

Homelife

Wandsworth Council's housing newsletter

March 2026

A photograph of three children wearing safety helmets and high-visibility vests, standing on a playground digger. They are looking towards the camera with excitement. The digger is white and blue, and the background shows a playground setting with trees and buildings under a blue sky with clouds. A large white outline of a house is overlaid on the image.

Playground
works
in full swing

Wandsworth
Council

TB23
TAKEUCHI

Listening to you

Getting the basics right to give you more time to live your life

Wandsworth Council's guarantee

7 rings

Call 020 8871 6000 and a member of staff will pick up in **7 rings***

7 days

Report graffiti, a broken street sign or a dangerous pothole and we will fix it in **7 days**

Every household now gets two free bulky waste collections a year – each separate collection can be up to four items such as a mattress, washing machine or furniture.

Book yours today at wandsworth.gov.uk/bulkywaste

020 8871 6000

hello@wandsworth.gov.uk

wandsworth.gov.uk/listening



*Phone line open 9am–5pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays

Welcome to the March issue of Homelife

As we step into a new year, I'd like to extend my warmest wishes to all our residents.

The past months have been full of positive change across our borough. We've seen major regeneration milestones, grassroots community projects, and people coming together to help shape the places we call home.

In this issue, you'll find updates on some of our most exciting housing and neighbourhood improvements including new green spaces, play areas, and high quality homes being delivered for local families. We also highlight community events and celebrations that bring people together.

We have a new series of Housing Roadshow events coming to an estate near you to get to the heart of issues affecting your communities. We're also sharing practical

safety advice and updates to help keep you well informed throughout the year.

Thank you for your continued engagement and for everything you do to strengthen our borough. Your ideas, feedback, and involvement remain at the heart of our work. Together we will continue building a fairer, greener, and more connected Wandsworth.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue. If you have any suggestions, please contact me at: cllr.a.dikerdem@wandsworth.gov.uk.

Aydin Dikerdem
Cabinet Member for Housing



New supported council housing in Tooting

More than 50 new council homes are being built at Springfield Village.

The latest development delivered under Wandsworth Council's ambitious Homes for Wandsworth programme will see 54 supported living council homes.

The new homes delivered in partnership with London

Square will help vulnerable adults to live independently, including 21 which will be fully wheelchair accessible.

Graeme Henderson, Cabinet Member for Health, (pictured above) said: "Marking this milestone at Springfield Village is about more than bricks and mortar, it's about creating homes and a supportive community that give residents the independence and security they deserve."

Join Wandsworth's Participation Register

The Participation Register is an easy way for you to help shape housing services in Wandsworth. It is open to all council tenants and leaseholders.

By joining, you can share your views on housing, take part in surveys, or join small focus groups. You can also comment on draft publications and help us improve the services you use. There are no regular meetings, and there is no minimum commitment.

Residents who sign up will receive invitations to local events and engagement opportunities. These might

include working groups, roadshows, community events, or sessions that help shape future policies and plans. Your feedback helps us understand what works well and what needs to improve.

Taking part is simple. Fill in the short online form and tell us which topics interest you. We will only contact you about activities that match your choices. Everyone is welcome, and support is available if you need help to get involved.

Join today and help make a real difference in your community. Visit: [wandsworth.gov.uk/join-participation-register](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/join-participation-register)



Thousands sign up for Access for All

More than 10,000 Wandsworth residents have signed up for Access for All, Britain's best concession scheme.

Access for All members enjoy 50 to 100 per cent discounts that make key council services and local activities more affordable.

Mohammad, a local Wandsworth resident and Access for All member, said: "I have been using the programme successfully for access to the gym and swimming pools and I have found it to be a very useful scheme. In addition, my daughter is benefitting from the Access for All programme by receiving free school lunches, which has been a great help."

More than 7,000 discounted tickets have also been purchased for flagship London Borough of Culture

events like Country on the Common and the Battersea Park Fireworks.

Eligible residents with children can also benefit from free school uniform vouchers, free school meals for secondary school students and free Baby Boxes for new parents.

It's quick and easy to sign up to become an Access for All member. All approved applicants will be given a digital membership card that can be used to access the offers, available in their smartphone's digital wallet. Physical cards are also available.

Proof of eligibility will be required to apply for a membership card, but then members only need to show their membership card when accessing any of the offers.

