

# ourBolton

Issue 11 Autumn 2022

## Cost of living

Help when you need it

## Rugby League World Cup success

## Bolton's Food & Drink Festival



### Keeping well this winter

Simple steps to help us  
all stay healthy

### Bolton's Fund

Find out how we  
can help you

**Bolton  
Council**



# DESIGN YOUR WORK *Life* BALANCE



Whichever day you find yourself at Parklands, there's always something for you.

At the adjoining Middlebrook Retail & Leisure Park you can start your week with an early morning gym session at Bolton Arena, then retail therapy during your lunch hour and post 5pm team socials – Parklands is an excellent place for you to organise your work life balance.

The leisure facilities at Middlebrook include the Vue multiplex cinema, Hollywood Bowl, a traditional pub, cafes, fast food outlets and a variety of restaurants including Yo! Sushi, Nando's, Chiquito & wagamama. Add to this a wealth of shops including M&S, TK Maxx, Boots, Next, Decathlon, River Island and ASDA - Middlebrook Retail & Leisure Park is unrivalled anywhere else in the UK.

The Premier Inn & Bolton Whites Hotel are both within walking distance. Bolton Whites along with Bolton Arena and the BWFC Stadium all offer excellent conference facilities.

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# Welcome



**It's been a year of highs and lows, yet Bolton's always celebrated in style with love, care and compassion that highlights the best of our borough to the outside world.**

Our ability to organise big events is a major strength for Bolton, boosting our local economy, encouraging visitors, investment, jobs, and prosperity.

Also, events bring our diverse and colourful communities together, inspiring and nurturing new local talent and building local pride and solidarity.

In the embers of COVID-19, Bolton came together for Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and it was wonderful to see so many people celebrating her long service and incredible achievements.

The jubilee was soon followed by IRONMAN UK that Bolton has hosted successfully for many years, including the world's biggest IRONKIDS event, and we are delighted to have secured the event for a further five years.



My personal highlight must be Bolton's Food and Drink Festival, which is the largest event of its kind in the UK.

My personal highlight must be Bolton's Food and Drink Festival, which is the largest event of its kind in the UK. I would like to pay tribute to the council staff who work so hard to make it a success and thank our sponsors BWFC, Vertu, Warburtons, Stateside Foods and Peel L & P as without their support this would not be possible.

Following the sad passing of Her Majesty the Queen on 8th September, Bolton came together to mark the occasion. In the days that followed, the proclamation of King Charles II as our new monarch was made from the steps of the town hall. A memorial service for Her Majesty the Queen was held in the Parish Church on the eve of her state funeral at Westminster Abbey. I was heartened to read the book of condolences and see the flowers left by residents on the steps of the town hall

In November, the Rugby League World Cup came to town, and it was a huge success for Bolton, hosting the French national squad and the stunning England v France game at the University of Bolton Stadium, which was broadcast worldwide on the BBC. As a result, our borough has secured additional investment into the grass roots game, which will inspire many young people to take up the game.

We've also got Bolton's Christmas Festival to lift our spirits and 2023 will be another action packed year including the 150th anniversary of the opening of the iconic Bolton town hall.

People are our priority, including their health, wealth and wellbeing, and as rising energy prices are a worry for many, Bolton's helping to support those struggling with their fuel, food and finances, as outlined in the article in this publication.

I must thank Team Bolton once again on behalf of all councillors for all your help over the summer and for your continued commitment in helping to make Bolton a better place.

Also, I thank our retiring Chief Executive, Tony Oakman, for his service to the town over the last four years, particularly through some very difficult days during the height of the COVID-19 crisis. He will be hugely missed by all, so thank you Tony and we hope you enjoy a well deserved retirement.

It's a warm welcome to our new Chief Executive, Sue Johnson, who has worked many years at the council including as Deputy Chief Executive. She is well deserving of the opportunity to drive Bolton Council forward and deliver the strategic goals and benefits to all our communities in the years ahead.

All my best wishes

**Cllr Martyn Cox**  
Leader of Bolton Council

# What's inside

**4-5**  
COST OF LIVING

**6-7**  
ROLL ON CHRISTMAS



**8-9**  
BOLTON FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL

**10**  
KEEPING WELL THIS WINTER



**12**  
IRONMAN UK

**13**  
CELEBRATING BOLTON PRIDE



**27**  
USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

**28**  
MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS

# Cost of living

## Help when you need it



### Rising to the challenge

Rising prices are hitting everyone hard across the country and are having a huge impact on Bolton's residents and businesses.

Most people have already made difficult choices and cut back on their spending on some items and many require help with essentials, such as paying energy bills, buying food, and managing family finances.

The cold winter months will also see many in our communities need access to warm, dry and safe places to stay, with advice and support to maintain positive mental and physical health.

### Help is on hand

We've always provided support to residents struggling with their finances, but as prices rise, we're seeing more and more people that are finding it hard to make ends meet.

Our website has everything you need in one place to get help with debts, money and benefits, housing support, food and energy, jobs and skills, health and wellbeing, plus support for businesses.

With the help of government funding, we're able to offer £2.7m of additional support via the Household Support Fund until March 31 2033.

