

# Voluntary Sector Forum

## 2nd July 2025

# Agenda

<b>10:00 – 10:15</b>	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> Cllr Baldwin - Spokesperson for Communities, Equalities and the Voluntary Sector
<b>10:15 – 10:35</b>	<b>A New Vision for Richmond Town Centre</b> Katie McElligott, Head of Corporate Project Office, Richmond Council
<b>10:35 – 10:55</b>	<b>St Mary's University Business Clinic</b> Dr Luiza Weinzierl, Business Clinic Lead, St Mary's University
<b>10:55 – 11:15</b>	<b>Climate Microgrants and Cool Spaces</b> Rebecca Reece, Engagement and Partnerships Officer and Rose Joyce, Graduate Project Officer, Richmond Council
<b>11:15 - 11:30</b>	<b>Heat Health Plan</b> Fenn Porter, Public Health Team, Richmond Council
<b>11:30 - 12:00</b>	Open Forum and Q & A
<b>Networking &amp; Lunch 12:00 – 13:00 (The Winter Garden, York House)</b>	

# Welcome and Introduction

**Cllr Baldwin**

Spokesperson for Communities, Equalities and the Voluntary Sector

# A New Vision for Richmond Town Centre

**Katie McElligott**, Head of Corporate Project Office, Richmond  
Council

# Building a new vision

- Richmond Town Centre is an **iconic** destination with a **unique** offer
- We want to build on this, adapting and evolving for the future
- We've worked with a team of specialists, engaging with the local community to discuss our aspirations for the future
- Our new vision was published in January 2025:

Richmond will be a **vibrant, inclusive** town centre that seamlessly blends **heritage with innovation**, embodying both the charm of a market town and the vitality of a global city.

It will serve as a **green sanctuary** within London, where community, creativity, and sustainability converge.

Richmond will inspire residents and visitors alike to **explore, relax, and connect**, creating a plan that **enriches lives** and fosters a culture of environmental and social responsibility.

# Our Three Pillars

- Our vision is underpinned by **three place-shaping pillars**, which:
  - Set a clear direction for the future
  - Provide a strong foundation for our delivery plan

01: Global City Energy  
Meets Market Town  
Charm

02: Space to Breathe:  
Escapism, Exploration &  
Enrichment

03: Natural Leaders:  
Champions of  
Environmental Action &  
Social Value

# What's Next?

- We are working on developing our **Activation and Delivery Plan**:
  - Exploring short-term projects to enhance and improve our town
  - Developing long-term action plan to deliver our ambitions for the town centre
- Our first key milestone will be a **September Event**, celebrating the hidden gems and stories of Richmond:

**Centre Stage: Richmond**

**13 September 2025**

Where Every Street has a Story to Tell  
Our Streets. Our Stage. Our Richmond.

# Event Concept

*“A playful, inclusive, and creative festival that transforms Richmond town centre into a platform for storytelling, music, movement, art and play — celebrating what makes the town quietly brilliant”*



# Call to Action!

- **September Event:**
  - Do you know of any hidden gems or local stories that should be celebrated in our September event?
- **Wider Programme:**
  - Please let us know if you have any feedback about the Town Centre or want to get involved in our next phase!
- **Email:** [richmondtowncentre@richmond.gov.uk](mailto:richmondtowncentre@richmond.gov.uk)

# Questions?



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London

# St Mary's University Business Clinic

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Dr Luisa Weinzierl  
July 2025

# 175

Years of  
Inspiring  
Excellence





# St Mary's University Business Clinic

Introduction

2024 Speaker Events to date

2025 Marketing Hackathon

Future events

How it works

Why not get in touch .... ?



# **St Mary's University Business Clinic**

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Our Business Clinic provides a range of support options to SMEs, multi-nationals, start-ups and not for profit organisations in the South-West London.

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Businesses often approach us to ask, 'what is', 'what if we?', 'how could we?' and even 'should we?'

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By working with both academics and students, we can assist organisations with business planning, marketing, fundraising, and operational improvements. Clients so far have valued student-led projects that can generate new ideas, provide fresh perspectives, and offer practical solutions to their challenges.

