

CAYSH

CAYSH has been providing housing and support for young people in Croydon since 1981, and has seen the needs of the people it helps become more varied and complex.

Working in Croydon for 34 years has taught the charity a great deal about how to help vulnerable young people to rebuild their lives. The lessons learned have been applied by CAYSH itself and shared with others who have similar aims.

Delivering services across south London, CAYSH aims to help rebuild young people's families where possible and ensure successful transition to independent living where it's not.

One of its more notable successes in Croydon has been the Drop in Zone, at the council's Turnaround Centre, in South End. Popular with young people, the zone is a place where they can simply turn up and ask for advice and support in a safe and secure environment. A purpose-built venue, it brings together a range of agencies' services to help young people begin to overcome challenges such as homelessness, and to achieve their potential.

For more information on all CAYSH's work with young people facing homelessness, visit www.caysh.org

Registered charity no 1026822.

All contributions to the charity fund during the year will be received with thanks and appreciation by Councillor Patricia Hay-Justice on behalf of those who stand to benefit. Cheques should be made payable to "The Mayor's Charity Appeal" (registered charity no 1042479) and sent to:

The Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, Katharine Street, Croydon CR9 1XW. Tel: 020 8760 5764.

As the Mayor's charity is registered for tax purposes, those who donate during the year are invited, where appropriate, to do so with the benefit of Gift Aid. This enables tax to be reclaimed and enhances the value of the donation. A form is available for anyone choosing to contribute in this way.

A MAYORAL YEAR IN CROYDON

Each year, in May, the council elects one of its 70 councillors to serve as Mayor for 12 months. He or she becomes the borough's first citizen and the ceremonial and civic head for the year.

The Mayor does not take any active political part in the council's affairs other than chairing full council meetings.

The Mayor receives members of the Royal Family and other dignitaries and VIPs on formal visits to official engagements in the borough.

During the term in office the Mayor will attend many hundreds of events within the borough, London and other parts of the country. Each September the Mayor attends the services of remembrance in Arnhem, Croydon's twin town.

The Mayor supports organisations that provide services to our community; these include youth, senior citizens and ethnic and cultural groups, as well as the business community, in various events and activities throughout the Mayoral year.

In return, the Mayor entertains representatives in the Mayor's Reception Suite at the Town Hall, which is used for both formal civic and informal Mayoral occasions.

In a borough as large and diverse as Croydon it is particularly important that the Mayor appoints a Deputy Mayor to assist in carrying out so many Mayoral engagements.



THE MAYOR OF CROYDON

& THE MAYOR'S CHARITIES 2015/2016

THE MAYOR'S PARLOUR
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CROYDON
www.croydon.gov.uk

THE MAYOR OF CROYDON

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COUNCILLOR PATRICIA HAY-JUSTICE

THE MAYOR OF CROYDON COUNCILLOR PATRICIA HAY-JUSTICE

Thanks to my devoted parents, I was born and lovingly raised in Birmingham and, soon after graduating, developed the need to explore other areas of the UK.

During a successful career trajectory in facilities and property management, I travelled around the country working for private sector organisations that work in partnership with the NHS. I managed existing services and cultural change, and designed and implemented new service platforms, all within strict financial parameters.

My focus changed in 2003 when I met my future husband and became a proud permanent resident of Croydon, a community town where I found that neighbours converse and care. Putting down roots reawakened my community spirit, and my focus soon turned towards community matters.

I became involved in local issues and organisations such as our Minster, local clubs and teaching organisations where I volunteered and encouraged our young people to be the best that they can – not just for them, but for our community.

Mark and I are the proud parents of two wonderful girls, both born at Croydon University Hospital, previously known as Mayday. It was through the support of the talented team at our local hospital that my life was saved twice and, more recently, that of my husband, who is recovering from a stroke.

Since being elected to represent the people of Addiscombe in 2010, I have been a member of various council committees dealing with crime prevention, licensing, scrutiny, housing and planning, in addition to community groups within my ward. In 2014, I received the additional honour of representing our borough as Deputy Mayor.

Now, as Mayor, I look forward to continuing the work in raising Croydon's profile and celebrating our magnificent heritage.

Precious downtime is spent with family and friends, walking in Croydon's areas of natural beauty, going for a jog and supporting a local women's football team.

While there are a number of commendable charities in Croydon, the two that I have chosen are Mind in Croydon and CAYSH.

Mind provides a comprehensive range of services to those with mental health issues. Through my brother, I have had first-hand experience of how such conditions affect an individual and their family. Attending some of Mind's events, I have seen how lives have been positively transformed. This is the year where the notion of "parity of esteem" between mental and physical health is being promoted and my choice reflects support for this.

Research has shown that housing has a key link to health, education and life-chance outcomes. I have, therefore, chosen the homeless charity CAYSH for the work that it has done, and continues to do, in the provision of a safe home and its aspiration towards better futures for young people.



THE DEPUTY MAYOR COUNCILLOR WAYNE TRAKAS-LAWLOR

Born in Croydon to Irish immigrant parents, I grew up in Waddon with my brother and sister. I went to school at Regina Coeli, South Croydon, and then to The John Fisher School, Purley.

I worked for Vodafone in Croydon for a number of years, and lived in South Norwood where I was active with my trade union and local politics. Friends, family and colleagues urged me to become more involved and, never being one to shy away from a challenge, I began my journey in Croydon politics.

I spent many happy years working as a trade union officer, working all over London and the UK, although I was never happier than when working with members on my home turf in Croydon.

In 2005, my partner joined me in Croydon from the United States. We have two dogs – Welsh terrier, Max, and chihuahua/Jack Russell mix, Roxy – and are proud uncles to four nieces and four nephews who live in Croydon and Ohio.

In 2010 I was elected to represent South Norwood. I have served on a number of council committees and was deputy shadow cabinet member for culture, libraries and sport. More recently, I have had the honour of being the deputy cabinet member for economic development, working closely with communities to develop our district centres.

Away from politics, I love to spend time with my family, walking our dogs and cycling. I work for a local charity that cares for severely disabled adults.

MIND IN CROYDON

Mind in Croydon is an active charity that is at the forefront of developing ways to work with people with mental health problems, and their families, in Croydon.

It aims to increase understanding of the difficulties faced by those with mental health problems and to express the views of its members on mental health issues and services.

Active in the borough since 1967, its projects help to relieve social isolation, enable people to acquire skills for independent life, and promote positive mental health. Each year, nearly 2,000 people get direct support from the award-winning charity and many thousands more benefit from online help. Its local shops raise valuable funds for the charity.

Mind in Croydon is working to promote good mental health and it seeks to empower people to lead a full life as part of their local community.

The online guide to mental health services in Croydon is regularly updated, and the charity can also give information about mental health issues. A range of free leaflets on mental health topics is available on request.

For more information on all Mind in Croydon can offer, visit www.mindincroydon.org.uk

Registered charity no 1073880