The support is available to all residents, although some elements may be subject to assessment of need and eligibility, providing:

- £15 supermarket vouchers for families qualifying for free school meals
- £1m for eligible pensioners in the form of Post Office cash-out vouchers
- Emergency support with food parcels, gas and electric payments
- Travel costs and accessing household essentials
- £200k for Bolton's Fund enabling more local organisations to provide cost of living essentials
- Warm spaces in local areas providing places for residents to escape the cold and meet, chat and get specialist help
- £100k emergency funding for those in genuine need with housing costs

**For details visit:**  
[www.bolton.gov.uk/costofliving](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/costofliving)

The website also links to local support organisations providing specialist help and the government's website offering help with; energy bills and energy price guarantees; cost of living payments for people on means-tested benefits; pensioner cost of living payments and winter fuel payments; disability cost of living payments; low-cost home internet and phone packages; hardship schemes from water companies; help with the cost of childcare; housing benefits and job help, tax relief and work-related expenses claims.

### Cost of living events providing personal support

'Meet the providers' drop-in sessions are also provided to the public to find out more about the support available from them.

Two drop-in events took place at Bolton's Albert Halls in November, which were attended by dozens of local organisations providing advice and support on ways to make food, fuel and money go further.

Those attending included Bolton at Home's Money Advice Service and UCAN Centres, and Bolton's Money Skills Service. Visitors were also offered tips on budgeting and energy advice, guidance on the next steps for people struggling with finances and money saving raffle prizes were available and cooking on a budget demonstrations using slow cookers.

### How's the cost of living affecting you?

Tell us how the cost of living is affecting you, your loved ones or business. The feedback will help us improve our services for people across Bolton.

Completing the short survey online via the link opposite.

### Need help?

For more information about the cost of living events contact [moneyskills@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:moneyskills@bolton.gov.uk) or call **01204 331968**.

For general information and help visit [www.bolton.gov.uk/costofliving](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/costofliving).

**#HAF, Bolton's free activity and food sessions, are available during school holidays and are open to all young people.**

**#TeamBolton  
Holiday Activities  
& Food #HAF**

SCAN ME

[www.bolton.gov.uk/HAF](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/HAF)

Department for Education  
**Bolton Council**

# Roll on Christmas!

A roller-skating rink, traditional market stalls and Santa's Grotto will transform Bolton town centre into a magical winter wonderland as part of the 2022 Christmas Festival.

For this year's festival, Bolton Council has planned four weeks of seasonal family fun that is sure to offer something for everyone.

This year's main attraction will be the new **indoor roller-skating rink** in Crompton Place.

**Opening on December 15 until January 8**, the rink will be a family-friendly attraction offering school sessions, group bookings and themed nights.

**Tipi Festive**  
The tipi bar will make a welcome return to this year's festivities featuring a bar, seating areas and a performance space.

The tipi will host a variety of performances, from local bands and artists to community choirs and carol singing.

It will also be home to Bolton FM's "Bolton's Got Talent" competition with the winning act earning a place on stage at the 2023 Bolton Food and Drink Festival.

**Santa's Grotto**  
This year, Santa's Grotto will be based in Crompton Place on the weekends of December 3-4 and 10-11, and then from December 17-24.

Children will be able to make their own reindeer food before meeting Father Christmas in person for a chat and to receive an individual gift.

**Christmas markets**  
Victoria Square will welcome a traditional Christmas market from December 15-18 with chalet-style stalls offering a wide range of gifts.

Traditional fairground rides will also be available from December 3 to January 8, stretching from Newport Street to Deansgate.

The town centre will look the part with a nativity scene, Christmas trees and a special lighting display projected onto Le Mans Crescent.



**Bolton Council's Deputy Leader, Cllr Hilary Fairclough, said:**

**"Christmas is such an exciting time in Bolton town centre, and this year's Christmas Festival promises to be the best yet.**

**"I'm sure visitors of all ages will enjoy the brand-new roller-skating rink, alongside previous favourites like the tipi bar and Santa's Grotto.**

**"We hope to see large crowds enjoying the entertainment, celebrating together and supporting local businesses this Christmas."**



**Book your tickets now for Roller-skating rink and Santa's Grotto**

Please visit

**[www.boltonchristmasfestival.co.uk](http://www.boltonchristmasfestival.co.uk)**

for details on how to book tickets for events and attractions.



# Bolton Food & Drink Festival 2022

FRI 26 TO  
MON 29  
AUGUST  
2022

# Biggest and best yet!

A record breaking  
**460,000**  
visited Bolton  
Food and  
Drink Festival!

This year, our 17th Bolton Food and Drink Festival was the biggest and best yet, as nearly half a million people enjoyed great food, drink and entertainment in the bank holiday sunshine.

TV chef, James Martin, was among those to hail the success of this year's festival and said: "It is amazing to be back at the Bolton Food and Drink Festival, over the 12 years I've been doing the festival I have seen it morph into something spectacular.

"It is the biggest food festival in the UK and probably the biggest in Europe, it's pretty incredible.

"The streets are packed and there's a selection of chefs and variety of producers, and there's food from five or six countries in a matter of yards."

James rounded off an impressive line-up of chefs that included Si King of the Hairy Bikers, Ainsley Harriott and a host of local and regional favourites. As well as a range of special events from afternoon tea to gin tasting.

In the town centre, crowds flocked to 180 market stalls offering cuisine from around the world, as well as a selection of arts, crafts and gifts.

Families were able to enjoy a variety of free entertainment from live music and street performances to children's activities and cookery classes.

