looking to reduce their domestic energy bills and environmental impact can access a government voucher scheme worth up to £5,000 or £10,000 to help cover the cost of making energy efficient improvements to homes.

Improvements could include insulating homes to reduce energy use or installing low-carbon heating to lower the amount of carbon dioxide people's home produces. People must redeem the voucher and ensure improvements are completed by 31 March 2021.

Residents can apply for the voucher online. People can find out if they're eligible for the Green Homes Grant scheme and see what improvements can be made to their home at [gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-green-homes-grant-scheme](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-green-homes-grant-scheme)

Cllr Claire Holland, Deputy Leader (Sustainable Transport, Environment & Clean Air) said: “This new funding is important because the energy used to heat and power our homes is the single biggest contributor to carbon emissions in the borough – at more than 40 per cent of total emissions.”

Advice on grants

One way homeowners could make use of the grants is through Ecofurb ([ecofurb.com/](https://www.ecofurb.com/)), which offers advice on which improvements will have the biggest impact on the energy efficiency of their home, getting quotes from vetted local contractors and provide quality assurance.

Lambeth, which was the first local authority in the country to declare a Climate Emergency, has had to delay its Citizens' Assembly due to the Covid-19 crisis, but the borough and its partners remain

committed to holding the summit and developing the local actions needed.

To continue to lead the fight against the climate crisis and build a green recovery from Covid 19 the council has launched the Lambeth Climate Action Hub. This gives residents, business and community groups a platform to come together on line, to share projects, experience, ideas and solutions to build a cleaner and greener Lambeth.

Have your say

Visit lambethclimateaction.commonplace.is/ to get involved. To sign up for our Climate action, cleaner transport and sustainability news please click here.

<https://love.lambeth.gov.uk/applications-open-for-green-homes-grant-scheme/>

THE VOLUNTEER MATCHING APP

Together with onHand we've been able to help the community at a time when we needed it most. Every day we hear wonderful stories of long-lasting friendships from our residents.

Earlier this year onHand partnered with Lambeth Council to provide the residents help with simple tasks. From May to September, onHand has helped 227 people with a whopping 1500 missions in the borough!

Volunteers have dropped shopping off to those in need, provided some much needed companionship over the phone and run other errands.

Partnering with onHand meant the council could reduce the significant cost of sending out food parcels to residents who are shielding and unable to leave home. The service was more efficient too! The residents could write their own shopping lists based on what they needed.

"Our volunteers have helped us so much. Not just because of buying the shopping but also for the companionship, It's nice having someone to talk to even from a distance. They're becoming part of the family!" Lambeth resident

Since welcoming Lambeth Council's volunteers to the onHand team, they have been verified,

DBS checked and now manage their missions through the onHand app, making it a smooth journey for volunteers and residents alike. One of our top heroes, Alex, even managed to get Walter out for a bike ride through Cycling Without Age (photo).

"We had a good few hours out and about, collecting his Saturday paper, a cycle around Clapham common and ice cream in the sun." Alex

If you'd like to volunteer or if you know someone who needs a hand, please get in touch on beonhand.co.uk





Electoral Registration and GLA Elections 2021

The Electoral Services team have been busy contacting every household in the borough of Lambeth to confirm details for over 240,000 voters, with canvassers making visits to assist residents in providing this information. The canvass is now complete, and the 2021 Register of Electors was published on 1 December 2020.

Electoral Services will be sending a **Household Notification Letter (HNL)** to every residential property in early 2021 containing the names of people registered to vote at each address. There is no need to respond to the HNL unless voter details at your address have changed.

If you, or someone in your household, still needs to register to vote please visit [gov.uk/register-to-vote](https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote).

On Thursday 6 May 2021 GLA elections for the Mayor of London and London Assembly will take place. Make sure you are registered to vote in advance by visiting the above website.

For further details visit [lambeth.gov.uk/vote](https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/vote)

Meet Avis Williams-McKoy MBE

A born and bred Lambeth resident who has worked in health in the borough across four decades, Avis was awarded an MBE in the delayed Queen's birthday honours list which was announced in October. She was honoured for services to the protection of young people for her work as a health partner on the Lambeth Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).



