

Spelthorne Borough Council
Bulletin magazine
Winter 2019

Letter from the Leader

Dear Residents,

This is a special edition of the Bulletin which includes eight pages on the Local Plan consultation which sets out the policies that will guide development in the Borough for the next 15 years. It's a very important piece of work which will shape Spelthorne for many years to come so we want to hear your views. Please take the time to read more details on pages 13-20.

We have been working hard this year to improve housing for the Borough's more vulnerable residents and I am pleased that we have given the go-ahead for a hostel for single homeless people to be built on the Kingston Road in Ashford. The facility will provide modern purpose-built accommodation with 24 hour cover and space for training and education. In addition, we are rebuilding Harper House on Fordbridge Road in Ashford to provide emergency accommodation for up to 20 families.

I would like to congratulate all the finalists and winners of the Spelthorne Means Business Awards. The quality of this year's entries reflected the strength and diversity of our business community and it's very easy to see why we are consistently named as one of the best places to do business.

It just remains for me to end by wishing everyone a very merry Christmas. However you chose to spend it this year, I hope the festive season is a restful time and you have the chance to spend it with friends or loved ones.

Cllr Ian Harvey, Leader of the Council

Message from the Mayor

Season's greetings!

Hard to believe winter is already upon us. As well as representing our lovely Borough across Surrey, my consort Andrew and I have been busy spending time in Spelthorne with all the fantastic residents, volunteers, schools and churches that make this such a great community.

We must remember that there are people in and around the Borough who are not as fortunate as us. The Christmas period is a time of celebration, but also of generosity and giving, and I would urge any of you with a little time on your hands to offer your help to one of our voluntary groups, community centres or places of worship, if you can. I am sure even one or two hours' help would be gratefully received.

However you spend this special season, I do hope that it is a time of joy, love, kindness and hope for each and every one of you. We will be visiting all our community centres over the period and look forward to meeting some of you there.

Don't forget - I am here as Mayor for everyone in our community so if I can help in any way to promote or support your event, please do get in touch. You can find details of my fund raising events on our website at www.spelthorne.gov.uk/mayor. All the money raised this year will go to Eikon and Midas Plus, as well as to some smaller charities. Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas time!

Cllr Mary Madams, Mayor of Spelthorne

Tackling rough sleeping in Spelthorne

Rough sleeping is a complex issue and every case is unique. Loss of employment, relationship breakdown, domestic violence, leaving the care system, mental health problems and alcohol or substance dependency are just some of the reasons why people can find themselves without a place to live. Spelthorne Borough Council works alongside people in this situation, helping them to find safe accommodation, get their lives back on track and focus on a positive future.

Rough sleeping isn't simply about those sleeping on the streets, in doorways and on park benches. Many rough sleepers are not seen or heard but are nevertheless homeless, sleeping in cars or on friends' sofas. Although the number of rough sleepers tends to fluctuate in Spelthorne, it is thought that around 10 people are sleeping rough in the Borough at any one time.

Whilst not all rough sleepers accept our offer of assistance and support, the Council has been achieving excellent results and since July this year has found settled accommodation for 11 rough sleepers. Once accommodation has been found, we also continue to offer guidance to ensure individuals do not end up rough sleeping again. Building a good relationship with the client and having a flexible approach is vital as everyone faces different obstacles.

In September, the Council received the go-ahead to build a hostel for up to 27 single homeless people on the Kingston Road in Ashford. The facility, which will be completed in 2021, will provide modern purpose-built accommodation with 24 hour cover and space for training and education. It will be operated by the Salvation Army which has a wealth of experience in managing supported housing facilities. Plans are also underway to rebuild Harper House on Fordbridge Road in Ashford to provide emergency accommodation for up to 20 families. The target for completion is also early 2021.

We are currently reviewing our housing strategy for the next five years which will include our approach to preventing homelessness and tackling rough sleeping in Spelthorne. We are aiming for our new Homelessness Strategy Framework to go to public consultation towards the end of this year and more information will be available on this soon.

If you are concerned about a person who may be sleeping rough, please report this to Spelthorne Council by emailing Housingadvice@spelthorne.gov.uk or calling 01784 446 380. Alternatively visit the StreetLink website at www.streetlink.org.uk

Spelthorne Junior Citizen

During September over 1,000 year 6 pupils from 20 Spelthorne primary schools attended Spelthorne Junior Citizen, a one-day event designed to help children stay safe and learn important life skills.

The children took part in interactive workshops to learn about staying safe and being good citizens. Topics covered included fire safety, first aid, recycling, stranger danger, healthy eating, respecting the railways and water safety.

The Mayor said: “Junior Citizen provides an excellent way of equipping young people with important life skills and the knowledge and confidence they need to deal with potentially dangerous situations. The workshops are specifically designed to get the information across in a way that is interesting and relevant to the children. We had excellent feedback this year and the children had a lot of fun.”

Junior Citizen has been running for over ten years and is organised by Spelthorne Borough Council with support from the Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner, Surrey Fire and Rescue, Surrey Police, RNLI, the NHS, South Western Railway and St John Ambulance.

Spelthorne Civic Awards

Do you know someone who should be recognised for dedicated voluntary service in the Borough of Spelthorne?

The Spelthorne Civic Award Trust is now in its 36th year having been founded in 1983 by Mr Alf Goddard MBE to acknowledge the work of local Spelthorne residents who devote their time to voluntary service in the Borough. The object of the Trust is to recognise long term voluntary effort by awarding an honour to those nominated and, since 1983, 420 civic awards have been given.

We would like to invite local residents and voluntary organisations to nominate persons known to them who have given a minimum of at least 12 years' service so that the Trustees can consider them for an award. Candidates do not have to live in the Borough but the work they do should be of benefit to those residing in Spelthorne.