This year's festival was also the greenest yet, with a focus on local produce, sustainable practices, vegan options and recyclable packaging.



**Bolton's Food and Drink Festival is now an award winner, scooping the 2022 "Leading Live Event" category at the This is Manchester Awards.**



**Bolton Council Leader, Cllr Martyn Cox, said:**

"It was great to see Bolton so busy this Bank Holiday Weekend, and these figures reflect the hard work that is going into making our town centre a more vibrant and exciting place to visit.

"Bolton Food and Drink Festival is rightly regarded as a major national event, and events like this have a vital role to play in our ongoing town centre regeneration project.

"This weekend will have also given a significant boost to the local economy, with the new festival wristband initiative supporting and promoting hospitality business right across the borough.

**"This was a real Team Bolton effort with a great deal of hard work going into making the festival a success."**

**We'll be back next August for our 18th birthday celebrations!**



**[boltonfoodanddrinkfestival.com](http://boltonfoodanddrinkfestival.com)**

**f** [boltonfoodanddrinkfestival](https://www.facebook.com/boltonfoodanddrinkfestival) **t** [@boltonfoodfest](https://twitter.com/boltonfoodfest) **i** [boltonfoodfest](https://www.instagram.com/boltonfoodfest)

Main Sponsors



# Keeping well this winter

With winter just around the corner, there's plenty we can all do now to keep ourselves and our families safe and well.

From keeping up to date with our vaccinations to some simple everyday actions, we all have a part to play in stopping the spread of COVID-19, flu and other respiratory illnesses.



## Staying safe

Whether you are at home, socialising with friends or in the workplace, these simple steps can make a big difference to helping us all stay healthy:

- Let fresh air in if meeting with others indoors
- Practise good hygiene by washing your hands, covering your coughs and sneezes and cleaning your surroundings frequently
- Consider wearing a face covering in crowded, enclosed spaces

### Do you have any of the symptoms of COVID, flu or other respiratory illness?

- Continuous cough
- High temperature, fever or chills
- Loss of, or change, in your normal sense of smell
- Shortness of breath
- Unexplained tiredness
- Muscle aches or pains that are not due to exercise
- Headache that is unusual or longer lasting than usual
- Sore throat, stuffy or runny nose
- Diarrhoea, feeling sick or being sick

If so, it's best to stay at home, avoid contact with others, get plenty of rest and drink water to keep hydrated. You can also use medication such as paracetamol to help your symptoms

## Autumn/winter vaccinations

Are you up to date with your family's vaccinations? Top of the list for many will be seasonal flu jabs and the Covid-19 autumn booster for those who are eligible.

Look out for your invitation from the NHS (this could be via letter, text message, a phone call from your GP or on social media channels in Bolton and Greater Manchester) and get your booster if eligible. We know that people will be keen to get vaccinated but the oldest and most vulnerable will be contacted first.

Then, those who are most susceptible to serious

illness from Covid-19 and people aged 75 and over will be invited to book an appointment.

We will publish details of walk-in clinics as they become available. The following people will be eligible for the autumn booster, and invited when the time is right:

- Care home residents and staff
- Frontline health and social care workers
- Age 50 years and over
- Age 5 to 49 years in a clinical risk group
- Age 5 to 49 years who live with someone with a weakened immune system
- Age 16 to 49 years who are carers

People will need to wait three months after their last dose of the vaccine before getting their autumn booster.

Remember, it's never too late to get your first, second and regular booster jabs if you've not yet had them or recently become eligible!

The following people will be invited by the NHS for a flu jab, again when the time is right:

- Age 50 years and over
- Age 6 months to 65 years in a clinical risk group
- 2 and 3 year olds
- School children up to Year 9 (any remaining vaccine will be offered to Years 10 and 11)
- Pregnant women
- Care home residents
- Carers
- Close contacts of people with a weakened immune system
- Frontline health and social care staff

For details of walk-in Covid-19 vaccination clinics in Bolton, check

[@Bolton\\_HCP](https://twitter.com/Bolton_HCP) [NHS Bolton CCG](https://www.facebook.com/NHSBoltonCCG) or visit <https://bit.ly/BoltonVaxClinics>

# Proper Good

Turn up the value!

## No nonsense support to start or grow your social business

The Proper Good Programme is about investment and support for people to start or grow businesses that tackle local inequalities.

It offers free business support, networking and training, and is led by entrepreneurs who know how to run proper businesses that do good in their communities.

And, if you are on the programme, you can apply for investment to grow your business and increase its impact in the community. The programme has just secured £8.25 million for Bolton, Oldham, Stockport and Wigan.

Local partners and supporters include Turn up the Value, Starts with you, Bolton CVS, Bolton Council, University of Bolton, Bolton Chamber of Commerce, HOOT Credit Union, Bolton at Home, Youth Leads, Bolton Solidarity

Community Association and Greater Manchester Growth Company, who will work with you and your business to build a stronger, more robust economy.

Karen Smith, one of the Bolton Proper Good programme leads, who already runs a successful social business in the borough, said: "Bolton has so much potential in terms of local people with bright ideas or businesses that make a difference to our community."

“We want to bring these proper good enterprises together and then take them to the next level with the right support and investment.”

If you have an existing business or need some help getting started go to [www.turnupthevalue.co.uk/proper-good-programme.html](http://www.turnupthevalue.co.uk/proper-good-programme.html) for some 'proper good' advice and support.

