



# Southwark Life

Summer 2022

## Summer Fun

From parks to plays we've got all your summer entertainment right here

## You voted

Meet your new councillors and Cabinet

## A change at the top

We speak to the council's new Chief Executive to hear her plans for the future

**PLUS** News from the Citizens' Jury on their vision to tackle the climate emergency

Your magazine from Southwark Council

*Southwark*  
Council  
southwark.gov.uk



# What do Southwark foster carers look like?



@lb\_southwark facebook.com/southwarkcouncil @southwarkcouncil

## Care to join us?

0800 952 0707  
 fostering@southwark.gov.uk  
 southwark.gov.uk/fostercarers  
**Support 24/7, training and allowance provided.**



# Contents

- 4 Need to know** – all the latest news from around Southwark
- 7 New homes update** – topping the table for new council homes
- 8 Cost of living crisis support** – Where to go for help if you are struggling with increasing prices
- 10 Summer in Southwark** – How to keep the kids busy during the school summer holidays
- 12 Parks and playgrounds** – A look at the play areas and sports grounds in our parks this summer
- 15 Southwark Decided** – Results from the 2022 Southwark local elections
- 20 Hear from our Citizens' Jury** – We meet the people helping us tackle climate change
- 22 Meet our new Chief Executive** – We speak to the council's new boss on her plans for the future
- 24 Living with Covid** – Covid is still with us so we have some quick advice on keeping it at bay
- 26 Summers past** – A look at how Southwark residents enjoyed their summers in the past
- 28 What's on** – A bumper look at events around the borough
- 31 Business page** – All the advice and support our local businesses need this summer



# welcome...



Hello and welcome to the summer edition of Southwark Life. It's already been a busy start to the summer.

In May we held our local council elections where you got to choose who would be representing you and your community on the council for the next four years. I am thrilled to remain Leader of the Council. We have already start delivering our ambitious new plan for the coming four years and I look forward to working with new and returning colleagues to support residents.

Earlier this month we had over 60 road closures for street parties, and dozens of other events around the borough as people celebrated The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The same weekend we had a more sombre event in Borough as we marked the fifth anniversary of the terror attacks on London Bridge with a service at Southwark Cathedral and the unveiling of a memorial plaque along the river.

Summer in Southwark continues over the next couple of months as the school holidays begin and – hopefully – we get some sunny weather. Our glorious parks, playgrounds and green spaces are open and ready to welcome residents and visitors alike. Our leisure centres and libraries are also getting ready to host plenty of activities and events to keep kids active and busy.

Also in this edition we welcome the council's new Chief Executive, Althea Loderick, hear from the borough's Citizens' Jury on how they think we can tackle climate change, and introduce you to your new councillors and Cabinet members.

Cllr Kieron Williams  
Leader of Southwark Council



## Contact us

Do you have something to say about Southwark Life? email [southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk)

Front page picture is Dangerous Dinky who is performing at this year's Mint Street Music Festival (see page 28). Photo courtesy of the festival organisers. Photo by David Holmes.

## The Southwark Life team

**Editor** Kim Hooper  
**Contributors** Joseph Brown, Laura Fitzsimmons, Baljit Sangha, Sarb Atwal, Jane Evans, Ella Rogers, Louise Neilan, Carlotta Rauch, Luke Newman, Liz Crook, Caroline Badero, Dr Patricia Dark, Matthew Rolfe.  
**Design** Whatever Design Ltd  
**Print** brokered by CDS  
**Printed on 100% recycled paper**  
**Distribution** London Letterbox  
**All information correct at time of going to press**

## Keep in touch

Southwark Life comes out three times a year and the next issue is due out in the autumn. You can contact the magazine at [southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk) but for more regular updates on council news and events, follow us on social media at

- [facebook.com/southwarkcouncil](https://facebook.com/southwarkcouncil)
- [@lb\\_southwark](https://twitter.com/lb_southwark)
- [Instagram.com/southwarkcouncil](https://Instagram.com/southwarkcouncil)

# Need to know..

Summer is here and things are getting hotter in Southwark in more ways than one. Hot off the press here is the latest hot news from around the borough.

For news and events follow us on social media or find out more at [southwark.gov.uk/news](https://southwark.gov.uk/news)

 Follow us on Facebook [facebook.com/southwarkcouncil](https://facebook.com/southwarkcouncil)

 Follow us on Twitter [@lb\\_southwark](https://twitter.com/lb_southwark)

 Follow us on Instagram [Instagram.com/southwarkcouncil](https://Instagram.com/southwarkcouncil)



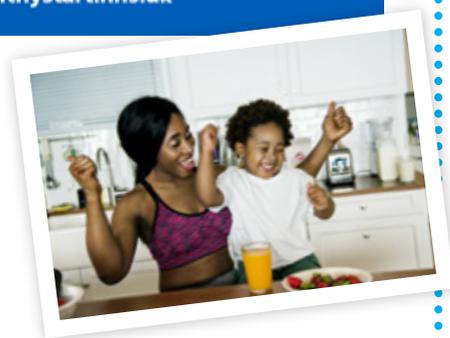
**NHS**

If you're pregnant or have a child under the age of 4, you could be eligible for the NHS Healthy Start Scheme

To check if you're eligible for Healthy Start, visit: [www.healthystart.nhs.uk](https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk)



## Keeping mums and infants healthy



Are you pregnant or have children under the age of 4 and receive income support?

You could be eligible for Healthy Start payments that you can spend on healthy food for you and your family. You'll get a prepaid card with which you can buy fruit, vegetables and pulses, plain cow's milk and infant formula.

If you can't get support from public funds (due to your immigration status), and your child is a British Citizen, you may also be eligible.

Find out more at [www.healthystart.nhs.uk](https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk) or by calling **0300 330 7010**.

## Taking care of your mind

Taking care of your mind is just as important as taking care of your body. Feeling low, stressed and anxious are common feelings. During the COVID-19 pandemic you may have found things even harder.

Trying these five steps could help you feel more positive:

- Connect more by spending time with others
- Be physically active by moving more and more often
- Take notice of the world around you and what you're feeling
- Keep learning new things to help you feel more confident
- Give something back – helping in our community can be incredibly rewarding



If you're struggling, it's important to know that support is available. Your GP can give you advice on how to deal with your symptoms. Contact your GP and make an appointment to discuss your mental health.

Find out other ways to improve your, or your child's mental health at: [www.southwark.gov.uk/take-care-of-your-mind](https://www.southwark.gov.uk/take-care-of-your-mind)

## Landlord licensing

The new licensing schemes will further improve the living conditions for tenants within Southwark. Licences are now required for different types of privately rented properties in Southwark. If you're a landlord or managing agent for a licensable property and you do not apply for a licence, you can be prosecuted. You can apply for your property licence online at [www.southwark.gov.uk/propertylicensing](https://www.southwark.gov.uk/propertylicensing)

# New state-of-the-art care home in Camberwell



Camberwell Lodge Nursing Home offers a mix of residential, nursing and dementia care. Before being redeveloped by the council, it was known as Burgess Park. Now, the number of beds available has increased from 60 to nearly 100. It features a cricket-themed pub, hair salon, library, reminiscing room and activity area. Each floor has its own lounge and dining areas where residents can enjoy afternoon tea with their guests, or socialise with friends. Residents can sit back and take in the stunning views of the London skyline from the hospitality suite on the top floor. The suite includes a private dining room, bistro café and roof terrace garden.

Camberwell Lodge is part of the council’s commitment to open new nursing homes as set out in the Borough Plan 20-22. Last year the council launched a Residential Care Charter – the first of its kind anywhere in the country. The Charter will result in better working conditions for staff and better quality of care for residents in all residential care homes within Southwark, including Camberwell Lodge.

For more information about Camberwell Lodge, visit [www.countrycourtcare.co/our-homes/camberwell-lodge-care-nursing-home/](http://www.countrycourtcare.co/our-homes/camberwell-lodge-care-nursing-home/)

## Memorial plaque unveiled



On the fifth anniversary of the terror attack on London Bridge, Southwark Council unveiled a memorial plaque dedicated to the eight people who lost their lives and the many more who were injured or affected by the events of that day. The plaque was unveiled following the annual memorial service at

Southwark Cathedral and blessed by the Bishop of Southwark.

## Tree planting programme exceeds ambitious targets

The council’s ambitious tree planting programme, which aimed to introduce 10,000 new trees to the borough by the end of 2022, exceeded its target with the 11,500th tree being planted in Leathermarket Gardens on 15 March. The Indian Bean Tree contributed to the 150 different tree species planted across the borough over the past two years.



## Green improvements cut council’s gas reliance

The council has delivered the first phase of its green improvements to libraries and community centres, after installing air source heat pumps, solar panels and improving insulation at 14 key buildings. At a time when the cost of gas is higher and more volatile than ever, the changes will cut the council’s gas consumption by 22% – reducing carbon emissions while saving money on energy costs.



# Looking for affordable workspace for your business?

The Hithe is a new community hub on Albion Street designed to support local start-ups and creative businesses. It provides affordable workspace, a social meeting room and a community yard. The council worked in partnership with Meanwhile Space to unlock the highly visible location opposite Rotherhithe Station while it waits for redevelopment. The building's innovative structure can be easily taken apart and relocated to other underused sites.

