

## Appendix 2 – Consultation document delivered to residents and published online



Dear Resident

### **Renaming of Albert Road Recreation Ground**

Haringey Council believes that the names of our monuments, buildings, places and streets must be reflective of our values and the culture and diversity that we are so proud of in our borough.

For a number of years, it has been suggested that Albert Road Recreation Ground is renamed to reflect the proud and longstanding history that the Rec has with world-renowned anti-apartheid campaigner, Oliver Reginald Tambo.

The late South African activist and long-time president of the African National Congress, who was close friends with Nelson Mandela, lived in Haringey in exile for over two decades, settling with his family in Muswell Hill. The role he played as the ANC's figurehead in Europe was vital in publicising the plight of black South Africans and canvassing international support for the fight against the white-minority apartheid government.

Oliver Tambo, known as O. R. Tambo by his friends and colleagues, was a frequent visitor to the Rec with his family. In recent years the South African High Commission has given the borough a bronze bust and statue of O. R. Tambo which sit proudly within the Rec reinforcing with pride, the diverse links the borough has to South Africa and the values that make Haringey the vibrant, inclusive and multicultural borough it is.

Today, in response to the Black Lives Matter Movement, we now think it's an appropriate time to garner local support to rename Albert Road Recreation Ground to further reflect the strong links the borough has with O. R. Tambo, the people of South Africa and the values and legacy that he has left us with today.

Starting on Monday 12 October we will begin a consultation to ask if you agree to the name of the Rec being changed to O. R. Tambo Recreation Ground.

The short questionnaire will be available for six weeks to complete, so please visit [www.haringey.gov.uk/renaming-albert-rec](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/renaming-albert-rec) before 23 November. It will only take a couple of minutes of your time and we very much value your contribution.

For those who may not be able to access the questionnaire online, please call 07929 528608 between 10am and 4pm, and your views will be logged online on your behalf. If there is no answer please leave a message including your name and number, and your call will be returned.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Ejiofor', written in a cursive style.

**Cllr Joseph Ejiofor**  
**Leader, Haringey Council**

# FAQs – Potential renaming of Albert Road Recreation Ground

## Survey

- This survey is being run in partnership with the Friends of Albert Road Recreation Ground and the Pavilion Sports and Café, along with other local stakeholder groups
- The survey will run for six weeks, seeking your views on if we should change the name of the Rec to O. R. Tambo Recreation Ground
- Survey results will form a report which will go before the Council's Cabinet to determine a final decision
- Changing the name would not affect local residents, and you wouldn't have to take any action to change your postal address
- Anyone who may be directly affected by the name is change is being consulted with directly
- There is minimal cost to implement a name change, so this proposal will not impact any other improvements proposed for the Rec

## Background

- Albert Road Recreation Ground is one of the busiest and most used parks in Haringey
- Home of Pavilion Sport and Tennis, the Rec is a hub for various sporting activities and holiday sports programmes
- In 2009 a bronze bust and community garden were unveiled in Albert Road Recreation Ground to commemorate the borough's links with O. R. Tambo
- In 2019 a bronze life-sized statue was installed within the existing community garden to commemorate what would have

been O. R. Tambo's 102nd birthday

- Both items were given to the borough by the South African High Commission
- The Friends of Albert Road Rec work closely with the Council and other stakeholders, looking out for the best interests of the Rec and its users

## Future Plans for the Park

- We know that many park users have raised concerns about flooding that happens in the Rec
- This continues to be investigated, and works have been undertaken to survey the drains, clear blockages and repair collapsed elements of the drainage system. There is still some more work to be done and once complete we hope drainage across the Rec will be significantly improved
- We also know that the playground needs updating, and we are working closely with the Friends of Albert Road Rec towards identifying funding, so this can done as a priority
- The Friends of Albert Road Rec are currently fundraising towards installing new lighting and creating an orchard