

BE BOLD

ASTON WARD

**Ward Action Plan
2022 to 2026 (last updated June 2023)**

Please refer to 'Guidance for Completing the Ward Action Plan Template' document

Ward Information:



Councillor Ayoub Khan MP

Liberal Democrats

ayoub.khan@birmingham.gov.uk

[Read more about Councillor Ayoub Khan](#)



Councillor Mumtaz Hussain

Liberal Democrats

Mumtaz.X.hussain@birmingham.gov.uk

[Read more about Councillor Mumtaz Hussain](#)

Aston Ward falls into two constituencies and so is covered by two Members of Parliament.

MP for Perry Barr Constituency:

Ayoub Khan (Independent)

ayoub.khan.mp@parliament.uk

[Read more about Ayoub Khan MP](#)

MP for Ladywood Constituency:

Shabana Mahmood (Labour)

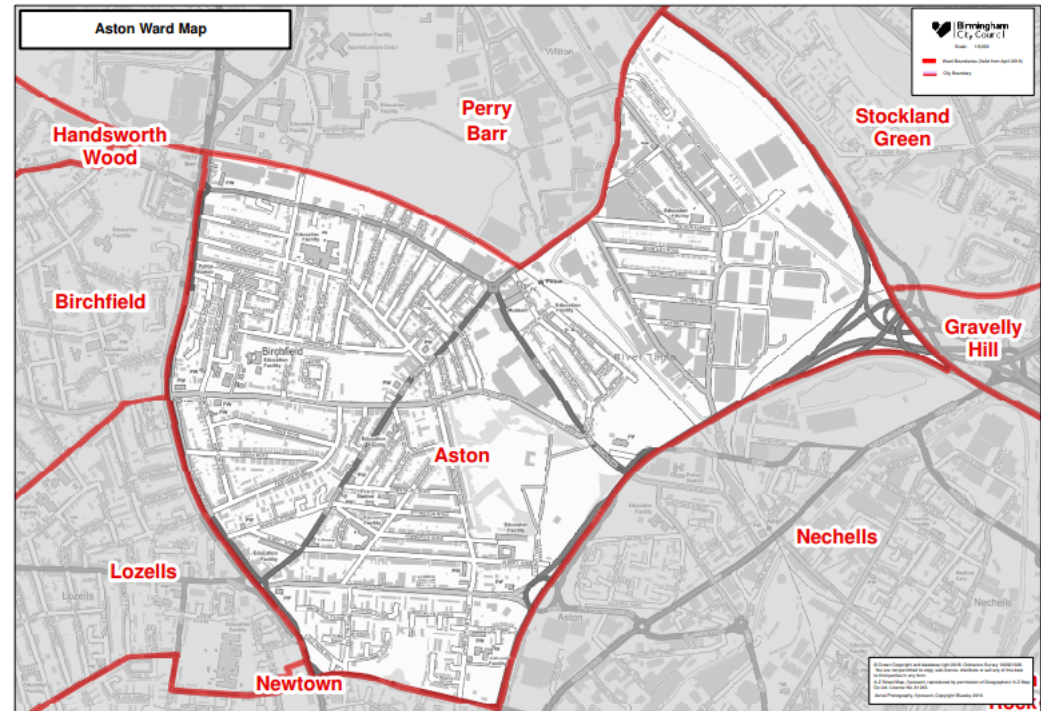
shabana.mahmood.mp@parliament.uk

[Read more about Shabana Mahmood MP](#)

Further Ward Information

[View](#) the ward profile for more information about Aston Ward

Use the drop-down list or postcode function to select your ward.



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Note to residents

Dear Aston Ward Residents,

In most wards, these plans are being developed for a second time. A ward plan was not developed for Aston in 2018, so for our residents, this is the first time they have been engaged in this process.

Like you, we live in Aston. We have raised our families here. We know our area and acknowledge that we face many challenges. We also know that Aston has a great community, with a lot of opportunity for regeneration.

Our vision is for Aston residents to feel proud of where they live. We see a clean, safe and friendly environment where families thrive, and people have a wide range of opportunities.

There is much to be done, but it is also important to prioritise the right things and be realistic about what we can achieve – and then go on to make it happen. This ward plan is intended to be a realistic living document that reflects the hopes and aspirations of local residents.

Its success will depend on joint working by residents, community groups, partner organisations and the Council.

If you think something needs adding – or removing - from this plan, let us know. It can be updated at the regular public Aston ward forum meetings.

Thank You.

Councillors Mumtaz Hussain and Ayoub Khan MP

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Ward Background Information: Interesting Facts about Aston

Aston Ward is located north of the centre of Birmingham and sits currently within the parliamentary constituency of Birmingham Ladywood. With a population of 24,450, it is one of the most densely populated wards in the wider city.

Aston is a comparatively young ward. 25.2% of the people who live here are 14 years old or under, compared to 20.9% in Birmingham as a whole. Its demographics are significantly different to the rest of the city. 70% of residents identify as Asian or Asian British whereas the average for Birmingham is 31%. 16% are Black, African, Caribbean or Black British, 7.6% are white, and 4.1% are from another ethnic group.

Aston is in the top 10% most deprived wards nationally (Source: Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2019). Within Birmingham it is ranked 14 out of 69 wards.

