

Richmond Partnership Bulletin

Adult Social Care

7 December 2015

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Richmond
upon
Thames

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Partnership

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The Richmond Partnership brings together the public, private and voluntary and community sectors to improve the quality of life for all those who live, work or visit the borough. Published monthly the Richmond Partnership Bulletin provides an update on the work of partners, links to more information and resources and highlights areas for action.

On the agenda

1. Spending Review and Autumn Statement 2015

The Spending Review and Autumn Statement outlined a number of policy changes relevant to partners.

Key messages from both for 2015 for **housing and welfare reform** include:

- Restating the Government commitment and focus on home ownership opportunities. The spending review doubles the national housing budget from 2018-19 with funding targeted at starter homes, shared ownership, and rent to buy schemes rather than rented affordable housing.
- Launching a 'Help to Buy London' scheme offering buyers with a 5% deposit a loan of up to 40% of the value of a new build home, interest free for five years.
- A funding stream to provide 8000 specialist homes for older people and people with disabilities.
- Capping the amount of rent that Housing Benefit will cover in the social housing sector to relevant Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rates. It is unclear whether this will be applied to supported housing.
- The proposals also extend the 'shared accommodation rate' for single claimants under 35 to social housing tenants under 35. Currently LHA levels in Richmond upon Thames are between £82 and £94 per week whilst rent on a housing association flat (including service charges) is broadly around £130 per week. Government plans to apply these reforms to tenancies created after 1st April 2016 with Housing Benefit entitlement changes from 1st April 2018.
- Additional Discretionary Housing Payment funding will be made available to Local Authorities, to protect the most vulnerable including those in supported housing.
- Continued roll out of Universal Credit, extending job search conditionality and Jobcentre Plus support to a further 1.3 million claimants by 2020-21. This will include people who previously claimed housing benefit or child tax credit only, and out of work partners of benefit recipients.
- A real terms increase in funding to help those with

disabilities and health conditions return to, and remain in, work.

- A new Work and Health Programme replacing the Work Programme and Work Choice which will provide specialist support for the long-term unemployed and claimants with health conditions and disabilities.
- Over £115 million of funding for the Joint Work and Health Unit, including at least £40 million for a health and work innovation fund, to pilot new ways to join up across the health and employment systems.
- A real terms increase in spending on Access to Work, providing specialist IT equipment, or support workers, to help a further 25,000 disabled people each year remain in work.
- Investment to enable DWP to become a smaller, more efficient department spending 22% less on administration in real terms, 34% less in real terms on technology and occupying 20% less estate.

Key messages for **health, social care, education, arts & business:**

- Local authorities will be able to raise council tax by up to 2 per cent per year in order to fund adult social care, enabling councils to raise almost £2 billion by 2019/20.
- From 2017 there will be additional funds available to adult social care, rising to £1.5 billion by 2019/20, to be included in the Better Care Fund.
- £500 million by 2019/20 for the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG), which is predicted to fund around 85,000 home adaptations that year and prevent 8,500 people from needing to go into a care home in 2019/2020.
- The Government will make savings in local authority public health spending over the next five years. This reduction to public health budgets may affect prevention services like sexual health, public health nursing, drug and alcohol treatment and NHS health checks.
- £5 billion investment in health research and development, as well as up to £150 million to launch a Dementia

institute.

- An additional £600 million investment in mental health services for the NHS.
- £1 billion more a year by 2019-20 in free childcare places for two, three and four year-olds
- Police spending would be protected to maintain strong frontline policing,
- £700 million to modernise and fully digitise the courts to ensure the courts and tribunal system.
- £40 million for victims of domestic abuse
- The NHS will receive £10 billion more in real terms (including £2 billion in 2015/16 that has already been allocated) by 2020/21. Will ensure everyone will be able to access services in hospitals 7 days a week and GP services in the evenings and weekends.
- The Government will protect funding for the core adult skills participation budgets in cash terms, at £1.5 billion.
- Business Rates devolution reforms will be consulted on in 2016 taking into account the “wider resources available to councils”
- Infrastructure – the Government will increase spending on transport, roads and rail
- The government has protected government funding for the arts, museum and gallery sectors in cash terms up to 2019/20

For more information see [here](#)

2. Save time, save money, and waste less

Have you ever wondered what happens to the items you put in your bin? Or why almost a third of the food grown is thrown away? Or how your paper is turned in to new products? The West London Waste Authority (WLWA) is the local authority that disposes of rubbish collected by Brent, Ealing, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow and Richmond councils, and they want to reduce the amount of items going to landfill from west London. They are happy to go along to a community meeting or event and talk about happens after waste and recycling are put out for collection. As well as showing you what happens next they can take you through some of the ways everyone can help themselves save money,

time and the environment by preventing items being wasted. For more information Email: info@westlondonwaste.gov.uk or call 020 8825 9468, see website www.westlondonwaste.gov.uk for more details.

3. Talk Richmond

[Talk Richmond](#) is a new online community created by the Council, where residents can contribute to the development of Council services, campaigns and communications. The community is a platform for members to influence Council campaigns, such as isolation and loneliness among older people, improvement to roads and pavements, the development of schools, community safety and Village Planning. Talk Richmond seeks to gather more in-depth resident views on various topics through a range of different activities. It is designed to merge the best from both online community forums and public consultations to provide a genuine two-way dialogue. It is a closed, private community of interested residents tasked with developing services, communications and engagement in the borough and finding solutions to issues together with the Council.

4. Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2016-2021) consultation

The Richmond Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) is developing its second Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2016-2021, and they would like to hear your thoughts on their plans to help Richmond residents Start Well, Live Well and Age Well. When finalised, the strategy will be a tool to enable the HWB as a systems leader to champion key principles and initiatives, and cover areas that the HWB can have the most impact in improving health and wellbeing for residents. The consultation is open until 5pm on Thursday 7th January 2016. To have your say please visit the [Richmond council consultation website](#)

5. Events for partners

RCVS Health & Network Wellbeing Meeting - 2pm-4pm, 15th December, the Salon, York House, Twickenham. Book your place to hear the latest updates relating to health and social care matters from the Council and CCG. Updates will include:

- developments on the forthcoming community mental health outcomes based commissioning contract
 - how the voluntary and community sector can be involved in this process
 - contributions from both Richmond Council and Richmond CCG
- To book your place, see [here](#)

6. Focus on Children & Young People's Safeguarding

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) pulls together information about local health and care and support, and is a vital tool to help the Council, community and voluntary groups plan future services and the JSNA newsletter is a rolling publication produced by Public Health at the Council to describe the health, social care and wellbeing of local residents. The latest issue focuses on safeguarding of children and young people in the Borough. It focuses particularly on children and young people who are vulnerable and at risk of harm, and presents selected information on the profile of this group, who need additional support to protect and promote their health and wellbeing. To view the latest newsletter - see [here](#)

7. Richmond Adult Community College – Christmas concert

Richmond Adult Community College (RACC) in partnership with the Community Partnership is providing **2 free tickets per partner** for a special Christmas concert “**Sing for Peace**” by the Berakah Multi Faith Choir. The concert is taking place at RACC on Tuesday 15th December 7pm-930pm. Berakah is a music project that, through the power of music, brings people from different faiths and no faith, cultures and races together in the spirit of Peace. The night will feature a performance by a choir drawn from RACC students from the wellbeing project and a special intimate recital by the original Berakah Players, who've just performed a successful 6 date tour of England. To register for your free ticket(s), Manoj.Nanda@racc.ac.uk directly, you will need to book in advance of the event.

For more information

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