



More about your MP

I bring value to my work in Parliament by staying in touch with you. I regard myself first and foremost as a community MP. My role is to work with you to make our community as strong as possible. These are the ways I stay in touch:

MP's Weekly Advice Surgery

I hold a weekly advice surgery every Friday from 2-6.30pm at Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden SM4 5DX. For a one-to-one appointment please call Dee on 020 7219 4678.

Coffee Mornings

Each year I organise neighbourhood coffee mornings on a topical local issue and invite local residents. It's a great way to meet neighbours and get to know the area. If you want one on a particular topic please call my Morden office on 020 8542 4835.

Site Visits

If there are problems in your area or street that impact on a group of residents I will come and do a site visit. This could be problems with fly tipping or anti social behaviour or some other localised issue. To agree a time and date please call Dee on 020 7219 4678.

Letters

Siobhain McDonagh MP
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

Telephone

London office 020 7219 4678
Morden office 020 8542 4835

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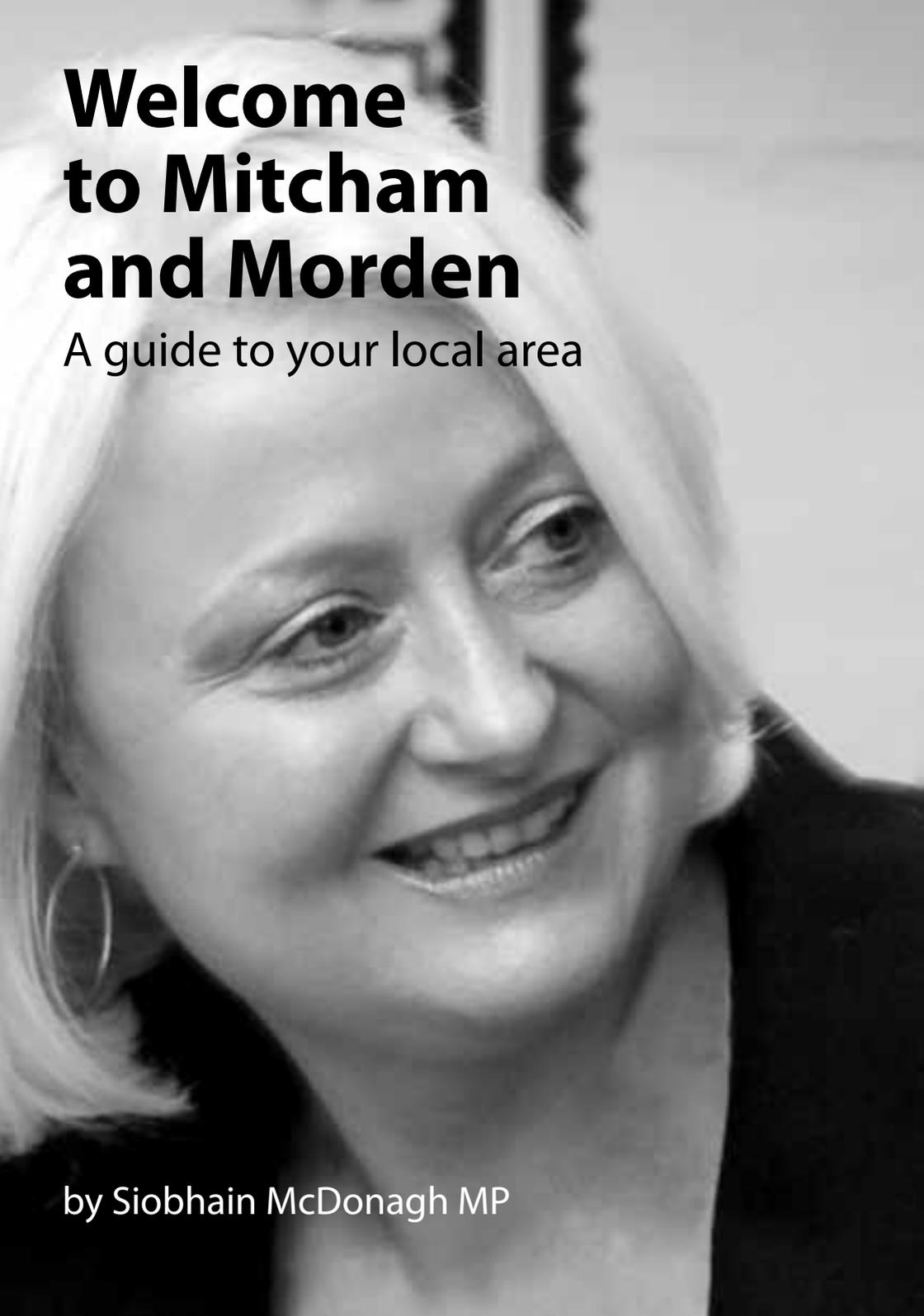
Emails mcdonaghs@parliament.uk

