

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Budget 2023/24

On Thursday (23 February), at a Full Council meeting, Redbridge Council passed its 2023/2024 budget, protecting vital services and investing in key local infrastructure.

The budget follows a decade of Government austerity, reducing grant settlement funding to London councils by an average of 63% since 2010. Redbridge continues to be short-changed compared to other boroughs, receiving £182.31 less government funding per person than the London average.

Despite the challenges of reduced budgets and increased inflation, Redbridge Council is continuing to deliver over 400 vital services, support local people through the cost of living crisis, and invest in key infrastructure.

As part of the 2023/24 budget, Redbridge Council is investing:

£21m in school maintenance, expansion, and improvements

£900k on flood prevention

£900k on highways maintenance

£29m to improve existing council homes

£90k to provide a winter emergency fund, keeping Redbridge safe during extreme weather

£150k to repair potholes

£100k on a business incentive scheme

A further £250k investment into crime reduction measures

£14.4m for a Lido in Valentines Park, a world-class Rock-Climbing Centre, Wanstead Swimming pool and fantastic improvements to Fairlop Waters and Hainault Forest Country Park

The Leader of Redbridge Council, Cllr Jas Athwal, said:

"Redbridge deserves a fair deal from Government, and we're continuing to fight for funding for our local area."

"The triple challenge of unfair funding, a decade of Government austerity, and the cost of living crisis has meant we've had to make tough choices to balance our budget and protect the services that matter most to local people."

"We've listened to our neighbours and invested in the services and infrastructure local people value while continuing to support those struggling with the rising cost of living, but the Government must play their part and properly fund councils like Redbridge so we can keep delivering for our borough."





Tory Cost of Living Crisis

As part of his efforts to understand how the Conservative Cost of Living Crisis is affecting local communities, charities, voluntary organisations and community groups, Cllr Khan has been visiting various organisations within Mayfield ward.

The first stop on his visits was Sue's House, a cancer charity based in Dawlish Drive, where he was able to learn about how the Cost-of-Living Crisis means they are getting more referrals, less donations whilst things like their electricity bills are going up.

You can read more about Cllr Khan's visit at https://www.yellowad.-co.uk/councillor-donates-allowance/



Free School Meals for Primary School Children

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan has launched a £130m scheme to give every primary school pupil free school meals.

He will support thousands of children in the next academic year so that no primary school child in Mayfield ward will go hungry.

Mayfield ward ClIr Vanisha Solanki said "This is a fantastic initiative by Sadiq Khan that will help so many families and remove the stigma attached to free school meals. Once again, Labour steps up to lead where the government has failed."



Cllr Jas Athwal



Cllr Tanweer Khan



Cllr Vanisha Solanki

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