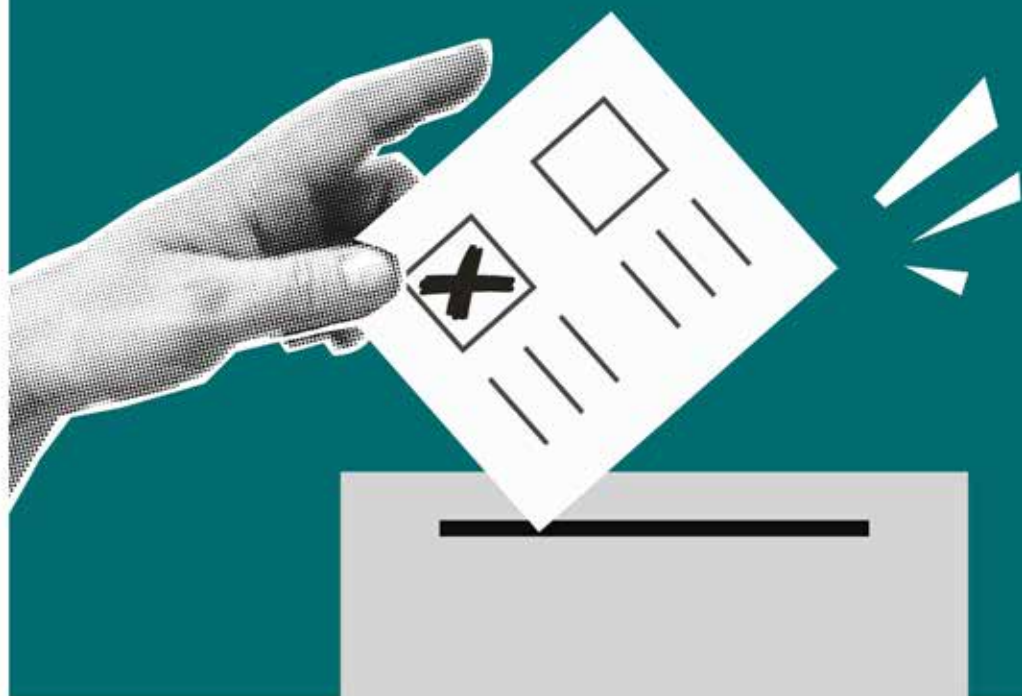


London Borough of Newham.

Election of Mayor

Thursday 7th May 2026



ELECTION OF MAYOR

On Thursday 7 May 2026, voters in Newham will directly elect the Mayor of Newham and 66 councillors who will form the next council for the borough for the next four years. These elections are an important opportunity for you to choose who represents you and makes decisions about local services, investment, and the future of our communities.

This booklet contains introductions from candidates standing for Mayor of Newham who chose to introduce themselves. The order in which the candidates appear has been determined by a ballot conducted in accordance with electoral regulations.

To support you in taking part in the election, please note the following key information:

- Polling stations will be open on **Thursday 7 May 2026, from 7am to 10pm**
- You can find out where your polling station is by visiting: www.newham.gov.uk/voting-newham/polling-station-finder

- The ballot paper for the Mayor of Newham election will be pink
- The ballot paper will contain one column. To cast your vote, place an 'X' next to the candidate of your choice.
- The deadline to submit a new postal vote application is Tuesday 21 April 2026 at 5pm.

How are the votes counted?

The candidate who receives the highest number of votes will be declared the Mayor of Newham.

My team and I are committed to delivering an efficient, transparent, and well-run election. I encourage every eligible voter to take part and ensure their voice is heard.



Paul Martin
Returning Officer

CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR OF NEWHAM



Areeq CHOWDHURY
The Green Party



Terri BLOORE
Local Conservatives



Mehmood MIRZA
Newham Independents Party Candidate



Bharath SWAMY
Christian Peoples Alliance



Clive FURNESS
Reform UK



Laura Claire WILLOUGHBY
Liberal Democrats



Forhad HUSSAIN
Labour Party



Kamran MALIK
Communities United Party
This candidate has chosen not to include an election address in this booklet.