Her colleague Andrew Eyres, strategic director at the South East London CCG and Lambeth Council, said Williams-McKoy, a nurse consultant and designated nurse in child protection, “has worked tirelessly and inspiringly to provide leadership, vision and clinical expertise to the vital work of the LSCB, and her drive and persuasiveness have embedded a robust approach to protecting vulnerable children and families across all Lambeth partners.”

Eyres, who has worked with Avis since 2002, acknowledged the “great debt [owed] for her compassion expertise and strategic thinking over the years” by Lambeth Council, the local NHS and residents alike.

We caught up with Avis to find out a little more about her...

Are you Lambeth born and bred?

Made In Lambeth, yes! I’m proud to say that I’m one of Lambeth daughters. Living and working in the borough is my day to day experience. Lambeth’s diversity and culture is for me – and many of my colleagues – the beating pulse of our hearts.

When did you start working in Lambeth?

I starting working in the borough in the early 1990s. I returned back to Lambeth from north London, where I had been working in Islington, and started in a position as a health visitor in the community in Brixton and Clapham. It was a fantastic public health role where I was working with a caseload of about 300 families.

What have been the key moments of your working life?

There have been several important mileposts in my career: in 2019, I was awarded the Putting People First Award at The Lammys, for helping to improve safety for children in Lambeth. In 2013, I received the Queen’s Medal as part of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration. The year before that, I was awarded the Nola Ismel Award from the Windrush and Beyond Foundation for services towards the Improvement of children’s health. Oh and in 2011 I went to a Royal garden party, on behalf of Unite the Union.

What have been the greatest challenges and successes?

These are both intertwined for me: being a mum. I have three awesome sons.

What does a normal day hold for you?

No two days are the same, I have an amazing job. On any given day, I could be delivering teaching lessons, chairing a meeting, writing policies and reports, or supporting a practitioner, meeting with members of the safeguarding partnership and or working together with health colleagues.

What are you looking forward to the most in the next year?

Outside work: going to the theatre, dancing (I’m a big Lovers Rock fan), meeting friends and family, hopefully getting on a plane for a holiday abroad!

Work: It would be lovely to meet colleagues face to face again. I never thought I’d miss traveling on the 159 or the 2 bus.

What do you do to relax?

I listen to music, play dominoes, and just enjoy some down time with my sisters and friends

What motivates you?

Lambeth’s children and their families. Knowing that I can contribute by working in partnership with others to improve the wellbeing of our communities – children, young people and their families – is motivation enough.

And finally, have you got an outfit planned for the Palace?

No idea about an outfit yet – give girl a chance to think! This requires strategic planning with possibly long-term parallel plans... My biggest consideration will be finding a fascinators hat to compliment my dreadlocks.

The safety ring

It's not always easy to pick up the phone and share information about crimes taking place in local communities: people often fear that that if they report criminal activity then people in their neighbourhood will know that it was them who had provided the information.

I don't know anything that can stop knife crime in my area.

Are you sure? Anything in your area that doesn't feel right could be helpful.

Call CrimeStoppers with knife crime information, 100% anonymously
0800 555 111

It can feel like a hard call, but it could stop another young person being killed.



Others question whether any information that they can give would actually be of any use. Again, it's stressed that the smallest things, which may seem unimportant, can actually be critical to the progress of an investigation into a violent crime.

The independent charity Crimestoppers, has launched a campaign called Hard Calls Save Lives which aims to remove some of the barriers that members of communities can feel when it comes to reporting incidents of

violent crime – especially knife crime.

All information is reviewed, and where possible, acted upon, to help to stop crime. You will be listened to as you are likely to know best when things don't feel right in your neighbourhood. Crimestoppers will know what to do with your concerns and pass it on for you anonymously, without any judgment.

The campaign which launched in September 2020, makes it clear that calls to Crimestoppers

on their hotline are totally anonymous: they are not recorded or traced, and neither Crimestoppers or the police will know who has made the call.

Crimestoppers says: **“Every little bit of information is useful in the fight against knife crime. We know that it can be difficult to pick up the phone but sharing what you know with us anonymously can help to make our communities safer. If something doesn't feel right, call us on 0800 555 111.”**

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Did you know there are a number of ways to pay your council bill?

These are listed below, in order of how much they cost the council to run, with the cheapest at the top which is Direct Debit:

Direct Debit: This is the council's preferred method for bills to be paid if you make weekly or monthly payments. You can use this to pay your council tax, rent or service charges monthly. All you need to do is to fill in a form telling your bank or building society to make a payment each month. The details for setting up direct debits can be found on your bill.

