**International Women’s Day 2024: #InspireInclusion**

**Date:** Friday8th March 2024

**Time:** 10am-2pm

**Location:** Cranford Community College

Hounslow Council would like to invite you to celebrate International Women’s Day 2024 with its third sector community groups, residents, schools, and staff. The theme for this year is #InspireInclusion, highlighting the importance of understanding, valuing and seeking out the inclusion of women and girls, as well as sharing this knowledge, support and encouragement with others. The aim of the campaign is to collectively forge a more inclusive world for women, as when women are inspired to be included, there is a sense of belonging, relevance and empowerment. There are many ways to ensure the needs, interests and aspirations of women and girls are valued and included, in areas such as:

* Forging women's economic empowerment
* Recruiting, retaining and developing female talent
* Supporting women and girls into leadership, decision-making, business and STEM
* Designing and building infrastructure meeting the needs of women and girls
* Helping women and girls make informed decisions about their health
* Involving women and girls in sustainable agriculture and food security
* Providing women and girls with access to quality education and training
* Elevating women and girl's participation and achievement in sport
* Promoting creative and artistic talent of women and girls
* Addressing further areas supporting the advancement of women and girls

Refreshments will be provided.

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| **Time** | **Item** | **Lead** |
| 10-10:30am | Registration with coffee and tea | All |
| 10:30-10:40am | Opening and welcome | Councillor Shivraj Grewal (Lead Member for Communities and Equalities)  Sayeeda Ashraf and Salma Ullah (SHEWISE and Chair of the Women’s Network) |
| 10:40-10:50am | Equality, Diversity and Inclusion for Women and Girls | Councillor Ajmer Grewal (Lead Member for Safety and Regulatory Services) |
| 10:50-11:10am | International Women’s Day: Fun and Games | Sayeeda Ashraf and Salma Ullah (SHEWISE)  Jo Robertson and Lucia Espiniella (London Borough of Hounslow Women’s Equality Network)  Prizes –   * One line – M&S Swiss chocolate gift bag * 2 lines – gift hamper from SHEWISE * Full house – £100 One4All Voucher |
| 11:10-11:30am | Promoting creative and artistic talent of women and girls: Culture and Fashion Show | Cranford Community College students |
| 11:30am-12:20pm | #InspireInclusion Conference with audience Q&A  A group of women that look to #InspireInclusion in their respective areas of work, understanding their ordinary to extraordinary journeys. | Co-chaired by Sayeeda Ashraf and Salma Ullah (SHEWISE)   * **Business** – Evana Khan (Director of Jungle VIP) * **Business** – Anita Chagar (Strategic Partnerships Manager at Heathrow Airport) * **Health** – Archana Dixit (Senior Gynaecologist from West Middlesex Hospital) * **Sport** – Brentford FC Women’s Football Club sportswoman * **Education** – Sonia Ryan (Assistant Head Teacher of Kingsley Academy) * **Leadership** – Valerie Hill (CEO of Middlesex Association for the Blind) * **Community Development/Social Enterprise** – Palma Black (Founder and CEO of Soul Purpose 360) |
| 12:20-12:30pm | Closing remarks and Next Steps | Jo Robertson and Lucia Espiniella (London Borough of Hounslow Women’s Equality Network)  Sayeeda Ashraf and Salma Ullah (SHEWISE and Chair of the Women’s Network)  Kelly O’Neill (Director of Public Health at LBH) |
| 12:30pm-2pm | Meet-n-Eat – marketplace and lunch | * Local women’s third sector with stalls * Art exhibition by young people in the borough. |