

ROMFORD BID

Working Together



2024 Looking Ahead

We hope you've had an amazing 2024 so far.

We're back from the summer break and busy finalising our Christmas event activity. We'll be installing an incredible Christmas themed installation in the centre of Romford, which should become a centre piece for the town and attract lots of people wanting a festive family shot. The snow machines will also be making a return, plus they'll be roaming entertainers, live music and our first ever pop-up Christmas market!

My Local Bobby continues to be hugely effective in helping us create a safer environment for our visitors and workers, and you've hopefully all had time to admire our colourful floral displays throughout the town during the summer months.

We're also pleased to welcome Stuart Wilson to the Romford BID board, who is the centre manager of The Brewery and comes with a wealth of retail experience. He is also hugely passionate about promoting the town more widely, creating a welcoming experience, delivering a full calendar of events and helping reduce crime.

Julie Frost, BID Director



Safety and Security

We continue our objective of improving safety and security in the town.

Our town wardens, known as Bobbies, work with the BID and local businesses to tackle issues such as anti-social behaviour and shoplifting, and offer help to residents and shoppers. They remain a vigilant and proactive presence in the Romford BID area, effectively addressing and preventing theft and related crimes. The team respond promptly to incidents reported by retailers, working closely with store security and management to ensure swift resolutions. The proactive patrolling of identified high-risk areas, as highlighted by retailers and the BID, has proven successful in deterring criminal activities and ensuring a safer environment for businesses and customers alike.

The use of the WhatsApp group for real-time communication has enhanced our ability to respond quickly to incidents and share intelligence across the network. 205 BID members signed up to the intelligence sharing WhatsApp group. The team's collaboration with Havering CCTV and the local police has also strengthened our operational effectiveness. They will continue to monitor these areas diligently, maintaining strong communication with stakeholders to adapt our patrols based on emerging needs and trends.

Did you know the Bobbies efforts were recognised in a May 2024 BBC Morning Breakfast segment highlighting their role in safety and preventing retail crime, including stopping a £500 theft from a shop? When the BBC Morning Live team were filming with us, Stuart Wilson heard on the Brewery security radio that a prolific offender had been seen in the car park. He spotted her and saw her heading to Boots, updated My Local Bobby immediately on the radio and then saw her filling an empty bag full of make up in the shop. As she left the building My Local Bobby detained her straight away and she was later arrested for stealing over £500 worth of goods.

If you have any questions or would like to sign-up to the WhatsApp Group, please let Julie know.



Environmental Improvements

The BID continues to encourage residents and visitors to consider their surroundings and regularly holds Litter Picking Events, and the last was held on Saturday 8th June. The BID worked in partnership with The Romford Town Wombles and looked for volunteers of all ages to take part in a litter picking activity.

If you are interested in being involved in the next event, please let Julie know.

Hopefully you've enjoyed seeing our colourful hanging baskets, planters and living walls during the Summer months, which really brighten up the town.

FASTER FIBRE CONNECTIVITY

FOR BUSINESSES ACROSS YOUR AREA

DON'T GET L



Technology Enhancements

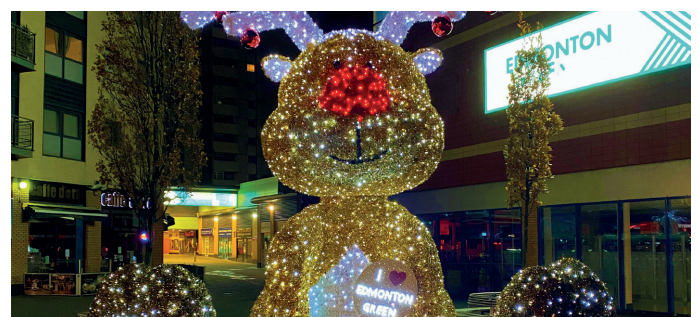
In June Romford BID hosted an event to help local enterprises, entrepreneurs, and industry leaders understand the role and importance of full-fibre connectivity. The Faster Britain bus was situated in Romford Market to engage and inspire the local business community about the vast potential of business-grade full fibre connectivity. Representatives from the Faster Britain bus explained to visitors how Faster Britain's expanding network in South Essex is revolutionising business operations, enhancing customer service, and sparking next generation innovation opportunities.