Online: You can use this to pay most council bills including council tax, rent and service charges using your debit card/credit card. Use www.lambeth.gov.uk/make-a-payment

Telephone payments: You can use this to pay most council bills using your debit card/credit card, including council tax, rent and service charges. Simply call **020 8290 2086**.

At your post office: Just take your council bill to your local post office and they will take your payment in cash or using your debit card/credit card.

At your bank or building society: Just take your council bill to your bank or building society and they will take your payment in cash or using your debit card/credit card.

At any shop that displays the PayPoint sign:

You can make many payments using PayPoint. If a PayPoint sign and barcode are printed on your bill, just take it to your local shop and they will take your cash or card payment. There are over 27,500 locations across the UK and you can locate your nearest PayPoint using this: <https://consumer.paypoint.com/>



Lambeth

Could you foster?

Find out more by coming along to our next online event.

Our online events are an opportunity to hear from our team about the steps involved in joining Lambeth and the support available. You will also get to hear honest, first-hand experiences of fostering, directly from our carers.

To book onto the next event, visit www.lambeth.gov.uk/fosteringevents

Children in Lambeth are in need of safe, loving homes. Now more than ever.

At Lambeth we're passionate about the difference that foster care makes to the lives of children and young people in care. But fostering doesn't just transform their lives, it also has the power to change the lives of foster carers, their families and all those who are involved.

The pandemic is still causing widespread disruption throughout the country. Many of us are self-isolating, working from home, or supporting others who are doing so. The need for foster carers is now more than ever. We're continuing to appeal to local people with a spare room and the capacity to care for a vulnerable child to consider stepping forwards during this crisis.

“My allocated social worker has been amazing. Every contact with the team has been excellent. I can't fault them, they've been so supportive.” Sarah

“However difficult it can be, it is the most incredibly rewarding thing to do – to be able to just give some of your experiences, your love and support to a vulnerable child.” Robert and Charles

www.lambeth.gov.uk/fostering | 020 7926 8710
fosteringduty@lambeth.gov.uk

Read more in-depth foster carer stories at www.lambeth.gov.uk/fosterstories

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Apply online and apply on time

Was your child born between 01/09/16 and 31/08/17?

If yes, your child should be starting primary school in September 2021. If you are a Lambeth resident, you should apply for a school place using the safe, free and easy to use portal via our website, lambeth.gov.uk/eadmissions

It's available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, up until the admissions closing date, which is midnight **Friday 15 January 2021**. **If you apply after this date the likelihood of gaining a place at your preferred school may be significantly reduced.**

For more information see the Lambeth starting primary school 2021/22 webpage via lambeth.gov.uk/eadmissions



I would do more sessions; very therapeutic! ”

Loughborough Farm Crowdfund Project Winner!



Loughborough Farm’s ‘Growing Wellbeing in Loughborough Junction’ project was a community-led Projects That Matter competition winner back in March where they were given a £1,000 from Lambeth Council to kick start their project – shortlisted from 30 applicants. Now their project is going live to help local people through this first Covid-19 winter, with support from community crowdfunding and more from Crowdfund Lambeth.

As well as gardening to encourage eating well, volunteers will run workshops including healthy cooking, DIY and wood carving, fermenting, music, connecting with nature and coping with grief. Small group growing sessions and health and wellbeing events in our local parks and remotely on Zoom began this summer and the need for them has grown.

Any extra vegetables grown will be shared with sister project, The

Platform Cafe, for free meals for local residents in need.

Crowdfund Lambeth is a platform to support community projects making our borough a unique place to live, work, learn and do business. The project must demonstrate strong local support shown a vibrant crowdfunding campaign. To be considered for match-funding from Lambeth Council, the project must contribute to one or more of the borough plan priorities:

- Sustainable growth: a growing economy that everyone benefits from.
- Resilient communities: communities that are thriving and connected.
- Promote care and independence: people have support to live well and independently.
- Place: Make Lambeth a place people want to live, work and invest.

If you have a project or initiative and want to find if you’re eligible for match-funding, find more at <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/funds/lambeth>

New year, fresh start

Morley College supporting Lambeth residents to gain new skills



Courses starting in January 2021 include computer skills, ESOL, vocational (childcare, teaching assistant, office and admin), ESOL for working with children, budgeting/ money matters, literacy, employability and wellbeing courses.