Nomination forms and further details are available from the Trust Secretary David Martin, email civicawards@gmail.com

Closing date for nominations: 31 January 2020

Heathrow's consultation

Heathrow's latest consultation closed on 13 September and Spelthorne Council submitted a comprehensive response detailing the Council's views on the expansion proposals.

Historically, the Council has supported Heathrow and the principle of a new North West runway, due to the wider economic benefits it brings to the Borough. However, it has always been very clear that this cannot be at the expense of local communities or the environment and in its response to Heathrow the Council confirmed that it will only continue to support expansion if the following conditions are met:

- The sixteen requirements recommended by the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are met
- The communities which are most impacted by the expansion plans are properly compensated through the Wider Property Offer Zone scheme
- The 'Heathrow West' proposal be explored to ascertain if this is a viable proposition

The Council also expressed disappointment that a lot of information and detail was missing from the consultation materials, making it impossible to comment on a number of important aspects.

To view the Council's full response and learn more about the sixteen requirements mentioned above, visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/finalconsultation

New housing at Brooklands College

Plans for new housing at the former Brooklands College site in Ashford are moving ahead.

A2Dominion will be providing a range of accommodation options for local people, across a number of phases over the next four years.

- Affordable rented: 48 properties

These properties will be rented to local residents from the Council's Housing Register, at least 20% below market rents. The first properties will be available in early 2020 and will be available for Housing Register applicants at searchmoves.org.uk.

- Shared ownership: 236 properties

There will be a collection of one and two bedroom apartments, and three bedroom houses through FABRICA by A2Dominion. These properties are part-buy / part-rent, and priority will be given to purchasers who live or work in Spelthorne. The first properties will be available in early 2020. To register your interest, call 0203 944 8798 or visit fabrica.co.uk/contact-us.

- Private rent: 73 properties

These properties will be rented at market rents through the general rental market. The first properties are anticipated to be ready in 2021 and will be advertised at a2dominion.co.uk/private-rent.

My Alerts

Would you like to receive rubbish and recycling reminders or be informed if one of your neighbours submits a planning application? Sign up to Spelthorne Council's My Alerts service to receive regular emails with information on these and other topics including job vacancies, events and news. To register visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/myalerts

Armed Forces Task Group

The Council has established an Armed Forces Task Group under the Chairmanship of Cllr Robin Sider. This group will have representation from the Council, other public bodies and the armed forces charities in Spelthorne. Its purpose is to coordinate the support to veterans and be a focus for commemoration activity such as the forthcoming VE Day 75 bank holiday on 8 May 2020.

If you have any interest in these matters, or feel that you have something to offer to this work then please contact Cllr Robin Sider by email at cllr.sider@spelthorne.gov.uk

Make your vote count on 12 December

A General Election has been called for Thursday 12 December 2019. Polling stations will be open from 7am - 10pm.

For more details visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/generalelection, email electoral.services@spelthorne.gov.uk or call 01784 444218

Wellbeing buddies required

Amigo supports individuals who are recovering from mental ill health by helping them to make connections with the local community and improve their confidence and motivation.

We are recruiting volunteers to help clients attend community activities on weekdays, in the evenings and at the weekend. Full training is provided and expenses are covered.

To find out more, email buddy@voluntarysupport.org.uk or call 01276 707565

Applying for settled status

If you're an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen, you and your family can apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living in the UK. Visit www.gov.uk/eusettledstatus for more details

Changes to Christmas rubbish and recycling collections

Collection	Scheduled collection day	Revised collection day
Recycling	Monday 23 December	Normal collection
	Tuesday 24 December	Normal collection
	Wednesday 25 December	Friday 27 December
	Thursday 26 December	Saturday 28 December
	Friday 27 December	Sunday 29 December
Rubbish	Monday 30 December	Normal Collection
	Tuesday 31 December	Normal Collection
	Wednesday 1 January 2020	Thursday 2 January 2020
	Thursday 2 January 2020	Friday 3 January 2020
	Friday 3 January 2020	Saturday 4 January 2020
	Monday 6 January 2020	Back to normal

Info: for more details, email customer.services@spelthorne.gov.uk or call 01784 451499.

Garden waste

Garden waste collections stop from 23 December - 31 January 2020. For more details check your garden waste calendar or visit <http://my.spelthorne.gov.uk>

Reducing single-use plastics

Spelthorne Council has made a commitment to reduce the use of single-use plastics across its operations and services and is working towards eventually eliminating their use altogether. We have developed an action plan and policy for Spelthorne which sits alongside a wider Surrey strategy which we fully support.

Info: For more information visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/sup, email environment@spelthorne.gov.uk or call 01784 446411.

A greener cleaner Borough

One of Spelthorne Council's corporate priorities is providing a clean and safe environment for its residents and businesses. The Council recognises that it is essential that Local Authorities do all they can to help tackle climate change and that we must continue to demand more of ourselves to achieve real change for future generations.

Building new homes which produce renewable energy, installing solar panel installations at our community centres and introducing more electric vehicle charging points are just some of the Council's recent environmental achievements.

We also:

- Offer kerbside collections of mixed recycling, food waste, electrical items and textiles
- Achieved a recycling rate of 48%
- Rolled-out schemes to help residents make their homes more energy efficient
- Introduced a policy to reduce the use of single-use plastics
- Issued over 73 fixed penalty notices for littering and fly-tipping since January
- Planted almost 1000 trees

More details can be found at www.spelthorne.gov.uk/annualreport

Remember, you can't recycle the following items:

- Polystyrene
- Plastic bags
- Nappies
- Black plastic food trays
- Thin plastics (such as cling film or crisp packets)
- Hard plastics
- Tetra pak juice cartons

These items will cause your recycling to be rejected at the sorting facility, meaning it has to be incinerated.

