



The Executive Mayor's Office
12th Floor, Bernard Weatherill House
8 Mint Walk
Croydon
CR0 1EA
26 February 2026

Dear Croydon business,

Thank you for being part of Croydon's business community.

Croydon is proud to be home to 16,000 businesses; each playing an important role in driving economic growth across our borough.

When I became Mayor, I inherited a Council with serious financial challenges. The finance director had had to issue two Section 114 Notices – effectively declaring bankruptcy. Several public reports had set out serious issues with financial decision-making and governance – and residents were paying the price.

Since becoming Mayor in 2022, my priority has been simple: fix the Council, restore stability and protect our borough's future.

Supporting local businesses is a priority for me. As a local business owner myself, I know that growth and investment in our place is vital for businesses to succeed. That is why last year I launched the Croydon Growth Plan, to unlock our borough's boundless potential and make sure that everyone in Croydon – residents and businesses – benefits from its economic success.

Together with our partners, we are already delivering on this plan and creating the right conditions for growth and investment, with major improvements under way in our town centre and district centres. From getting the basics right, such as cleaner, safer streets, to revitalising much-loved landmarks, improving public spaces and boosting our infrastructure, we are building the foundations for businesses to thrive.

Momentum is building in our town centre. A £40m package of Council-led public realm improvements is improving connectivity, with the new pedestrian crossing in Wellesley Road and a package of improvements in the surrounding streets. New shops in Alders Parade have breathed new life into this iconic Croydon building, and a major planning application has now been submitted by Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield for a significant refresh of the Centrale Shopping Centre. This signals growing confidence and sustained private investment in Croydon's future.

Whilst regenerating our town centre will act as a catalyst for our borough's growth, our district centres and local high streets have a vital role to play. Croydon received the highest government grant in London from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) – totalling £1.4m – which we are investing to boost businesses and communities boroughwide. We are channelling this into projects to revitalise district centres and parks, help businesses access support, and bring communities together and encourage visitors through cultural events and festivals.

Step by step, confidence is returning and Croydon is building for the future.

Your business rates

The Government sets the amount you are charged in business rates.

Every three years the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) updates the rateable values of commercial properties in England and Wales. The process reflects changes in the market and is known as a revaluation. This value is what is used to calculate your bills.

The latest revaluation comes into effect from 1 April 2026, so will be reflected in the bill with this letter. If you feel your rateable value is wrong, or you need to update about a change to your property, you can contact the VOA – details are on the Council website.

If you will struggle to pay your rates this year, you may be eligible for a rates reduction or hardship relief. Visit www.croydon.gov.uk/business-rate-reductions for more information.

New package of support for businesses

We'll soon be launching the Croydon business offer – a boosted package of support open to all local businesses, ranging from help with finding premises and improved parking, to opportunities for entrepreneurs and start-ups. This will build on existing measures, which includes one hour of free parking with Ringo in all district centres, and commercial waste support.

Croydon Commercial

We have launched “Croydon Commercial”, a new digital portal designed to make it easier for entrepreneurs to open shops and businesses in our high streets and district centres. For too long, information about vacant units has been scattered and difficult to access. This new platform brings together available shops, offices and industrial space in one place, with key details and clear routes to enquiry. It removes delay, reduces uncertainty and helps turn empty units into thriving businesses. If we want stronger high streets, we must make it easier for people to open them – and this is a practical step in that direction:

www.croydoncommercial.com/

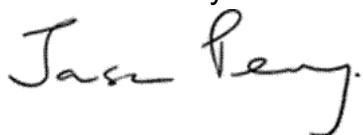
Work with Croydon Council

Croydon Council is committed to working with local SMEs. If your business would be interested in working with the Council in the future, access the tenders portal and get notifications of any potential contracts that could be right for your business:

www.in-tendhost.co.uk/croydontenders.aspx/Home

Find out more about business support available in Croydon by signing up to our business newsletter: www.croydon.gov.uk/business-newsletter

Yours sincerely



Mayor Jason Perry

Executive Mayor of Croydon