www.siobhainmcdonagh.org.uk

Register on my web site for up to date local information, and to receive my regular community newsletters.

House of Commons Tours

Parliament must be accessible to all. I am happy to organise a tour of the House of Commons for any local family. I also hold receptions for local charities, faith groups and residents' organisations. If you are involved in a local group and are interested then do not hesitate to call me.

A black and white close-up portrait of Siobhain McDonagh MP. She has short, light-colored hair and is smiling warmly, looking slightly to the right of the camera. She is wearing a dark jacket and large hoop earrings. The background is out of focus, showing what appears to be a window with a patterned blind.

Welcome to Mitcham and Morden

A guide to your local area

by Siobhain McDonagh MP

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About Mitcham and Morden

Dear Resident,

I have lived here in “Mitcham and Morden” all my life, and I love it! It includes many lovely neighbourhoods, from Lower Morden in the West, to Pollards Hill and Longthornton in the East, and from St Helier in the South to Colliers Wood and the Tooting borders in the North.

The lavender fields that used to cover large swathes of the area are now gone, but we still have the Cricket Green Conservation Area, which includes the world’s oldest cricket ground. We also have the National Trust-owned Morden Hall Park, and plenty more green space including at Mitcham Common, Figges Marsh and along the River Wandle.

Moving to a new area is often challenging, but there is lots to do and there are plenty of local services in Mitcham and Morden. Transport links are good, and many of our schools have excellent reputations. There is a wide mix of people, and many strong characters live here.

Whether you have moved to your new home from nearby or have come from further afield, I hope you enjoy living here as much as I do. I also hope you find this Directory useful – put it somewhere safe, as you never know when it will come in handy!

My best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Siobhain McDonagh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Siobhain McDonagh MP

PS No taxpayers’ money has been used to print, publish or deliver this booklet. It has been produced thanks to the generosity of local members of Mitcham and Morden Labour Party - my thanks to them!

Health

I hope you don't need to see a doctor very often, but when you do you want to see one quickly and for the diagnosis to be accurate. You also want your surroundings to be friendly and most of all clean.

The feedback I get about local health services is pleasantly good. It is easier to get an appointment, takes a lot less time to get an operation, and there has even been an increase in the number of dentists.

I only rarely have to take up complaints, but if you have concerns about your treatment please let me know, as it is often something I can take up with health bosses.

Also, you should expect to see some improvements to the NHS in future years, with new care centres due to open at St Helier and the Wilson Hospital, which is going to open a new GP centre later in 2009, and will later open a new ward for people recovering from operations. These changes are designed to let you have a range of treatments (and even operations) without having to go to hospital.

I have been using the local NHS all my life, and over the page are some details you might find useful.

General Hospitals with Accident and Emergency

Mitcham and Morden is served by two 24 hour General Hospitals. Both provide comprehensive in- and out-patient services, and A&E for people with serious injuries or serious illness requiring immediate treatment. However, remember, in a genuine emergency please always dial 999!

St Helier Hospital

Wrythe Lane
Carshalton SM5 1AA
020 8296 2000
www.epsom-sthelier.nhs.uk

St George's Hospital

Blackshaw Road
Tooting SW17 0QT
0208 672 1255
www.stgeorges.nhs.uk

Go to the Walk-In Centre if you need health advice, emergency contraception, or treatment for minor ailments, infections or injuries such as cuts, strains, sprains and broken bones. No appointment is required, and you do not need to be referred by your GP. The Walk-In Centre is now located alongside the hospital's A&E.