Festive waste and recycling

The Christmas period can be a time when we make a lot more waste and rubbish than at other times of year - parties, presents, shopping, they all add up and generate mountains of packaging, boxes, cards, tinsel, trees and leftovers that all need to be thrown away. Somewhere. But where?

Real Christmas trees

We collect your real Christmas trees for free from 6 -17 January. Simply remove all the decorations and leave the tree out with your bins on your rubbish or recycling collection day. Otherwise you can take your tree to the Community Recycling Centre in Shepperton or one of the following drop-off points:

- Fordbridge Park, Ashford
- Manor Park, Shepperton
- Old Bathing Station, Fordbridge Road, Sunbury

Large cardboard boxes

We all love presents that come in big boxes, sometimes the box is the best bit! But what to do with them afterwards? They're big, bulky and take up loads of room. The best option is to flatten them and put them in your recycling bin. If it won't fit in your bin you can put the flattened cardboard next to your bin on collection day but make sure it's not raining as we can't accept wet card.

Wrapping paper

It's paper, right? So it should all go in the recycling? Well not always. A lot of wrapping paper is actually plastic or has metal foil or glitter on it that can't go into the recycling. If there's no foil or glitter and you're still unsure if it's paper or not, try the scrunch test. Scrunch it up, if it stays scrunched and doesn't spring back then it's paper and can be recycled. If it springs back then it's foil or plastic and needs to go into the rubbish bin.

Leftover festive food

For all your festive food leftovers, make use of the weekly food collection service. Place your food waste in a plastic bag (any bag other than a black bin liner is good) and place it in your green outdoor caddy with your other bins on collection day. If you don't have a food waste bin, you can pick one up from the Council Offices in Knowle Green or our Depot on the Kingston Road.

Extra recycling

If you have more recycling than can fit into your recycling bin you can take it to your local Bring Site to recycle or to the Community Recycling Centre in Shepperton. You can also recycle unwanted clothes and textiles at the Bring Sites as well as small electrical items and books. To find your nearest site and what can be recycled there visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/bringsites

Spelthorne Local Plan: Policies and Sites Consultation 5 November 2019 - 7 January 2020

Respond to the consultation
www.spelthorne.gov.uk/localplan
local.plan@spelthorne.gov.uk
Consultation closes 7 Jan 2020

The Local Plan sets out how and where development will take place across the borough over the next 15 years and will affect every resident in Spelthorne. It is important that you read this summary pull-out and have your say. The full documents are available to read on our website at www.spelthorne.gov.uk/localplan

and paper copies are available to view at the Council Offices and all libraries in the Borough.

Please see below for further details on how to find more information and respond to the consultation. Issues and options consultation Preferred options consultation

Why do we need a new Local Plan?

The Council is consulting on a new Local Plan for the Borough, which will set out how much development we need for the next 15 years and where it will go. The finished Local Plan will contain policies for deciding planning applications and allocated sites for housing, employment and other uses.

We consulted the public in May and June 2018 to ask what were the key issues affecting Spelthorne and the options we should consider for meeting our need. After reviewing the comments made in the consultation and how well each option would deliver environmental, social and economic objectives, the Council decided to follow the option to meet our need that would maximise densities in suitable locations, release some Green Belt and produce a masterplan for Staines-upon-Thames.

This consultation sets out our Preferred Option in more detail and includes draft policies and possible sites to allocate for development (mainly housing). There will be a further public consultation, called 'Regulation 19' before we submit our final Local Plan to be examined by an independent inspector.

If we don't have an up-to-date Local Plan, we will find it difficult to say 'no' to sites being developed that could harm our most important spaces or the Government could step in and write one for us. It is better for our Borough to make decisions locally and aim for 'good growth' that delivers the homes and employment areas we need in the best places and to plan for the infrastructure required to support it.

How much housing do we need to plan for?

Our need has been calculated by the Government using their standard method based on household growth and affordability of housing in the area. The need for Spelthorne is 603 homes per year over the next 15 years. We think this number is very high, taking account of our Green Belt and flooding areas, so we challenged this method at the time it was announced. We are preparing a Local Plan that aims to meet the need so we can protect land we don't want developed but will continue to push the Government for the need figure to be reduced.

How will our GPs, schools and roads cope with an increase in residents?

We are working with infrastructure providers, including healthcare, education and highways, so they can plan for our future growth. There is funding available from the contributions developers will pay when they build their sites, to support this.
What about employment sites?

We have assessed what our needs are for new employment sites and have proposed some land in the Preferred Allocations, mainly for office and storage/distribution uses as our evidence shows we need these types of businesses but not industrial uses.

Why are you allocating pitches for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople (GTTS)?

These communities are part of our population and we should meet their need, just as we are doing for the 'settled' community. This is calculated by assessing how families already living in Spelthorne will grow during the 15-year plan period. The pitches will be for our GTTS community to live on when they are not travelling and are not for seasonal travellers who pass through our Borough and camp illegally.

What is an allocation?

This is the term we use for when land is put forward by the owner to be developed and we set out what it will be used for (housing, employment etc), how many units and what requirements we expect to see included, such as access improvements. This supports the Local Plan by showing we can deliver the homes and other uses we need. The owner will still need to apply for planning permission but the allocation will mean it is acceptable in principle. If a site in the Green Belt is allocated for development, it will be removed from the Green Belt once the Local Plan is adopted. The Draft Allocations document gives the reasons why we think a site should be allocated and also includes sites not being taken forward and why.