For more information or to register your interest, visit [www.meanwhilespace.com/albionstreet](http://www.meanwhilespace.com/albionstreet)



# Renewable energy scheme will cut thousands of tonnes of carbon emissions

More than 2,000 households across three estates in Southwark will benefit from a ground breaking renewable energy scheme that will see water source heat pumps retrofitted within the existing heat network. The multi-million pound investment will help keep homes warm and save thousands of tonnes of carbon dioxide from being released into the environment.

# Aged 16 to 25? Get job vacancies by email

The council sends a regular e-newsletter with jobs, training, volunteering and other career opportunities for young people. The newsletter details opportunities at Southwark Council as well as opportunities across Southwark and London.

Sign up to get the e-newsletter at [www.southwark.gov.uk/nextstepmailinglist](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/nextstepmailinglist)



# Nest celebrates two-year anniversary

Southwark's mental wellbeing hub for children and young people celebrated its second anniversary with an event at Peckham Levels during Mental Health Awareness Week (9-15 May 2022).

Since The Nest launched in May 2020 during the first COVID-19 lockdown, the free and confidential service has expanded its reach supporting over 8,400 young people. In the last two years, The Nest has received over 800 referrals and delivered more than 3,100 hours of therapy and over 470 young people were supported by the team of wellbeing coaches. More than 8,000 students were supported by The Nest in over 50 schools across the borough thanks to an additional £200,000 from the council last year.

The landmark service is funded by Southwark Council and delivered by charity Groundwork London. It is one of the key components of the council's commitment that 100% of children and young people in Southwark have access to mental health support.

For more information about mental health support in Southwark for children and young people, call free on **020 8138 1805** or visit [thenestsouthwark.org.uk](http://thenestsouthwark.org.uk)





# TOPPING THE TABLE

## Southwark comes top of record-breaking new council home figures

New figures show that Southwark Council began building more new council homes last year than any other London borough or housing association with funding from City Hall.

The council joins the Mayor of London in celebrating a record-breaking milestone for council homebuilding in London. New statistics show 4,946 City Hall-backed homes were started in the 2021/22 financial year.

Southwark leads the way with 878 starts, followed by Havering (593), Barking and Dagenham (424) and Newham (410).

The new statistics only include council homes backed by City Hall. In May, Southwark confirmed that it had passed its target to start building 2,500 new council homes across the borough. In addition, the council has now committed to starting 1,000 more council homes and 500 more homes for keyworkers such as local doctors, nurses and teachers over the next four years.

# INTRODUCING SOUTHWARK CONSTRUCTION

## New investment for jobs and training

Southwark Council has announced plans to train local people in specialist construction skills through the launch of its new team – Southwark Construction. Southwark Construction is dedicated to building thousands of high-quality new homes across the borough. It will also create a range of apprenticeships and training courses for local residents.

Southwark Council recently met its target of delivering or starting construction on 2,500 new council homes by May 2022. Now we have redoubled our efforts and have committed to starting 1,000 more council homes and 500 more homes for local keyworkers such as our incredible NHS staff and teachers.

Southwark Construction will invest in education and training to generate the local construction skills that the council needs to continue building new homes. This investment will also benefit local communities by giving residents the chance to learn new skills and find work.

Southwark Construction will also focus on developing 'green construction' skills which will help the council move towards net zero carbon. These apprenticeships will focus on specialist skills such as retrofitting green infrastructure, installing and maintaining green technology, and building net zero carbon new homes.



# Money matters

The cost of living crisis is in the news most days now, but there is help out there for residents who are struggling to make ends meet.

**M**ost people will have noticed that their income isn't stretching as far as it used to these days and in the worst cases some people are having to choose between heating their homes and feeding their families.

However there is support available, particularly for our most vulnerable residents. The most important thing if you are finding it difficult to pay your bills, rent or mortgage is to get help. Don't wait until things become unmanageable.

## What is the council doing?

### Council tax rebates

The council is distributing £20m of funding to help Southwark households cope with the increased cost of living between spring and autumn this year.

More than one hundred thousand Southwark households who pay council tax and who were living in homes banded between A and D for council tax on 1 April 2022 are eligible for a rebate – a one-off payment of £150 to be made in spring and summer this year.

Eligible households who pay their council tax by direct debit receive a rebate automatically to the bank account they use to pay their council tax.

By May, more than ninety percent of eligible Southwark households who pay council tax by direct debit had already received a rebate (more than 46,000 households) and, by the time you are reading this, that figure will have reached 100 percent.



## Households eligible for a rebate who pay their council tax by other means will have to apply for a rebate.

The council has identified all eligible households from its council tax records and will send information to eligible households who must apply for a rebate.

The invitation to claim a rebate takes two forms:

- Southwark households who get a reduction in their council tax due to low income will get a bar-coded letter sent by post through the Post Office Payout service. To claim, recipients must take their letter to any Post Office counter and present it together with proof of ID. They will then get their £150 rebate in cash. There are twenty-eight Post Office branches that are easily accessible to Southwark residents (mostly in Southwark and in some instances just across the boundaries with Lewisham or Lambeth). Bar-coded letters expire one month after the date of issue and cannot be used after that date
- Around 20,000 eligible households who do not receive a reduction in their bill due to low income, and do not pay their council tax by direct debit, will need to apply for their rebate through the new, online Grant Approval system. All eligible households will be invited to apply. In most cases the invitation will be sent by email or in the post. We expect most people to apply online but the option to apply by phone will be available for those who cannot apply online for any reason

For more information visit the council's webpage at [www.southwark.gov.uk/council-tax/150-council-tax-rebate](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/council-tax/150-council-tax-rebate)

In addition to Council Tax Rebates, the council will provide discretionary support to other households who may not be eligible under the main rebate scheme – for example, low-income households living in properties banded E-H for Council Tax.

## Cost of Living Fund

In addition, the council is planning to set up a new Cost of Living Fund to provide extra support for particularly vulnerable residents.

At the time of writing the £0.5m fund is going through the council's decision process and will be considered by Cabinet just before this magazine goes to print. The council will provide extra support to the most vulnerable households on the lowest incomes who are least able to absorb the impacts of the increased cost of living.

## Citizens Advice Bureau

Every month Southwark's Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB) helps around 2,000 people with around 4,000 different issues – and the number of people coming in with debt issues is rising month on month.

Within this, the number of people needing help with gas and electric debt has also increased. There are also more people with problems around homelessness – or threatened homelessness – and rent arrears. Demand for advice on a range of immigration issues is also up by nearly 20% from last year.

The CAB provides a range of help to people facing these problems. For example, they help people apply for grants to help pay their energy bills; check that people are claiming all the benefits they're entitled to and sort out any problems with any benefits being claimed; and advise people who are behind with their rent, council tax, gas or electric bills, or who have any other debts. They also provide specialist advice on housing and immigration issues.

They also have lots of online information available that people can check for themselves, such as about grants to help with energy bills [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/get-help-paying-your-bills/grants-and-benefits-to-help-you-pay-your-energy-bills](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/get-help-paying-your-bills/grants-and-benefits-to-help-you-pay-your-energy-bills) or on what you can do if you can't pay your bills generally [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/if-you-cant-pay-your-bills-because-of-coronavirus/#h-if-you-cant-pay-your-energy-bills](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/if-you-cant-pay-your-bills-because-of-coronavirus/#h-if-you-cant-pay-your-energy-bills)

They have recently co-produced a leaflet, with partners including Southwark Council, called Worrying about Money, where people can find the help they need if they are worried about their finances. An interactive version of this leaflet is available at [www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/southwark](http://www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/southwark)

You can contact Citizens Advice Southwark for help with benefits, debt, housing, immigration, employment and a range of other issues through the FREE Adviceline on **080 8278 7849** available Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 4.30pm, and 9.30am to 7pm on Tuesdays.

They also run face-to-face drop in sessions from 10.00am to 3.00pm five days per week at their three offices:

- **Peckham** – 97 Peckham High Street, SE15 5RS
- **Bermondsey** – 8 Market Place, Southwark Park Road, SE16 3UQ
- **Walworth** – 6-8 Westmoreland Road, Walworth, SE17 2AY

People can also email through the Citizens Advice Southwark website. [www.citizensadvicesouthwark.org.uk/advice](http://www.citizensadvicesouthwark.org.uk/advice)

The national Citizens Advice information website has lots of useful information as well which can be used by members of the public at [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)



# family fun

Keep the kids entertained during the summer holidays with a wide range of events around the borough.

**A**ll parents know how difficult it can be to keep the kids from getting bored during the long school summer holidays – especially if you don't want to spend a fortune on days out. Luckily we've rounded up some of the best activities you can get the kids involved with to keep them entertained and out of trouble this summer.

## GO GO GADGETEERS!

This summer, come to your local library and become a Gadgeteer on your reading journey. Dream big and make things happen by exploring the world of science and imagination. Read six books to complete the challenge, collect prizes along the way and join us for activities.