AREEQ CHOWDHURY FOR MAYOR OF NEWHAM



Dear neighbour,

I know how difficult it is to vote for something new. In the summer of 2024, I decided to do just that and I joined the Green Party.

Greens do politics differently. Unlike others, we're not told how to vote or what to say. You can depend on us to stand up for human rights, our planet, and for all of us just trying to get by in life.

Locally, **Newham Council is in a mess** and **there is serious work to be done.** As a parent raising my two young children here, I am determined to take this challenge on and build a **Newham we can be proud of.** We are fighting to win and, with your help, we will.

As Mayor, I will root out the corruption at Newham Council, clean our streets, and tackle the housing crisis.

**CLlr Areeq Chowdhury
Green Party candidate for Mayor of Newham**



- The Green Party will deliver:
- free bulky waste collections + £1,000 fines for flytipping
 - free school meals for all secondary school children
 - affordable housing + 24 hour housing repair targets
 - divestment from companies complicit in genocide



Promoted by Mark Harris on behalf of Areeq Chowdhury at Newham Green Party, both at International House, 12 Constance Street, London, E16 2DQ.

Terri Bloore

Standing Up & Delivering for Newham

Local Elections- Thursday 7th May 2026



 **Local Conservatives**

For a Safer, Cleaner & more Affordable Newham...

1

CLEANER & SAFER STREETS

I will re-open the front counters at our local Police Stations, put more Police on our streets, make our fly-tipping reporting system fairer and increase fines.

2

FAIRER & AFFORDABLE HOUSING

I will ensure Local residents get priority access to housing, work with developers to end the leasehold trap, and ensure local families can afford to live in Newham.

3

CUT THE COST OF LIVING

After years of annual Council Tax hikes, I will freeze your Council Tax by selling the £111 MILLION Council building so you keep more of the money you earn in your pocket.

4

ABOLISH BUSINESS RATES

I will abolish business rates for the majority of hospitality and small high street businesses to ensure we have the investment we need locally and increase employment.

VOTE CONSERVATIVES ON 7TH MAY

Promoted by Joe McNicholl on behalf of Terri Bloore both at 53 Bushey Road, London, E13 9EN

MEHMOOD MIRZA

PEOPLE'S MAYOR FOR NEWHAM

Dear Resident,

My name is Mehmood Mirza, and like you, I call Newham my home. For 28 years, I have lived, worked, and raised my family in this vibrant borough. As a proud law graduate of the University of East London, I have deep roots here. My children were born here; they attended Central Park Primary School, Brampton Manor Academy, and Newvic College. As a father watching them head off to university, I am deeply invested in the future of our community because it is the future of our children.

I am proud to have served as the first-ever Independent Councillor elected in the London Borough of Newham for the Boleyn Ward. We are leading the borough, delivering more casework for residents more than any other councillor.

Today, I am standing as Newham Independents Party Mayoral Candidate to offer you a real alternative to the status quo that has governed our borough for 60 years.

Since 1965, Newham Council has followed the same path. If you feel it is time for change, I ask for your vote as a resident-first representative committed to facilitate working class families so they can relax instead of being chased by the system.

Together, let's bring real change to Newham.

Yours sincerely,



Mehmood Mirza

Newham Independent Party

Newham
Independents



MIRZA, Mehmood
Newham Independents Party Candidate



MIRZA
FOR NEWHAM

newhamindependents.org

MY CAMPAIGN PLEDGES TO YOU VOTE FOR CHANGE

Fairer Council Tax

- I will **freeze Council Tax** to give you a sigh of relief as you deal with the cost of living crisis.



More Social Housing

- I will fight to deliver more social housing, so the **44,000 people** in Newham still waiting can finally have a place to call home.



Fair & Accessible Transport

- Free First Car Permit** – Car is a necessity not a luxury. I will scrap the first car emission charges since your cars are already ULEZ compliant.
- Parking – Two hours daily parking** for residents, so that residents can visit loved ones, park outside Churches, Mosques, Temples and Gurdwaras and shop without receiving unfair penalties.
- Business Car Permits** – I will reduce permit cost for local businesses.
- LTNs** – I will cancel all proposed LTNs and properly consult on the existing ones.
- Shaftesbury car park in Green Street** – I will build a multi-storey car park for 100s of cars to boost business in Green Street.



