



Press Information

## **Romford Shoppers Generously Donate Over 2,500 Presents for Local Children**

Romford BID is proud to announce that Time FM's annual "Give a child a Christmas" appeal, in collaboration with Romford BID, received an astounding 2,500 physical gifts from people within the community – an incredible increase of 1,000 gifts from 2022 and testament to the generosity within the Romford community.

The appeal asked listeners to donate toys, presents and money for under-privileged children over several weeks in the run-up to Christmas. Generous individuals were also able to donate money to a Go Fund Me page set up by Romford BID and physical gifts could be dropped into the Time FM studio, at the appeal's partner GBP Estates, or at the Body Shop on South Street.

An impressive £7,275 was raised on the Go Fund Me Page, which Romford BID used to top up presents handed in, particularly gifts for teenagers, which were all purchased from BID payers in Romford. The remaining money, which will be just under £3,000, will be shared amongst a few local charities.

Time FM and Romford BID have provided 17 agencies and schools across Havering with the gifts to pass to local children including Ardleigh Green Family Centre, Crownfield Infant School, ELHAP, Harold Hill Salvation Army, Havering Social Care, Havering Women's Aid and Queens & King George Hospital. Over 3,000 local children in total received Christmas gifts with the funds raised – an incredible achievement for everyone involved.

*Julie Frost, Romford BID Director said, "Yet again I'm amazed by how generous the people of Romford can be. This year, with the cost of living being so hard for so many people, I'm humbled that people within our community are still so giving. The team and DJs at Time FM were essential to the fundraising and throughout the run-up to Christmas discussed daily about this incredible cause and the change it can make. The kindness from everyone involved has ensured that every child within*



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*Romford receives a gift this Christmas. A special thanks also to Time FM, GBP Estates, and the Body Shop for letting gifts be dropped within their premises as there were a lot this year and of course to our shoppers for being so kind."*

*Mark Dover at Time FM said, "This has been our 19th year of Give a Child a Christmas and it's still amazing to see the generosity of our listeners every year, though even more so this year, as it seems to have been another very difficult year for everyone with the cost of living and being able to afford to donate. Thank you everyone who donated gifts and to GBP estates and Romford BID - we couldn't do this without your help. On behalf of Time FM, we are extremely grateful... Thank you."*

*Sophie Blythe at ELHAP said, "I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed to this appeal and donated Christmas presents. It meant we were able to give every child registered on our Playscheme a Christmas gift - many of whom were able to receive it personally from Santa who came to visit the ELHAP grotto! Your generosity is very much appreciated, and we are very grateful for your continued support of our charity."*

*Paul Ziff at GBP Estates said, "This is such an important cause so we absolutely wanted to be involved again and will remain so for years to come. When I saw all the gifts together, I was astounded by the kindness within our community. It's so touching to think how many kids had a better Christmas because of this campaign. People in Romford really are amazing, so thank you to everyone involved, you know who you are!"*

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**For more information, please contact Sarah Gregory on 07725 041862**