**Saturday 9 July to Sunday 11 September, 2022.**

All libraries across Southwark will be planning special events and activities throughout the school holidays to keep you reading and active. You can ask library staff or look at our website for full listings.

**There will also be some special events for the Summer Reading Challenge:**

**Zoo Lab** - Come and meet some exotic animals and learn about them.

You can even handle them too. Ages 6+

Thursday 4 August **Dulwich Library** 11am to 12m

**Camberwell Library** 2pm to 3pm

**Neal Zetter** - 'Rhythm, Rap & Rhyme' your way through summer with award-winning children's author and funny poet, Neal Zetter. In these FREE interactive sessions Neal will feature poems linked to science and imagination. You'll then get the chance to create your own fun poem and illustration on the Gadgeteers theme. Ages 6+

Tuesday 26 July **John Harvard Library** 10.30am

**Walworth Library** 2.30pm

**Sunshine for Breakfast with Michael Holland** - What did you eat for breakfast? Find out how your food grows. Learn about the wonderful world of plants, what they need, how they grow and how they survive. Take away your own seeds to grow and make nature inspired art. Ages 6+

Tuesday 2 August **Canada Water library** 11am to 12pm

**Peckham Library** 2-3pm

No booking is required for these events, but spaces are limited and will be offered on a first come, first serve basis. Find out more at [www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)

Summer Reading Challenge 2022  
**GADGETEERS**  
Presented by The Reading Agency.  
Delivered in partnership with libraries.



## GET SPORTY AT OUR LEISURE CENTRES

A Fit for Sport camp will be running at the Castle Leisure Centre this summer. Fit for Sport holiday camps offer families flexible and affordable childcare solutions through active multi-activity programmes within a safe, supportive and fun environment. Ensure your child does not miss out on our pulse-raising activity programme, full of enriching activities throughout the holiday that aim to add a depth and richness to children's learning beyond their school curriculum. The camp is for children aged 4 to 12 years, running from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, starting on 25 July until 2 September 2022. For more information visit [www.fitforsport.co.uk](http://www.fitforsport.co.uk) or email [enquiries@fitforsport.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@fitforsport.co.uk)



## ON YER BIKE!

Children across the borough are being invited to our BMX Summer Holiday club and experience quality BMX coached sessions delivered by British Cycling Level 2 BMX coaches.

The club will be running on the Burgess Park BMX track, on the junction of Albany Road and Wells Way SE5, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays - 10am to 3pm – from July 25 to August 24 2022.

The club is aimed at 8 to 16 year olds that are competent bike riders and costs £20.60/child per day - including bike, helmet and glove hire.

To book visit [www.southwark.gov.uk/bmx](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/bmx) or email [thebmxtrack.london@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:thebmxtrack.london@southwark.gov.uk) for more info

Don't forget... please bring with you a consent form signed by an adult and/or an adult to sign you in. Wear long sleeves, trousers and a sturdy pair of soft sole trainers and waterproof jacket.



## FOOD AND FUN

This summer, Southwark Council will again be supporting the Summer of Food and Fun.

We are partnering with local holiday clubs across the borough to provide an exciting programme of meals and activities for children and young people in our local communities.

Free places are available for children aged between 4 and 16, who receive benefit-related free school meals.

The programme wants to give eligible local families access to free, healthy food and fun activities over the summer holidays.

- Each programme will provide:
- Free, healthy and tasty food
- Fun physical activity sessions
- A wide range of other activities to suit different ages and personalities
- Opportunities to learn more about food and nutrition for children and families

Details about the summer programme are available at [www.southwark.gov.uk/foodandfun](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/foodandfun)



## LIFE LESSONS

Year 6 children and their parents will be busy thinking about their new secondary school in September and be going along to visit, meeting with their new teachers and hearing about their summer induction and holiday programme. The move to 'big school' can still feel a big challenge for some children so to help reduce worries and build confidence we have two creative arts programmes running in Southwark – Bubble are offering a scheme for children living on the Brandon Estate and from nearby schools; and Little fish are running their Learning for Life summer programme in Peckham.

### Little Fish Learning for Life:

The Little Fish team works with Year 6 students in developing their personal, social and health education to support their successful transition to mainstream secondary school. Using music, dance, drama, video and art, we explore a range of issues relevant to learning new skills, dealing with risks, making friends and coping with change.



**From 8 to 19 August 2022**, 10 am to 4 pm (Monday to Friday) at Rye Oak Primary School, Whorlton Road SE10 3PD.

**Bubble Theatre's Playing Safe:** Bubble is running a week-long summer holiday drama project for 11 year olds living on or around the Brandon Estate. Year 6 leavers are invited to join London Bubble Theatre for a week of fun drama activity. Come express yourself and make a play to perform at the end of the week. **Monday 15 to Friday 19 August**, 1pm to 4pm at the Brandon Youth Centre (above the library), Maddocks Way, SE17 3NH. Lunch provided. To book a place please email [emily@londonbubble.org.uk](mailto:emily@londonbubble.org.uk)

## OTHER EVENTS TO WATCH OUT FOR:

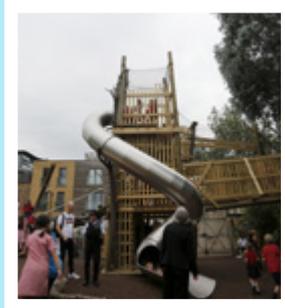
**Community Fun Day - 2 July:** At Kelly Avenue/Central Venture Park Junior parkrun at Burgess Park. A free, fun and friendly weekly 2k event for juniors (4 to 14 year olds). It is held every Sunday at 9am at Burgess Park, Albany Road, SE5 0RJ. Free to join but please register at [www.parkrun.org.uk/register](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/register) before you first come along. Only register with parkrun once and don't forget to bring a copy of your barcode that can be scanned. All other events will be listed at [www.southwark.gov.uk/events-culture-and-heritage](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/events-culture-and-heritage)

You can also read more about the festivals and events taking place in Southwark this summer on our What's On guide on pages 28 to 30.

# SUMMER IN SO

## MINT STREET ADVENTURE PLAY

(SE1 1QP) - Borough & Bankside



Mint Street adventure playground offers fun and games for children aged eight to 15. The playground has swings and slides with raised walkways, a climbing wall, nets and a fireman's pole. Inside, children can play pool and table tennis and during the summer holidays there are lots of free indoor and outdoor activities planned, including arts and crafts and sports coaching. [www.southwark.gov.uk/parks-and-open-spaces/adventure-playgrounds](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/parks-and-open-spaces/adventure-playgrounds)



With the excitement of the summer holidays already building, you can look forward to burning off excess energy and entertaining young minds across our borough's parks and play areas.



## NEW PLAYGROUND AT DICKENS' FIELDS

(SE1 4JL) - Borough

Dickens' Fields has reopened. We've made lots of improvements including adding an outdoor gym and a bigger, brighter, new playground that is already very popular with local children.



We've taken out an ugly, dead end road that was used as an unofficial car park and included the space in the park. There's a freshly planted wildflower meadow and we've opened the park up with new pathways and entrances, creating space for people to relax and walk their dogs as well. [southwark.gov.uk/parks-and-open-spaces/parks/dickens-square-park](http://southwark.gov.uk/parks-and-open-spaces/parks/dickens-square-park)

Our historic £1.2million investment in parks, means that we have the most accessible, championship level BMX track in the city. The track, which is in Burgess Park, gives inner London children the opportunity to experiment and learn. Nearby you'll find people roller-skating as well. Given the new enthusiasm for this activity, we are working to create a specialised space to encourage further take-up.

Peckham Bowls will open this summer, on the old bowling green at Peckham Rye Park. It's designed for both adults and children to enjoy, with a focus on relaxed fun and competitive games for all the family.

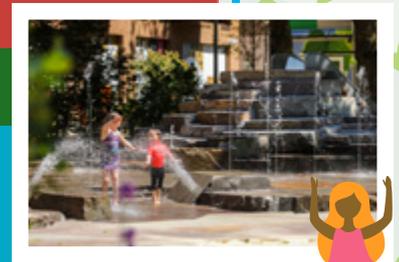
Google your local parks and find cricket nets, tennis courts (free for children), outdoor gyms, football teams, free-to-use table tennis tables, ball courts and more.

You will also find playgrounds and community and commercial events to visit. And of course space for picnics and other activities much loved by park users.

## ELEPHANT SPRINGS

(SE17 1FR) - Elephant and Castle

Elephant Springs is one of our borough's newest places for families, children and play. Nestled in the heart of Elephant Park, it offers a rocky, watery landscape for children to come together and splash around. Elephant Springs is open every day throughout the spring and summer season, from 10am-6pm. [elephantpark.co.uk/natural-play-area/](http://elephantpark.co.uk/natural-play-area/)



# SOUTHWARK



## SOUTHWARK PARK ATHLETICS TRACK

(SE16 2PE) – Surrey Quays

Southwark Park Sports and Athletics Centre opened last year alongside our 400 metre, six-lane running track. Team GB men and women's sprint relay teams trained there before heading off to the Tokyo Olympics last summer. For young people (eight to 16 years), London City Athletics Club's Junior Club meets every Saturday morning at the centre throughout the year. All ability levels are welcome to join the sessions which cover all run, jump and throw activities (£15 joining fee then £20 per month). Learn more at [www.londoncityac.org](http://www.londoncityac.org)



## BMX SUMMER ACTIVITIES

(SE5 0AH) – Burgess Park



At our world class BMX track, we offer a varied programme of activities from pre-school children to adults:

- child balance bikes and junior riders
- coaching for beginner/novice & intermediate
- school holiday clubs
- women only
- birthday parties & full range of events

A highly experienced team coaches all sessions and equipment hire is included (when needed).