As a result of a unique collaboration between the public and private sectors, a new full fibre network was recently deployed across the borough. This new network provides gigabit connectivity to libraries, community centres, children's centres, clinics, sheltered accommodation and heritage sites. It also offers full fibre connections to council assets such as CCTV columns and 5G small cells and IOT networks and enables thousands of local businesses to benefit from ultrafast Internet and Cloud services.

If you are interested in connecting your business to this new network, please contact **vikesh.bhathela@daisycorps.co.uk**

Culture

We will be celebrating Diwali on Sunday 27th October, and will be working in partnership with HASWA and Havering Changing. Through August and September there will be workshops for people to get involved with, organised by HASWA, including Bollywood dancing and drumming. These will then be performed at the event on 27th October. Plus, there will be stalls selling traditional sweet delicacies and food, Indian dress and jewellery, plus a range of entertainment. Visitors can also get a henna tattoo done on them and kids can enjoy craft workshops. The St Edward's church end of the market will be the full event space. If you can contribute to the event activity, please let Julie know.



In addition, we are in the process of finalising our Christmas event activity. To help draw in shoppers to Romford we will be installing an incredible reindeer light installation in the town centre.

We'll also have a pop-up Christmas market running in December, lots of live traditional music, incredible roaming entertainers and our snow machines will be back. If you have any planned activity you would like us to promote across our marketing platforms, please email

julie@romfordbid.co.uk

The Cocoon – Christmas temp jobs

The Cocoon is a safe space for young adults who are care experienced. It is also a place which fosters imaginative practice; supports and cultivates friendships between young people; supports and provides peer mentoring; and develops and offers true co-production. The team there have explained that some of their young adults find jobs aren't accessible and require certain qualifications which can be a barrier or off-putting. They are asking for help from businesses who might have Christmas temp jobs available for their young people and ask employers to go to the Cocoon to meet with the young people who would like to apply.

If you can help then please email **laura.richardson@haverling.gov.uk** who can give you more information and arrange to meet with you. It would be great to help those in our community.



PLACE
SUPPORT
PARTNERSHIP

Free advice and support to all Romford Businesses

Romford BID has commissioned Place Support Partnership to help you save money on your business costs. This includes savings on new contracts, advice on navigating the cost-of-doing-business crisis, and how to achieve the best value on essential services like gas, water, insurance, electricity, telecoms and merchant fees.

To start saving call 03330 156 289 or email **susana@placesupportpartnership.com**

Greening Your Business To Boost Profits

Free personalised one-to-one support for businesses located in Havering

- **Attract eco-conscious customers and new business.**
- **Gain a competitive edge through sustainability**
- **Future-proof your business and attract top talent.**
- **Reduce energy and make savings. Identify actions to support sustainable business practices.**

Apply Now!

Limited spots available! Scan the QR code or contact Lucy today to learn more and apply!
lucy.groen@ceme.co.uk



SUMMER PROGRAM
YOUTH UNITY HUB
South Side of Romford Train Station on the Arches
Offering a safe space for Young People
Tuesdays
2.30pm to 5.30pm

 Game On: Take the Xbox Challenge Two Consoles, Twice the Action	 Step Into Another World: Get Involved in Our VR Gaming
 Master Podcasting & Filming Share Your Story	 Chessmate Fun for All Ages: Young to Old, Everyone's Welcome

A Place Where You Can Truly Be Yourself!
Youth Unity offer a safe space where young people can truly be themselves! Here, you'll find a supportive environment staffed by trained youth workers who are dedicated to your well-being. Our team is here to offer guidance on important topics, ensuring you feel safe, heard, and empowered. All while having fun!

FREE

DJ Workshop & Podcasting:
Check Our Website for Dates
A booking system maybe in place
www.youthunity.org
0203 1053525

Scan to find out more

Ages 10+

Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

Attend our next AGM on Thursday 21st November at 12noon, at The Salvation Army. Please email julie@romfordbid.co.uk for more information.