# FUTURE YOU

## Bolton backs new programme to get young people into employment

FutureYou is a new, free programme to help 18-24 year olds who are not in education, employment or training.

Each young person receives a personalised programme and a mix of practical and wellbeing support. They also have a peer mentor who will work with them to create a personalised plan, meet face to face and discuss progress.

Sam, a participant on the

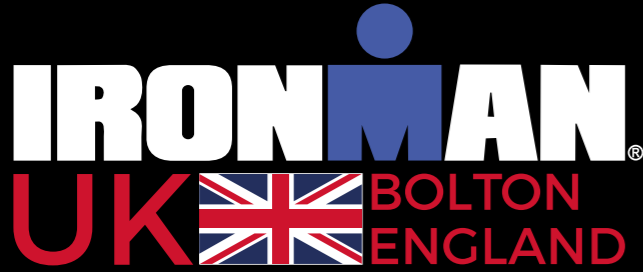
FutureYou programme, said: "The FutureYou programme has been very motivating, and my mentor has been a huge help. I have just started work and I am going to university in 2022."

The support covers everything from employability skills, writing a CV and help with completing application forms as well as training, access to work experience and job vacancies. Bolton Council's Executive

Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Cllr Adele Warren, said: "FutureYou is an amazing programme and has the potential to help so many Bolton residents develop skills they can use in their everyday life."

"The personalised support is like no other, and as a council we are fully committed to supporting each individual to get the most out of the programme."

“The FutureYou programme has been very motivating, and my mentor has been a huge help.”



## The IRONMAN weekend burst back into Bolton on July 1st and was a record breaker.

It was the first full IRONMAN weekend since 2019, with three events in three days, a record number of children taking part in IRONKIDS and the biggest ever number of athletes signed up for IRONMAN.

The weekend kicked off with Night Run, a family-friendly 5km race through the streets of the town centre with an epic finish down the IRONMAN red carpet.

On Saturday, it was the kids' turn. This year we hosted the largest IRONKIDS event in the world, where 4,000 children and teens earned their finisher medal under the IRONMAN gantry.

A wave of athletes from local special schools also took part in honour of Bolton's Rotary Club centenary year.

Finally, on Sunday the full-distance IRONMAN, a gruelling swim, bike and run, took place with over 3,000 competitors from 51 countries signing up to race. Competitors certainly weren't disappointed as they were cheered along throughout the route and given the fabulous support that Bolton is famous for.

We capped off the weekend by confirming a new deal to host the iconic event at least until 2027.

### Bolton Council's Deputy Leader, Cllr Hilary Fairclough, said:

"IRONMAN has become a popular fixture in Bolton's annual events calendar, and we are thrilled that it will be back for another five years.

"Events like this contribute to our ambition to make the town centre a more vibrant and exciting place to live, work and visit.

**"The weekend was another success, and we will continue to build on Bolton's growing reputation for delivering world-class events."**

IRONMANUK VisitBolton  
IRONMAN England visitbolton

## IRONKIDS UK

Registration for next year's IRONKIDS is open and with places selling out fast, now is the time to book your child's spot in the famous event.

Bolton is the biggest IRONKIDS event in the world, with 4,000 children aged three to 15 years. Every finisher gets a medal and chance to finish beneath the iconic IRONMAN arch in front of the town hall.

To book a place, visit [www.ironman.com/im-uk](http://www.ironman.com/im-uk).

IRONKIDS will take place on **Saturday, 1st July** and makes up one of the three fantastic events of Bolton's IRONMAN weekend.

The action starts with Night Run, a family-friendly 5k fun run on Friday, 30th June and culminates with the grueling IRONMAN triathlon on the Sunday.

Last year's record breaking weekend saw more children and athletes than ever before taking part.



# Celebrating Bolton Pride

This year Bolton Council was one of the major sponsors of Bolton Pride and joined with our union partners to take part in the parade.

Held across a three-day festival weekend from Friday 5 August, the event celebrated the town's LGBTQ+ communities.

The council's involvement demonstrates our commitment to equality and diversity and supports our ethos of being an inclusive workplace.

Members of staff, their friends and families met at

Queens Park on Saturday 6 August for the Pride parade and marched to Victoria Square.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the UK's first Pride rally, organised to raise awareness of LGBTQ+ issues and to speak out against discrimination.

Bolton Council's Deputy Leader, Cllr

If you'd like more information, please visit the Bolton Pride website [www.pridebolton.co.uk](http://www.pridebolton.co.uk)

Bolton Pride is a non-profit organisation that works to build community cohesion and organises events throughout the year.



# Bolton's Fund



Charities and community groups across the borough continue to benefit from Bolton's Fund, with over £3.1m awarded since it opened in 2019.

Bolton's Fund is a voluntary sector grants programme delivered by Bolton Council, Bolton CVS, Bolton at Home and NHS Greater Manchester. Funding is awarded across themed rounds, with each round designed to address a specific need or priority here in Bolton.

Previous rounds have helped fund environmental projects, schemes to help residents learn new skills and initiatives to tackle hate crime.

Groups can bid for varying levels of funding and the grants are awarded by an independent panel.

Staff at Bolton CVS are on hand to support groups with their applications. As well as funding, they can also provide a wide range of practical advice covering everything from governance to financial management.