If you have any questions please email: [thebmxtrack.london@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:thebmxtrack.london@southwark.gov.uk) or call us on 07976 340 111.

## WALKS FOR FAMILIES

(SE26 6LS) – Dulwich

Sydenham Hill Wood is home to many types of birds and woodland animals, as well as more than 200 species of trees and plants. From ancient ruins to wood sculptures, there's plenty for families to discover as you follow the old railway path. Our free Park Discovery checklists are a fun way to help children explore nature and learn about the outdoors in the borough's many parks.

Download a Park Discovery checklist at [www.southwark.gov.uk/parkdiscovery](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/parkdiscovery)



For more information please contact us at [parks@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:parks@southwark.gov.uk)



“I’m doing it because  
it could help stop  
cervical cancer”

## Don't ignore your cervical screening invite

Two women die every day from cervical cancer, but getting your screening can help stop it before it starts. So if you missed your last one, book an appointment with your GP practice now.

To find out more visit  
[nhs.uk/cervicalscreening](https://nhs.uk/cervicalscreening)

Screening  
saves  
lives

Help us  
help you



# decided

On Thursday 5 May, people all over Southwark voted for councillors to represent them on Southwark Council over the next four years.

**N**ow you have elected them, these councillors have already started working in the council on your behalf. But who are they and what will they do over the next four years to represent you?

Southwark is divided into 23 local areas called 'wards'. Each ward has either two or three councillors, depending on its size. We have 63 councillors in Southwark, and they represent roughly 4,000 to 5,000 residents each.

To stand for election as a councillor, you must live or work in Southwark. Councillors have an important role to play in representing the people in their wards and making decisions locally.

The main job of councillors is to represent their communities and help the people who live in their ward. They also help residents to access council services and to communicate with the council when they have problems. On the next pages, you can see who your local councillors are and how to get in touch with them.

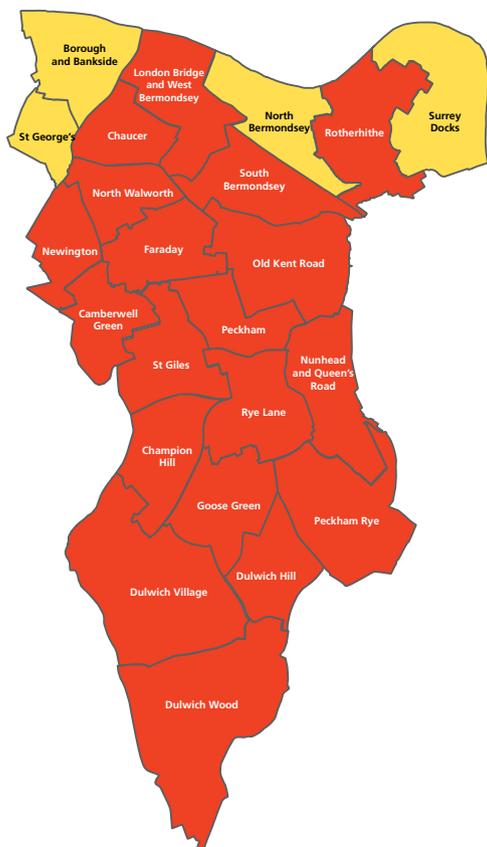
## Decision Makers

The council needs to have clear policies and direction to represent the interests of local people. Councillors help to achieve this in different ways. There are six meetings a year, called Council Assemblies, where all Southwark councillors gather. At Council Assemblies, all councillors vote on the council's major decisions and budget. Council Assemblies also choose the Leader of the Council, who is elected for four years to make major decisions about the council's direction and how it is run. The Leader then chooses which councillors will become members of the council's Cabinet. Each Cabinet Member is responsible for an area of council business and together, they decide what the council will do and how it achieves these goals. Other councillors judge whether the council Leader and Cabinet are doing a good job and hold them to account if they think they are not. These other councillors also sit on committees which make decisions about certain areas of council business, such as planning and licensing.

You can see more details about councillors, Cabinet and other committees, and dates and agendas for upcoming council meetings, on our website at [www.southwark.gov.uk/council-and-democracy](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/council-and-democracy)

# Councillors by ward

Introducing your councillors following the May 2022 local elections



Labour	<b>52 cllrs (+3)</b>
Liberal Democrats	<b>11 cllrs (-3)</b>

## Borough and Bankside



Victor Chamberlain  
**Liberal Democrat**  
Victor.Chamberlain@southwark.gov.uk



Irina von Wiese  
**Liberal Democrat**  
020 7525 7704  
Irina.VonWiese@southwark.gov.uk



David Watson  
**Liberal Democrat**  
020 7525 7611  
David.Watson@southwark.gov.uk

## Camberwell Green



Suzanne Abachor  
**Labour and Co-operative**  
020 7525 7687  
Suzanne.Abachor@southwark.gov.uk



Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE  
**Labour and Co-operative**  
020 7525 7227 / 07535 932329  
Dora.Dixon-Fyle@southwark.gov.uk



Kieron Williams  
**Labour and Co-operative**  
020 7525 0330  
Kieron.Williams@southwark.gov.uk

## Champion Hill



Esme Hicks  
**Labour**  
07731 996065  
Esme.Hicks@southwark.gov.uk



Sarah King  
**Labour**  
020 7525 0319 / 07985 114304  
Sarah.King@southwark.gov.uk

## Chaucer



Helen Dennis  
**Labour and Co-operative**  
020 7525 0207  
Helen.Dennis@southwark.gov.uk



Laura Johnson  
**Labour**  
020 7525 7894  
Laura.Johnson@southwark.gov.uk



Joseph Vambe  
**Labour**  
07731 996040  
Joseph.Vambe@southwark.gov.uk

## Dulwich Hill



Maggie Browning  
**Labour**  
020 7525 5157 / 07599 548501  
Maggie.Browning@southwark.gov.uk



Jon Hartley  
**Labour**  
020 7525 0208 / 07985 116274  
Jon.Hartley@southwark.gov.uk

## Dulwich Village



Richard Leeming  
**Labour and Co-operative**  
020 7525 5163 / 07783 153067  
Richard.Leeming@southwark.gov.uk



Margy Newens  
**Labour and Co-operative**  
020 7525 5165 / 07783 153141  
Margy.Newens@southwark.gov.uk

## Dulwich Wood



Catherine Rose  
**Labour**  
020 7525 3288 / 07710 921706  
Catherine.Rose@southwark.gov.uk



Andy Simmons  
**Labour**  
07956 624484  
Andy.Simmons@southwark.gov.uk

## Faraday



Sam Foster  
**Labour**  
020 7525 7952  
Sam.Foster@southwark.gov.uk



Ketzia Harper  
**Labour**  
07731 996039  
Ketzia.Harper@southwark.gov.uk



Kimberley McIntosh  
**Labour**  
020 7525 7931  
Kimberley.McIntosh@southwark.gov.uk

## Goose Green



James McAsh  
**Labour**  
020 7525 5171 / 07599 548511  
James.McAsh@southwark.gov.uk



Portia Mwangangye  
**Labour**  
020 7525 7933  
Portia.Mwangangye@southwark.gov.uk



Charlie Smith  
**Labour**  
020 7525 0220 / 07985 116249  
Charlie.Smith@southwark.gov.uk

**London Bridge and West Bermondsey**

 Sunil Chopra  
**Labour**  
020 7525 4277  
Sunil.Chopra@southwark.gov.uk

 Sam Dalton  
**Labour**  
07722 553856  
Sam.Dalton@southwark.gov.uk

 Emily Hickson  
**Labour**  
07731 996037  
Emily.Hickson@southwark.gov.uk

**Newington**

 John Batteson  
**Labour**  
07731 996007  
John.Batteson@southwark.gov.uk

 Natasha Ennin  
**Labour**  
020 7525 7955 / 07731 996012  
Natasha.Ennin@southwark.gov.uk

 Alice Macdonald  
**Labour**  
020 7525 5178 / 07783 153556  
Alice.Macdonald@southwark.gov.uk

**North Bermondsey**

 Rachel Bentley  
**Liberal Democrat**  
020 7525 7737 / 07731 996016  
Rachel.Bentley@southwark.gov.uk

 Hamish McCallum  
**Liberal Democrat**  
020 7525 0244  
Hamish.Mccallum@southwark.gov.uk

 Emily Tester  
**Liberal Democrat**  
020 7525 3368  
Emily.Tester@southwark.gov.uk