Find out more at [wandsworth.gov.uk/access-for-all](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/access-for-all)



Explore revamped Focus Hall

Focus Hall on the Alton has had an upgrade, and local people can explore their new-look community centre at the official launch event on March 26.



Local people were given the opportunity to say what sort of activities they would like to see in Focus Hall.

Go along to the hall in Minstead Gardens from 11am to enjoy a day of creative health activities – getting happier and healthier through art, culture and creative activities is a key part of our year as London Borough of Culture.

There will be a ribbon cutting at 2pm, and you can meet local groups and organisations and enjoy free refreshments. We look forward to seeing you there.

Recycle more items from 31 March



New national 'Simpler Recycling' rules come into effect at the end of March.

These changes will make recycling more consistent across the country. We are expanding our recycling services to help you recycle more and reduce waste.

From 31 March, you can put the following items in your recycling sack or communal mixed recycling bin:

- Aluminium foil and food trays (must be clean and free from food)
- Aluminium tubes, such as empty tomato puree tubes
- Plastic tubes, such as empty toothpaste tubes
- Aerosol cans (must be empty)

This is in addition to the items you can already recycle.

Learn more about recycling in Wandsworth at: [wandsworth.gov.uk/recycle](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/recycle)

Thanks to you, we are collecting record levels of recycling



Stock condition surveys: making sure your homes are at the highest standard

We have started our programme of stock condition surveys, so keep an eye out for a letter with the date and time of yours.

What is a stock condition survey?

This is when a qualified surveyor looks at the condition and age of key parts of your home inside (such as kitchens and bathrooms) and outside (like windows and roof). They will take photos to support their findings. All homes will be inspected over the next 12 months. Only tenanted homes are surveyed.

Who is doing the survey?

Pennington Choices, an experienced company that works with housing providers across the UK, will carry out the surveys on behalf of the council. They will write to you to arrange a survey.

What should I expect

The inspection will take around 30 minutes and will focus on fixtures, fittings and heating systems. There is no need to move any furniture or personal belongs and only repair-related elements of the home will be inspected.

All surveyors will carry ID and show it when they arrive. If you're at home when we visit we kindly ask that you allow them to complete the inspection if it is convenient for you, or arrange a suitable time if it isn't.

Need to report a repair?

Please note that Pennington Choices are only doing the surveys – they are not responsible for repairs. If you need to report a repair contact your area team directly.



25% more recycling in Wandsworth

Wandsworth's recycling rate has increased by 25 per cent thanks to residents' hard work and the Cleaner Borough Plan. This is the biggest improvement the borough has ever seen.

Nearly 1,000 new bins and 200 new bin enclosures have been added, with clearer signage and better bin locations. Old and damaged bins have been replaced, and all bins are cleaned every six months, with plans for even better food waste bin washing next summer.

The council considered closing rubbish chutes to boost recycling, but after consulting residents, decided to keep them open where they are valued, especially by those with mobility issues.

Other improvements as part of the Cleaner Borough Plan include:

- Two free bulky waste collections per year for every household, with over 26,000 appointments booked to date
- Twice monthly Mega Skip Days in more areas
- Increased total town centre cleaning
- 50 new litter bins in areas that residents helped choose
- An improved yearly real Christmas tree recycling service, with extra drop-off locations



Barloch House

Fresh look for estate playgrounds

Refurbished playgrounds on estates across Wandsworth have been welcomed by residents, who have praised the “bright”, “clean” spaces already created.

Almost £600,000 has been earmarked to refurbish a total of 13 playgrounds on estates across the borough, paid for by taxes charged to property developers to fund local improvements.

Playground makeovers have already transformed spaces at Maskell Road, in Earlsfield, Bowyer House in Wandsworth Town, and Barloch House in Battersea.

Mum-of-two Alisha Richardson, said: “My kids absolutely adore our playground now. It’s bright and my daughter is obsessed with the swings.

“The work was completed very quickly, and it feels much safer now as the ground has been levelled as well as the new equipment added.”



Domelton and Bowyer House before, above and after



Maskell Road, before and after above

For Charlie Ray, the improved playground at Barloch House means she’ll have more chance to get outdoors with her 18-month-old daughter and eight-year-old son.

“It looks very exciting to use,” said the 36-year-old. “I’ll use it quite a bit in the summer, it is great for all the kids.”

