Uniting a family of nations in common purpose
Enfield Council’s Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth Event

‘Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth’ was inaugurated on Commonwealth Day 2014 and was immediately embraced as a valued new dimension to the celebration of the Commonwealth. Enfield Council took great pleasure in inviting local representatives to attend their event and, as the theme for the 2015 celebration was ‘A Young Commonwealth’, we thought it only right to invite some very special guests from the Prince of Wales Primary School in Enfield Lock to help us celebrate this important event.

More than 730 Commonwealth Flags were raised in locations throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, UK Overseas Territories, and Commonwealth countries on Monday 9th March 2015 in a shared celebration of this amazing family of nations that encompasses the globe. This unique initiative, now in its second year, caught the imagination of thousands of participants from all walks of life as a collective public expression of commitment to the Commonwealth, the values that the Commonwealth upholds, and the opportunities offered for friendship and cooperation with fellow Commonwealth citizens around the world.

For Enfield Council ‘Fly a Flag’ day provided the opportunity to promote good international relations and friendship and we were delighted to have a group of children join us to witness an event that symbolised friendship – and demonstrated to them the importance to encourage nations to live in harmony.

The Worshipful The Mayor Councillor Ali Bakir

Has pleasure in inviting you to Enfield’s

Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth 2015
9.30am  Arrival and reception in the Mayors Parlour

9.40am  Photo shoot outside the Civic Centre

9.50am  Messages from Her Majesty The Queen and from His Excellency Kamalesh Sharma – Secretary-General of the Commonwealth by Cllr Doug Taylor, Leader of Enfield Council

9.55am  Commonwealth Affirmation Speech by Cllr Ali Bakir, Mayor of Enfield

10.00am  Raising of the Commonwealth Flag by Cllr Ali Bakir, Mayor of Enfield and Renee Williams and Fatima Abubakar, Pupils from the Prince of Wales School

10.10am  Return to Mayor’s Parlour for a series of short speeches:
  • Cllr Ali Bakir, Mayor of Enfield
  • Cllr Doug Taylor, Leader of Enfield Council
  • Mrs Karen Hammond, Joint Head of Humanities and Year 4 Teacher, Prince of Wales School
  • Cllr Ayfer Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children’s Services and Protection

10.20am  Tour of the Mayors Parlour by Norman Bremner, Mayor of Enfield’s Attendant

10.30am  Tour of the Council Chamber by Cllr Ayfer Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children’s Services and Protection
10.50am  Refreshments in the Mayor’s Parlour

11.30am  Close

The Mayor of Enfield, Prince of Wales Primary School Teachers and Pupils, Councillors, Voluntary & Community Sector Representatives along with Senior Council Officers
Message from Her Majesty The Queen read by Councillor Doug Taylor, Leader of the Council

I am pleased to learn that so many people throughout the Commonwealth will be taking part in the 'Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth' initiative on Commonwealth Day this year, which I understand will see the raising of a record number of Commonwealth flags. I send my good wishes to all who are taking part. ELIZABETH R.

Message from His Excellency Kamalesh Sharma, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth read by Councillor Doug Taylor, Leader of the Council

The success and enthusiasm with which ‘Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth’ was embraced in 2014, its inaugural year, is evidence of its appeal as a most imaginative way for people in local communities and from all walks of life, particularly the young, to join in celebration with others throughout the Commonwealth.

The awareness brought by local and national flag raising ceremonies, and the associated activities, bring greater understanding and appreciation of the values and principles of the ‘Commonwealth Charter’ to which the Governments of all 53 Commonwealth countries are committed, and to which each of us as individual Commonwealth citizens can recommit ourselves on Commonwealth Day.

Immense progress continues to be made in the Commonwealth through goodwill, trust, and mutual respect that connect us as members of one worldwide family, united in our rich diversity. This spirit of growth and innovation is celebrated in the Commonwealth Day theme for 2015 honouring the future generation: ‘A Young Commonwealth’.

‘Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth’ provides an opportunity to acknowledge publicly and collectively the continuing success of the Commonwealth in building on common traditions and upholding shared values of democracy, inclusive development, rule of law, and human rights, in order to advance the opportunities for the development and growth of all, especially our youth.

Reflection on the many ways in which the Commonwealth is a global good can be combined with the celebration as we put out the flags for the Commonwealth day with pride in our shared inheritance, and dedicate ourselves afresh to progress and prosperity, with fairness, justice and opportunity for all.

I send my best wishes to all involved. KAMALESH SHARMA

Commonwealth Affirmation read by Councillor Ali Bakir, Mayor of Enfield

Joining together as members of one worldwide Commonwealth community, and valuing the personal dignity and worth of every citizen, we raise this flag as a symbol of the ties of kinship and affinity that we cherish. We draw inspiration from our diversity, and the opportunities for working together, as a rich source of wisdom and a powerful influence for good in the world.

We affirm our commitment to upholding the values set out in the Commonwealth Charter, to serving one another in a spirit of respect and understanding, and to advancing development, democracy and cooperation locally, nationally, and internationally.
### Participation and Attendance List

#### Fly The Flag For The Commonwealth – 9th March 2015

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<th>Surname</th>
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The Mayor of Enfield, Renee Williams and Fatima Abubakar from the Prince of Wales Primary School

The Mayor of Enfield and Pupils from the Prince of Wales School

Mr Bevin Betton, Cllr Ayfer Orhan and Pupils from the Prince of Wales School

Mrs Karen Hammond and Guests
Overview of the Commonwealth

The Commonwealth is made up of fifty-three sovereign states working together in mutual support towards shared goals of democracy, development, and respect for diversity. It includes some of the world’s largest, smallest, richest and poorest countries, with two billion citizens drawn from all faiths and ethnicities, half of them under 25 years old.

Beyond the ties of history, language and institutions, members are united by values set out in the Charter of the Commonwealth including tolerance, freedom of expression, respect for human rights, the rule of law, protecting the environment, access to health, education, food and shelter, and gender equality.

Commonwealth countries come together voluntarily in a spirit of co-operation, partnership and understanding, and are located in six regions:

- Africa (10)
- Asia (8)
- the Americas (3)
- the Caribbean (10)
- Europe (3)
- and the South Pacific (11)

1. Antigua and Barbuda
2. Australia
3. The Bahamas
4. Bangladesh
5. Barbados
6. Belize
7. Botswana
8. Brunei Darussalam
9. Cameroon
10. Canada
11. Cyprus
12. Dominica
13. Fiji
14. Ghana
15. Grenada
16. Guyana
17. India
18. Indonesia
19. Kenya
20. Kiribati
21. Lesotho
22. Malawi
23. Malaysia
24. Maldives
25. Malta
26. Mauritius
27. Micronesia
28. Namibia
29. Nauru
30. New Zealand
31. Niue
32. Pakistan
33. Papua New Guinea
34. Rwanda
35. St. Kitts and Nevis
36. St. Lucia
37. St Vincent and The Grenadines
38. Samoa
39. Seychelles
40. Sao Tome
41. Singapore
42. Solomon Islands
43. South Africa
44. Sri Lanka
45. Swaziland
46. Tonga
47. Trinidad and Tobago
48. Tuvalu
49. Uganda
50. United Kingdom
51. United Republic of Tanzania
52. Vanuatu
53. Zambia