# Autumn speaker event series 2024



Mark Payton – Know your audience



Robin J. Birn - The Ultimate Marketing Strategy for your Business



Celia Rizothanasi Queen Bee of LinkedIn and Marketing AI

# Business Clinic Hackathon – March 2025



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London

St Mary's University Business Clinic

## The Marketing Hackathon

Thursday 20th March | 2-5pm

Senior Common Room at St Mary's University

Join a team, either as a student or a business professional, for an exciting afternoon of brainstorming and collaboration to explore ideas and resolve a challenge. Our Business School academics will be on hand to help provide advice and ideas as well as overcome obstacles in achieving goals.

### What is a hackathon?

A hackathon is a time-limited event that encourages each team of participants to come up with new ideas and solutions. At the end of the hackathon, participants present their ideas to the judges. This creates an opportunity for participants to showcase their work and receive feedback. There will also be a prize for the winning team. The presentation also encourages collaboration as participants work together to create a compelling and engaging pitch. Joining this fun and exciting event helps lead to new connections and long-lasting relationships. If you are looking to promote collaboration and teamwork, hosting or participating in a hackathon event is an excellent place to start.

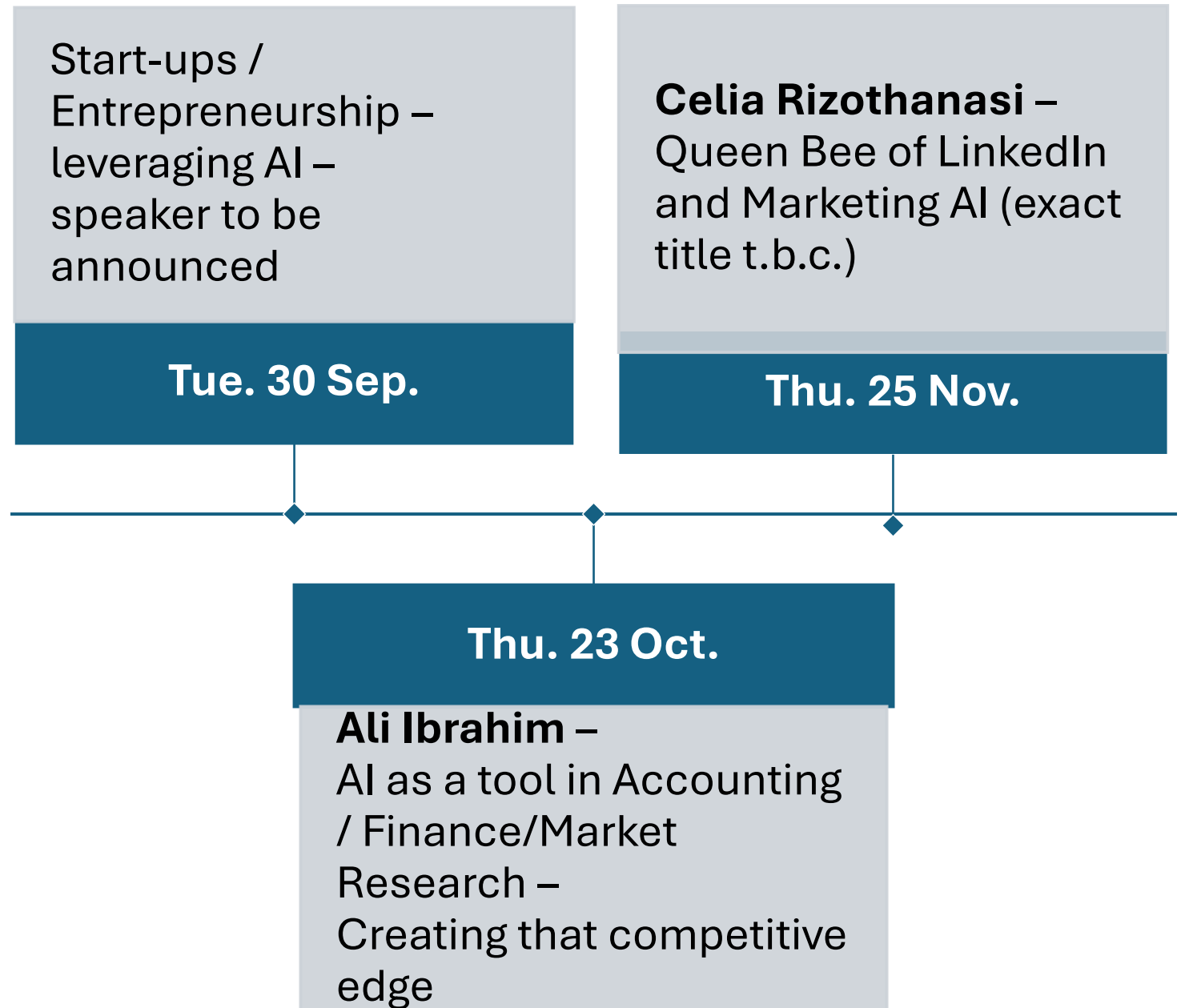
Refreshments will be served

This event is limited to 49 places only (seven teams of seven members), so register today – no time to lose! To register, please scan the QR code