Neighbour Narcisa, 71, lives with her granddaughter and explained she already loved using the street-themed equipment, which includes a play electric vehicle charger.

“It’s not just swings and slides, so my granddaughter is really happy,” added Narcisa.

Wandsworth Council has funded the work as part of the borough’s £9m Neighbourhood Renewal Fund, collected from developers to benefit the local area.

“The kids have been very excited about it,” added childminder Magaly Emberru, who cares for youngsters aged two to six.

“I use the playground all the time, so I was pleased to see that the feedback I gave on the consultation was taken on board.”

Which estate playgrounds are being improved?

- Domelton and Bowyer House, Wendlesworth Estate, Wandsworth
- Whitecliffe House, Wendelsworth Estate, Wandsworth
- Maskell Road, Burtop Road Estate, Earlsfield
- St John’s Drive, Henry Prince Estate, Earlsfield
- McManus/Holgate Avenue, Wilberforce Estate, Battersea
- Barloch House, Battersea
- Bolton Court, Doddington & Rollo Estate, Battersea
- Landseer House, Doddington & Rollo Estate, Battersea
- Lucas/Russell Court, Doddington & Rollo Estate, Battersea
- MacDonald House, Battersea Fields Estate
- Watford Close, Ethelburga Estate, Battersea
- Maskelyne Close, Ethelburga Estate, Battersea
- Jean House (2 play areas) Tooting Grove Estate, Tooting
- Robertson House, Tooting Grove Estate, Tooting
- Copeland House, Tooting
- Eliot Court, Wandsworth

Progress for the Alton

Plans have been revealed for a new library, youth centre and affordable homes in the first phase of the Alton estate plan.

The former Co-op building, known as 'Block A, is being given a new lease of life with a modern community hub building with a new adult and children's library including IT and study space, bookable rooms, a youth space, office space, a community space and a new GP practice, together with 55 new council homes.

This summer, in response to residents' requests for safer and brighter public spaces, the council is installing wayfinding signage around the estate, artwork on the walkway to the leisure centre and new creative lighting.

Find out more about the Alton Renewal Plan at wandsworth.gov.uk/alton

The images show before and after shots of Block A on Danebury Avenue.



An artist's impression of the Alton Activity Centre playspace. Below: Fun at the open day

Playspace takes shape

Work is now officially underway on the two new play spaces on the Alton estate.

One parent said they were "so happy to finally see work starting - it feels like things are really moving forward for the Alton." Another described the project as "a brilliant example of the Renewal Plan in action," adding that "it's great to meet the contractor and see how carefully the work is being managed."

An open day gave children, parents, and local residents the chance to see first-hand how the project is progressing, meet the people delivering the works, and get up close to diggers!

Downshire Field will be the green heart of the estate, including natural play features while a new park and play area at the Alton Activity Centre will include zoned areas for different age groups, including a dedicated under-5s zone and a youth area.

The proposals were drawn up following input from the local community - especially young people.



Local elections are coming

On May 7 you can decide who you want as your local councillors, with all 58 council seats up for election.

Take these simple steps to make sure you are able to vote.

Make sure you are registered to vote. If you've recently moved or turned 18 you can easily get yourself registered at gov.uk/register-to-vote The deadline to register in time for the May election is midnight on April 20.

If you can't get to the polling station on the day, you can **vote by post**. Anyone can apply for a postal vote online at gov.uk/apply-postal-vote You must apply by 5pm on April 21.

If you vote at a polling station don't forget you will need to bring **Photo ID** with you on the day. Alternatively, you can apply for a free Voter Certificate. Find out more at wandsworth.gov.uk/voter-ID

For further information about registering to vote, postal voting or voter identification you can email: electoral@wandsworth.gov.uk or telephone: **020 8871 6023**



The Electoral Commission

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REMEMBER TO
1- REGISTER TO VOTE
2- CHECK MY PHOTO ID
3 -VOTE AT A POLLING STATION!

No ID?
Apply for free voter ID now

Find out more at
electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID
or call 0800 328 0280



Balham Neighbourhood Wardens

New uniformed Wandsworth Neighbourhood Wardens are patrolling the streets of Balham in a pilot scheme that, if successful, could be rolled out to other parts of the borough.

Figures show our borough is the safest in inner London, but we heard through our Balham Forum that safer streets are still a priority.

The new patrols will talk to residents and businesses to offer advice and to link them up with sources of help if they need them, including homelessness support.

