

# Listening to you in Balham

Spring 2008

[www.wandsworth.gov.uk/listen](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/listen)

Monday, May 19, 2008 at 7.30pm

The Salvation Army Hall, 38 Balham High Road, SW12 6AH

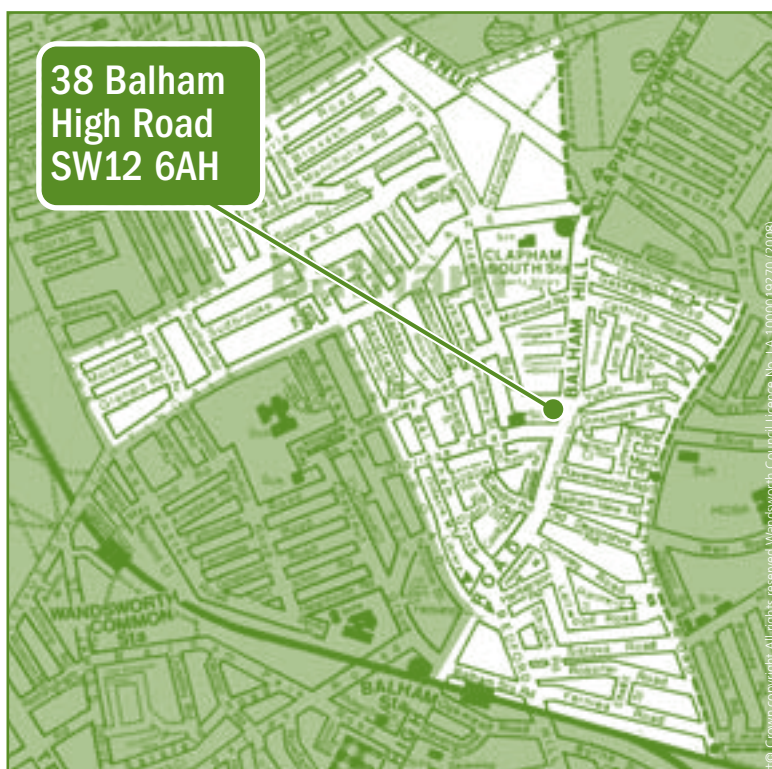
## The council wants to know what you think about life in Balham ward.

This is your chance to quiz councillors on the services you receive and to express your views on the key local issues.

Whether it's services like recycling, street cleaning, parking, education and housing where the council has a direct responsibility – or other areas like policing, public transport and the NHS – we want to make sure that we understand your priorities for your community.

The meeting will be chaired by the council leader Edward Lister.

Your three ward councillors – **Elizabeth Forbes, Russell King and Caroline Usher** – will all be present along with opposition councillor Judi Gasser and senior managers from the main council services.



## We look forward to meeting you on May 19, 2008 at 7.30pm.

If you are unable to attend the meeting we would still like to hear from you. You can submit your questions to the council via the website [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/listen](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/listen)



Left to right: Elizabeth Forbes, Russell King and Caroline Usher are your local councillors for Balham ward.

number one for  
service and value



## Around the Ward

**Post Office** The town centre post office has been spared from the latest round of closures and, following pressure from the council, the forecourt is now much improved.

**Traffic calming** Despite repeated warnings by the council, the new traffic lights at the junction of Nightingale Lane and Balham Hill have caused 'rat running' in local streets. Councillors are now seeking a review of existing traffic measures.

**Safer Neighbourhood Team** Balham is now a 'Super Ward' in policing terms, with a team of nine officers. This is the result of lobbying by the council supporting residents' calls for more police on the beat.

**Planning applications** Councillors can help to make sure residents' objections are properly made. In one case a developer was forced to reduce the height of a building in line with its planning permission.

**Street safety** The council has now pollarded trees in Old Park Avenue, which had been making the street dark at night.

**Late licences** Your councillors have campaigned with local residents against several applications for late licences near the town centre.

**Clapham Common** Lambeth Council have dropped plans for a skateboard park near Clapham Common Westside. This followed objections by ward residents.

**Anti-social noise** The council has issued a local builders merchant with a noise abatement notice. They had been waking residents at 5am. Neighbours are now getting a good night's rest.

**Flooding in Kenilford Road** The council met with Thames Water following residents' calls for action to improve flood protection. The company has cleared away silt from the road's sewer and carried out a CCTV survey which showed no further obstructions.

**1-5 Alderbrook Road** A public inquiry will be held in August, to hear an appeal against the enforcement action relating to the excavation of large basement areas at these properties. The council will be providing full details to local residents.

**Around the Ward was compiled by your ward councillors – Elizabeth Forbes, Russell King and Caroline Usher. You can find contact details for all councillors at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/councillors](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/councillors) or call (020) 8871 7857**

## How does Balham compare with the rest of Wandsworth?

October – December 2007	Balham	Borough average
The percentage of streets that are of a satisfactory standard of cleanliness or higher	97%	95%
The number of street cleaning complaints	48	38
The number of dangerous highway defects reported	1	3
The amount of graffiti removed (sq m)	936	666

Crime statistics per 1,000 residents April 2007 – December 2007	Balham	Borough average
Incidence of burglary	26.75	17.90
Incidence of robbery	5.32	3.84
Incidence of criminal damage	6.34	7.96
Incidence of theft and handling	35.26	29.40
Total reported crime	81.53	72.52

Council tax including Mayor's precept Average Band D	Wandsworth	London
	£687	£1293

### Percentage of pupils achieving Level 2 or better in Key Stage One Tests

averaged over the past 3 years (2005-2007)\*

School name	KS 1 tasks/tests		
	Reading	Writing	Maths
Alderbrook	78.2%	70.8%	90.7%
Holy Ghost	95.6%	90.0%	96.7%
Ravenstone	81.2%	75.7%	80.6%
Trinity St Mary's	73.9%	67.7%	75.9%
Honeywell Infants	97.7%	96.6%	99.2%
Honeywell Junior	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wandsworth average	80.9%	77.9%	87.7%

### Percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 or better in Key Stage Two Tests

averaged over the past 3 years (2005-2007)\*

KS 2 tests	KS 1 & 2 Contextual Value-Added 2007**	
		English
English	101.6	
Maths	100.3	
Science	100.5	
English	100.3	
Maths	n/a	
Science	n/a	
English	100.2	
Maths	79.3%	
Science	74.0%	
Contextual Value-Added	85.3%	
Wandsworth average	100.7	

\*3 year average figures are used to even out annual fluctuations. No allowance has been made for either pupils with special educational needs or those with English as an additional language.

\*\*Each pupil's value-added score is based on comparing their Key Stage 2 performance with the median - or middle - performance of other pupils with the same or similar results at Key Stage 1.

The individual scores are averaged for the school, to give a score that is represented as a number based around 100. This indicates the value the school has added on average for their pupils.

Figures above 100 show that pupils have made more progress than expected, based on their previous attainment, and scores less than 100 show that pupils have made less progress than expected.

If you have difficulty understanding this in English, please contact:  
Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649 English

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અગર તે અંગ્રેજીમાં સમજવી મુશ્કેલ લાગે તો મહેરબાની કરીને  
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Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649 Somali

اگر آپ کو انگریزی میں اسے سمجھنے میں دشواری کا سامنا ہو تو براہ کرم رابطہ کریں:  
Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649 Urdu

## If you are visually impaired we can provide you with a large print or audio tape version of this booklet

**Do you have a disability?** If you have and require special arrangements to attend, e.g. a signer or provision of a loop system, please telephone Rachel Williamson on (020) 8871 7857 in advance of the meeting.