The Wilson Health Centre

Cranmer Road
Mitcham CR4 4TP
020 3458 5100
www.thewilson.co.uk

Next door to Mitcham's Wilson Hospital is a walk-in GP surgery. You do not need to be registered here in order to be seen, just turn up. Opening times are 8am-8pm seven days a week, even bank holidays!

NHS Direct

Whenever you need information about NHS services, or need general advice, NHS Direct may be able to help. It can also help you find a suitable doctor, dentist or other health practitioner.

111

www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

GP Practices

There are more than a dozen GP Practices across Mitcham and Morden. For your nearest GP, ring 020 8335 1400 or go to www.nhs.uk and click on "Find a local health service". Many GP surgeries now offer Early or Late appointments.

Dentists

There are more than a dozen dental practices in Mitcham and Morden. Many are taking new NHS patients. If you need help finding an NHS dentist in this area ring Dental enquiries on 020 8335 1400.

If you have an urgent dental problem out-of-hours, call 111 and they will be able to give you information about what local emergency treatment is available.

Education

Merton has 43 primary schools and 3 special schools. Our schools are very popular and many parents tell me standards are rising. For a full list of primary and special schools call 020 8274 4906, or visit www.merton.gov.uk/learning/schools.

In addition, Mitcham and Morden has three High Schools. All three are co-educational Academies, which opened in September 2006. These are fast improving schools. Indeed, GCSE results in Mitcham and Morden's schools improved faster than anywhere else in the whole country.

Across the Borough in Wimbledon, there are five more high schools, all of which are very popular. These include a Catholic girls' school and a Catholic boys' school, which are only open to baptised Catholics. There is also a girls' school, a boys' school and a mixed school.

If you need to find a school for your child you can get information on admission to Merton's schools by contacting 020 8274 4906 or admissions@merton.gov.uk. To join an Academy or religious school, please contact the school direct.

Contact details, phones and addresses of all 8 high schools follow.

Secondary Schools

Harris Academy Morden

*(co-educational Academy;
comprehensive intake)*

Lilleshall Road
Morden SM4 6DU
Tel: 020 8687 1157
info@harrismorden.org.uk
www.harrismorden.org.uk

The Harris Academy Merton

*(Co-educational Academy;
comprehensive intake)*

Wide Way
Mitcham CR4 1BP
tel: 020 8623 1000
info@harrismerton.org.uk
www.harrismerton.org.uk

Raynes Park High School

*(Co-educational;
comprehensive intake)*

Bushey Road
London SW20 0JL
tel: 020 8946 4112
school@raynespark.merton.sch.uk
www.raynespark.merton.sch.uk

Ricards Lodge High School

(Girls' school; comprehensive intake)

Lake Road
London SW19 7HB
tel: 020 8946 2208
Office.manager@ricardslodge.merton.sch.uk
www.ricardslodge.merton.sch.uk

Rutlish School

(Boys' school; comprehensive intake)

Watery Lane
Merton SW20 9AD
tel: 020 8542 1212
administration@rutlish.merton.sch.uk
www.rutlish.merton.sch.uk

St Mark's Church of England Academy

*(Co-educational Academy;
comprehensive intake)*

Acacia Road
Mitcham CR4 1SF
tel: 020 8648 6627
school@marksacademy.org.uk
www.stmarksacademy.com
St Mark's is a CofE school that welcomes all
faiths

Ursuline High School

(Catholic girls' school)

Crescent Road
Wimbledon SW20 8HA
tel: 020 8255 2688
enquiries@ursuline.merton.sch.uk
www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

Wimbledon College

(Catholic boys' school)

Edge Hill
London SW19 4NS
tel: 020 8946 2533
mail@wimbledoncollege.org.uk
www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk

Parks, leisure centres and other sites of interest

Parks

For somewhere so close to London, Mitcham and Morden is a very green constituency. Here are just some of the highlights.