Some courses are in-centre with physical distancing measures in place, and others are online. Don't worry if you're new to using a computer or not confident with your IT skills – our team will support you every step of the way.

Advice and guidance sessions for new courses will take place by appointment on:

- Monday 14 December 2020, 10am – 3pm
- Thursday 17 December 2020, 10am – 3pm
- Friday 8 January 2021, 10am – 3pm
- Saturday 9 January 2021, 10 – 2.30pm (ESOL only)
- Tuesday 12 January 2021, 10am – 3pm

To book an appointment or to find out more please call Richard Mason on **073 9539 7487** Monday – Wednesday 9am – 2.30pm or Nicola Halliday on **073 9533 6234** or email community@morleycollege.ac.uk

Coin Street supports local community



Coin Street is a social enterprise, which from a derelict site in 1984, has created a thriving, diverse, vibrant and welcoming place – the Southbank riverside. The income Coin Street receives from commercial activities, such as letting spaces to independent businesses, helps to fund its many community activities, including childcare, family support, wellbeing services and much more.

From March to October 2020, Coin Street supported 1,040 Waterloo and North Southwark residents weekly. During this time, Coin Street delivered over 13,000 meals, gave out over 263 activity and care packs, helped children attending Coin Street's summer camp to

access 168 take and make food boxes, provided 70 grocery packs and ran countless virtual sessions weekly for people to stay connected to their community.

Coin Street continues to support the local community by delivering food and running virtual sessions, as well as presenting a range of events including Gentle Gardening, Youth Night, Family Fitness & Fun, and Over 50s Art Group, all held weekly. Of the art sessions, one attendee said, "Lockdown has been difficult at times, but the inspiring art sessions helped me fight the 'Lockdown inertia' and paint again."

Find out more: www.coinstreet.org



Since the Covid-19 outbreak, 4.5 million people in the UK are now unpaid carers for friends or family members – nearly 50% increase. Many carers – not just those new to it – don't know what help they can get.

The new Lambeth Carer's Card connects carers with online learning, factsheets, interactive guides and essential information on health and wellbeing, support for caring, technology like the Jointly app, financial planning, young adult carers, news and more.

Your Lambeth Carers Card flags up 'I am a Carer. Someone depends on me'. It includes space for emergency contact details, so if something happens, people will know who to contact to help look after the person you care for.

The Card is open to unpaid carers aged 18 +, living in or caring for someone in Lambeth due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or addiction.

Lambeth Carers Card is developed by Carers' Hub Lambeth and MYsocial from Age UK Lambeth.

It's funded by the London Borough of Lambeth and NHS South East London Clinical Commissioning Group. For your Lambeth Carers Card go to lambethcarerscard.org, call **020 7501 8973** or email info@lambethcarerscard.org



Lambeth Carers Card

ADVERTISEMENT



Ready Steady Go!

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

New courses will resume in January 2021.

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

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Lambeth

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Funding for Change



This is a very challenging time for us all as we live through the Covid-19 pandemic. Charities and community groups across Lambeth have risen to the challenge and are working tirelessly to make sure young people and their families receive the support they need during this critical time of unprecedented uncertainty.

We know that the energy of our grass root charities and voluntary community sector is a source of major strength for over 67,000 children and young people living in Lambeth.

But these organisations now need your help to maintain their services and continue to operate through this crisis. You can make a difference by making a donation to the Lambeth Youth Opportunities Fund today. Every penny donated by you at this critical moment will be used to fund innovative community action programmes to support Lambeth's young people.

We believe in the potential of every young person in Lambeth and want to empower them to make positive change for themselves and their communities. Will you join us?

www.lambethyouthopportunitiesfund.org.uk

A partnership between Lambeth Council and The London Community Foundation to provide vital resources and funding to support aspirational programmes aimed at helping young people to be safe, resilient, healthy and achieve their potential.

**LAMBETH
YOUTH
OPPORTUNITIES
FUND**





MAKING IT EASIER
to live well

Healthy recipes, free fruit and veg,
and fun activities for the whole family

HealthyLivingPlatform.org/WinterWithUs



Giving thousands of children aged 0-3 a better start