Spelthorne today

- Population: 95,600
- Homes: 42,561
- Commercial floorspace: 767,000 sqm
- Shops: 700 approx
- Average housing price: £436,892 for a semi-detached house

Green Belt

The main purpose of Green Belt is to prevent urban sprawl by maintaining openness. Local Plans should review Green Belt boundaries but they should only be altered where exceptional circumstances can be shown. This can include meeting housing need if enough sites can't be found on urban land and if our neighbouring Boroughs can't help us. This is the case for Spelthorne. Our Borough is currently 65% Green Belt, which includes our reservoirs and the River Thames. If we amend Green Belt boundaries to allow for some development, we will lose 1.6% of our Green Belt but this will deliver around 1,600 new homes to help meet our need. The land considered for release is not performing well against the Green Belt purposes and has no other significant reasons why it shouldn't be developed. More information on Green Belt can be found in our FAQ document.

Traffic

Like many areas in the South East, Spelthorne suffers from congested roads and new development usually means more cars. Surrey County Council, which is the Highway Authority for the county, has assessed our draft site allocations and concluded that the spread of sites across the Borough would not result in a significant effect on traffic. Impacts can be reduced by developers paying towards local improvements, which could include upgrading junctions, enhancing public transport and encouraging more people to cycle and walk.

Flooding

Spelthorne suffers from flooding, mainly from the River Thames. We need to avoid land being developed in areas most at risk from flooding. We have produced a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment to help guide where we should propose new homes are built and our draft policies set out how flood risk can be reduced.

Staines-upon-Thames area

Site	New homes (approx.)	Requirements and comments
Builders Yard, Moor Lane	36	
96-104 Church Street	55	
Car Park, Hanover House & Sea Cadet Building, Bridge Street	75	Sea Cadets have been relocated.
Staines Telephone Exchange, Fairfield Avenue	165	Development is dependent upon service re-provision or existing uses being condensed.
Debenhams site, 35-45, High Street	250	
The Elmsleigh Centre and adjoining land, South Street	650	
Riverside Surface car park, Thames Street	100	
Thames Lodge, Thames Street	65	

Thameside House, South Street	120	
Builders Yard, Gresham Road	100	
Oast House and car park 34-36, Kingston Road	180	
Leacroft Centre, Leacroft	17	Part of Surrey County Council service review. Services will be expected to be provided onsite or within suitable proximity to the current service.
Thameside Arts Centre, Wyatt Road	19	Part of Surrey County Council service review. Services will be expected to be provided onsite or within suitable proximity to the current service.
Fairways Day Centre, Knowle Green	30	Part of Surrey County Council service review. Services will be expected to be provided onsite or within suitable proximity to the current service.
Surrey CC Buildings, Burges Way	30	Part of Surrey County Council service review. Services will be expected to be provided onsite or within suitable proximity to the current service.

A Masterplan will be produced for Staines to show how the town centre will develop to accommodate more homes and support retail and commercial uses, together with opportunities to improve local services and public transport.

Shepperton, Laleham and Charlton Village area
Proposed site allocations (Green Belt sites in bold):

Site	Town	New homes (approx.)	Requirements and comments
Land to South of Ashford Common Water Treatment Works, Charlton Road	Shepperton	250	The site has the same landowner as Site 15 in Sunbury and Halliford so are identified for allocation together.

Land North of Charlton Road	Shepperton	135	Review of the junction arrangements with Charlton Lane.
Staines Road Farm (Eastern Site), Laleham Road	Shepperton	200	Provision/improvement of acoustic measures.
Shepperton Youth Centre, Laleham Road	Shepperton	24	Subject to service re-provision or existing uses being condensed.
Shepperton Delivery Office, 47 High Street	Shepperton	20	Subject to service re-provision or existing uses being condensed.
Shepperton Library, High Street	Shepperton	10	Subject to service re-provision or existing uses being condensed.
Land at Staines and Laleham Sports Club, Worple Road	Staines	40	Redevelopment subject to re-provision of improved sports club, funded by housing development
Land off Worple Road, Worple Road	Staines	256	
Part of Greenfield recreation ground, Berryscroft Road and Bingham Drive	Staines	100	Part of the site could be used for housing and the recreation ground upgraded to include play facilities.
White House, Kingston Road	Ashford	28	

What about Shepperton Studios?

The expansion of the studios into the Green Belt has already been granted planning permission on the basis of 'very special circumstances' due to the economic benefits it will bring, but the land will stay designated as Green Belt. We can review in the future whether the land should be removed from the Green Belt once the

buildings have been completed but for now the land performs an important role and our strategy is not to release strongly or moderately performing Green Belt.

Sunbury and Halliford area

Proposed site allocations (Green Belt sites in bold)

Site	Town	New homes (approx)	Net commercial (sqm)	Requirements
Sunbury Social Services Centre, 108 Vicarage Road	Sunbury	11		Subject to service re-provision or existing uses being condensed.
147, Staines Road West	Sunbury	15		
115, Staines Road West	Sunbury	15		
RMG Warehouse & Delivery Office, 47-79 , Staines Road West	Sunbury	22		Subject to ensuring rear access road is maintained. Subject to service re-provision or existing uses being condensed.
Sunbury Fire Station, Staines Road West	Sunbury	27		The site is available now the new Fordbridge fire station on Kingston Road (A308) is operational.
Sunbury Cross Ex Services Association Club, Crossways	Sunbury	30		Noise attenuation measures.
Annandale House, 1, Hanworth Road	Sunbury	50	4,000	
77, Staines Road East	Sunbury	45		
Sunbury Adult Education Centre, The Avenue	Sunbury	24		Subject to service re-provision or existing uses being condensed.
Telephone Exchange, Green Street	Sunbury	14		Development is dependent upon service re-provision

Site	Town	New homes (approx)	Net commercial (sqm)	Requirements
				or existing uses being condensed.
Land south of Nursery Road	Sunbury	41		
Land East of Upper Halliford, Nursery Road	Sunbury	80		
Land to South and West of Stratton Road	Sunbury	260		
Land at Croysdale Avenue	Sunbury	65		
Land at Windmill Close	Sunbury	15 G&T pitches		The site has the same landowner as Site 1 in Shepperton, Laleham and Charlton Village so are identified for allocation together.

