

# GET INVOLVED

## in BriEf

January 2017

Welcome to the January edition of our monthly E-Bulletin – Get Involved in BriEf.

We hope you enjoyed last months' bulletin, if you missed it please contact us to receive your e-copy.

The Resident Involvement Team aims to keep you up-to-date with what's happening in your community and across the borough. To find out more information on the updates below, simply click on the relevant link. If you have any questions about any of the items, please feel free to contact Get Involved on **020 8753 6652** or email [Getinvolved@lbhf.gov.uk](mailto:Getinvolved@lbhf.gov.uk)

### **Resident Involvement Service Improvement Groups are looking for more members**

Getting involved as a resident helps to improve your local community and the housing services you receive. You can get involved in a variety of ways.

The following Resident Involvement Service Improvement Groups are looking for more members. Click on the links to get more information on the groups and how you can get involved!

[Repairs Working Group](#)

[Reading Group](#)

[Communications Group](#)

[Inclusion Group](#)

Download the handy [Resident Involvement Information pack](#) which contains all the information on how to get involved in a way that suits you.

### **Mystery Shopping launched in spring 2017**

#### ***What is mystery shopping and what does a mystery shopper do?***

Mystery shopping measures the quality of services that residents receive. The mystery shopper's role is to check the standard of services provided by the councils Housing Department.

#### ***Who can be a mystery shopper?***

You must be a tenant, leaseholder, or household member of a Council property. It would help if you can use a computer and have access to the internet. You will need to write an honest and accurate report of your findings. You should also be reliable, observant and have an eye for detail, along with a good memory.

If you are interested in becoming a Mystery Shopper, please contact Shaun Dunleavy (Performance Manager on Tel: **020 8753 4244** or Email: [shaun.dunleavy@lbhf.gov.uk](mailto:shaun.dunleavy@lbhf.gov.uk) Deadline **16<sup>th</sup> January 2017**).

### **Are you good company? You could help brighten someone's day**

A local charity helping pensioners meet new people and keep loneliness at bay has been awarded lottery funding to help it grow. It's called **Good Company**, and its team is looking for more volunteers as well as those who could benefit.

[Click here to read more](#)

### **MEND sessions - Mind, Exercise, Nutrition...Do it!**

A series of free specialist sessions to help families stay active and healthy in Hammersmith & Fulham. The courses are again being run by provider MyTime Active to promote healthy,

active lifestyles and good nutrition in the borough. The sessions form part of a three-year programme for under-18s and post-natal women. [Click here to read more](#)

### **Improving community dermatology GP with special interest and minor surgery service**

Hammersmith and Fulham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is reviewing the community dermatology GP with special interest and minor surgery service. We would like to hear your views based on your experiences of the current service. This will help the CCG shape how the service works for you in the future.

**When:** Wednesday 11th January 2016, 18:00-19:00

**Where:** St Paul's, Queen Caroline St, London, W6 9PJ

For more information please see flyer attached to this email.

### **Roberto reaps rewards as recycling challenge rolls over**

A recycling resident has been given a winter boost after scooping £200 as part of a competition to reduce waste on Hammersmith & Fulham's estates.

[Click here to read more](#)

### **Help with heating costs at our winter roadshows**

As the cold winter weather finally starts to arrive, help is at hand for residents struggling with rising fuel bills. Drop-in sessions have been organised at libraries where council officers can give advice which could result in lower bills. [Click here to read more](#)

### **Avoid a winter cold and flu**

Residents are being urged to prepare in advance to help avoid a nasty bout of cold or flu this winter. There are more than 200 types of common cold virus and three types of flu virus which can often strike in winter, so residents in H&F are being encouraged to stock up on medical cabinet essentials and take preventative steps at the first sign of illness.

[Click here to read more](#)

### **H&F Council first in London to scrap council tax for care leavers**

Hammersmith & Fulham has become the first borough in London to scrap council tax payments for care leavers. Managing budgets can be very challenging for vulnerable young people adjusting to living by themselves. H&F Council plans to relieve some of this pressure by exempting care leavers from council tax until their 25th birthday. [Click here to read more](#)

### **The streets of Hammersmith & Fulham are the cleanest they've ever been**

A new 'Street Czar' will be dedicated to working with our residents in the community, to hear their concerns and ensure their issues are dealt with quickly and efficiently

[Click here to read more](#)

### **Bush Theatre announces new shows before it re-opens in March 2017**

After the largest single investment in its illustrious 44-year history, the Bush Theatre is bouncing back with a varied programme... and cheap seats to tempt local residents

[Click here to read more](#)

### **Funding opportunities**

#### **Tesco Bags of Help - Up to £5,000 Funding Available in Hammersmith & Fulham**

Tesco Bags of Help will help fund projects focussed on developing outdoor spaces or encouraging the use of outdoor spaces.

[Click here to read more about the grant and application process](#)

Bags of Help is a rolling funding programme so applications can be made at any time. However, if applications are submitted **before Monday 9th January 2017** there is an increased chance of going to the public vote in February 2017.

**The Housing Estates Improvement Programme** is a scheme funded by the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham to transform public spaces on estates so they are greener, safer and benefit the local community. Residents of Hammersmith and Fulham council housing can apply to improve external areas of estates, blocks, or sheltered housing units. The scheme has a budget of £210,000 per year which is allocated to several projects by the resident-led Investment Group. Projects are managed by **Groundwork London**

Bids for 2017/18 open from 16<sup>th</sup> December 2016 and close on 10<sup>th</sup> February.

For more information, please contact **Daniel Brittle** from Groundwork at [heip@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:heip@groundwork.org.uk) or call **020 8762 0353**.

[Click here to download an application form](#)

#### **Localgiving – Online fundraising seminar**

Localgiving and SOBUS are teaming up to run an online fundraising training seminar to provide (up to 75 groups in London) the chance to develop their online fundraising capabilities as well as providing each of the groups with up to £300 in match funding for donations received online. [Click here to read more and to book your place](#)

[Click here for information on Local Giving](#)

If you are unable to access any of the links, please email [Tony.Rodriguez@lbhf.gov.uk](mailto:Tony.Rodriguez@lbhf.gov.uk)