Mitcham Common

A great place to visit, with 460 acres of Nature Conservation extending from the golf course at Mitcham Junction station more than a mile east towards Beddington Lane and the Borough of Croydon. Some of the hills were created by rubbish tipping, and some ponds are the result of gravel extraction, but there are actually lots of lovely walks through woodland, scrub, and round ponds, with a variety of wildlife and rare grassland habitat.

Mitcham Cricket Green Conservation Area

Mitcham Cricket Green is the world's oldest cricket green still in use. Cricket has been played here since 1685. In the 19th Century, the Australian cricket team regularly stayed at the Cricketers pub. The Conservation Area also includes the Three Kings Pond, Canons Leisure Centre, Mitcham Garden Village, and The Wilson Hospital. Just beyond is London Road Playing Fields, which includes Barons Walk.

Figges Marsh

To the north of Mitcham is a triangle of flat open land which from 1357 was occupied by William Figge. These days it is often used by cricketers, volleyballers and other sports enthusiasts. Across London Road (once a main toll road into London) is a paddling pool and playground next to the Lavender Sure Start building, which has won architectural awards.

Lavender Park

Between Mitcham and Colliers Wood, on the Lavender estate, are more than 10 acres of playing fields. The Pavilion on Steers Mead is now a Sure Start, and the playground and AstroTurf playing fields have recently been refurbished.

Wandle Park

The River Wandle winds its way through many of Mitcham and Morden's neighbourhoods. There are many enjoyable walks and cycle rides throughout the length of the river, which springs in Waddon and Carshalton, and joins the Thames at Wandsworth. Wandle Park lies just north of Colliers Wood underground station, and includes a children's playground, and 11 acres of open space.

Morden Hall Park

This National Trust owned park lies along the River Wandle between Morden town centre and Phipps Bridge. The land was originally owned by Westminster Abbey, and now includes The Snuff Mill and Riverside Café, as well as Morden Hall itself.

Ravensbury Park

Further upstream on the River Wandle, Ravensbury Park includes a paddling pool and pretty walks along the river.

Morden Park

To the south west of Morden are more than 100 acres of open space at Morden Park. Merton College and Morden Leisure Centre are on the edge of the park, as is Morden Park House, which is now Merton's Registry Office. There is a pitch and putt course, and part of the park was once reportedly an Iron Age burial ground.

King George's Playing Fields

In Lower Morden, off Tudor Drive, are 20 acres of playing fields, which are used by many clubs, including the ever popular Morden Little League. On the other side of the Beverley Roundabout lies the Pyl Brook and Morden Cemetery.

Places of Interests

Merton Abbey Mills

Merton Abbey lies on the site of a 12th century priory, the remains of which lie under Merantun Way, next to Colliers Wood's Sainsbury's and Marks and Spencer. Textile production at Merton Abbey Mills began in the 17th Century, and among those to use the site were William Morris and Liberty. It is now a thriving crafts market. In the summer, there is a theatre and music festival called Abbeyfest.

Deen City Farm

To the north of the Croydon Tramlink line in Morden Hall Park is Deen City Farm, which houses many farm animals and a riding school. It is very popular with children and families, and is open daily except Mondays. Entry is free.

Leisure Centres

As well as several privately-run health clubs and gyms, there are three leisure centres across Merton, including two in Mitcham and Morden.

Canons Leisure Centre

Madeira Road
Mitcham CR4 4HD
020 8640 8543
www.better.org.uk/areas/merton

Facilities include:

- 25 metres Main Pool and Teaching Pool
- Fitness centre with over 100 stations
- Dance studio and Low impact studio
- Sports hall and Squash courts
- Crèche facilities and Extensive children's programme and courses
- Sauna suite

Morden Park Pool

London Road
Morden SM4 5HE
020 8640 6727
www.better.org.uk/areas/merton

Facilities include:

- 33m competition pool and Teaching pool
- Diving facilities, including 3.9m diving pool
- Health and fitness centre with 30 stations
- Sauna

Wimbledon Leisure Centre

Latimer Road
Wimbledon SW19 1EW
020 8542 1330
www.better.org.uk/areas/merton

Facilities include:

- 30m main pool and Teaching pool
- Fitness Centre with 85 stations
- Separate free weights room
- A new sauna suite
- Dance studio
- Crèche

TM United

Bishopsford Road
Morden SM4 6BF
0208 685 6193
www.tmcsc.co.uk

A community sports club based at Tooting and Mitcham FC's stadium, offering a range of sports, events and functions.