SCAN ME



# Autumn Speaker Events Series 2025







# Business Clinic Hackathon – Early 2026

Date to be announced shortly

# Approach the business clinic with an idea ...

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**Project Briefs:** Businesses submit project briefs outlining their challenges to the clinic. An academic will be in touch to discuss the scope and aims.

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**Student Teams:** Student teams, typically 4-6 members, are formed to work on these projects.

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**Supervision:** Academic staff and, potentially, industry consultants provide guidance and support throughout the project.

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**Real-World Experience:** Students apply their academic knowledge to address the business problem, conducting research, analysing data, and developing solutions.

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**Deliverables:** Projects typically result in a report or other agreed-upon deliverable outlining the student team's findings and recommendations.

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**Free Support:** All services provided by the Business Clinic are currently free of charge.

# Types of support ...

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Social Media Campaign Management: Developing and executing social media strategies.

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Fund raising: Knowing your audience and tailoring an approach to their interests and motivations.

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Marketing Strategy: Creating and implementing marketing plans.

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Business Development: Identifying and pursuing new business opportunities.

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Feasibility Studies: Analysing the potential of strategic decisions or expansion plans.

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Risk Assessment: Identifying and evaluating potential risks.

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# The benefits

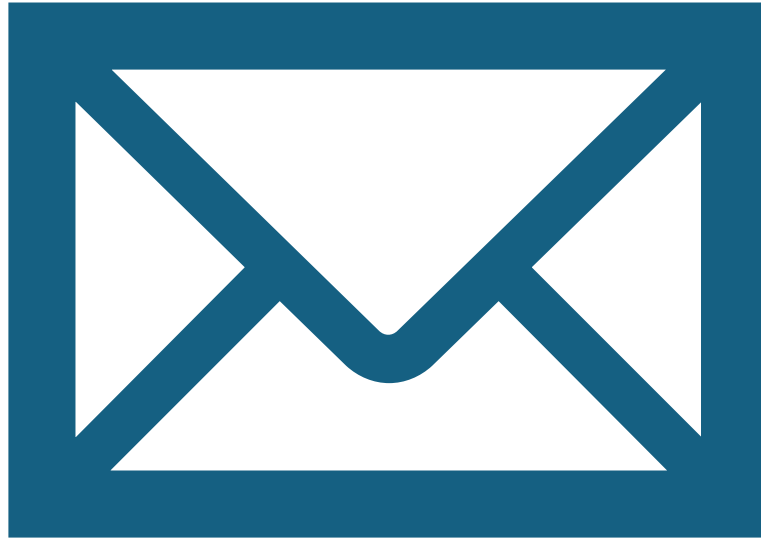
For Organisations and businesses:

Access to fresh ideas, research-backed solutions, and free consultancy support from SMU students and academics.

For Students:

Practical experience in a real-world business environment, application of theoretical knowledge, and development of valuable skills.

# Getting in touch ...



Email: [businessclinic@stmarys.ac.uk](mailto:businessclinic@stmarys.ac.uk)

# Questions?

# Climate Microgrants & Cool Spaces

**Rebecca Reece and Rose Joyce**

Engagement and Partnerships Officer & Graduate Project  
Officer, Richmond Council

# Richmond Climate Microgrants

Funding opportunity

2 July 2025

Rebecca Reece

Engagement and Partnerships Officer, Climate  
Change and Sustainability



# Richmond Climate Microgrants

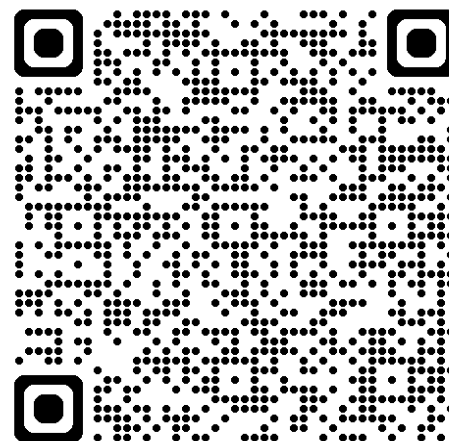
Our climate action microgrants will award between **£100 and £500** to **community groups, schools, individuals, or non-profits**, every other month.