New applicants are always welcome, and all charities, community groups and social enterprises are urged to keep an eye out for future funding opportunities.

Charities and community groups awarded **£3.1m** since it opened in 2019

## How Bolton's Fund can help you...

**Recycle-IT refurbishes old computer equipment and addresses digital exclusion by giving residents the equipment and skills they need to find a job.**

Previous rounds of Bolton's Fund have helped Recycle-IT to purchase a van and to get the necessary environmental licenses required to collect and refurbish the old equipment.

Bolton CVS supported Recycle-IT with their applications and helped them find volunteers for their projects.

Since 2021, Recycle-IT has refurbished 500 laptops, tablets and phones while supporting people from Bolton to overcome digital exclusion and get into work.

Recycling-IT founder John Hastings said: "I think there needs to be more groups and enterprises applying for the Bolton's Fund.

"Bolton CVS has done so much, from helping us create business plans to helping with initial funding and then the Bolton's Fund application itself.

"We're looking to create our own board of directors, trustees and a steering group, and that's another thing I'm going to come back to Bolton CVS for, advice on how to do that."



Visit [boltoncvs.org.uk](http://boltoncvs.org.uk) to find out more about the fund and apply.

**Bolton's Fund** Investing in our communities

**THINK TWICE**

**CHOOSE RIGHT**

Let's help our Hospital, GPs and Pharmacies by choosing the right place

**NHS in Bolton**

**BE THE difference BOLTON**

[www.bethedifferencebolton.info](http://www.bethedifferencebolton.info)

## The NHS in Bolton needs YOUR help to ensure you get the right treatment, at the right place, by the right people!

Health and care services in Bolton continue to be under immense pressure and they are working harder than ever to meet demand.

Things like flu, respiratory illnesses, sickness and diarrhoea, allergies, infections, asthma, accidents and injuries never go away.

Add to this the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. People's conditions may have deteriorated

as they wait for postponed procedures, or they may have developed new health concerns.

You can help! Before you automatically contact your GP or go to A&E – think twice. Is there something you could do first?

This will help to reduce pressure on the NHS and ensure that vital services are provided for those with the most urgent needs.

### Treatment at home

Many minor illnesses can be treated at home. A well-stocked medicine cabinet with common medicines and remedies can make all the difference.

Seek further help if symptoms don't clear up after a few days.

### Pharmacies

Community pharmacies are the first port of call for help with minor illnesses.

Many are open in the evening and at weekends, and they often have a private consultation room if you want to discuss things discreetly. You don't even need an appointment!

Pharmacists are highly trained and they can also help you to decide which NHS service to approach if you require further help.

### GP practices

Call your practice in the usual way. There may be a delay in getting through, but keep trying! Work has taken place to improve phone access.

Alternatively, fill out an online consultation form via the website and you will receive a response within 48 hours. You will receive a telephone assessment before any further action is taken.

Receptionists are trained to direct you to the most appropriate health professional and ensure that those who need help most get treated first.

Remember, some patients can be treated effectively over the phone or by video consultation.

### Hospital

A&E is for emergency or life-threatening conditions such as severe chest pain, difficulty breathing or possible broken bones.

Waiting times to be seen by a doctor are often more than four hours and there are many people who simply don't need to be there.

Some patients could easily get the help they need by using alternative services, and the number of Covid cases could be reduced if people get vaccinated.

Visit **Be The Difference Bolton** for more information: [www.bethedifferencebolton.info/](http://www.bethedifferencebolton.info/)





# Thank you

from the Bolton Fostering Team

## Bolton says "thank you" to our amazing foster carers at special event.

Families who give a caring home to local children by fostering with the council celebrated at a very special event this summer.

Foster Carer Appreciation Day was held at The Wellbeing Farm in Edgworth, an award-winning venue where guests enjoyed a wide range of outdoor and indoor activities.

The event, the first to be held since 2019, was an opportunity to thank Bolton's outstanding foster and kinship carers for all the amazing work they do.

Support by Bolton at Home and Robertson Group ensured that around 250 carers and family members enjoyed a relaxing lunch, and spent the afternoon playing football in the field, making arts and crafts, and visiting the llamas and other animals.

Other family fun included a storytelling stage, circus skills, face painting and cake decorating.

Ten carers were also awarded long service certificates and flowers for fostering with Bolton Council for 20 to 30 years. Bolton Council's Executive Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Cllr Anne Galloway said:

"Carers who foster with the council are an essential part of the Bolton Family, and provide a caring home to looked after children, helping make sure they can stay in the local area, near to their family and friends.

"It has been a challenging time since our last appreciation event, and we wanted to do something special for the foster carers who make a real difference in the lives of young people.

"The feedback from the day has been incredible and we will continue to show our gratitude and appreciation for the exceptional work our foster carers do."

Anyone interested in fostering with Bolton Council can find out more at [bolton.gov.uk/fostering](http://bolton.gov.uk/fostering), email [fostering@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@bolton.gov.uk), or call **0800 107 1564**

Thank you  
for taking that  
first step.

**Foster  
with Bolton**

# Let's Keep Bolton Moving > > > >

ACTIVITIES | HEALTH | WELLBEING

**It is now even easier to get active, try new things and improve your mental and physical health – everything you need to know has been added to a new website, Let's Keep Bolton Moving.**

The website will also provide the opportunity to sign up to Bolton's Community Champions programme, empowering residents to make a difference in their area by supporting health and wellbeing.