**North Walworth**

 Naima Ali  
**Labour**  
020 7525 3522  
Naima.Ali@southwark.gov.uk

 Darren Merrill  
**Labour**  
020 7525 3617 / 07956 624482  
Darren.Merrill@southwark.gov.uk

 Martin Seaton  
**Labour**  
020 3289 8572 / 07903 967805  
Martin.Seaton@southwark.gov.uk

**Nunhead and Queen's Road**

 Gavin Edwards  
**Labour**  
020 7525 1436  
Gavin.Edwards@southwark.gov.uk

 Reginald Popoola  
**Labour**  
020 7525 2550  
Reginald.Popoola@southwark.gov.uk

 Sandra Rhule  
**Labour**  
020 7525 0242 / 07985 114295  
Sandra.Rhule@southwark.gov.uk

**Old Kent Road**

 Evelyn Akoto  
**Labour**  
020 7525 0237 / 07985 116252  
Evelyn.Akoto@southwark.gov.uk

 Richard Livingstone  
**Labour**  
020 7525 7161 / 07534 996439  
Richard.Livingstone@southwark.gov.uk

 Michael Situ  
**Labour**  
020 7525 3793 / 07789 775760  
Michael.Situ@southwark.gov.uk

**Peckham**

 Leona Sabina Emmanuel  
**Labour**  
Sabina.Emmanuel@southwark.gov.uk

 Barrie Hargrove  
**Labour**  
020 7525 7311 / 07944 117902  
Barrie.Hargrove@southwark.gov.uk

 Cleo Soanes  
**Labour**  
020 7525 1425 / 07535 932309  
Cleo.Soanes@southwark.gov.uk

**Peckham Rye**

 Renata Hamvas  
**Labour**  
020 7525 5223  
Renata.Hamvas@southwark.gov.uk

 Victoria Mills  
**Labour**  
020 7525 1969  
Victoria.Mills@southwark.gov.uk

**Rotherhithe**

 Stephanie Cryan  
**Labour and Co-operative**  
020 7525 0247 / 07985 116251  
Stephanie.Cryan@southwark.gov.uk

 Bethan Roberts  
**Labour and Co-operative**  
020 7525 4377  
Bethan.Roberts@southwark.gov.uk

 Kath Whittam  
**Labour and Co-operative**  
020 7525 0251 / 07985 114273  
Kath.Whittam@southwark.gov.uk

**Rye Lane**

 Jasmine Ali  
**Labour**  
07985 114335  
Jasmine.Ali@southwark.gov.uk

 Esme Dobson  
**Labour**  
020 7525 5342  
Esme.Dobson@southwark.gov.uk

 Chloe Tomlinson  
**Labour**  
020 7525 2949  
Chloe.Tomlinson@southwark.gov.uk

**South Bermondsey**

 Cassandra Brown  
**Labour**  
Cassandra.Brown@southwark.gov.uk

 Leo Pollak  
**Labour**  
020 7525 0290 / 07985 114299  
Leo.Pollak@southwark.gov.uk

 Sunny Lambe  
**Labour**  
020 7525 0264 / 07985 114345  
Sunny.Lambe@southwark.gov.uk

**St George's**

 Maria Linforth-Hall  
**Liberal Democrat**  
07985 116271  
Maria.Linforth-Hall@southwark.gov.uk

 Graham Neale  
**Liberal Democrat**  
07946 438380  
CllrGraham.Neale@southwark.gov.uk

**St Giles**

 Ellie Cumbo  
**Labour**  
07731 996051  
Ellie.Cumbo@southwark.gov.uk

 Jason Ochere  
**Labour**  
020 7525 5192 / 07783 153764  
Jason.Ochere@southwark.gov.uk

 Ian Wingfield  
**Labour**  
020 7525 7271 / 07949 884308  
Ian.Wingfield@southwark.gov.uk

**Surrey Docks**

 Adam Hood  
**Liberal Democrat**  
07731 996063  
Adam.Hood@southwark.gov.uk

 Nick Johnson  
**Liberal Democrat**  
020 7525 5195 / 07599 548524  
Nick.Johnson@southwark.gov.uk

 Jane Salmon  
**Liberal Democrat**  
020 7525 5236 / 07783 153837  
Jane.Salmon@southwark.gov.uk

# Meet the Cabinet

Southwark Council's new Cabinet has now been chosen. The following councillors have been selected to serve in the Cabinet:

## Leader of the Council

**Cllr Kieron Williams**  
As Leader, Kieron sets the direction and vision of the council and heads the Cabinet team who will deliver on specific policies and commitments.



## Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Children, Young People & Education

**Cllr Jasmine Ali**  
Cllr Ali is in charge of working to improve school standards and improve mental health support for young people in Southwark.



## Cabinet member for Health and Wellbeing

**Cllr Evelyn Akoto**  
Cllr Akoto is leading work to improve the health of Southwark residents, ensuring they can access mental wellbeing support and reducing health inequalities.



## Cabinet member for Finance, Democracy and Digital

**Cllr Stephanie Cryan**  
Cllr Cryan is responsible for managing the council's money and making it easier for all residents to have access to the internet.



## Cabinet member for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development

**Cllr Helen Dennis**  
Cllr Dennis is leading the council's work on tackling the Climate Emergency, including our goal to halve the council's carbon emissions by 2026.



## Cabinet member for Community Safety

**Cllr Dora Dixon-Fyle**  
Cllr Dixon-Fyle is making Southwark safer by launching a new anti-social behaviour task force and working with the Metropolitan Police to tackle violence against women.



## Cabinet member for Equalities, Neighbourhoods and Leisure

**Cllr Alice Macdonald**  
Cllr Macdonald is ensuring that communities in Southwark can shape the places where they live and that we celebrate our rich diversity as a borough.



## Cabinet member for Council Homes and Homelessness

**Cllr Darren Merrill**  
Cllr Merrill is responsible for the building of new council homes in Southwark, and will also work to make sure that repairs to council homes are done right the first time.



## Cabinet member for Parks, Clean Air and Recycling

**Cllr Catherine Rose**  
Cllr Rose is leading the council's work on improving air quality, green spaces and transport. She is working to plant 20,000 trees, and enable more people to travel by bicycle by doubling the number of cycle hangars in the borough.



## Cabinet member for Jobs, Business and Town Centres

**Cllr Martin Seaton**  
Cllr Seaton is responsible for working with local businesses. He is working on growing opportunities for Southwark residents by delivering 2,000 apprenticeships and 3,000 training opportunities.



## The following councillors make up Southwark Council's Deputy Cabinet:



### Deputy cabinet member for Employment

**Cllr John Batteson**  
Creating more career opportunities for local people.



### Deputy cabinet member for Financial Support

**Cllr Kimberley McIntosh**  
Creating a new Southwark Cost of Living Fund, to help families who aren't able to make ends meet.



### Deputy cabinet member for Diversity

**Cllr Natasha Ennin**  
Improving the diversity of opportunities for people across our borough.



### Deputy cabinet member for Young People

**Cllr Portia Mwangangye**  
Making sure that young people are involved and benefit from decisions made locally.



## Don't let Measles, Mumps and Rubella into your child's world

The risk of catching Measles, Mumps and Rubella increases when your child goes to nursery. When you don't get your child their MMR vaccines, they're left exposed to becoming seriously ill.

Protect your child with both MMR vaccines.  
**Contact your GP to book their first or second dose. Find out more at [nhs.uk/MMR](https://www.nhs.uk/MMR)**

**MMR  
vaccines  
protect**

**Help us  
help you**

“ WE MUST HAVE CHANGE AND WE MUST HAVE A FUTURE”



# TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY TOGETHER

Southwark Council has welcomed a wide-range of recommendations from Southwark’s Citizens’ Jury on climate change.

**I**n March 2019, Southwark Council declared a Climate Emergency and announced it would “do all it can to make the borough carbon neutral by 2030”. We also committed to developing a strategy with local stakeholders. That’s why we created the Citizens’ Jury, making them part of the decision-making process and working alongside them to find and agree solutions.

In November 2021, a representative group of 25 people from the local community came together to learn, discuss and make decisions on Climate Change in Southwark. During eight sessions the Citizens’ Jury was given the opportunity to understand the climate change emergency and hear from expert witnesses, form opinions and make a series of recommendations in response to the question: “What needs to change in Southwark to tackle the emergency of climate change fairly and effectively for people and nature?”

To learn more about the full process [www.southwark.gov.uk/citizensjury](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/citizensjury)



“ WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT BEING PART OF SOUTHWARK AND CARE ABOUT THE FUTURE OF OUR BOROUGH”

# MEET THE JURORS

Kristy Owen-Jardine is from Herne Hill and was one of the Jurors. We caught up with her for a chat.

**What did you think about climate change before taking part in the jury?**

I was concerned about climate change before taking part and frankly frustrated by what I deemed to be the naivety of many of us around its long term consequences on our natural world.

**What motivated you to take part in the jury?**

I have always been hugely passionate about nature and the environment, so where better place to start in doing that than in my local community. I hoped that by being part of the jury it was a chance for me and others to try and make a difference.