What about Kempton Park racecourse?

The site has been put forward by a developer for a large housing scheme so we have assessed what impact that scale of development would have. Our Green Belt Assessment shows that the land is 'strongly performing' and has not been recommended for release from the Green Belt.

The Strategic Highway Assessment shows that building 3000 homes at Kempton Park would have a greater impact on traffic than releasing the more dispersed Green Belt sites in our preferred allocations by concentrating development in one area and worsening conditions on routes and at junctions that are already congested.

Ashford area

Proposed site allocations (Green Belt sites in bold)

Site	New homes (approx)	Net commercial (sqm)	Requirements
Land west of Edward Way	15 & 15 travelling showpeople pitches		
Hitchcock and King, Stanwell Road	200		
Land east of Ashford Sports Club, Woodthorpe Road	52		
Ashford Telephone Exchange, Church Road	20		Development is dependent upon service re-provision or existing uses being condensed.
Ashford Multi-storey car park, Church Road	50		
Land at Ashford Manor Golf Club, Fordbridge Road	31		
Land at Chattern Hill	58		
158-166, Feltham Road	72		

What about parking in Ashford?

The multi-storey car park on Church Road is owned by Spelthorne Council and we are proposing to allocate the site for flats with potential for retail use on the ground floor. We are carrying out parking surveys to see whether there is a need to re-provide some of the existing parking provision or whether there are enough on-street spaces for shoppers.

Stanwell and Stanwell Moor area

Proposed site allocations (Green Belt sites in bold)

Site	Town	New homes (approx)	Net commercial (sqm)	Requirements
Stanwell Bedsits, De Havilland Way	Stanwell	100		Net gain 100 units (totalling 400 gross) with existing land use made more efficient.
Land at Northumberland Close	Stanwell		2,000	
Land to the west of Long Lane and South of Blackburn Trading Estate	Stanwell		14,500	
Land to the west of Town Lane	Stanwell	5-8 G&T pitches		Potential for gypsy and traveller pitches.
Staines Fire Station, Town Lane	Stanwell	30		The site is available now the new Fordbridge fire station on Kingston Road (A308) is operational.

What about Heathrow Airport?

The plans for the new runway and other airport related development will be decided by the Government as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) and instead of a planning application there will be submission of a Development Consent Order (DCO) by the airport.

We have taken account of the Heathrow expansion in our Local Plan by proposing to allocate some 'weakly performing' Green Belt that could be used for cargo in Stanwell but Spelthorne has objected to other parts of the expansion, such as very large car parks, and we are not proposing to allocate sites for those uses. It will be for Heathrow to make their case as part of the DCO.

Visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/localplan to respond to the consultation

The full Local Plan Policies and Sites documents are available to read on our website along with all of the research and evidence documents which supports them. You can respond online www.spelthorne.gov.uk/localplan.

Paper copies of the documents are available to view at the Council Offices and all libraries in the Borough.

The best way to respond is using the website but you can also email local.plan@spelthorne.gov.uk or write to us: Strategic Planning, Spelthorne Borough Council, Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames, TW18 1XB
 Consultation closes at 11.59pm on Tuesday 7 January 2020

Spelthorne Means Business Awards 2019

The hard work and achievements of local businesses was celebrated at the Spelthorne Means Business Awards held at Shepperton Studios on 17 October. Finalists for each of the award categories gathered with the sponsors to celebrate their successes and toast the winners in each category:

Category	Finalists	Winner
Best Business in Spelthorne	Finalists in the following categories	Quality fruit and Veg
Exporter of the Year sponsored by	PSP Experium Homeplay	Experium
Creative Business of the Year	Dramatize CIC Blackstone Printing Stars Performing Arts	Stars Performing Arts
Healthy Business of the Year	The Hit Zone Mums & Sons Harfield Dance Studios	Harfield Dance Studios
Best New Start Up	Ella Wood Nicola Ann Photography The Hot Yoga Club	Nicola Ann Photography
Independent Business of the Year	Blackstone Printing The Thames Club Homeplay	Homeplay
Best Small Business	Stars Performing Arts Mums & Sons The Hot Yoga Club	The Hot Yoga Club
Best Business in Staines and Laleham	Vida Home Loans 360 Ultimate Fitness The Thames Club	Vida Homeloans and The Thames Club
Best business in Ashford and Stanwell	Karma Connection The Hit Zone Blackstone Printing	Blackstone Printing

Best business in Shepperton and Charlton	Stars Performing Arts Quality Fruit & Veg James of Shepperton	Quality Fruit Veg and Flowers
Best business in Sunbury and Halliford	Samara Cuisine Village Matters Churchill Hui	Village matters
Best business in Staines BID	Strategic Imperatives McDonalds Vida Home Loans	McDonalds
Best corporate social responsibility	McDonalds Tesco Mums & Sons Quality Fruit & Veg & Flowers	Quality Fruit Veg and Flowers

Leader of Spelthorne Borough Council, Cllr Ian Harvey, said: "This has been a fantastic evening and a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the achievements of businesses in Spelthorne. I would like to offer my congratulations to all the finalists and winners whose passion, energy and sheer hard work has helped them achieve great success in Spelthorne and beyond."

If you would like to enter the next Spelthorne Means Business Awards, please email s.moralee@spelthorne.gov.uk for more details.

