

Hackney Council's Planning Website— Down the tube and still NOT working

Local residents wanting to know about planning applications are having a tough time getting information. Details of every application used to be on Hackney Council's planning website but this has been giving problems for some months. Anyone logging on to the site is told that for the "foreseeable future it will not be possible to view or download site specific information".

The only way to find out details is to either go in person to the planning department at Dorothy Hodgkin House, 12 Reading Lane behind the Town Hall (right side)

or try to speak to a planner on 020 8356 3000, ext.... . Even Council staff have had difficulties in accessing information. This is hardly conducive either with freedom of information or for applications to be considered properly.

Relaunch...

Despite the relaunch of the Hackney Council website here is the longest web address you are likely to see this week....
www.

hackney.gov.uk/index/council/

Hackney's First Farmers Market planned

GROWING COMUNITIES

Growing Communities exists to promote a sustainable future, by involving local people in innovative projects which improve the environment while fostering economic and social benefits.

The Hackney-based community enterprise trades to achieve environmental, economic and social benefits.

They work predominantly on food/ growing initiatives including:

* A Fruit and Veg Scheme which provides seasonal organic produce to over 100 local households.

* The Neighbourhood Food Growing Project which has transformed three derelict sites into productive organic gardens.

The Community Outreach Programme which enabled over

600 volunteers to get involved with growing last year.

They are now looking to expand their activities by launching a Farmers Market and Volunteer Task Force and developing a fourth Neighbourhood Growing Site. For more info contact:

www.growingcommunities.org
Growing Communities
The Old Fire Station



HEF/HEN Partnerships

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HEN is also part funded by the Community Learning Chest, along with other HEF projects.

Hackney Marshes survey

HEF is a partner in 2 projects funded by Award for All with Hackney Marsh Users Group investigating the wildlife and history of Hackney Marshes.



Find yourself a 'bike buddy'- 'free of charge'

Thinking of turning to pedal power to beat the new Congestion Charge, but need a little help getting started?

Hackney's cycle campaign group is offering to match commuters up with a 'bike buddy' - an experienced rider who can give you tips on your trip to work or college, and will even ride with you to help you choose the best route.

"The volunteer bike buddies are all London Cycling Campaign members who live locally and want to help other people benefit from the convenience, health and economic benefits of cycling," says Hackney LCC member Oliver Schick. "We can't guarantee to find a bike buddy for everyone, but we'll do our best to match you up with someone who can help you beat the Charge and improve your travelling experience."

To request a bike buddy, email bike-buddy@hackney-cyclists.org.uk. Women can specify a female 'bike buddy', if they prefer.

Anyone interested in cycling can also order free London cycle guides, including advice and detailed maps covering Hackney and surrounding areas, by calling London Travel Information 24 hours a day on 020 7222 1234.

For more information contact Oliver Schick on 020 8985 7770 or oliver.schick@kcl.ac.uk
Deputy Borough Co-ordinator,
200C Brooke Road, E5 8AP.

The London Cycling Campaign (LCCiH) in Hackney is the local cycle action group in the London Borough of Hackney, campaigning for more and better cycling in the borough - for health, the environment and for London. The LCCiH has over 700 members and is affiliated to the London Cycling Campaign, the largest urban cycling campaign in the world. Info: www.hackney-cyclists.org.uk or subscribe to: hackney-lcc@yahoo.com