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Visit Angie's website at [www.angiebray.org.uk](http://www.angiebray.org.uk)

Over the past few weeks, Angie has:

- Attended several sessions of the Planning Enquiry at Ealing Town Hall considering the Glenkerrin Development proposals for the Arcadia site
- Addressed a meeting of Thames Valley University Graduates organised by Action Acton to encourage young entrepreneurs
- Attended and addressed a meeting of AGRA (Acton Green Residents Association)
- Spent an evening on duty with one of the Acton police response teams
- Joined Shadow Secretary for Schools, Michael Gove MP and Councillor Ian Gibb, Cabinet member for Education on Ealing Council for a visit to Berrymede Junior School where Angie is a school governor
- Attended a WARA (West Acton Residents Association) meeting
- Met with local GPs, Dr. Adam Jenkins and Dr. Denis Heavey, Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Local Medical Council, to discuss swine flu developments and local issues
- Joined local Council Candidates for a site visit to the Priory Community Centre, Acton Library and Acton Baths in Acton Town Centre to consider the Council's regeneration proposals
- Attended a meeting with Network Rail, the Crossrail team, First Great Western representatives and local Ealing transport interest groups to discuss the future of Ealing Broadway Station and services provided from Acton Mainline station.

Ealing Council - the best achieving Council of 2009!

Ealing Council was celebrating after scooping Best Achieving Council at the 2009 MJ Achievement Awards. The award recognised the work Ealing Council had put in to improving communications between the Council and local residents and in continuing to ensure residents were included in setting the agenda for the Council.

Recent local residents' surveys show a continuing increase in resident satisfaction with the way Ealing Council is being run. In achieving the 3 objectives: cleaner streets, safer communities and value for money, the award for Best Achieving Council of the year for all of England is the Council's well earned reward. Angie says "*Councillors should be congratulated on their excellent work which has quite rightly been acknowledged by this prestigious award.*"

On top of this comes welcome news that the Council has managed its finances prudently, to allow each Council tax-paying household in the borough a £50 cash back in the run-up to Christmas.

Conservative Education Spokesman, Michael Gove MP visits a school in South Acton

Angie is proud to be a governor of Berrymede Junior School. She was delighted when her invitation to visit the school was accepted by Conservative Shadow Schools Secretary, Michael Gove MP.



Angie with headteacher Lubna Khan, Michael Gove MP and Councillor Ian Gibb outside the school.

They were also accompanied by Councillor Ian Gibb, Cabinet Member for Children's Services in Ealing Council. Headteacher Lubna Khan showed them round the school and introduced them to members of staff and pupils.

Angie commented afterwards that Michael Gove had told her how impressed he was with everything he had seen at the school. "*I was really pleased he came to South Acton to see how a school like Berrymede can flourish despite a tough environment, provided it has staff with the right attitude and real dedication to the job. Berrymede is rightly recognised as one of the most successful primary schools in the country and I am very proud to be a school governor here.*"

Angie on duty with local police response team

Angie spent an action-packed evening with Acton police recently, riding in the back of one of their response team cars. In the course of the evening, Angie, along with the team, attended a road rage incident on Acton High Street and later went to a house where four men were arrested for burglary after they were disturbed by the owner returning home.

Angie said afterwards that she was very impressed by the cool professionalism of the two young officers she was with, and especially with the driving skills displayed when rushing to a call out.

Angie said "*We had to travel at considerable speeds to get there quickly but I could also see how careful the driver was, especially when negotiating busy traffic.*"

Angie felt the experience gave her a vital understanding of the demands placed upon the local police force. Angie added "*I learnt a tremendous amount about the pressures these response teams are under. They are out on a twelve hour shift and never know what is going to come up next. But what struck me most was how calm and steady they remain, regardless of the situation.*"



Angie with the police officers she accompanied on a busy Friday night.

Angie also drew attention to Council Leader Jason Stacey's campaign for extra fully-trained police officers on the streets saying, "*That would really make a difference in Ealing and Acton and I fully support Jason in this.*"

### Entrepreneurs to be at the Doughnut Factory in Acton

Action Acton in conjunction with Thames Valley University (TVU) are setting up training and business support for young graduates who want to start up their own businesses. Angie was invited as the guest speaker to a meeting at the Doughnut Factory off Acton Vale where some of the potential young entrepreneurs were being briefed on the possibilities.

She said in her speech that Britain is always in need of new entrepreneurial talent because small businesses are at the heart of a successful economy. She also suggested that with jobs being hard to find at the moment, this is an ideal time for graduates to consider setting up their own businesses. "*Your country needs you*" she said "*and if you have the talent and the commitment, then you've every chance to make an important contribution. There are many agencies that can help and support you so you won't feel alone and isolated. We all know how important the small business sector is in Britain.*" Afterwards Angie met a number of graduates to find out what ideas they have, including a local Acton young business woman, Talvinder Jauhal, who is setting up a clothes stall in Camden Market.



Angie talking to Talvinder Jauhal who is setting up a clothes stall in Camden Market.

### Update on transport news for Ealing & Acton



Angie discussing Ealing Broadway station issues with a local resident

Angie's local transport group gathered for one of their regular meetings, organised in partnership with Network Rail, to discuss the latest news on transport issues concerning Ealing Broadway and Acton Mainline stations. They were presented with the latest plans from the Crossrail team, which seem to confirm that work will start at Ealing Broadway station in early 2013. Proposals for the station include much-needed escalators and lifts to and from the platforms. First Great Western (FGW) also confirmed they have maintained their reliability percentages and remain hopeful that when the Department for Transport provide extra train carriages, they will be able to increase the train services at Acton Mainline station from two per hour to four.

There was one disappointment though. The installation of a cycle ramp on the staircases to the platforms at Ealing Broadway station has been ruled out by a Health and Safety report. However, FGW have agreed to consider the possibility of providing a system whereby passengers with heavy objects can summon assistance from staff to get up and down the stairs. They have also promised to look again at identifying space for extra cycle parking at Ealing Broadway station.

After the meeting Angie said "*I do recognise that progress on many issues remains frustratingly slow. These meetings though provide local stakeholders with an opportunity to swap information and ideas with our transport providers in a very focused forum. We will continue to work with the Crossrail team to ensure that Ealing gets the best possible facilities from the station upgrades. We will also maintain pressure to get the small but important improvements like better cycle parking provision.*"

### Acton Town Centre regeneration

Conservative led Ealing Council is moving forward with plans to renew and revitalise Acton Town Centre. The objective is to have a range of new and improved leisure and community facilities for the area, such as 25m pool, a learner pool, a modern and user friendly library and a community centre. The aim is to put all these facilities in one location to create a real community focus for Acton and make it more accessible and welcoming to new users. Angie, accompanied by Councillors Jim Randall and John Ross and Conservative Council Candidates Marie Hartley and Stefan Krok-Leatherby, recently visited the current facilities and discussed the Council's proposals. They were shown around the Priory Centre, the library, Acton Baths and the Town Hall.



Angie with Conservative Council Candidates Marie Hartley and Stefan Krok-Leatherby outside the Priory Centre.

Angie comments, "*It is vital for the future of Acton that we get new and improved community facilities. But it is also extremely important that Councillors consider carefully the various views that have been expressed, often quite forcefully, during the recent consultation. I understand that the Council will be looking carefully at the options to try and ensure that local residents end up with the amenities that work best for Acton.*"

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