Interesting demographics based on the 2021 Census data include:

- 73.3% of the population are Muslim
- 50.8% of children are disadvantaged, and attainment at key stage 2 falls behind the national average and the average for Birmingham. At key stage 3, 74.9% of children are disadvantaged, and attainment continues to fall below the average in Birmingham and nationally.
- 35% of the ward has no qualifications. The average for Birmingham is 23.9% demonstrating a significant attainment gap between Aston residents and the rest of the city.
- In May 2022, 15% of the ward aged 16-64 were claiming benefits because of unemployment. By April 2023 this had risen to 16.7%. The average for the rest of Birmingham is around 8.5%. 16.1% of those aged 18-24 are claiming unemployment allowance.
- In the 2019/20 - 21/22 period, Aston, the proportion of children aged 10- 11 years classified as overweight or obese is 42.8 and the proportion classified as obese (including severe obesity) is 29.2. This is worse when compared to the England average.
- Environmental justice measures residents' access to green spaces, flood risk, urban heat island effect, health inequalities and indices of multiple deprivation. Based on these measures, Aston has an environmental justice score of 0.53 and ranks 69 out of 69 wards.
- According to 2021 census data, 44.3% of Aston residents were born outside of the UK. Many languages are spoken in Aston. The main ones are English, Urdu, Bangla. 11% of the ward cannot speak English well/ at all.
- Common occupations in Aston are in the care, service and leisure industries, sales and customer service, plant and machine operatives and unskilled work.

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WARD ACTION PLAN 2022 to 2026

Litter and Clean Streets

Actions	Actioned by?	Progress
a) Tackle advanced fly tipping sites such as Deykin/ Brantley and other identified hotspots	In conjunction with Your Streets and waste management	
b) Work with 'Love Your Streets' (LYS) to target fly-tipping hot-spots.	Love your streets	<p>Successful clean up operation around Yew Tree Road and surrounding areas in 2023.</p> <p>Clean up on Aldersea Drive in March 2024.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the service was cut in the 2024 budget so further clean ups will not be possible.</p>
c) Encourage residents' groups/ business/ schools to do regular community litter picks and to use these to recruit other residents to join the groups	Councillors	<p>AVFC have pledged to purchase and store some litter picking equipment and host a regular group.</p> <p>Saathi house have allocated some volunteers to do litter picking for an hour every Tuesday. This will be piloted for 3 months.</p> <p>Cllr Hussain is personally organising a litter pick in 20 October on Earlsbury Gardens.</p>
d) Encourage regular private land clear ups via the use of the MHRC	Councillors and waste management	Good – regular MHWC vehicles attend the area and Cllr Hussain has been able to retain this service in the area by enduring that it is always well publicised and well attended.

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Parks and Other Green Spaces

Actions	Actioned by?	Progress
a) Improve the safety of Aston Park	Saathi house and a volunteer group supported by the councillors	Saathi house and New Hub Global do regular walks in the park. Saathi house and AVFC organised a litter pick for the area in October 2024.
b) Install flower towers around the ward	Cllr Hussain and potential partners e.g. AVFC	Cllr Hussain would like flower tower installed in and around fly tipping hotspots e.g. Yew Tree Road area. AVFC have agreed to fund the towers. Partners required to maintain them. Plan is for planting to take place in Spring 2025.
c) Prevent feeding of wildlife in parks as this attracts vermin	BCC and Environmental Health.	Signage in parks and an awareness campaign.

Community Safety

Actions	Actioned by?	Progress
a) Regular meetings between Police, Councillors and Housing Managers to address crime and ASB.	Councillors and the neighbourhood team	Councillors have established contact with the local police teams and regular issues are reported.
b) Tackle dangerous / illegal parking across the Ward prioritising schools and busy junctions	Highways team, AVFC, local schools	This is a serious issue in the area. Parents are parking badly.
c) Neighbourhood Police to attend as many Ward Forum and Aston Neighbourhood Forum meetings as possible.		Regular ward meetings are held and the police are invited regularly, particular around time of high crime e.g. Ramadan and winter nights.

Local Shopping Centres

Actions	Actioned by?	Progress
a) There are suggestions that Nitrous Oxide is being sold to young people from some shops in Aston – this should be discouraged	Police and trading standards	Raised with the local policy outside of ward forums.

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Actions	Actioned by?	Progress
b) Discourage sales of vapes to young people	Police and trading standards	

Roads, Pavements, Lighting and Trees

Actions	Actioned by?	Progress
a) Hold regular reviews with the Kier Highways Steward and site visits to monitor implementation of repairs requested.	Councillors	Casework on potholes completed ad hoc
b) Increase the level of road and pavement renewal to a sustainable level with resurfacing of Brooklyn Avenue pathways, Witton Road to Fentham Road needs resurfacing. Whitehead and Albert Road need resurfacing.	BCC Highways	Brooklyn Avenue reported – no progress to date. Progress and the time of works are now at an unacceptable level and this needs to be dealt with.
c) Work with the Local Highways Engineer to find a resolution to the parking issues and problems with access around the Aston triangle	Councillors	Ward meeting arranged for residents to attend but unfortunately no residents came to discuss issues.

Young People (up to 25 years old)

Actions	Actioned by?	Progress
a) Local employment	Councillors and partners	Use section 106 money to put courses on which assist local employment. AVFC planning a careers fair in February 2025.

Local Housing and Public Buildings

Actions	Actioned by?	Progress
a) Improve the regulation and management of multi-occupied housing, especially the 'exempt' sector	Central Government BCC Exempt Accommodation Team	Bill in Parliament

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Actions	Actioned by?	Progress
b) Maintain diverse communities by stopping the domination of individual roads by multi-occupied properties.	Planning Enforcement	Ayoub Khan MP to write to the council advising that HMO and Exempt properties should not exceed 10% on any road.

Transport

Actions	Actioned by?	Progress
a) Tackle car parking congestion by improving awareness and enforcement	Parking and enforcement	
b) Accelerate conversion to electric forms of Transport by growing EV charging facilities	Birmingham City Council	
c) Speak to AVFC to encourage better forms of local transport on match days which will reduce local congestion	AVFC	