Thursday 5 December, Sunbury Christmas Market

The residents of Sunbury-on-Thames are celebrating Christmas with a special event on The Avenue Parade from 5-8pm on Thursday 5 December. Come along with the family and enjoy the festive lights, gift stalls, Santa's grotto and carol singing with the Salvation Army. The road will be closed to traffic during the event. The money raised will be used for the Sunbury community. For more details email monica@villagematters.co.uk or call 07979 808991

Friday 6 December, Christmas in Stanwell

Christmas in Stanwell is set to be bigger and better than ever this year with the annual Christmas light switch on and lantern parade on Friday 6 December. Students from local schools, Stanwell Youth Centre and Children's Centre have been busy creating festive paper lanterns. The parade will assemble at 5.40pm at St Mary the Virgin Church, Church Approach, TW19 7JS and set off by 6pm.

It will travel down Hadrian Way and finish with carols around the Christmas tree outside the Sir John Gibson Pub in Clare Road. The event will also include Santa's Grotto, stalls, music, games and face painting. For more information, email leisure@spelthorne.gov.uk or call 01784 446433

Wednesday 11 December, Shepperton Big Tree Night

Come along to the Shepperton Big Tree Night on Wednesday 11 December, a well-established festive family fair which brings in visitors from all around the Borough and beyond.

The event starts at 5pm in the High Street and Father Christmas will be arriving with his reindeer from 6.20pm. The ever-popular carols start at 6pm by the main stage and there will also be plenty of other festive attractions including craft stalls and rides for the children. Entertainment will be provided throughout the evening and a fantastic selection of food stalls will be available.

The High Street will be closed to traffic from 4pm, with some side roads closing at 1pm. For more details visit bigreenight.uk

Sunday 1 December - Monday 6 January, Staines Christmas art installation

Two Rivers Shopping Centre has been working with TV and film set designer Rebecca Morton, Spelthorne Borough Council and a selection of primary and secondary Schools to create a magical Christmas display on Staines High Street. Themed on Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol', the installation will be created from materials we would usually throw away, to deliver a powerful message about recycling and climate change.

The art installation will be on display between 1 December and 6 January in a vacant shopping unit under the Premier Inn in the High Street.

Saturday 14 December, Winter art open day

Have fun making winter-themed crafts with your children at the Resource Centre from 10am - 2pm. Entry £1 per child (50p for siblings). No need to book, just come along and join in. This activity is for families with children aged 3-11 years (a parent/carer must be present throughout).

Visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/resourcecentre

Saturday 21 December, Jack and the Beanstalk Panto

At Spelthorne Leisure Centre.

Tickets: £10pp / Family ticket (4 people) £35.

Call 01784 493493 for tickets

Monday 23 December, Christmas Xplorer

We are hosting a special Christmas Xplorer event from 10.30am-12.30pm on Monday 23 December at Long Lane Recreation Ground, Cambria Gardens, Stanwell, TW19 7ER.

It's the perfect outdoor activity for families, offering a friendly navigation challenge that is educational and fun. For more information visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/xplorer

Spelthorne Sports Awards

Presentations were made to local athletes, coaches and volunteers for their dedication and contribution to sport in Spelthorne at the annual ceremony on Tuesday 19 November at Shepperton Studios. Congratulations to the following winners:

Category	Winner
Active Surrey Coach, Leader or Instructor of the Year	Nick Harman of Spelthorne Sports Cricket Club
Everyone Active Sports Club of the Year	Odyssey Boxing Club
Specsavers Volunteer of the Year	Bob Parry of Staines Lammas football Club
Shepperton Studios Sports Personality of the Year	Caroline Rutherford, best senior female at the British Transplant Games
Everyone Active Young Sports Personality of the Year	Aaron Evans of Queen Mary's Sailing Club
Everyone Active Young Sports Team of the Year	Buckland Primary School Lacrosse Team
Everyone Active Outstanding Service to Sport	Steve Savage of Spelthorne Community Tennis Centre
School of the Year	Laleham Church of England Primary School
Gerry Ceaser Special Recognition Award	Mary and Len Claremont of Ashford Tennis Club

Specsavers Surrey Youth Games

The Surrey Youth Games is the largest annual youth sports festival in Surrey. Sponsored by Specsavers, the main aim of the Games is to provide opportunities for young people to try new sports and increase their activity levels.

Last year around 400 participants aged 6 - 16 enjoyed 6 weeks of free coaching sessions across 12 sports in the lead up to the event. The 2020 Games will take place on 13 and 14 June, with registrations to join Team Spelthorne training sessions opening in February.

To be eligible you must either live or go to school in Spelthorne. We particularly welcome beginners. Participants must not be part of a club in the sports they choose to take part in.

More details will be added to our website in the New Year at www.spelthorne.gov.uk/surreyyouthgames

Music in the Park – calling all performers!

Are you in a band or choir and interested in performing at our Music in the Park concerts this summer?

We are seeking local performers who can provide a 100 minute set and would like to showcase their talent to our residents (and also earn a small fee).

Please email leisure@spelthorne.gov.uk with as much information as possible about your act including details of previous performances and any video/YouTube footage you can provide.

Staines 10K registrations

The 2020 Staines 10K will be held on Sunday 17 May and registrations to enter this popular race will open on 1 February. For more details or to register, please visit www.staines10K.co.uk

Leisure Directory 2020

Published in January 2020, our Leisure Directory is a really useful resource, full of activities to enable you to make the most of your leisure time in Spelthorne. There's something to suit all ages and interests. Pick up a copy at your local library, leisure centre, council offices or download a copy at www.spelthorne.gov.uk/leisuredirectory

Win leisure centre membership for two!

Everyone Active is offering the chance to win annual membership for two people which includes unlimited access to gym facilities, swim sessions and fitness classes at Spelthorne or Sunbury Leisure Centre.

