

Protecting vital services despite funding challenges



Weekly bin collections

You told us it is important to you that we maintain a weekly bin collection. We are listening and will continue to collect your bins every week in Redbridge.

Action on fly-tipping

We all want our streets to be clean and tidy. We have increased the on-the-spot fine for anyone caught fly-tipping, or having their rubbish fly-tipped to £1000.



Woodford police hub

A police hub will open soon in Woodford, giving a base to community policing teams, and bringing council services into the community.



Wanstead Leisure Centre

A new leisure centre and gym is in development in Wanstead.



New homes for local people

We continue to build affordable social housing for local people to rent.

Clean streets and neighbourhoods

We're keeping our streets clean and tidy with more investment in regular cleansing.



Maintaining our parks and green spaces

We continue to care for our incredible parks and outdoor spaces in Redbridge, nine of which hold a prestigious green flag award.

Maintaining and repairing our highways

11,000 potholes fixed in the borough this year



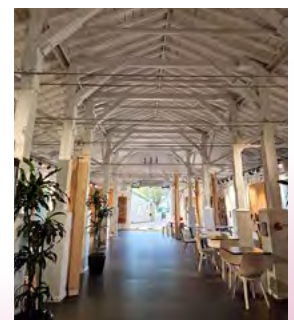
Investing in safety

We've opened an Engagement Hub in Ilford, with more to follow in Hainault and Chadwell wards - bringing police and council services into our communities. Enforcements Officers are patrolling our borough day and night.



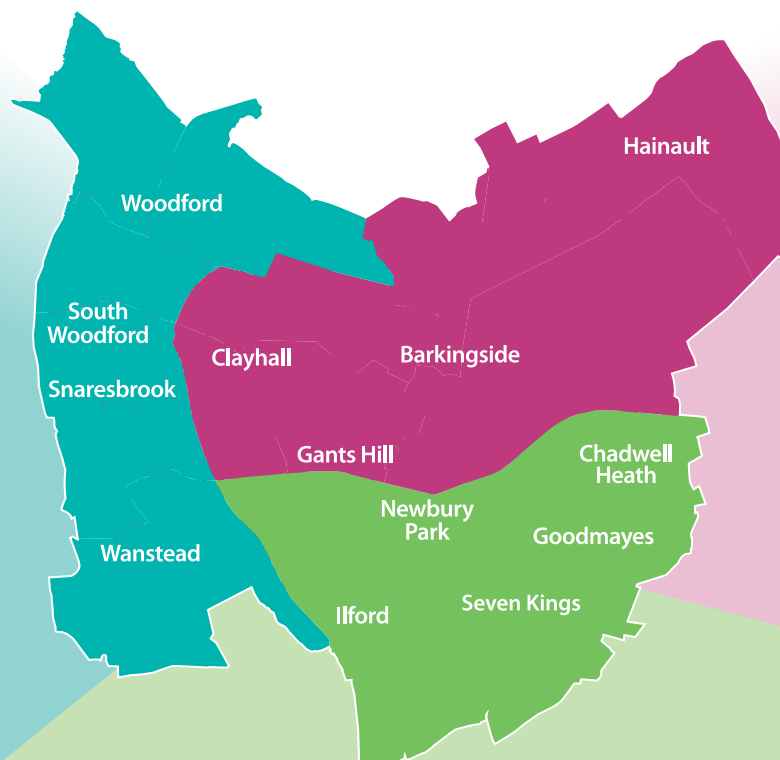
Preventing flooding

We have invested in new technology including drain sensors, to help us monitor water levels and reduce the risk of flooding.



Hainault Forest Country Park

Our historic forest has been restored for generations to come, with a new visitor centre and cafe, accessible paving, and additional furry friends now resident in the refurbished Foxburrow's Farm. The brand new playground boasts the longest slide in the borough.



Valentines Park Lido

A new lido is planned for Valentines park; the latest in a series of affordable new outdoor leisure facilities for everyone to enjoy, from Hainault to Ilford.

Loxford Youth Centre refurbished

The centre is now home to a music studio, classrooms, a multi-use games area, an outdoor gym, and a production kitchen.

Community store with affordable groceries

For £5 annual membership, local people can visit the community grocery store in Ilford and can fill their basket for just £5 each time they visit.

Having lost around 54% of Government Grant Settlement Funding since 2010, councils across the country are in a difficult financial position. We are the third-lowest funded London borough, per head. Despite this, we always rise to the challenge of keeping vital services running in Redbridge, and investing in what matters most to local people.