These grants **support events, activities and initiatives** that **promote positive behaviours around climate change and sustainability**.

## Next deadlines:

Community Microgrants: Friday 29 August 2025

School Microgrants: Friday 24 October 2025





# Richmond Climate Microgrants





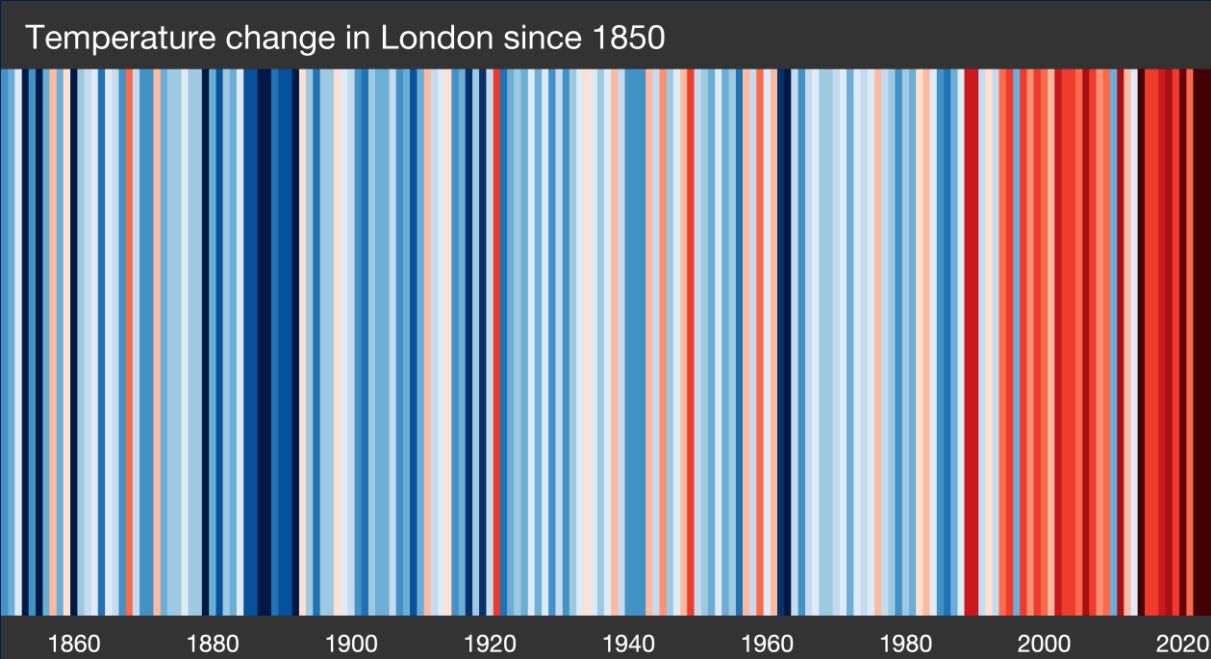
# Cool Spaces

2 July 2025

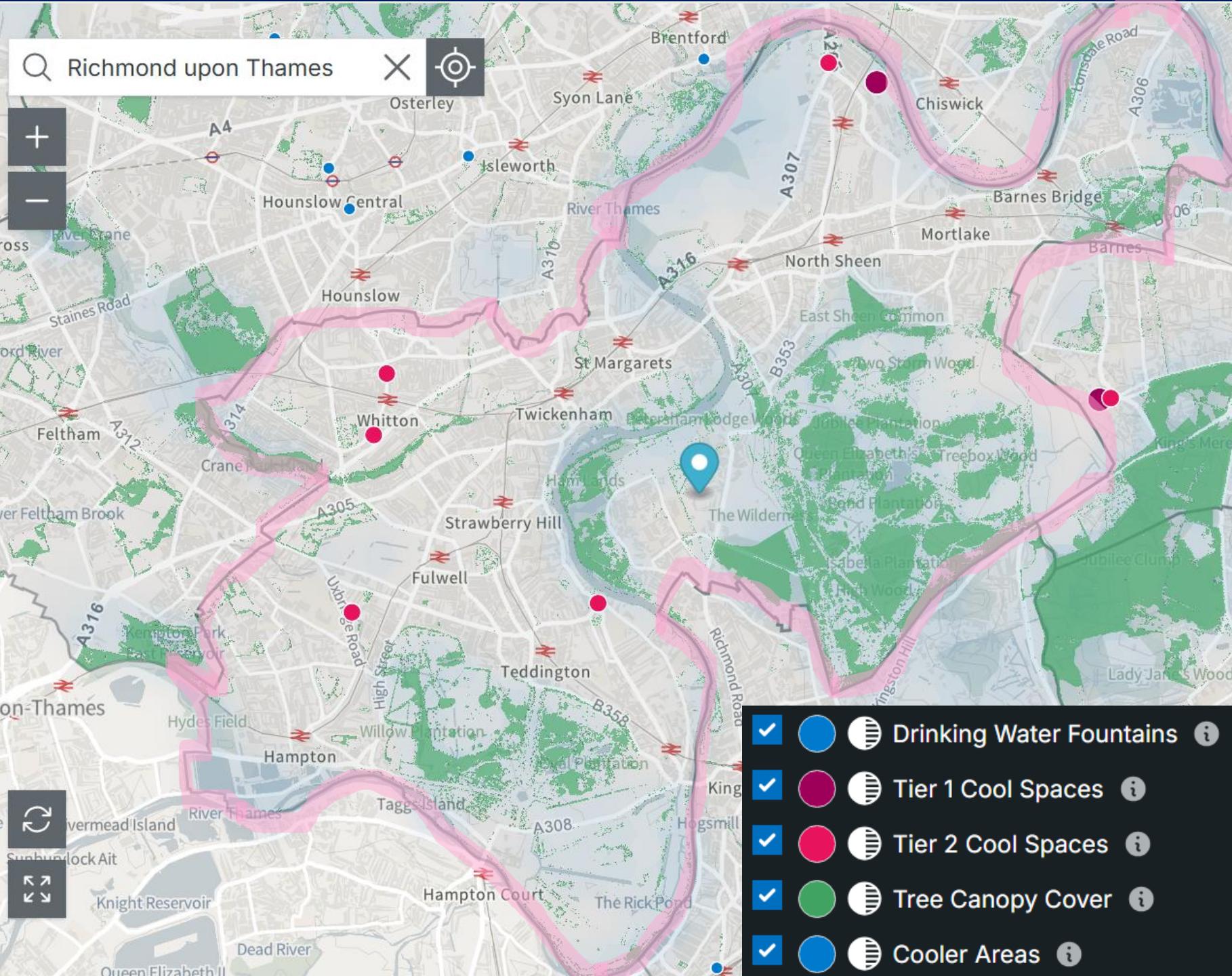
Rose Joyce

Graduate Project Officer, Climate Change and  
Sustainability

# Heat in London



- London is increasingly vulnerable to extreme heat episodes and heatwaves
- Some groups are more vulnerable than others
- Londoners' homes are not adapted to extreme heat
- Everyone deserves a space where they can safely cool down



Tier 1 Cool Space	Tier 2 Cool Space
Open 10:00-17:00 at least 5 days a week	Open during specified hours, at least 2 days a week
Free	Free
Accessible to wheelchair users	States if not accessible to wheelchair users
Staffed	Staffed
Lower temperature than outdoors	Lower temperature than outdoors
Free seating	Free seating
Free drinking water	Free drinking water