Culture & Community

- Restore **Under the Stars** Festival.
- Guy Fawkes Night fireworks** at Wanstead Flats will return.
- Xmas Hampers & Xmas Lights** – Restore Christmas hampers for older residents and festive lights across Newham.
- I will ensure Newham residents having a **Muslim Burial Place**.



Opportunities for Children and Young People

- Every Child a **Sportsperson** – I will initiate a brand new programme where every pupil will receive a football, cricket set, badminton set, and table tennis set to encourage sports participation.
- I will restore the **youth clubs and youth centres** in Newham.
- Libraries are key community spaces, there will be no cuts to **library services** & all **computers** will be upgraded.



Cleaner, Greener, Safer

- Free Bulky Waste Collection** – Free collections will return to stop fly-tipping caused by Labour's charges.
- City Farm** – I will work to re-open the City Farm or create a new way for children to have access to nature and animals.
- I will collaborate more closely with police to have **safer streets**.



Support for the Elderly and Disabled Residents

- Disabled Badges & Freedom Passes:** Processed quickly, without delay.
- Disabled Parking Bays:** To facilitate visits from your loved ones and carers, these will be processed within days.



Prepared on behalf of Mehmood Mirza by election agent Zulfikar Butt, both at 24 Orwell Road, London E13 9DH.

MAY 7TH 2026
 · NEWHAM ·
 MAYORAL ELECTION



REV BHARATH SWAMY says...

I came to this country in 2009 from India and have lived in Newham ever since. I've been involved in the church here since 2012 and a pastor of a church in Newham since 2020. In that capacity I've been supporting broken families and seen marriages and families restored. I'm married with 3 children ages 11 to 15 and am very keen to support youth in the borough so they have a clear focus and are not led into a life of crime. I first stood for the CPA here in Newham in Wall End Ward in 2022 and have been supported by my wife.

I want everyone to go to heaven when they die. If you want to be sure you will go to heaven say this prayer out loud, 'Lord Jesus I thank you that you died for my sins on the cross. I'm sorry for all the wrong things I've done. Please forgive me. Come and live inside me. Be my Lord and Saviour. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and equip me to serve you.' If you've prayed that prayer for the first time please email me.



Bharath Swamy



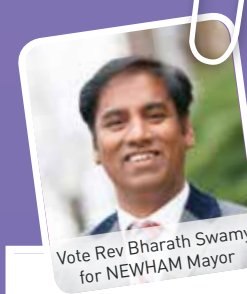
Christian Peoples Alliance

Email me at
bharathria@gmail.com
 or call: 0208 855 8027

The CPA has a detailed manifesto at
www.cpaparty.net. Full details on
 our website under 'policies'.

Election Communication

This election communication is prepared by Sidney Corde of 13 Westmill Road Hitchin SG5 2SB on behalf of Bharath Swamy of 58 Hall Road, Newham E6 2NQ



SIX POINT PLAN



I will guarantee everyone sleeping rough a night shelter with a free meal. Christian charities are already doing this but I will guarantee it throughout the borough. This will supplement the work Christian charities are already doing with foodbanks which I will support.



I will reduce crime by supporting anyone in Newham leaving prison giving them accommodation and assistance with paid work. Christian charities are doing this elsewhere and have reduced reoffending from 40% to below 10% which means fewer victims of crime and fewer people in court and prison.



I will provide free supplementary schools for all children 4-16 that need additional help to improve education outcomes. A Christian charity is already doing this in Newham but I will make it available free of charge throughout the borough.



I will restore all boarded up houses and flats and put them into use immediately. I pledge 2000 genuinely affordable homes in 4 years.



I will save money by cancelling all climate initiatives. We need to get rid of all sulphur emissions that come from burning coal but carbon is good for the environment and a natural part of life. Far too much money is spent on projects of no value to Newham.