**How did you find it and what did you think of the other participants, facilitators and expert witnesses?**

I found the Citizens' Jury process hugely rewarding. It was a great opportunity to work with, and share perspectives with a diverse group of individuals with bags of passion, commitment and enthusiasm to learn about one of the most significant issues facing our generation. We were supported by facilitators from Shared Future, who guided us with passion through the process and in addition we had access to a broad range of experts, change-makers and entrepreneurs who, whilst being honest and open about the climate crisis also gave us hope.



**What did you learn from taking part in the jury?**

That we have to bring local communities together to learn and consult on important community and global issues. Despite having a mountain to climb to address the impact of climate change, tackling key issues within the grassroots of our communities is an important way to start. Taking people on the journey is key to that change.

**Did you feel more engaged taking part in the jury than you would from other public consultations?**

I thought it was a great mechanism to address critical issues in a way that was fair and effective and hope that within reason there is an opportunity for it to be used to consult communities on other important matters in the future.

**What do you want to see happen now?**

Meaningful progress on our recommendations by Southwark Council and a commitment to be transparent and open with the broader community on progress (good and bad).

**Have you changed anything as a result?**

I have been concerned about climate change for a long time so I have already taken a number of steps to reduce my impact on the climate. That said, this process has given me the motivation to do even more - more cycling and walking, reducing the heating, reducing food waste.



## THE RECOMMENDATIONS

After sitting for three months, the jury has now given its recommendations for changes to help Southwark meet its climate ambitions. The council will take the recommendations to a meeting of the Cabinet and provide a response to the points raised by the Citizens' Jury. Some of the key requests were:



**MAKE WALKING GREAT AGAIN!**



**AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE AND APPEALING PUBLIC TRANSPORT**



**IMPROVEMENTS IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF HOUSING**



**TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND PROGRESS MONITORING**

The full set of recommendations from the jury can be found: [www.southwark.gov.uk/citizensjury](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/citizensjury)



# Change at the top

Southwark Council welcomes its new Chief Executive Althea Loderick

**T**his May, Southwark Council welcomed its new Chief Executive, Althea Loderick. Althea was previously Chief Executive of Newham Council and before that she was the strategic director for resources in Brent Council and the Chief Operating Officer in Waltham Forest Council.

The appointment came after an extensive recruitment process, which included stakeholder panels with key council partners, representatives from community organisations, young people and staff. The recruitment process started after the council's previous Chief Executive, Cllr Eleanor Kelly, announced she would be retiring this year - stepping down from the post she held for more than a decade.

We spoke to Althea to see how she felt about the role and what she was looking forward to bringing to the borough.

## What attracted you to the role at Southwark Council?

The combination of Southwark being such a great, iconic, history-filled, diverse, exciting, ambitious place that was genuinely committing to working hand-in-hand with its residents, communities and partners to bring about even better results and outcomes for our place.

## What do you think are the biggest challenges residents are facing today?

Some of our biggest challenges are housing in all respects; supply, affordability and maintaining housing in good condition including making it energy efficient. Increasingly the cost of living crisis and what that means for the choices some of our residents are having to make; the impacts of climate change and the urgency that has to drive our response to it. All of these.

## What are the top three priorities/ideas you want to implement at Southwark?

Coming together as a place to create a plan for our borough that all of us contribute to and all of us can subscribe to; Southwark Stands Together – there is so much that

has been achieved and so much more we can do – I am proud to be the Chief Executive of a place that has placed so much emphasis on tackling inequalities which leads me onto the third priority but really the first priority which is – across all of our agendas – striving for fairness so that it runs through everything we collectively do and manifests in opportunity, less health inequality; more options for housing; fair access to fantastic green spaces that enhance the quality of all of our lives.

## What are you most excited about working on?

I'm excited about all of it! But I'll pick the borough plan because that encompasses everything so I don't need to leave anything out.

## Where are your favourite places in the borough?

My favourite places are wherever I find our award-winning parks and green spaces because they're wonderful and I don't want to pick one area out above any others because I value all of Southwark equally.

Southwark Stands Together is the council's programme to tackle racism and inequality in our borough. To find out more about our work and progress go to [www.southwark.gov.uk/southwarkstandstogether](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/southwarkstandstogether)



# Living with COVID-19

Whilst we're learning to live with COVID-19, there are some key ways you can take care of your health.

## How to tell if you have COVID-19 and what to do

Most people are no longer advised to test, so knowing the symptoms of COVID-19 is even more important. There are now more agreed symptoms – similar to flu – that could mean you have COVID-19. For both adults and children these symptoms include: shortness of breath, feeling tired, aching body, headache, sore throat, blocked or runny nose, loss of appetite, diarrhoea, feeling sick or being sick.

We no longer have to self isolate by law if we have COVID-19. But we're still advised to stay home and avoid contact with others if we have symptoms and either:

- A high temperature
- Don't feel well enough to do normal activities such as go to work, school or childcare

## Key ways you can protect yourself and others from COVID-19

1. Get a COVID-19 vaccine – it's still the best way to prevent being seriously ill
2. Avoid others if you have symptoms of respiratory infection (most people aren't testing now, so you may not know if it's COVID-19), or if you get a positive COVID-19 test result
3. Meet people outside if possible
4. Let fresh air in if you're meeting indoors
5. Wear a face covering in enclosed areas like public transport and shops
6. Remember to keep hand washing and the basics of good hygiene

Get more guidance at: [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

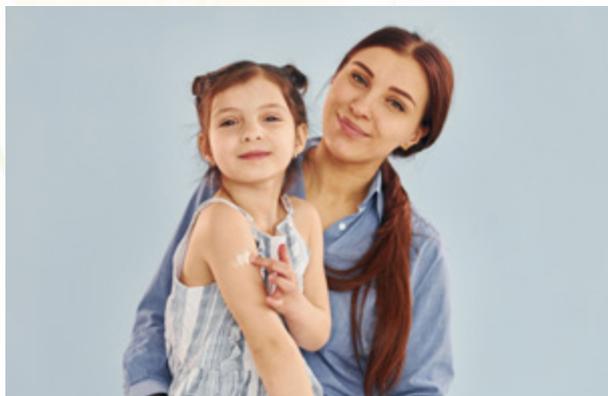


## Who can get a COVID-19 vaccine

People aged:

- 5+ can get a 1st and 2nd dose
- 16+, and some 12 to 15s, can get a booster dose
- 12+ who had a weakened immune system when they had their first two doses, will be offered a 3rd dose and a booster (4th dose)
- 75+, who live in care homes for older people, 12+ with a weakened immune system, can get a spring booster.

Find out more: [nhs.uk/coronavirus-vaccine](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus-vaccine)



## How to get a COVID-19 vaccine

- Book using the NHS national booking service (ages 5 and above) if you're registered with a GP
- Contact your GP (ages 12 and above)
- Ages 5 and above can use a walk-in clinic in Southwark (proof of address, immigration status, or an NHS number aren't needed)
- Take part in the school-based vaccination programme (ages 12 to 15)

Find out more:

[www.southwark.gov.uk/get-a-covid-vaccine](https://www.southwark.gov.uk/get-a-covid-vaccine) or call the NHS on 119.



## Get help to lose weight

Putting on weight is often gradual. It happens over the years because of the way we live now and the odd unhealthy habit. Extra weight causes fat to build up around vital organs. This makes it harder for our body to fight against diseases like cancer, heart disease and COVID-19. You can get weight loss support advice for adults and children at [www.southwark.gov.uk/healthy-weight](https://www.southwark.gov.uk/healthy-weight)

If you're 18 or over you may be eligible for free Slimming World or Weight Watchers support, which includes expert coaching, exercise classes and recipe ideas. You'll need to have certain body mass index (BMI), and be a resident or be registered with a Southwark GP to apply. Places are limited, so call **0333 005 0159** today or go to [southwark.everyonehealth.co.uk](https://southwark.everyonehealth.co.uk)



## Get help to stop smoking

If you catch COVID-19, your symptoms may be more severe if you smoke. Stopping smoking is one of the best things you will ever do for your health. When you stop, you give your lungs the chance to repair and you will be able to breathe easier.

Find out about free online, telephone and face-to-face stop smoking support services: [www.southwark.gov.uk/stop-smoking](https://www.southwark.gov.uk/stop-smoking) Or call **0333 005 0159** or go to [southwark.everyonehealth.co.uk](https://southwark.everyonehealth.co.uk) to find out about the Southwark Stop Smoking service.



# Days of summers past

Our neighbours in time enjoyed summer fun just as much as we did. Some of their leisure activities are very much like ours, while others don't seem like much fun to modern eyes.

**I**f you look carefully as you have fun around the borough this summer, you can find their traces in surprising places.

Having a drink in a pub garden is one piece of summer fun that hasn't changed much, although some of the pubs have. The Crown and Greyhound pub in Dulwich was originally just the Crown; it was the favoured pub of Dulwich Hamlet FC players from the time it was founded in 1893, and was the site of celebrations after Hamlet clinched the FA Amateur Cup in 1937. The Greyhound pub was across the street until about 1897, when both were demolished and the current pub built on the Crown's site. The Greyhound was bigger, and fancier: it hosted balls and the Dulwich Club, a society "for the purposes of friendly converse and social cheer among a large body of literary gentlemen"; Charles Dickens and William Thackeray were both distinguished guests at club meetings.