Simply email spelthorneinfo@everyoneactive.com with the name of the panto being held at Spelthorne Leisure Centre on 21 December for a chance to win. Remember

to include your name and contact telephone number. Closing date: 31 January 2020.

By entering you are giving permission for Everyone Active to contact you with news and offers. Competition not applicable to current Everyone Active or Spelthorne Council staff. Only one entry will be accepted per person. Privacy policy available at www.everyoneactive.com/legal-policies/privacy/ Membership T&Cs at www.everyoneactive.com/legal-policies/terms-and-conditions/

Christmas at the Community Centres

The Greeno Centre, Shepperton
01932 246173

- Christmas lunches: 9-13 December. Mince pies from 10am. Christmas lunch with all the trimmings £4. Live entertainment. Afternoon raffle with tea and cake.
- Christmas Eve: 11am free live entertainment. Early lunch £4.
- Christmas Day: For details, please email carolinebutton2006@yahoo.co.uk
- New Year's Eve party: 1.30pm to 3pm. Free entertainment with Terry Gleed.

Staines Community Centre
01784 463073

- Christmas lunches: 12-13 and 16-18 December. Two-course lunch including two drinks and entertainment. £6.

The Fordbridge Centre, Ashford
01784 243880

- Christmas lunches: 9-13 December. Lunch with wine and after-dinner mints, followed by entertainment and free raffle. £4.
- Christmas tombola week: 16-20 December.
- Free mince pies: Friday 27 December, Monday 30 December and Tuesday 31 December.

The Benwell Centre, Sunbury
01932 784232

- Christmas lunches: Thursday 19 December and Monday 23 December. Buffet lunch and entertainment. £5.

Do you need help getting from A to B?

Spelride is a door-to-door transport service run by Spelthorne Council. It uses specially adapted minibuses to carry passengers with mobility problems. You can use Spelride if you are elderly or disabled and cannot use conventional public transport.

Where can I go? You can go anywhere within the Borough. This can be for many reasons, including going to the shops, the doctor, a community centre or to visit a friend or relative.

When can I use the service? Monday to Friday 9am-11am and 2-4pm for transport to and from the community centres and 11am-2pm daily for other trips. There is a charge for this service.

For more information, please visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/spelride or call Neighbourhood Services on 01784 446411.

Disabled Facilities Grant

Do you or a member of your family have a registered disability? Each year Spelthorne Council award grants to allow residents to make changes to their homes to help them remain independent and live more comfortably.

This can be a life changing service which enables residents to make improvements which specifically meet the needs of their particular disability. Examples of the type of work that is usually undertaken include:

- Installing ramps and widening doors
- Improving access to rooms and facilities (such as a stair lift or a downstairs bathroom)
- Providing a heating system
- Adapting heating or lighting controls to make them easier to use

The funding is provided by the Government along with contributions from Spelthorne Borough Council. The grants are means-tested so you need to be receiving certain benefits to be eligible. The maximum amount given is £30,000.

For more details, visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/DFG or call the Independent Living team on 01784 448607

Meals on Wheels at Christmas

We will be providing our usual Meals on Wheels service up to, and including, Christmas Eve, and will have a limited service on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and

New Year's Day for those who are eligible. For more details or to change your usual arrangements, please contact us on 01784 444265 by Friday 13 December

Free parking in Ashford

Spelthorne Council has extended free parking at Ashford multi-storey car park until 5 January 2020. This follows the disruption caused by work for the Brooklands College development in Ashford High Street in September.

Cllr Ian Harvey, Leader of Spelthorne Council, said: "Despite the recent road closure being outside of our control, we are very happy to make this gesture of support to Ashford residents, businesses and shoppers, in particular in the run up to Christmas, and hope it will make a real difference. This is further evidence that Spelthorne really does mean business."

Eating out this Christmas?

Christmas is a time to enjoy good company and good food without worrying about food poisoning. But the truth is, you can't tell a restaurant's hygiene standards by how busy or clean it appears.

Put your mind at rest by checking the food hygiene rating before you choose where to eat. These ratings are determined by our Environmental Health Officers who inspect all the Borough's food outlets and give a rating out of 5.

Check online at www.ratings.food.gov.uk/spelthorne or call Environmental Health on 01784 446291

Legal Services Intern opportunity

Spelthorne Council's Legal Services department have an opportunity for a paid internship during the summer of 2020. This would suit a law student who is considering a career in the legal profession. Candidates must have a connection with Spelthorne.

Applications must be returned by the end of February 2020. Interviews will take place around the Easter holidays with the position starting in the summer of 2020. Further information can be found at www.spelthorne.gov.uk/legalintern

Council Office - Christmas closure

The Council Offices in Knowle Green will be closed from 3.45pm on Tuesday 24 December until 8.45am on Thursday 2 January 2020. The Council's out of hours emergency number is 01784 451499.

Warning to fly-tippers

Spelthorne Council has recently prosecuted two individuals for offences related to fly-tipping and is reminding offenders that the Council will always take action against anyone caught illegally dumping waste.

In September, Dean Beldom from Slough pleaded guilty to two offences of fly-tipping in Sheep Walk, Shepperton, in May and June 2018. Mr Beldom was fined a total of £1296 and ordered to pay £1600 for the clean-up, £1880 prosecution costs and a victim surcharge of £64. The court also ordered the removal of Mr Beldom's vehicle which was caught on CCTV during the incident.

The Council also prosecuted Mr Mohammed Bhatti from Hounslow who pleaded guilty to one offence of 'breach of duty of care in the disposal of waste' in Hithermoor Road in Stanwell Moor in August. He was fined £1172 and ordered to pay the costs of £700 plus a victim surcharge of £117. Both cases were heard at Guildford Magistrates Court.