I will push government hard to get rid of commercial rates to help shops by introducing a turnover tax at 5% with a threshold of £125,000. The aim is to get money off large multinationals like Google, Amazon, Starbucks, Microsoft etc. that don't pay corporation tax (tax on profits) because they send all their profits abroad. Everyone will then pay the same tax if they buy on line or in a shop.

ONLY REFORMUK CAN SOLVE NEWHAM'S FINANCIAL CHAOS

As your Mayor, my top priority will be to ensure the council's finances are stable and your money is being spent wisely.

The council's current debt is over £1.4 billion and a staggering £1 million is spent on debt interest payments alone, every single week. You deserve better than this financial chaos and poor management. If elected, as Reform UK Mayor of Newham I will make sure that we finally put the needs of local people first.

Only Reform UK has a plan for Newham Council by eliminating wasteful spending and helping to tackle the cost-of-living crisis. Newham's finances are broken and only a Reform UK Mayor will fix it.



Clive Furness

**CLIVE
FURNESS**

REFORM UK CANDIDATE
FOR MAYOR OF NEWHAM



**NEWHAM NEEDS CLIVE FURNESS.
VOTE REFORMUK ON 7TH MAY**

Promoted by Neil Docking, at c/o Tower Hamlets Reform UK, 5 Brayford Square, London E1 0SG, on behalf of Clive Furness, residing within the London Borough of Newham.

ONLY REFORMUK WILL FIX BROKEN LONDON

- 1 PUT LONDONERS FIRST
FOR SOCIAL HOUSING**
- 2 OPPOSE HOUSING ILLEGAL
IMMIGRANTS IN HOTELS**
- 3 SUPPORT OUR STRUGGLING
HIGH STREETS**
- 4 END ULEZ AND THE
WAR ON DRIVERS**
- 5 CRACK DOWN
ON ANTI-SOCIAL
BEHAVIOUR**



LAILA CUNNINGHAM
Reform UK's London Spokesperson



London is one of the world's great capitals. Yet today it often feels like a lawless city where many Londoners cannot afford to live.

Only Reform UK will fix our broken city. We have no interest in protecting a failing status quo. It's time for something new. It's time to put Londoners first. Vote for a London that works for you.

VOTE REFORMUK ON 7TH MAY

LAURA WILLOUGHBY MBE



NEWHAM NEEDS AN EXPERIENCED MAYOR THAT CAN FIX PROBLEMS & IMPROVE SERVICES



Laura Willoughby is the experienced choice to be our next Mayor.

Laura spent 12 years working with her Lib Dem colleagues and the community to turn Islington Council around after years of neglect, helping transform it from a struggling authority into one rated good.

She lives in Plaistow and knows what it takes to fix what's been overlooked, rebuild services, and get results, and she's ready to bring her local knowledge, energy and experience to our community.



ADVISOR TO LONDON LEADERS:
Laura has worked with council leaders across London, turning ideas into action.

LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER
Founder of a social impact business based in the borough and recognised with a local business award.

RECOGNISED COMMUNITY CHAMPION:
A lifelong campaigner with 40 years of community work.

The local champion with a record of service to London

LAURA WILLOUGHBY MBE

The experienced choice for Newham

- ✓ Rebuild trust by properly listening to residents and acting on what matters most locally
- ✓ Speed up housing repairs, especially sorting damp and mould before it escalates
- ✓ Work with partners to strengthen youth services and create better opportunities for young people



Cycling & walking must be safer



Rebuilding trust and pride

- ✓ Get a grip on fly-tipping with smarter prevention, enforcement and better recycling facilities
- ✓ Partner with police to improve response times and clamp down on shoplifting
- ✓ Ensure regeneration/new building genuinely benefits local people by involving communities from the start
- ✓ Make it easier and safer to walk and cycle in the borough

"I'm proud to live here. Newham has been neglected and let down by this Council for too long. While the council is in disarray, our area gets dirtier and trust in the council is at an all time low.

I know how to stand up for residents and improve our services."



Laura Willoughby



Forhad Hussain for Mayor

Keep Newham Moving Forward

I'm Forhad Hussain, and I'm standing to be the next Mayor to keep Newham moving forward.