This year a typical band D property will pay **21p** more per day to the Council, which will be invested in the following services:



£867.23
average government funding per head **Redbridge**

£1,078.48
average government funding per head **London**

If Redbridge received average funding per head we would have **£66m** more funding each year

General Council Tax	Band D property	2.99% increase	£46.03 per annum increase
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Award winning services include:

Supporting local people through the rising cost of living

90,000
financial awards given to local people to help with food, energy and household bills

5,000
low-income pensioners helped with energy bills

£2.5m
of unclaimed benefits put into local people's pockets over the last three years

HELPING YOU
in tough times

New one stop shop for support <https://costofliving.redbridge.gov.uk>

95%
Schools rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted



Children's Services Rated Outstanding



Superb library service, lending the most children's books in London, with newly renovated libraries in Woodford, South Woodford, Hainault and Wanstead



More than **700** CCTV cameras across Redbridge have assisted or led to more than **3,200** arrests in three years



Low-cost summer and Easter activity programme for local children



Weekly bin collection and bulky waste collection



11,000 potholes repaired in 2023



Nine Green Flag Parks



600 brand new council homes are being built, for local people to rent



10,600 children fed through the school holidays



Adult Social Care

Adult social care precept, introduced by the Government

2.00%
increase

£30.83
per annum increase

Supporting local vulnerable adults and protecting the NHS:

- Services for older people
- Day Care Centres
- Mental Health Services
- Learning Disabilities Services
- Disability Equipment and Services
- Patient discharges from hospital



Rated as one of the best Adult Social Care services in the country



Greater London Authority

£471.40
band D amount

8.6%
increase

£37.26
per annum increase

Straight to the Mayor of London (GLA) to pay for:



Transport for London



METROPOLITAN POLICE

Policing and Crime



London Fire Brigade

Make time for things you like to do

Join **72,500** Redbridge households who have chosen
to pay their council tax by **Direct Debit**.

There is a choice of six instalment dates.



Visit our website to sign up
www.redbridge.gov.uk/council-tax





Empty Property and Second Home premiums

Properties empty for more than one year

There is a housing shortage in Redbridge so bringing empty properties back in to use is a priority for the council.

In accordance with new legislation that came into force in October 2023 the Council has decided that an additional amount of Council Tax is charged on properties that have been empty for more than one year. This is a change from the current legislation where a property is charged the premium rate after it has been empty for more than two years.

- From April 2024, the premium is 100% Council Tax for the properties that are empty and unfurnished for more than one year but less than five years which doubles the amount of Council Tax payable.
- For properties that have been empty and substantially unfurnished for five years but less than 10 years, the premium remains set at 200%.
- Where a property has been unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for ten years or more, the premium remains set at 300%. This means that if you own a property which has been empty and unfurnished for ten years or more, you will be charged an extra 300% Council Tax on top of the full Council Tax for the property (a 400% Council Tax).

This is a property based premium so a change of ownership or tenancy will not affect the premium.

Second Homes

The Council will also progress plans to apply a premium to Council Tax bills for owners of second homes – homes that are used periodically rather than as a main residence – from April 2025 using new legislation that also came into force in October 2023.

For more information scan this QR code



- From April 2025, the premium is 100% Council Tax for second homes.

COUNCIL TAX BILLS

What you need to know about your instalments

Your Council Tax payment must reach us by the instalment date on your bill or you risk receiving a reminder notice or even a summons.

How to avoid a Reminder or Summons Notice

- Paying at a Post Office or PayPoint takes 3-5 days to reach your account so you must pay before the instalment due date or it will arrive late.
- You don't have to pay over 10 months. You can reduce the monthly amount by choosing to pay over 12 months instead.
- Join 72,500 Redbridge households who have chosen to pay their council tax by Direct Debit.
- Paying by Direct Debit is the easiest way to pay, and you'll never forget a payment. You can choose from 6 monthly payment dates, 1st, 4th, 10th, 15th, 20th or 25th and we will do the work for you.
- Manage your account online - more details shown overleaf.

Reminders and Summons

- We will send you a reminder if your payment is received late or not received.
- We will send a maximum of two reminder notices each year and sometimes a final notice.
- If you don't pay your instalments on time you will lose your right to pay by instalments (that's the law). We will then ask you to pay the full amount remaining for the year's Council Tax immediately.
- If you are sent a summons, costs of £128.50 will be added to your account. If we go to court and get a Liability Order, a further £13.00 will be added to your account; that's an additional £141.50 that can be avoided.
- If you are struggling to pay, don't wait for a reminder or summons: contact us immediately.

