

# MAYFIELD LABOUR



## NEWSLETTER



- Woodford Police Hub
- Big Community Transport Tour
- Kickstarting Economic Growth
- Future Leaders Programme
- Primary School Visit
- Cllr Athwal Steps Down
- Canvas Sessions
- Council Budget 2025
- Advice Surgeries
- Our Councillors
- Contact Details

## Innovative new Police Hub brings officers closer to Woodford

A new policing hub in Woodford has been launched through a partnership between the Met Police and Redbridge Council, bringing officers closer to the communities they serve. Previously, officers policing the area were based 20 minutes away, but the council has provided co-location space and funded the hub's fit-out, enabling a more efficient response to crime and anti-social behaviour. The hub will house up to 20 officers covering six wards.

Commissioner **Sir Mark Rowley** and Redbridge Council leader Cllr **Kam Rai** officially opened the hub, highlighting its role in strengthening neighbourhood policing.

Redbridge has already seen a 13% drop in offences, including violence and drug-related crimes.

Deputy London Mayor **Kaya Comer-Schwartz** welcomed the hub's opening, emphasising its importance in fostering stronger police-community relations. The Mayor's office has provided record funding to support the Met's commitment to local policing.





## Launch of the Big Community Transport Tour

The Mayor's Big Community Transport Tour launched in Redbridge, marking the start of a borough-wide engagement initiative to improve London's transport network. Led by Deputy Mayor for Transport Seb Dance and Walking and Cycling Commissioner Will Norman, the tour will visit every borough in 2025, ensuring transport policies reflect local needs. The first stops include Hounslow, Redbridge, Richmond, and Croydon.

Mayfield ward councillor and Ilford South MP **Jas Athwal** welcomed the initiative, stating, "Accessible cities are vital to ensure people stay connected to work, education & social opportunities."



## Chancellor vows to go further and faster to kickstart economic growth

The Chancellor, **Rachel Reeves**, outlined the government's commitment to economic growth as key to improving public services and tackling the cost of living. He emphasised stability, reform, and investment to unlock the UK's potential and support businesses.

Priorities include boosting innovation, expanding infrastructure, and increasing investment in high-growth industries like AI and clean energy. She also highlighted stronger trade ties and making the UK a global business hub. Plans to improve transport, housing, and skills development were announced, alongside backing for a third runway at Heathrow to boost connectivity. The government aims to deliver lasting economic change for working people.



## Future Leaders Programme at Ilford Town Hall

Cllr **Vanisha Solanki** was one of 3 inspirational speakers that joined local young people to talk about their own journeys into leadership.

The talks were extremely powerful focusing on the themes of equality and resilience, and encouraged the audience to challenge hate in order to build inclusive communities.

Cllr Solanki said "I really enjoyed this event. The Future Leaders Programme does amazing work empowering our young people."

Redbridge Council leader Cllr **Kam Rai** commented that "[this] is an amazing programme providing confidence, guidance & opportunities for our youngsters."



## Visits to South Park Primary School

Cllr **Tanweer Khan** had the opportunity to visit South Park Primary recently.