They will use their own enforcement powers, or work closely with other enforcement agencies, to tackle anti-

social behaviour and will patrol four days a week, focusing on peak times such as the afternoon school run and evenings. The council is paying for the wardens with funds from local developers, not council tax payers. This is in addition to, not instead of, existing anti-social behaviour support, such as from estate managers.

We have also increased CCTV coverage across the borough and our Stay Put Stay Safe scheme on our housing estates, also known as the Sanctuary Scheme, provides additional securing measures for people affected by domestic violence and hate crime. You can be referred to the scheme by your estate manager.

In emergencies, still call 999 or 911.

New NHS health centre coming soon

A new modern health centre is opening this Spring to provide increased healthcare provision for residents living in the Thessaly Road area of Battersea.

Wandsworth Council has worked in partnership with the local NHS to deliver the new health centre paid for by the money the council collects from developers in the borough.

The modern building will house Battersea Fields Practice, replacing the existing Thessaly Road branch just three minutes' walk away. It is being fitted out as a modern primary care facility improving health services for residents living in the area, featuring 14 consulting rooms, five treatment rooms for interviews and groups, and multiple treatment spaces.

With increased opening hours, it will also offer nursing, physiotherapy, mental health support, children's clinics, health checks, blood tests and minor surgery services.

Registered patients do not have to take any action, they will continue to experience the same quality of care from the same GPs, other care professionals and support staff at the new location.

Build your career in Wandsworth

Work Match, Wandsworth Council's employment service, has joined forces with Homes for Wandsworth to provide training for residents on projects to build 1,000 new council homes across the borough.

Putney resident Jamie completed his slinger and telescopic-handler training with Work Match on the Platt Estate. He said: "I'm invested because it's an estate I grew up on. It's nice to be able to see the fruits of my labour. I'll be walking past this project everyday knowing I built this, and that's something money can't buy."

"I'd tell other residents in Wandsworth to give Work Match a try, they will help you up-skill your qualifications, they will push you in the direction you're willing to go and the training opportunities are endless."

Roehampton resident Ismail is working alongside Jamie



on The Platt. He said: "If you are a person who cares about construction, or wants to go into a similar industry, I can recommend it WorkMatch for you. Honestly, it has been outstanding for me."

Work Match supports residents by offering tailored advice, employability guidance, and access to training in a broad range of sectors - from construction and hospitality to technology, retail, care, and professional services.

To find out how they can help you, visit wandsworthworkmatch.org

Free Entry • Live Skills Demonstrations • Meet Local Employers

EMPLOY 2026 WANDSWORTH

Training • Advice • Local Jobs

Friday 15 May 2026

10am - 3pm

Civic Suite

Wandsworth High Street, SW18 2PU



Get ready to party

We're celebrating the end of Wandsworth's year as the Mayor's London Borough of Culture with a free all-day event at Battersea Power Station - and you're all invited!

From homegrown heroes to international icons, expect live music, dance takeovers, creative workshops and family-friendly activities. UK Garage and Grime stars Lisa Maffia and Romeo will host the main stage.

Highlights include Sarah Jayne's Dolly Parton Tribute Show, family-friendly circus and street theatre from Brainfools, Jellyfish Theatre and Autin Dance, and the return of the Strictly Wandsworth dance. The colourful Urban Flow flag parade also returns, brought to life by the uplifting sounds of World Heart Beat's New Orleans Second Line Band. Plus choirs, exhibitions, workshops, street food and much more.

No ticket required. Find out about the full lineup and times at welcometowandsworth.com





Housing Roadshows are back

Do you have ideas on how to improve your estate?
Come along to meet the council officers who maintain your estates

Wendelsworth, Garton Place, Arndale and nearby estates
Thursday 19 March - 4pm to 7pm
St Anne's Church, 182 St Ann's Hill, SW18 2RS

Winstanley, York Road and nearby estates
Tuesday 24 March - 4pm to 7pm
York Gardens Library, 34 Lavender Road, SW11 2UG

Ashburton South, Ashburton Chartfield and Roehampton estates
Thursday 26 March - 4pm to 7pm
Boyd Court, 101 Carslake Road, SW15 3DD

- Meet your Estate Managers and Area Housing Manager
- Ask about or request works on your estate
- Raise repairs, find out about works, or give feedback on repairs
- Find out about cleaning and waste services and give feedback
- Find out about other council services and support available
- Find out about how you can get involved in your community and shape council services

More roadshows will be announced later in the year.