Facilities include:

- All-weather pitches
- Gym and boxing club
- Children's play area
- Function room and sports bar

Transport

Mitcham and Morden is well served by an extensive network of buses, tubes, trains and even trams. It's very easy to get round, and the service is extremely convenient.

Trains

Mitcham Junction and Mitcham Eastfields are on the main overground route from Sutton to Central London. They are served by Southern, whose services go to Victoria from Epsom, Dorking or Horsham, and by First Capital Connect's Thameslink service, which calls at several London stations on the way to Luton Airport, including St Pancras International, where you can change for the Eurostar.

Mitcham Eastfields opened in 2008, with the official ribbon cut by Transport Minister Tom Harris MP. The station opened 70 years after campaigners began calling for a new station on what was the longest stretch of railway in South London without a stop. This is one of the campaigns I am most proud of being involved in since becoming an MP.

St Helier, Morden South, and Tooting are all on the so-called "Wimbledon loop" of the Thameslink service, which takes a winding route from Sutton to Central London before going on to Bedford and Luton Airport.

Call 08457 484950 for rail enquiries, and 0870 518 6186 for Eurostar.

Underground, Tram and Buses

Colliers Wood and Morden are both on the Northern Line, which heads straight into Central London, through the West End or the City, and then on to Camden and North London.

The tram runs from Croydon to Wimbledon, with services every few minutes. There are tram stops at Phipps Bridge, Belgrave Walk, Mitcham and Mitcham Junction.

There are more than 20 bus routes across Mitcham and Morden and three Night Buses. Routes will take you as far afield as Epsom, Coulsdon, Croydon, Clapham and Putney.

For Bus, Tram and Underground enquiries, ring 020 7222 1234.

Police, and dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour

Crime levels are relatively low in Mitcham and Morden, but it's important to know who can help if there is a problem. Please remember, if a crime is underway or a genuine emergency is taking place, you should always call 999 to get the fastest possible response.

Three local police stations cover our area, in Wimbledon, Mitcham and Morden. To contact your station 24 hours a day, ring 101. This is also the number to ring to report a crime and get a crime number. If you are the victim of crime, please report it, as it helps the police allocate resources to areas that need more policing.

In addition to your main police stations, Mitcham and Morden has ten Safer Neighbourhoods Team dedicated to local neighbourhoods, although at the time of writing, the Mayor of London had proposed reducing staff levels and closing some local police offices. Until recently, each team was made up of a Sergeant, two Police Constables, and three Police Community Support Officers.

As well as the important job of "walking the beat" these teams specialise in building up local knowledge, and developing relationships with local people. They can deal with local crime problems, or anti-social behaviour, graffiti, noisy neighbours, jobs or vandalism, and can advise you how to make it harder to be a victim of crime.

These are the officers in charge of each Team and their contact telephone numbers. If you are unsure which team covers where you live or want to obtain their email address, please ring 0300 123 1212 or visit www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods

Safer Neighbourhood Teams

Colliers Wood team

PC Julie Spells
020 8721 2743

Cricket Green

Sgt Gary Lambe
020 8649 3576

Figges Marsh

Sgt Gary Lambe
020 8649 3603

Graveney

Sgt Lee Rogerson
020 8721 2724

Lavender Fields

Sgt Andy Ball
020 8721 2744

Longthornton

Sgt Stephen Burke
020 8721 2744

Lower Morden

Sgt Katie Woods
020 8721 2456

Pollards Hill

Sgt Keith Moody
020 8649 3604

Ravensbury

Sgt James Bourne
020 8721 2725

St Helier

Sgt Katie Woods
020 8649 3575

Getting involved, volunteering and activities for young people

There are many ways to help our community, and I'd encourage everyone to get involved as much as they can.