The website includes opportunities to socialise, learn new skills and volunteer with local clubs and groups.

It also features advice on making positive lifestyle choices, including information on stopping smoking, cutting down on drinking and improving mental health.

If you are offering wellbeing services and events it's also simple to register and, if you are looking for activities in your area, it makes them easier to find.



Find out more...  
[www.letskeepboltonmoving.co.uk](http://www.letskeepboltonmoving.co.uk)

#KeepBoltonMoving



# Bolton try-umphs

On Saturday 22nd October, rugby league took over the University of Bolton Stadium, as England battled France as part of the men's tournament of this year's Rugby League World Cup.

England secured a stunning 42-18 victory over 'Les Bleus', and Dom Young scored what will surely be one of the tries of the tournament, striding almost the entire length of the pitch to put down the ball in front of a packed South Stand.

As the final whistle blew on matchday, it was amazing to think that Bolton's application to act as a host town for the Rugby League World Cup was submitted almost five years ago. With inevitable delays caused by the trials and tribulations of those intervening years, it was great to see people able to come together for such a fantastic event in Bolton.

It was a particularly special day for over one hundred children and young people from Bolton who appeared on-pitch on matchday. The game was a real once-in-a-lifetime experience for our flag and banner bearers, team mascots and dance troupes.

This was especially the case for children from

three of our primary schools who – because of their outstanding performances as part of Bolton's Festivals of Rugby League held over the summer – walked out in front of a packed stadium at half-time. From first picking up a rugby ball back in June, to feeling the roar of almost 24,000 fans cheering on their accomplishments

and tenacity, these young people summed up everything that is great about our town.

As a legacy of hosting the World Cup, the council and partners have a renewed ambition to bring even more international sport and high-profile events to Bolton, which will have real benefits for residents and businesses.

One clear example of the legacy of the Rugby League World Cup is our funding of a Rugby League Development Officer, enabling more school children to try rugby for the first time and supporting any young people interested in rugby league to develop without having to seek opportunities outside Bolton.

To achieve this, we will work closely with Westthroughton Lions, who will shortly complete on their new clubhouse, built with a grant of almost £300,000 awarded via the Rugby League World Cup. With over 200 junior members, and ambition to develop this further, the Lions are a shining example of all that is great about grassroots sport in Bolton.

**Become a Lion!**



Westthroughton Lions is a community-focused rugby league club with teams across all age groups, from cubs to open age.

The Lions formed over 25 years ago, and now has more than 200 junior members and two adult teams.

**Become a member of our thriving rugby league community.**

**Get in touch...**  
Westthroughton Lions,  
The Den, 4 Cuninghams Road,  
Westthroughton, Bolton, BL5 2AN  
Email: lionsvocoach@gmail.com

**Come and visit us in our den!**



So, whilst we are sad that for Bolton the Rugby League World Cup has come to an end, we know that this fantastic event will be a definitive turning point in achieving even more for our town.



# Moor Lane transformation

Work has started to transform a 4.5 acre brownfield site into a mix of 208 new town centre homes, green spaces and shops.

The Moor Lane scheme in Cheadle Square is being delivered by Bolton at Home and developer Step Places, with the support of Bolton Council.

It is part of our wider town centre regeneration masterplan, which has seen the council set aside £100m to prepare development sites for regeneration.

The finished project will also include new cycle paths and enhanced pedestrian routes.

Bolton Council Leader, Cllr Martyn Cox, said: "The Moor Lane development is a great example of what our town centre masterplan will achieve.

"Converting a brownfield site into much needed homes and green space will help make the town centre a more vibrant and inviting place to live, work and visit.

"The scheme will be complemented by other regeneration projects in this part of town, including the creation of Elizabeth Park and improvement works to Bolton Market."



Dominic Conway, Bolton at Home's Group Director of Development and Growth, said: "We need to provide more new properties to give more people a warm, comfortable and sustainable home to live in that's affordable.

"This town centre development will create homes and a new sustainable neighbourhood to be proud of. It also generates social value by supporting construction jobs and will boost the local economy."



# Farnworth regeneration

Work has started to improve Farnworth Leisure Centre, one of the projects set to transform the town as part of a £13.3m regeneration masterplan.

Funded by the government's Future High Streets Fund, an extended fitness suite, a dance studio and new windows are being added to the centre.

Work is being done by local construction firm Seddon and is scheduled for completion in spring 2023.

Bolton Council adopted the Farnworth Town Centre Masterplan in 2019, after consultation with local people.

In 2020, the town was awarded £13.3m from the Future High Streets Fund for several development projects.

These include improvements to Market Street and converting the market precinct into a vibrant new town centre neighbourhood, complete with a community hub.

Bolton Council's Executive Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Cllr Adele Warren, said: "We are excited to see work start at the leisure centre, the first project to get underway as part of the wider Farnworth Town Centre Masterplan.

"When we consulted with Farnworth residents about the plan, many told us that they wanted improved services and facilities at their local leisure centre.

"The council is now delivering on this local priority and the completed extension will have a positive impact on the physical and mental wellbeing of Farnworth residents."

Bolton Council Leader, Cllr Martyn Cox, said: "The

council is committed to regenerating our district centres, here in Farnworth and across the borough.

"This is a fantastic example of a regeneration project designed in consultation with the community to meet local needs.