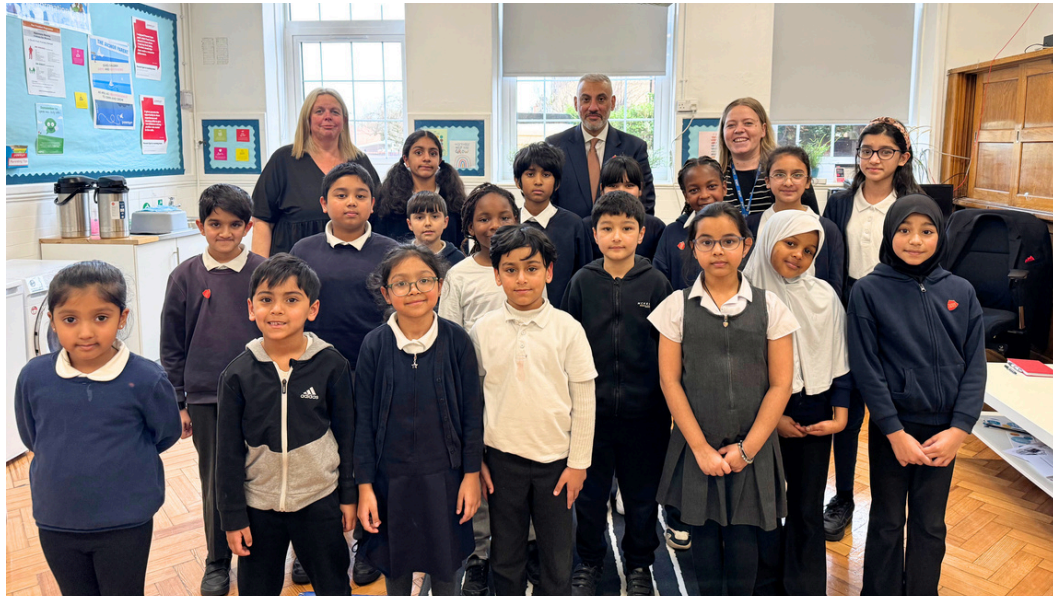
During the visit, he met members of staff and popped into some classrooms to see lessons in progress.

The visit included a Q and A session with the school council.

Questions from the children included asking Cllr Khan about his role as a councillor, recycling, homelessness, and many other topics, including which football team he supports.

Cllr Khan said "I have been really impressed with questions from these young children, and I can see them all going on to becoming very successful adults."

More school visits are planned for the coming months.



## Cllr Jas Athwal steps down from Redbridge Council

Residents of Mayfield ward will go to the polls on Thursday, March 27th, 2025 in order to elect a new councillor to represent them, as Cllr **Jas Athwal** has resigned his membership of Redbridge Council, to focus more on his parliamentary duties.

Having been first elected as a councillor in 2010, representing his home ward of Mayfield, Cllr Athwal served as the Leader of Redbridge Council from May 2014 until he became the MP for Ilford South in July 2024.

During his tenure, he led the borough through the COVID-19 pandemic, restarted the Council's house-building programme and introduced the free 1 hour parking on our high streets.

We would like to place on record our thanks for his dedication to the residents of Mayfield ward.

It has been an honour to serve my neighbours as a councillor for my home ward of Mayfield, in Ilford South, for over 15 years.

Having been elected as the Member of Parliament for Ilford South, I have resigned my position on Redbridge Council to better focus my efforts on delivering for my constituency.

The power of local government can be transformative. Through my time serving on Redbridge Council, it has been an immense privilege to have worked closely with colleagues to bring investment to our borough and improve the lives of local families.

I wish my Mayfield colleagues well in their ongoing efforts to serve our ward and look forward to continuing to work with them, and the wider council, as the Member of Parliament for Ilford South.

**Jas Athwal MP**  
**Member of Parliament for Ilford South**



## We are out knocking on doors regularly

As always, Mayfield ward councillors have been out knocking on doors in the ward, actively engaging with residents, listening to their concerns, and discussing the issues that matter most to them.

We are always happy to speak with residents, hear their views, and take up any casework on their behalf to ensure their voices are heard and their concerns addressed.



## Council Budget 2025

Mayfield ward councillor Cllr **Vanisha Solanki** made history at the Budget Council on Thursday February 27th, when she became the first female Labour Cabinet Member for Finance in Redbridge to have presented a budget speech.

The balanced budget was approved by the Council and details will be sent out to residents in the coming few weeks.



-  @Mayfield Labour
-  @Mayfield Labour
-  [info@mayfieldlabour.org.uk](mailto:info@mayfieldlabour.org.uk)
-  [www.mayfieldlabour.org.uk](http://www.mayfieldlabour.org.uk)

**MAYFIELD LABOUR** 

## Advice Surgeries

We hold regular surgeries at Goodmayes Library and Paratha Junction/Seven Kings Café.

Please visit our website or social media pages for dates and times.

No appointment is necessary.

## Our Councillors



**Cllr Vanisha Solanki**

[vanisha.solanki@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:vanisha.solanki@redbridge.gov.uk)



**Cllr Tanweer Khan**

[tanweer.khan@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:tanweer.khan@redbridge.gov.uk)