For details about voluntary organisations operating in Mitcham and Morden and to talk about how you can help, please contact:

Volunteer Centre Merton

The Vestry Hall, London Road
Mitcham CR4 3UD
020 8640 7355
info@volunteercentremerton.org.uk
www.volunteercentremerton.org.uk

Merton Voluntary Service Council

The Vestry Hall, London Road
Mitcham CR4 3UD
020 8685 1771
info@mvsoc.co.uk
www.mertonconnected.com

Volunteering is a great way for young people to get a skill and make a difference to people's lives.

It used to be that one of the biggest concerns of local residents was the lack of things for young people to do. However, in recent times, there has been a growth in clubs offering activities.

For many young people, it's often hard to find out what's available, so I have produced a Directory of more than 70 groups and clubs working with young people in our local community.

If you would like a copy of my Directory of Activities for Young People please phone 020 8542 4835.

There's so much everyone, including young people, can do to help our community, and I do hope you will be able to get stuck in!

Help and independent advice

If you need assistance and just don't know where to look for help, there are several options open to you.

Citizens Advice Bureau

The CAB has offices in both Mitcham and Morden. For further details about either office, email advice@mertoncab.org.uk and they will help.

Morden office

7 Crown Parade, Crown Lane
Morden SM4 5DA
020 8687 8380
Open Mon-Thurs 10am-2pm (open door)
and 2pm to 3pm (information only)
www.adviceguide.org.uk

Mitcham office

326 London Rd
Mitcham CR4 3ND
020 8640 3194
Open Mon-Thurs 10am-3pm
(information only)
www.adviceguide.org.uk

Christians Against Poverty

Free help and advice with a debt counselling team that can help renegotiate debts without adding any charges. For more, go to www.capuk.org or ring 01274 760720

Wandsworth and Merton Law Centre

Free, independent legal advice is available throughout the week 7-8pm at various locations in Merton, Wandsworth and Croydon. To find out more go to www.swllc.org or phone 020 8767 2777

Contacting your Councillors

Mitcham and Morden is split into 10 neighbourhood areas, roughly equal in size. These are called Council Wards. Each Ward is represented by three Councillors, elected every four years by local people. They help deal with local issues, for instance by raising your concerns with Council staff or organisations like the police, utilities or transport companies.

28 are Labour, 27 are Conservative, 3 are Independent and 2 are Liberal Democrat. Labour runs the council. The leader and all the Council's Cabinet Members are Labour. They make decisions about Council Services and make recommendations on things like the level of Council tax.

Over the page is a rough guide to each ward in Mitcham and Morden. To find out exactly which ward you live in, or to get contact telephone details for your Councillor, just ring Merton Council on 020 8274 4901 or go to www.merton.gov.uk/councillors and type in your full postcode.

Colliers Wood

From the Tandem Centre to Tooting BR Stn, and either side of Colliers Wood High Street.

Councillors:

Laxmi Attawar (Lab)
07818 062 647
laxmi.attawar@merton.gov.uk

Nick Draper (Lab)
07772 799 036
nick.draper@merton.gov.uk

Gam Gurung (Lab)
020 8545 3424
gam.gurung@merton.gov.uk

Cricket Green

Includes Phipps Bridge, the Cricket Green Conservation Area, and parts of Mitcham town centre.

Councillors:

Russell Makin (Lab)

020 8640 1538

russell.makin@merton.gov.uk

Ian Munn (Lab)

020 8640 8370

ian.munn@merton.gov.uk

Judy Saunders (Lab)

020 8640 1298

judy.saunders@merton.gov.uk

Figges Marsh

From the Eastfields estate and Mitcham Eastfields Station to Mitcham town centre and the Figges Marsh itself.

Councillors:

Agatha Akyigyina (Lab)

07876 370 527

agatha.akyigyina@merton.gov.uk

Geraldine Stanford (Lab)

020 8715 6667

geraldine.stanford@merton.gov.uk

Peter Walker (Lab)

020 8545 3424

peter.walker@merton.gov.uk

Graveney

From River Graveney in the North to the edge of the Figges Marsh.