"I know many residents will be pleased to see work underway and I look forward to more development projects starting in Farnworth in the near future."



# Elizabeth Park

## New Bolton park to honour Queen Elizabeth II

A new town centre park will be named in honour of Queen Elizabeth II.

The council has confirmed that a new public green space will be officially known as Elizabeth Park.



The pocket park will sit on the former site of the Odeon cinema on Ashburner Street and will be created with the support of the government's Town's Fund.

Planning permission was secured in June and the completed Elizabeth Park will feature seating areas, picnic tables and a performance space.

In a joint statement, Bolton Council Leader, Cllr Martyn Cox, Deputy Leader, Cllr Hillary Fairclough and Opposition Leader Cllr Nick Peel, said:

"Queen Elizabeth II inspired so many throughout her 70-year

reign, including several visits to Bolton over the years.

"Victoria Square is named for one of our greatest monarchs, so it is only fitting that this new public space is named after the late Queen who meant so much to so many of us in Bolton.

"Elizabeth Park will be a great asset for both local residents and visitors alike for many years to come."

# Green shoots

Climate change was the focus of attention at this year's Greater Manchester Green Summit, where the leader of Bolton Council, Councillor Martyn Cox, delivered the keynote address.

Councillor Cox, who leads on the Green City Region, Waste and Recycling for the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, said that the good news is that all boroughs in Greater Manchester, including Bolton, are working towards a target of net zero carbon emissions by 2038.

However, he warned that carbon emissions must be cut more quickly to reach the target.

The plan is to reduce the demand for energy while at the same time ramping up production of low carbon renewable energy.

The focus will be on three areas with the biggest potential to cut emissions: transport, buildings and energy.

Speaking alongside the mayor of Greater Manchester, Councillor Cox said that switching to greener public transport

would be crucial. Key to this would be the £1 billion awarded to Greater Manchester from the government's City Region Sustainable Transport fund.

Top of the list would be the move to electric buses, with the first ones set to be in service next year and Bolton among the first places to benefit.

In terms of buildings, by 2028 all new homes built in Greater Manchester and Bolton will need to be net zero for carbon emissions.

On top of that, over 140,000 homes will need to be properly insulated and fitted with other energy saving improvements over the next five years.

Councillor Cox announced a bid for £90m of funding from the government's Social Housing Decarbonisation fund and a further £6m for public buildings.

Generating significantly more renewable energy would also be vital, Councillor Cox told the summit.

He said that over the next five years an estimated £6 billion would need to be invested, although 70% of this would need to be spent anyway regardless of the switch to renewable energy.

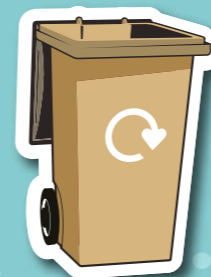
**Councillor Cox said:**

"I believe we have made good progress and shown leadership in setting targets and outlining pathways to net zero.

"However, the scale and speed of carbon reduction is so far insufficient. Much more needs to be done if we are to hit the 2038 target."



# Preparing for Christmas



## What can I put in my beige bin? (items must be loose and not bagged):

- cardboard packaging
- magazines and catalogues
- cardboard food boxes
- envelopes
- leaflets and junk mail
- cards without glitter
- shredded paper
- food and drink cartons



## What can I put in my burgundy bin? (items must be loose and not bagged):

- foil and foil trays
- plastic bottles without lids
- tins and drinks cans
- aerosols
- glass bottles and jars without lids



## What can I put in my grey bin?

- plastic pots, tubs, trays, packaging and bags
- polystyrene
- food and drink pouches
- plant pots
- pet waste
- cotton wool and make up pads
- nappies and sanitary products
- tissues and used paper towels
- wet wipes
- wallpaper



## What can I put in my green bin?

- food waste
- garden waste



**Top recycling tips**

Remember to squeeze the bag to remove unwanted air, and compress the bag to reduce its size.

Stack plastic tubs and trays inside one another to reduce the amount of space they take up and squash them where possible.



Alternatively, we can visit to offer you help and support. Please complete an online waste audit at [www.bolton.gov.uk/loverecycling](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/loverecycling) and a Recycling Officer will visit your property.

Remember to take all your bulky waste to your nearest recycling centre, see [www.recycleforgreatermanchester.com](http://www.recycleforgreatermanchester.com) for further details and opening times.

# HAVE FE FI FO FUN AT BOLTON'S GIANT OF A PANTOMIME

Polka Dot Pantomimes in association with The Albert Halls present

SINGING LEGEND & WEST END STAR  
**MAUREEN NOLAN**  
as Fairy Sunshine

CORONATION STREET & THE BILL  
**CONNIE HYDE**  
as Poison Ivy

**MORGAN JACKSON**  
as Jack

**KELLY AARON**  
as Princess Jill

**MARK TWO**  
as Dame Trott

**ELEANOR FAYE**  
as Silly Sammi



# Jack and the Beanstalk

2 DECEMBER 2022 - 1 JANUARY 2023

The Albert Halls, Victoria Square, Bolton, BL1 1RU

Box Office: 0343 208 0500 | [www.quaytickets.com/boltonalberthalls](http://www.quaytickets.com/boltonalberthalls)



## What's on at the Albert Halls



**Christmas Party Night featuring Vogue**  
9th and 16th December 2022



**The Ultimate Classic Rock Show**  
14th January 2023



**Bolton Hospice Comedy Night**  
4th February 2023



**Dinosaur Adventure Live**  
12th February 2023



**Martin Kemp - Back to the 80s DJ set**  
4th March 2023



**Supreme Queen**  
17th March 2023

**Tel 0343 208 0500**

[www.quaytickets.com/boltonalberthalls](http://www.quaytickets.com/boltonalberthalls)



# Helping you online



## Transforming services through digital innovation

We are making good progress on developing our Digital Programme to help us do things like improving access to our services, and supporting residents and local businesses to be confident about going online.

