

Welcome

This is the 15th edition of your monthly newsletter. Within this, we explain what we have been doing in your community and the wider borough.

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Leaf-ing the borough clear of leaves

There are over 60,000 trees in the London Borough of Hounslow, of which 11,300 are street trees on the roadside, maintained by Hounslow Highways.

As well as street cleaning across the borough, Hounslow Highways is responsible for clearing debris from trees and bushes that falls on the roads and pavements.

Hounslow Highways adopts a proactive approach to leaf clearance.

Our leaf management programme is already underway as part of Hounslow Highways' day-to-day scheduled street cleansing responsibilities.

Since mid-October, more resources have been deployed seven days a week on the leaf management programme.

Each street will be cleared of the fallen leaves between October and January and 100 kilometres of 'Hot Spots' have been identified across the borough which will be visited at least four or five times during the season.

Leaf clearance is carried out through a combination of methods, including barrow teams, mechanical sweepers - using a vehicle equipped with specialist leaf clearance equipment - caged vehicles and leaf blowers and suckers.

A combination of these methods ensures that optimum leaf clearance is carried out every time.

Reactive teams will also be deployed for areas that experience excessive levels of leaf fall. These areas will be cleared within two business days.

If the leaves are not considered excessive, they will be cleared during the next routine cleanse.

Hounslow Highways has developed a leaflet about the leaf clearance programme to inform residents and other members of the community. It is available here: <http://ow.ly/CNaCA>



Supporting local businesses

Hounslow Highways attended the Hounslow Business Awards on Thursday, 2 October 2014.

Hosted by the Hounslow Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with Hounslow Highways, the awards celebrated excellence in local business.

Hounslow Highways Service Director Rob Gillespie presented the Customer Service award, which went to Chiswick Park Enjoy-Work, and the Business of the Year award, given to Russell Finex Ltd, a technology firm based in Feltham.

The black tie event was held at the Holiday Inn, Brentford Lock, and Eurovia Chief Executive Scott Wardrop was among the guests at the Hounslow Highways table.

Staff had time to network with local businesses before enjoying a dinner and the awards presentation.

Rob said: "Hounslow Highways is extremely proud to sponsor the Hounslow Business Awards as it is a fantastic opportunity to support local businesses."



Hounslow Highways Service Director Rob Gillespie presents the Business of the Year award to Russell Finex Ltd boss Ray Singh.



Delivering better streets

A greener borough

Now that we are almost two years in to the Hounslow Highways contract, we are beginning to really see the environmental and sustainable benefits of our work and services.

We carry out a number of activities to be a 'greener' business, including:

- Recycling levels are increasing in the borough and in particular, the materials being excavated from old roads and pavements are being re-processed back into new asphalt materials for footpaths (Foambase).
- Overall carbon reduction targets delivered through a variety of measures, such as the installation of LED street lighting delivering low energy and low emissions, vehicle types (greener fleet) and drive for life campaign (driver behaviour).
- Tree maintenance and improvements through sustainable planting and arboriculture to deliver a well-maintained and sustainable tree stock for the future
- The contract also enables Hounslow Highways to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill sites; starting at 10% reducing to 6% through the contract. The waste percentage (by weight) to landfill stood at 0.03% for the construction elements of our work and so we recycled 99.87% of material removed from our works in 2013.
- e-Mobile GPS vehicle tracking systems are installed across all fleet which allows for the effective scheduling and allocation of work to the gangs on the network, therefore reducing the number of miles travelled.

Street Lighting

Over the first two years, Hounslow Highways is replacing the borough's 16,000 street lights with energy-saving, carbon-efficient LED lamps. About 13,000 street lighting units have already been replaced with low-energy, carbon-efficient LED lanterns which will be controllable from a central system which provides the possibility of reducing lighting levels and the times lighting is on, as well as linking these to network safety strategies.

Not only do the new street lighting units require less maintenance, they are much brighter, make the borough safer for road users and pedestrians alike and have a positive effect on crime detection and reducing the fear of crime.

In addition, this accelerated two-year programme is designed to achieve fast carbon savings, and in turn, energy costs savings, which not only benefits the environment but also the public purse. The saving to the tax payer from the new LED lights was over £130,000 in the first year alone increasing to circa £200,000 by the end of this year.

About 99% of the 13,000 street columns and lanterns have been recycled, thereby minimising the impact on the environment.

The electronic Central Management System employed by Hounslow Highways enables remote system monitoring and fault reporting/ identification. The hi-tech system will reduce our fuel emissions and costs by ensuring that operatives are no longer sent out to the incorrect location. They will now be notified of the fault by the lights themselves via our operations hub. The system will also be used to trial the time taken to repair faulty lights and thereby keep the network lit and safe for use.

A dimming regime on the lights undertaken at the touch of a button will present further savings in electricity use and costs and prolong the life of the lights themselves.



We've raised £500 for charity

Tables full of cakes, scones, slices and cupcakes enticed Hounslow Highways staff to dig deep and raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support on 29 September 2014.

The delicious home-baked and shop bought goodies helped raise £502.03, surpassing the target of £500 as part of the World's Biggest Coffee Morning.

Staff could buy tea and coffee for £0.20 and cakes started from £0.50. Other larger donations were also made.

Hounslow Highways Insurance Officer Angela Ames organised the day, setting up the Jubilee House training room from 7am!

Angela said: "Macmillan Cancer Support is a charity close to my heart. They are a worthwhile charity as they help people all over the UK who face cancer, from the moment they're diagnosed, through treatment and beyond. It was also a good excuse for everyone to chat with each other over a coffee and cake. It was a great success and we hope to do something similar soon – although on a smaller scale!"

Hounslow Highways Service Director Rob Gillespie said: "We are very pleased to be able to support such an important charity and our morning tea was a huge success.

"It goes to show how many of our staff have a bit of a sweet tooth!"

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning is Macmillan's biggest fundraising event and in 2013, 154,000 people signed up, raising a record £20 million.

The money raised goes towards people living with cancer and ensures they are not alone throughout their diagnosis.



CIP Administrator Emma Craw serves cake.

Works in your area

Below is the Core Investment Period (CIP) programme of works for your area in October. Please note that all of the dates are indicative and may change due to seasonal and other external factors.

Street Lighting

To view the street lighting programme, please visit the My Works page on the Hounslow Highways website:

www.hounslowhighways.org.

Roads

Road	RSL Description	Ward	Start Date	Finish Date
TWICKENHAM ROAD	BOUNDARY TO MOGDEN LN	ISLEWORTH	01/10/2014	03/10/2014

Pavements

Road	RSL Description	Ward	Start Date	Finish Date
BRENTSIDE	JCT SOMERSET RD TO END OF RD	SYON	13/10/2014	17/10/2014
THE GROVE	LONDON RD TO HARVARD RD	OSTERLEY & SPRING GROVE	13/10/2014	21/11/2014
THORNBURY ROAD	SPRING GROVE RD TO OAKLEY CL	OSTERLEY & SPRING GROVE	03/10/2014	03/11/2014