If you are struggling to pay your Council Tax, you can find a lot of information about the additional support we provide on our website www.redbridge.gov.uk/benefits/ or <https://costofliving.redbridge.gov.uk>



Email: council.tax@redbridge.gov.uk

Make this your final paper Council Tax Bill

Join 29,500 Redbridge households
who already receive an electronic
council tax bill.

You can now manage your council tax account
online too.

Once you have an account and completed
the registration, you will be able to:

- View your council tax instalments and payments or download a copy of your bill.
- Apply for discounts and exemptions, and council tax reduction.
- Notify us of a change of address or household.



Visit our website to sign up
www.redbridge.gov.uk/council-tax



Change a child's future

Foster for Redbridge Council

We need local people who have a spare room (or space for a cot) who can offer a child a stable, nurturing and loving home.

Generous allowances, extensive support and training as well as a Council Tax discount of up to 80%

“ The thing I love most about fostering is seeing the progress children and young people make during the time they are with us. From surviving to thriving. ”

Tracy

Redbridge Foster Carer

Contact us

Fostering Duty Team 020 8708 6068
fostering@redbridge.gov.uk

Or why not book onto our next information session by visiting our website
www.redbridge.gov.uk/fostering

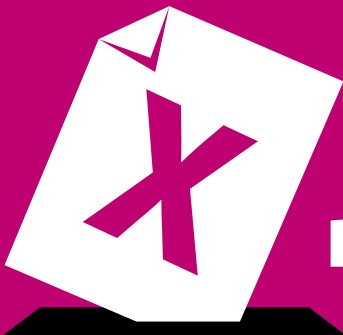


You have the power to change a young person's life for the better.



Take the first step and call our friendly fostering team
today on: 020 8708 6068

fostering@redbridge.gov.uk
www.redbridge.gov.uk/fostering



Registering to vote

Greater London Authority elections are taking place on
Thursday 2 May 2024

To elect:

- **Mayor of London**
- **Havering and Redbridge Constituency Member**
- **London Assembly Member**

Register to vote

If you are already registered to vote at your address you do not need to register again however; if you have moved house or changed your name you will need to update your details.

If you are not registered visit **www.gov.uk/register-to-vote** or scan this QR code. This will take a couple of minutes and you will need to provide your National Insurance Number.

The deadline to register to vote in the Greater London Authority Elections is **Tuesday 16 April 2024**.



Applying to vote by post

The easiest way is online, go to **www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote** or scan this QR code.

You will need your National Insurance Number to complete this application.

The deadline to apply to vote by post in the Greater London Authority Elections is **5pm on Wednesday 17 April 2024**.



If you are voting by post

You don't need photo ID to vote by post. You don't need to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate if you choose to vote this way.

Voter ID

You will need to bring accepted photo ID to vote at a polling station for the Greater London Authority Elections on

Thursday 2 May 2024.

Don't have ID? Apply for free voter ID now by scanning this QR code.

The deadline is **5pm on Wednesday 24 April 2024.**



Accepted forms of photo ID

You can use any of the following accepted forms of photo ID when voting at a polling station:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Passport issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a British Overseas Territory, an EEA state or a Commonwealth country (including an Irish Passport Card)• Driving licence issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, or an EEA state (this includes a provisional driving licence)• A Blue Badge | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Older Person's Bus Pass funded by the UK Government• Disabled Person's Bus Pass funded by the UK Government• Oyster 60+ Card funded by the funded by the UK Government• Freedom Pass• Disabled Person's Welsh Concessionary Travel Card• Identity card bearing the Proof of Age Standards | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scheme hologram (a PASS card)• Biometric immigration document• Ministry of Defence Form 90 (Defence Identity Card)• National identity card issued by an EEA state• Voter Authority Certificate• Anonymous Elector's Document |
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You will only need to show one form of photo ID. It needs to be the original version and not a photocopy.

If you don't have an accepted form of photo ID

You can apply for a free voter ID document, known as a Voter Authority Certificate, if:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• you don't have an accepted form of photo ID | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• you're not sure whether your photo ID still looks like you | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• you're worried about using an existing form of ID for any other reason, such as the use of a gender marker |
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Contact us

Telephone **020 8708 7171**

Email **electoral.services@redbridge.gov.uk**

Further information **www.redbridge.gov.uk/voting-and-elections**

Voter ID - Partner Pack (electoralcommission.org.uk)