For more activities in your area



If you can't make it, join our feedback group

wdp@wandsworth.gov.uk H2380 (1.26)_v1

Open to all estate residents

wandsworth.gov.uk/housing



At Fayland Children's Centre, a climate action microgrant helped transform the garden

Fund your great idea with a Climate Action Microgrant

Do you have an idea for a project that supports nature, sustainability and the climate? You could be eligible for a climate action microgrant of up to £500.

Funding is available to residents, community groups and organisations based in Wandsworth, including individuals and groups of neighbours. It's quick and simple to apply and microgrants are awarded every other month.

The Climate Action Microgrants help fund a wide range of projects each year. You could be re-wilding a community space, starting a repair café, developing



a nature trail or hosting a public conversation about climate change.

Visit the council's Climate Change Hub to discover how we are working with residents to create a cleaner, greener and more sustainable borough.

You can get practical guidance, find out how to get involved in local sustainability initiatives in your local area and find out more about climate action microgrants at wandsworth.gov.uk/climatechange

Telecare: Have you heard about the digital switchover?



Telephone lines across the UK are being upgraded to digital lines. To keep you safe and connected, your telecare alarms are being upgraded too.

Don't worry - we are working with all major telephone providers and will contact you to arrange a convenient time for our friendly installers to visit you and upgrade your telecare alarm.

Alarm upgrades will be undertaken throughout 2026,

we will send you a letter with more information at the beginning of either spring, summer, autumn or winter to help you know what to expect. Shortly after your letter expect a call from our helpful admin team.

Meanwhile keep using and testing your pendant as normal. If you find a new fault our your phonenumber has already been upgraded and your alarm isn't working email us at digitalswitchover@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk

A message from Grant Bishop, Borough Commander for Wandsworth Fire Brigade

As the weather improves and the days grow longer, you may be considering making more use of outdoor spaces. We want to take this opportunity to remind you of a few important safety tips.

This is a great time of year for a spring clean and a declutter. Wandsworth Council provides excellent advice on recycling and waste disposal on their website: wandsworth.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling-a-z

Please recycle all unwanted electrical items and take extra care when disposing of batteries, especially lithium batteries found in mobile phones, e-cigarettes, tools and larger items like e-scooters and e-bikes. If not disposed of correctly, these batteries pose significant risks, from environmental damage to potential fires.

Be sure to share the **#ChargeSafe** campaign on your



social media channels. More information is available at: london-fire.gov.uk/safety/lithium-batteries

If you're making use of your balcony, garden, or other outdoor spaces, we recommend minimising the storage of unnecessary combustibles, such as cardboard and plastics, especially on balconies.

Finally, don't forget to protect what you love with our Free Home Fire Safety Checker, available year-round for personalised safety advice.

Simply scan the QR code to get started

ONE STOP SHOP

Domestic Abuse Advice and Support

Are you experiencing domestic abuse from a partner, ex-partner or a family member?

The Wandsworth One Stop Shop is a free drop-in service providing legal advice, information, and support to those experiencing domestic abuse.

No appointment necessary

■ BATTERSEA ONE STOP SHOP

St. Mark's, Battersea Rise, SW11 1EJ (entrance on Boutflower Road)

Open every Monday 10am to 12pm (excluding Bank Holidays)

■ ROEHAMPTON ONE STOP SHOP

The Family Hub, 166 Roehampton Lane, Roehampton, SW15 4HR

Open every Wednesday 10am to 12.30pm

For more information, contact

Refuge Domestic Abuse Support Service on 020 3879 3544 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm)

- **24/7 National Domestic Abuse Helpline**
Freephone 0808 2000 247
- **Metropolitan Police**
If you're in immediate danger call 999.
For non-emergencies, dial 101



If you or anyone you know needs support related to domestic abuse, scan the QR code for support service details





50% or more off a range of council services

Access for All is **Britain's best concession scheme**, giving eligible residents **50% to 100%** discounts on everything from gym sessions to swimming lessons, wedding ceremonies to event tickets.

We're making key services and local activities affordable for everyone in Wandsworth.

Check if you're eligible and sign up for your free membership card today:
[wandsworth.gov.uk/Access-for-All](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/Access-for-All)