The council is upgrading Wi-Fi coverage in several locations to help residents do more things online. For example, we upgraded the Bolton Lives gallery Wi-Fi at the Central Museum in July.

We have also introduced online payments to pay for a replacement bin or apply for a taxi licence online at a time that suits for you – this will be extended to cover more services in the future.

Online payments are more convenient for some residents, as the request and payment all occur in the same place. There's no need to make a telephone call during working hours and the transaction can take place at any time day or night.

### Free digital support

You can also book a free personal session at the central library and at Brightmet, Harwood, High Street, Horwich and Little Lever libraries.

We aim to provide help tailored to what you want to learn and can help with digital basics, such as using the internet, social media, setting up email, downloading apps and getting started online. We can also help with online job hunting and CVs.

### Save the date

If you need some help using a digital device, whether it's a smartphone, tablet, laptop or PC, we have a friendly team of digital helpers in our libraries across the borough on hand to help.

<b>Blackrod Library</b>	First Monday of month	2pm-4pm
<b>Farnworth Library</b>	Third Monday of month	2pm-4pm
<b>Harwood Library</b>	Second Tuesday of month	2pm-4pm
<b>Horwich Library</b>	Last Monday of month	2pm-4pm
<b>Little Lever Library</b>	Last Thursday of month	2pm-4pm
<b>Westhoughton Library</b>	Last Friday of month	2pm-4pm

**FREE**  
no need  
to book,  
just turn up!

### Calling all digital volunteers

If you already have great digital skills, why not join our network of volunteers who share the benefits of being online with people across Bolton?

Just email [digitalhelp@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:digitalhelp@bolton.gov.uk) to find out more.



# Useful contact details

### Rubbish and recycling

For general enquiries and how to report a missed bin collection or order a new bin go to [www.bolton.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling)  
**01204 336632**

### Council tax

To register for council tax or report a change of address or circumstances. To access your account online, view council tax charges and check your bill go to [www.bolton.gov.uk/council-tax](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/council-tax)  
**01204 331599**

### Housing and finding a home

To register for council rented accommodation, information and advice on sheltered accommodation, adapting your home and preventing homelessness go to [www.bolton.gov.uk/housing-options-advice](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/housing-options-advice)  
**01204 335811** Homes for Bolton  
**01204 335900** Housing Advice

### Benefits

For council tax support, housing benefits, apply for food parcels, furniture or help with gas and electric go to [www.bolton.gov.uk/benefits](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/benefits)  
**01204 331590**

### Blue badges

To apply for, renew or report your Blue Badge lost or stolen, go to [www.bolton.gov.uk/parking-permits/blue-badges](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/parking-permits/blue-badges)

### Licensing

To apply for or renew a license for taxis and private hire, alcohol and gambling, street licenses and charity collection go to [www.bolton.gov.uk/business-licensing](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/business-licensing)  
**01204 336584**

### Business rates

To pay your business rates, report a change in circumstances or find out about business rates reductions go to [www.bolton.gov.uk/business-rates](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/business-rates)  
**01204 331730**

### Births, deaths and marriages (Registrar's Office)

To register a birth or death please go to [www.bolton.gov.uk/registering-birth-death](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/registering-birth-death)  
**01204 331185**

**We've listed these useful telephone numbers, but all applications and most services will require you to go online to make an enquiry. If you don't have access to the internet at home, you can come to the One Stop Shop, your local library or community hub.**

## Before you go...

### Work to reduce the risk of flooding in Horwich

Residents in Horwich have suffered six reported flooding incidents in the last 20 years and the problem is expected to get worse due to climate change.

Work started in August to reduce the likelihood of flooding to up to 200 properties and is expected to be completed by December.

The £1.8m project, funded by the Environment Agency, is designed to tackle a long history of flooding properties in the town centre from Pearl Brook.

It will use part of Old Station Park to temporarily store flood water during large storms, using the existing embankments to form a storage basin.

### Your Council Tax rebate

We distributed nearly £17 million to support families struggling to pay their heating bills over the summer and if you haven't received your rebate, we want to hear from you.

## Tell us what you think...

We want to hear your views.

Please let us know your thoughts on [ourbolton@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:ourbolton@bolton.gov.uk)

# Meet your councillors...

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**Con** John Walsh  
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**Con** Samuel Rimmer  
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## FARNWORTH

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## RUMWORTH

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## BRADSHAW

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**Con** Jackie Radcliffe  
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## GREAT LEVER

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**Lab** Mohammed Iqbal  
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**Lab** Madeline Murray  
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## HORWICH NORTH EAST

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## WESTHOUGHTON NORTH & CHEW MOOR

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**Con** Andrea Finney  
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**Con** Andrea Taylor-Burke  
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## WESTHOUGHTON SOUTH

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**Lib** David Wilkinson  
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