The George Inn on Borough High Street was definitely a pub in 1558, because the landlord's name appears in historical records. It is the last of London's galleried coaching inns. The name "coaching inn" refers to a stagecoach – essentially, a horse-drawn long-distance bus. Because the horses needed food, water, and



sleep before resuming their long journey, coaching inns provided layover points.

Where an area had a number of coaching inns – like Borough High Street, the single road connecting the coast with the City until the 18th century – each inn might be the staging point for a particular coach. Most of Borough High Street's coaching inns didn't survive, including the White Hart, immortalised by Charles Dickens in *The Pickwick Papers*, and the Tabard, the starting point for Chaucer's journey to *Canterbury*. Some other local coaching inns survive as regular pubs, including the Blue-Eyed Maid on Borough High Street and the Horseshoe Inn on Melior Street.

Parks are another popular place to have fun in the sun. We'd have difficulty recognising some of the borough's earliest green leisure spaces. Known as "tea gardens" or "pleasure gardens", they were a blend of parks, cafés, pub, theme parks, and leisure centres, outdoor spaces with ticketed entrance that offered entertainment day and night.

One of Southwark's earliest pleasure gardens was the Dog and Duck, St George's Fields, on the site of what is now the Imperial War Museum and Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park. As its name suggests, it was originally a pub in a marshy rural area popular for duck-hunting, but by the late 17th century, it had become a spa and pleasure garden from the reputation of its well water.

Thomas Keyse, a self-taught painter, opened a venue in Bermondsey in 1765, including a tea-garden, a pub, and a gallery for displaying and selling his artwork. Five years later, a mineral spring was found on the property, which Keyse rebranded as "Bermondsey Spa". Bermondsey Spa closed around 1805, not long after Keyse died, and the site was developed. However, traces remain, in the name "Spa Road", and the modern Bermondsey Spa Gardens, developed in the 1950s to provide green space for an area that was heavily bombed in World War II.



Perhaps the biggest and most popular of the local pleasure gardens was the Royal Surrey Zoological Gardens in Walworth. It opened in 1831, and featured a zoo (with the first giraffes on public display in Britain), gardens, an artificial lake used for re-enactments, and a concert hall built in 1856. For decades, it was South London's top venue for fairs, fetes, and concerts. However, changing tastes and the cost of upkeep meant that it closed in 1861. If you've spent a sunny afternoon in Pasley Park, you've been there yourself – it's the rump of the gardens.



Another popular pastime for bygone summer fun in the sun was watching a play. The City of London banned theatre performances in 1572 as a means of fighting the plague; three years later, they expelled actors and theatres from the city entirely. As a result, theatres and similarly disreputable pastimes – gambling and bloodsports like animal-baiting – moved to areas easy to get to from the City of London, but not bound by its rules.



The first theatre in Southwark was the Newington Butts Theatre, which opened by 1576 on the east side of Walworth Road at the junction with New Kent Road. The Earl of Warwick's company was based there until the early 1580s and it remained open, used by different acting troupes, until the 1590s.

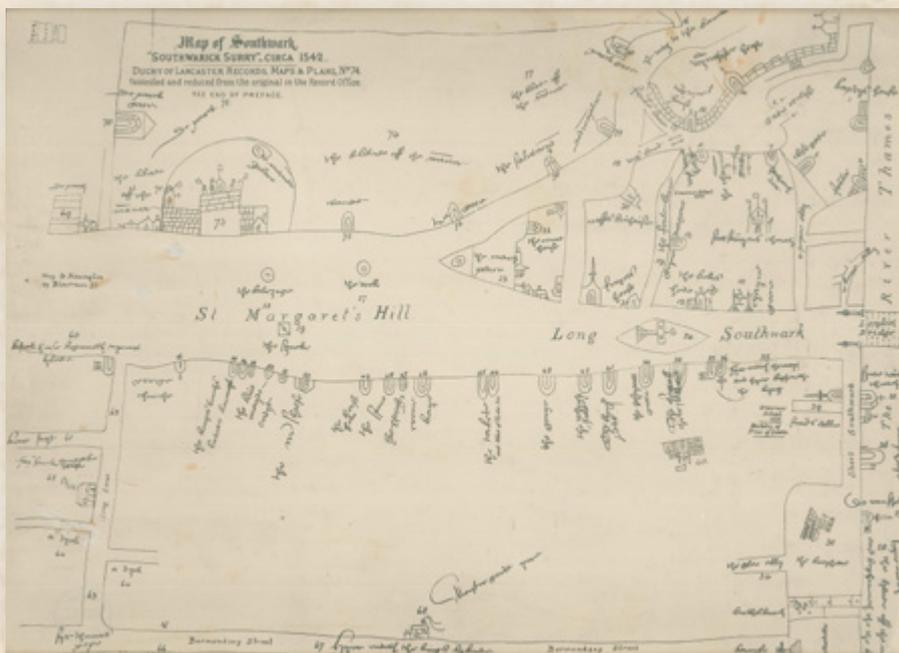
Theatrical entrepreneur Philip Henslowe built the Rose Theatre on a site in modern Park Street in 1587; it had a unique 2-level stage, and served as the home for the Lord Admiral's Men acting troupe until the early 1600s, when it fell into disuse. Theatrical star Edward Alleyn, who later married Henslowe's daughter and founded Dulwich College, fronted the Lord Admiral's Men.

Henslowe built the Hope Theatre on the final site of the Beargarden, an earlier venue for animal-baiting opened by the 1560s on Bankside. There were several animal baiting venues in Bankside, and the



Beargarden appears to have moved at least once. By the late 1500s it settled in the manor of Paris Garden – in modern terms, in Bankside's west end. Animal baiting was seen as disreputable, but was extremely popular, and Henslowe had an eye for money-making ventures. Henslowe bought out his son-in-law in 1611, and two years later tore down the Beargarden and replaced it with the Hope.

The Hope Theatre was a unique venue, equipped to stage both theatrical productions and animal-baiting events. However, the actors based there were unhappy with their working conditions. We can guess what they were from Ben Jonson's description of the theatre as being as dirty and smelly as Smithfield (the area of the City that housed livestock markets and slaughterhouses), in his play Bartholomew Fair, first staged at the Hope in October 1614. By 1619, the actors had moved out, and the Hope – usually referred to as the Beargarden – hosted animal-baiting, boxing, and fencing matches until 1682. The site was redeveloped in 1714: its name, Bear Garden Square, survives in the modern Bear Gardens.



# EVENTS CALENDAR

SUMMER 2022



## URBAN ELEPHANT FESTIVAL

The Urban Elephant will start with kids and arts activities, where they can get creative and produce artwork to take home to commemorate the festival, followed by a family-friendly programme to include a world-renowned street theatre performers who will come together with the local community arts groups to celebrate the cultural diversity of the area.

**29, 30 June and 3 July, 12pm to 9pm**

FREE

Castle Square, 40 Elephant Road, SE17 1EU  
[www.castlesquarelondon.co.uk](http://www.castlesquarelondon.co.uk) and [urbanelephant.org.uk](http://urbanelephant.org.uk)



## MINT STREET MUSIC FESTIVAL

A free, family-friendly festival in the park with two stages of live music, dance and children's performers, plus community stalls and food stalls. Music of many genres from hugely talented acts including Kalima Project and Bisola. Supporting mental health and speaking out on climate with Culture Declares An Emergency.

**Saturday 16 July, 12 noon to 7.30pm**

FREE

Mint Street Park, off Marshalsea Road, SE1 0EY  
[mintstreetmusicfestival.info](http://mintstreetmusicfestival.info) or on social media at [facebook.com/mintstreetmusicfestival](https://www.facebook.com/mintstreetmusicfestival) or Instagram at [mintstreetmusicfestival](https://www.instagram.com/mintstreetmusicfestival)



## GOOSE GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL SUMMER CARNIVAL 2022

The Carnival is a celebration of creativity and community for the children of Goose Green School and their parents/carers, staff, and governors, and an opportunity for the local community to share in our joy and success. The children will parade from Goose Green School to Goose Green Park with banners and music, accompanied by their teachers and parents. There will follow a lively performance of music and dance for all to enjoy. In Goose Green Park there will be festival style activities, games and amusements, plus a wide range of food and drinks. In addition to celebrating our community, this is a key fundraising event for the school, with all profits used to support the school's fundraising priorities; this year we are raising funds to build a brand new school library.

**Saturday 9 July, 12noon to 3:30pm**

Free to all. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Goose Green Park  
[www.goosegreenprimaryschool.org](http://www.goosegreenprimaryschool.org)

# SOUTHWARK PRESENTS

For details of these and more events around the borough visit [www.southwark.gov.uk/southwarkpresents](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/southwarkpresents)

## Family Dayz

Whether it's great shows, workshops or guided adventures there's lots to enjoy across a weekend of family fun, and it's all free. Rap with the Hip Hop gardeners at Plot 17, hide from the Woolf Dogs or play in Midsummerland. There's lots to enjoy in our lovely riverside park.

**Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 July  
11am to 5pm**

FREE. Suitable for ages up to 12-years-old  
Potters Fields Park, SE1  
[www.atlondonbridge.com/familydayz](http://www.atlondonbridge.com/familydayz)



## Pride Weekender

The London LGBTQ+ Pop-up Community Centre is celebrating 50 years since the first Pride event in London, spearheaded by our friends at the Gay Liberation Front. Join us for a weekend full of LGBTQ+ joy: performances, workshops, live music, DJs and drag performers. Free events on Saturday include yoga and an Eden Project Workshop. Ticketed events include drag artists, comedians and music. Sunday's events are also free – a film screening and board games afternoon. We request that visitors please wear a mask unless exempt

**Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 June,  
various time**

FREE or ticketed events, see website for details.  
60-62 Hopton Street, Blackfriars, SE1 9JH, London  
[londonlgbtqcentre.org](http://londonlgbtqcentre.org) or go to [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk) and search for Pride Weekender to buy tickets.



## Pub in the Park

Enjoy a delicious day out savouring incredible food from Michelin-starred and award-winning restaurants. The chef line-up includes James Martin, Andi Oliver and Matt Tebbutt with music from Sister Sledge, Sophie-Ellis Bextor, Craig David (TS5 set) and Faithless (DJ set) plus comedy from Milton Jones, Henning Wehn and Mark Watson.

**Friday 24 to Sunday 26 June  
Friday 6pm to 10.30pm,  
Saturday 11.30am to 4.30pm  
and 6pm to 10.30pm, Sunday  
12.30pm to 6.30pm**

Prices vary by session. Children under 5-years go free, child, family & VIP tickets available. Check website for full details.

Dulwich Park  
[pubintheparkuk.com](http://pubintheparkuk.com)



## The Southbury Child

Stephen Beresford's very funny new play is a deeply humane exploration of family, faith, tradition and tolerance in a rapidly changing world. Three time Olivier winning Alex Jennings makes his first appearance at The Bridge.

**1 July to 27 August  
Monday to Saturday: 7.30pm,  
Wednesdays and Saturdays:  
2.30pm**

£15, £25, £39.50, £55, £65,  
Premium tickets £95, Reduced  
prices for midweek matinees  
The Bridge Theatre  
[bridgetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/the-southbury-child/](http://bridgetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/the-southbury-child/)



## Give Me the Sun at Blue Elephant Theatre

Give Me the Sun is a beautiful and compelling new play, exploring what happens when too much is left unsaid for too long. A seemingly perfect father-son relationship unravels to reveal grief, loss and loneliness.

**Tuesday 12 to Saturday  
30 July, 8pm**

Prices vary – see website  
Blue Elephant Theatre, 59A Bethwin Rd, London SE5 0XT  
[blueelephanttheatre.co.uk/give-me-sun](http://blueelephanttheatre.co.uk/give-me-sun)



## Radiate Windrush Festival

Celebrate National Windrush Day, Caribbean Migration and the Empire Windrush arriving, with early post-war migrants from the Commonwealth Caribbean Islands. Experience the most culturally diverse combination of our different Black communities here in the UK with experiences ranging across music, language, art, fashion, hair, dance, food, traditions and more.

**Saturday 25 and Sunday 26  
June from 12 noon each day**

Under 5's & Over 70's are FREE. Child, family & VIP tickets available. Check website for full details.

Burgess Park  
[radiatefestival.com](http://radiatefestival.com)

### Theatre Peckham summer events

Theatre Peckham has a range of events over the summer period. On the last Thursday of every month the theatre hosts a Poetry Foyer featuring the hottest poets on the scene and a chance to take part in an open mic. On 20 August the Reggae Fraternity will celebrate all things Reggae with various workshops and a live evening performance. From 30 September to 2 October the delightful farmyard musical *Pigs Might Fly* (Mudpuddle Farm) will be showing. Ideal for children aged 3 to 11 and their families. Finally from 3 October to 2 November the theatre will host *Young Gifted and Black*, a season of work exploring the nuances of the Black experience in the UK today.

**Dates and time vary – see website for details**

*Prices vary – see website for details*

*Theatre Peckham, 221 Havil Street, London SE5 7SB*

*Booking [www.theatrepeckham.co.uk](http://www.theatrepeckham.co.uk) or by calling 020 7708 5401*



### The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer (adapted for stage by Mike Poulton)

Along the pilgrimage to Canterbury, it is suggested that each traveller tells their tale. We retell five of these, we hope that our choices – ranging from the heroic (*The Knight's Tale*) to the bawdy (*The Miller's Tale*) – mirror as best we can the many narrative voices employed by Chaucer.

**Saturday 9 July, Sunday 10 July, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 July 2pm and 5pm**

*£12 and £8 (18 years and under).*

*Recommended age 8+*

*The gardens of Bell House, 27 College Road, Dulwich, SE21 7BG  
<http://dulwichplayers.ticketsource.co.uk>*



### Camouflage at IWM London

With family activities exploring the magic and illusion of camouflage this summer, there's plenty of fun to be had at IWM London. From a special camouflage themed adventure across the museum, to a dedicated hub full of camouflage themed activities, there's something for every member of the family.

**29 July to 29 August, 10am to 5pm**

*Free*

*IWM London, Lambeth Road, London, SE1 6HZ*

*[www.iwm.org.uk/visits/iwm-london](http://www.iwm.org.uk/visits/iwm-london)*



### Summer Family Activities

There's lots of family fun on board HMS Belfast this summer. Travel back in time to D-Day 1944 with the storytelling experience *Family Mission*, or learn how to keep HMS Belfast in tip-top shape and take charge of an iconic warship in the interactive family activity *Sea Legs*.

**21 July to 4 September, 10am to 5pm**

*Included with general admission - £26 / children £13*

*HMS Belfast, The Queen's Walk, London, SE1 2JH*

*<https://www.iwm.org.uk/hms-belfast>*



# BUSINESS FRIENDLY SOUTHWARK

Summer is here, the borough is getting busy again and business have reasons to be optimistic about the months to come.

However, after a difficult couple of years many businesses need ongoing support, which the Wayfinder scheme can help them access. Our residents need support too, and there are ways in which businesses can help, through providing employment opportunities as well as committing to paying the London Living Wage. And as we adjust to living with COVID-19, businesses still have a role to play in keeping their workforce and the community safe.

## FUNDING AND ADVICE SUPPORT FOR SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS

The London Business Hub wants to support small businesses by providing them with the tools they need to thrive and recover – and we do too. That’s why we’ve teamed up with them to give business owners free, unbiased business support from expert advisers through the London Business Hub Wayfinder scheme. Find out more at [www.businesshub.london/resource/wayfinder](http://www.businesshub.london/resource/wayfinder)



## HELP RESIDENTS GET INTO AN APPRENTICESHIP

In April 2022 we launched our Pre-Apprenticeships programme, run by Step Ahead. The programme provides support to residents aged 16 and over to secure an apprenticeship, including personalised 1-2-1 coaching, advice and guidance, and help with applications.



If you’re looking to hire an apprentice and would like to help someone from the programme progress in their career, contact the Step Ahead team at [Sally@stepahead.co.uk](mailto:Sally@stepahead.co.uk) or on 0333 307 0618.

## OTHER WAYS TO RECRUIT LOCALLY

There’s plenty of talent right here in the borough, which our free employment support service Southwark Works aims to connect local businesses with. To find out more about the service visit [www.southwarkworks.com](http://www.southwarkworks.com), or contact the friendly team on 020 7740 8200 (freephone 0800 0520 540) or at [info@southwarkworks.org.uk](mailto:info@southwarkworks.org.uk)



## BECOME A LIVING WAGE EMPLOYER

There are many benefits to becoming an accredited Living Wage employer.

A recent survey showed that:

- 86% of accredited employers have benefited from improved reputation
- 75% said it has increased motivation and retention rates of employees.

The current London Living Wage is £11.05 per hour. To find out more about being an accredited Southwark Living Wage employer contact [james.reed@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:james.reed@southwark.gov.uk).



## LIVING WITH COVID-19

Earlier this year the government announced its plans for living with COVID-19. The final set of changes came into effect on 1 April 2022.

Visit our Running Your Business Safely webpage to find out more about these changes in COVID-19 guidance and what you can do to help keep your workforce and the community safe.



## WE’RE HERE TO HELP

For regular updates on business support, opportunities and guidance, sign up to our business e-newsletter at [www.southwark.gov.uk/business/business-support-and-advice/business-e-newsletter](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/business/business-support-and-advice/business-e-newsletter).



As always, we’re on hand to answer any business-related questions you might have at: [SouthwarkBusinessDesk@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:SouthwarkBusinessDesk@southwark.gov.uk)

# 5 to 11 year olds can get COVID-19 vaccinations



Two doses give strong and long-lasting protection.

Vaccines protect children against serious infection and can reduce disruption to family life, school and holidays.

**Find out more and book today: [www.nhsselvax.com](http://www.nhsselvax.com)**

 @lb\_southwark    facebook.com/southwarkcouncil    @southwarkcouncil