Don't forget, if you pay someone such as a builder, gardener, or 'man-with-a-van' to take your waste away, you can be held liable and fined if they illegally dump your rubbish. To avoid a potential fine, check they have a waste carrier's licence.

Ask to see the original licence, not a copy, ensure you know where your waste will go, and keep a note of the name of the person/business and their vehicle. You can check if someone has a waste carrier's licence on the Environment Agency website at www.gov.uk/guidance/access-the-public-register-for-environmental-information or by calling 03708 506 506

Spelthorne in Bloom needs you!

The Spelthorne in Bloom Committee is looking for new members. If you would be interested in helping to judge entries for this annual competition and encouraging others to brighten up the Borough, they would love to hear from you. They also need more sponsors, so please get in touch if you are looking to promote your company at a local level and support this special community initiative.

The Spelthorne in Bloom competition opens again in spring with a variety of categories to enter - more details will be available in the next edition of the Bulletin.

Please contact Vanessa Surmon by email at v.surmon@spelthorne.gov.uk or call 01784 444288

Helping you stay warm this winter

It's that time of year again and the cold weather is upon us. If you are struggling to keep your home warm and finding your energy bills are too high, then Action Surrey, working in partnership with Spelthorne Borough Council can help.

We can offer advice on the best energy saving measures such as cavity wall and loft insulation or a replacement boiler, and let you know if you qualify for a grant towards the work.

If you're living in a poorly heated home and are in receipt of benefits or have certain health conditions made worse by the cold, then please get in touch with Action Surrey.

For more information, visit our website at www.actionsurrey.org or call 0800 783 2503 to speak to one of our advisors

Air pollution warnings

airAlert is a free service to help people with asthma and COPD manage their conditions when air quality is poor. While air pollution levels in Spelthorne are generally low, there are some days when they are capable of causing short-term health problems for people with respiratory illnesses.

The airAlert service informs users when pollution levels are expected to be elevated, either by voicemail, text or email, to help them manage their health more effectively. There is also an airAlert app which can be downloaded.

For more details or to sign-up, visit www.airalert.info or call the Council's Environmental Health team on 01784 446251

Have you got your smart meter yet?

Smart meters are the next generation of gas and electricity meters. They're being installed by energy suppliers in every home in England, Scotland and Wales and will bring Britain's energy system into the 21st Century.

We all want to make big changes to help our planet and sometimes we have to start small. Smart meters can't solve climate change on their own but with the smarter, more efficient energy grid they help to create, they are a start.

Smart meters automatically send readings to your energy supplier at least once a month, so you will receive accurate (not estimated) bills and no more meter readings. They come with a display screen that shows you exactly how much energy you're using in pounds and pence and help you make changes to use less.

Contact your utility supplier to request your smart meter or visit www.smartenergyGB.org 51

Staines Park receives special protection status

Spelthorne Council has protected Staines Park for current and future generations to enjoy by signing a 'Deed of Dedication' with Fields in Trust.

Established in 1925, Fields in Trust is an independent charity which champions and supports parks and green spaces by protecting them for people to enjoy in perpetuity.

In 2018, Staines Park was identified as Spelthorne Council's preferred site for a new leisure centre but after working alongside Staines Park Residents' Association, the Council committed to find an alternative site for the leisure centre and protect the park from future developments.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ian Harvey, added: "We have been very pleased to work with the Staines Park Residents Association to achieve this special status for Staines Park. Residents are understandably very protective of their local open spaces and I hope this announcement gives everyone reassurance that the park will remain unspoilt for future generations to enjoy."

And there's more good news for Staines Park. Spelthorne Council is delighted to announce that it has been awarded a grant of up to £15,000 by The London Marathon Charitable Trust towards the creation of a fitness trail with exercise equipment in Staines Park. The news coincides with Spelthorne Council also successfully gaining funding of £5,000 from Fields in Trust for improvements to the park.

The funding applications for both bids were submitted with help from the Staines Park Residents Association. Chairperson for the Staines Park Residents Association, Cath Moore, said: "Staines Park is a valued local amenity and we are extremely grateful for this grant which will enable the park to be even more inclusive, allowing more people to enjoy all of the facilities that the Park has to offer."

River Thames Task Group

With 12 miles of the river flowing through Spelthorne, the Thames provides a beautiful and ever-changing landmark in the Borough, with endless possibilities for leisure and recreation.

Established in 2018, and made up of councillors, businesses and river users, the River Thames Task Group (RTTG) is dedicated to improving access to the river and enhancing residents' enjoyment of the water.

Spelthorne Council plans to introduce new signage to welcome visitors and is seeking to provide more moorings. However an element of persistent, unauthorised mooring without permission has generally been an increasing problem on the Thames, at times accompanied by anti-social behaviour issues. The RTTG is working with neighbouring boroughs to identify possible solutions, including the option of introducing a Public Spaces Protection Order.

Earlier this year, the RTTG also arranged for the facilities at Shepperton Lock to be upgraded with refurbished toilets, improved waste disposal services, a safety throw line and drinking fountain. Parking for visitors has also been improved.

In Staines-upon-Thames, a new jetty for pleasure boats will soon be delivered and improvements are also planned to make the river in Sunbury more accessible and attractive for visitors.

The RTTG always welcomes ideas, so do get in contact using the details below. Contact the Chair of the RTTG, Cllr Vivienne Leighton, by email at cllr.leighton@spelthorne.gov.uk or call 07914 413396

Do you still want to receive this?

If you no longer wish to receive this large print version of the Council's Bulletin magazine, please contact Louise King in the Communications team by email at l.king@spelthorne.gov.uk or call 01784 444260.