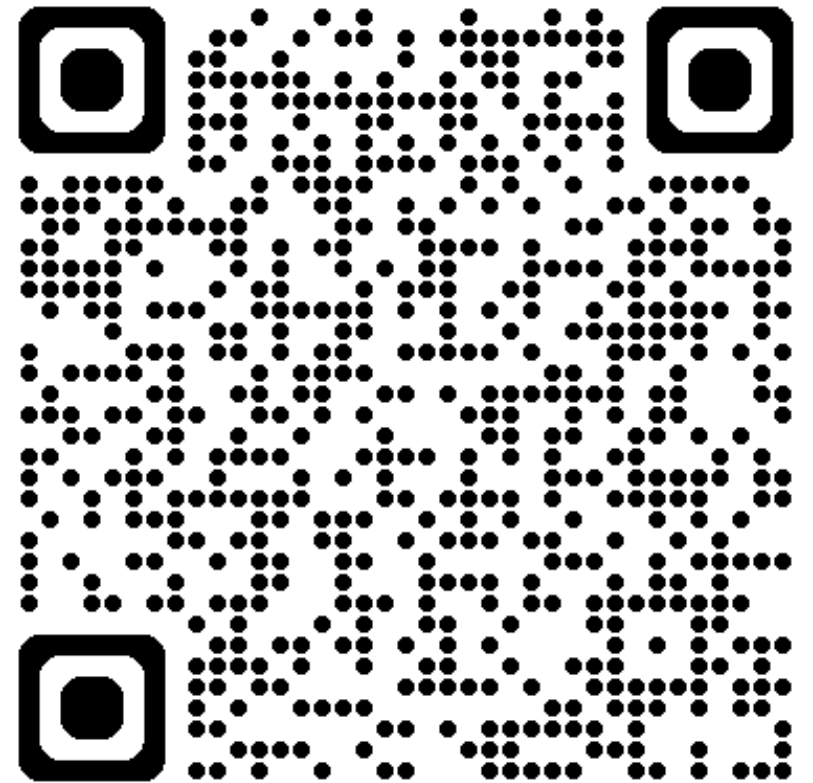


# Call To Action – Register as a Cool Space

Cool Spaces: Indoor spaces for Londoners to shelter from the sun, cool down, rest and take respite on hot days.

For any support email:

[climatechange@richmond.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange@richmond.gov.uk)



# Questions?

# Heat Health Plan

**Fenn Porter**

Public Health Lead (Public Protection), Public Health Team



# Staying Safe During Hot Weather

While many people enjoy warmer summer weather, hot weather can cause some people to become unwell through overheating (becoming uncomfortably hot), dehydration, [heat exhaustion and heatstroke](#).

Many of the harms linked to heat exposure are preventable if a few simple actions are taken.

**Help residents stay safe during hot weather with five simple actions**



**Double record breaker: Spring 2025 is warmest and sunniest on UK record**

Author: Press Office

13:41 (UTC+1) on Mon 2 Jun 2025

# Simple Actions to Stay Safe During Hot Weather

① **Register** for Heat-Health Alerts to be notified of hot weather



When alerted, implement **local action cards** for VCS

② During hot weather, encourage service users to take **simple actions to stay safe**

③ Identify service users who may be at **higher risk of becoming unwell in hot weather**

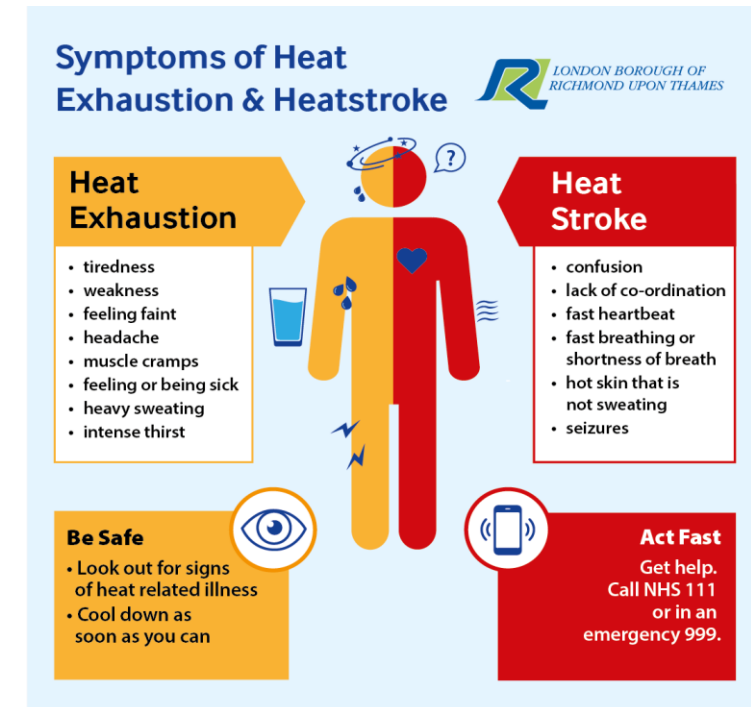
④ Promote **key messages** about heat health and staying safe



Share and display **Heat Health Infographics**



⑤ If you can, register to be a cool space  
Contact **[healthprotection@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:healthprotection@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk)** if you would like guidance on how to register



# Questions?

# Open Forum and Q&A