I grew up here. My wife and I are raising our daughters in Plaistow. Newham is our home.

Like many local families, we did not have it easy. I was the boy playing football and cricket on the estate. I worked hard to help my parents.

I studied at Newvic and then Imperial to become an engineer. I have always tried to give something back, including supporting cricket in our community.

I understand what it feels like when money is tight. But I also know the strength of Newham. When life is hard, people here support each other. That is what makes our borough special.

Vote Labour



I am standing because Newham should work better for local people. We need to focus on the basics that matter in everyday life:

- ✓ **Clean Streets**
- ✓ **Safer Communities**
- ✓ **Fair Parking**
- ✓ **Local People Decide**
- ✓ **Fix the council's finances**

This is what I will deliver as your Mayor.



Forhad Hussain for Mayor

The Clear Choice for Newham

This election is about the future of our borough.

I am not promising miracles. But I will work hard, be honest, and be a mayor you can trust. I will listen to you and make sure your voice is heard.

Newham is full of talent and hard-working people. With the right leadership, we can make our borough cleaner, safer, and fairer for everyone.

My plan is fully costed and focused on what local people say matters most. It is built on our shared values of fairness, equality, and opportunity.

This election has a clear choice with Labour looking to invest in us and our future, therefore you need elected politicians who take this seriously.

Vote Labour

The alternative could mean higher costs, cuts to services, and more pressure on your council tax.

Now is not the time for protest, hate, or division, but instead a leader with a clear vision.

Moving Forward Together

Newham is our home; our future depends on the choices we make now. I will work with you, listen to you, and deliver for you.

Please use all your votes for Labour on Thursday 7 May.

Together, we can move Newham forward.

Forhad Hussain





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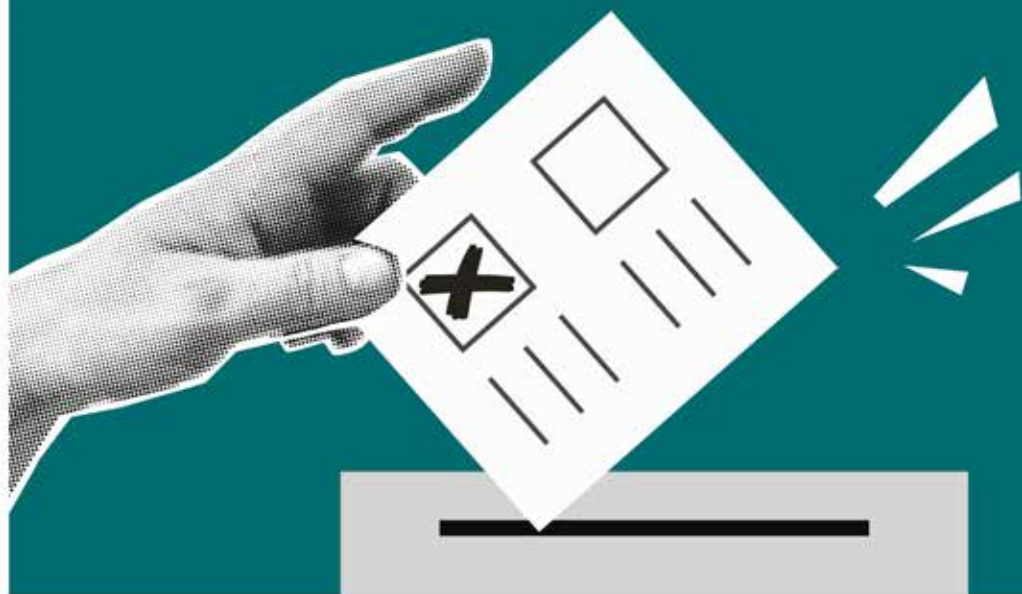
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London Borough of Newham.

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Published by the Returning Officer, Paul Martin,
Newham Dockside, 1000 Dockside Road, London E16 2QU
Print management by Financial Data Management Ltd
Unit 7, Segro Park Canning Town, 160 Bidder Street, London E16 4ES