Councillors:

John Dehaney (Lab)

020 8640 4522

john.dehaney@merton.gov.uk

Linda Kirby (Lab)

07946 533 374

linda.kirby@merton.gov.uk

Gregory Udeh (Lab)

020 8685 0636

gregory.udeh@merton.gov.uk

Lavender Fields

The area between the Tandem Centre, the gas holder on Western Road and the cemetery on London Road – includes most of the Lavender estate.

Councillors:

Mark Allison (Lab)

07980 559 501

mark.allison@merton.gov.uk

Mark Betteridge (Lab)

07940 731 270

mark.betteridge@merton.gov.uk

Edith Macauley (Lab)

07958 317 638

edith.macauley@merton.gov.uk

Longthornton

Often known as Streatham Vale, includes areas around the old Rowan School.

Councillors:

David Chung (Lab)

020 8679 2394

david.chung@merton.gov.uk

Brenda Fraser (Lab)

07585 227 763

brenda.fraser@merton.gov.uk

Sam Thomas (Lab)

020 8545 3424

sam.thomas@merton.gov.uk

Lower Morden

From Morden Park to the Beverley, including Garth Road and King George's Playing Fields.

Councillors:

Maurice Groves (Con)

020 8330 3054

maurice.groves@merton.gov.uk

Richard Hilton (Con)

020 8545 3396

richard.hilton@merton.gov.uk

Ray Tindle (Con)

020 8545 3396

ray.tindle@merton.gov.uk

Pollards Hill

Includes areas alongside Mitcham Common as well as the Pollards Hill estate and Harris Academy.

Councillors:

Jeff Hanna (Lab)

07974 918 101

jeff.hanna@merton.gov.uk

Martin Whelton (Lab)

020 8545 3424

martin.whelton@merton.gov.uk

Richard Williams (Lab)

07976 625 028

richard.williams@merton.gov.uk

Ravensbury

The area between St Helier Avenue and Bishopsford Road, all the way to Morden town centre and Mitcham tramlink – includes much of Morden Town Centre.

Councillors:

Stephen Alambritis (Lab)

07788 422 155

stephen.alambritis@merton.gov.uk

Philip Jones (Lab)

020 8540 1523

philip.jones@merton.gov.uk

Peter McCabe (Lab)

020 8715 7130

peter.mccabe@merton.gov.uk

St Helier

From the tube depot at Morden to Rose Hill roundabout, including Merton College and the Haig Homes estate for retired servicemen.

Councillors:

Stan Anderson (Lab)

07950 820883

stan.anderson@merton.gov.uk

Maxi Martin (Lab)

07949 025 030

maxi.martin@merton.gov.uk

Dennis Pearce (Lab)

07947 855 852

dennis.pearce@merton.gov.uk

Merton Council useful numbers

Merton Council provides a wide range of services, from refuse collection to libraries, and from social care for older people to grants for students.

Among many other things it is responsible for planning applications, social housing, schools, and a range of benefits and grants. The Council recently introduced a popular free bulky waste collection scheme, and anyone who is up to date with their Council Tax can arrange for them to collect up to 5 items, including furniture and kitchen goods, 4 times a year, completely free of charge.

To help you get through more quickly, here are contact details for some of the services most commonly needed by residents.

Merton Council
Civic Centre
London Road
Morden SM4 5DX
020 8274 4901
www.merton.gov.uk

**Refuse collection, street cleaning and
free bulky waste service**
020 8274 4902

Fly-tip reporting
020 8274 4902

Graffiti hotline
020 8545 4109

Abandoned cars
020 8545 3189

Environmental health
020 8545 3025

**Noise Nuisance out of hours
emergencies**
020 8543 9750

**Social Services out of hours
emergencies**
020 8770 5000

Voter Registration
020 8545 3407

Utilities

Electricity supply/Fault information
0800 783 3866

Thames Water/Blocked Drains
0845 920 0800

If you smell gas ring
0800 111 999