

CHIPPING BARNET RESIDENTS' FORUM

MEETING HELD ON 2009 ACTION NOTES

held at: Chipping Barnet Library, Stapylton Road, EN5 4QT

*Chairman: Councillor Bridget Perry Vice-Chairman: *Councillor Kate Salinger

*Denotes Councillor Present

	Issue Raised	Response	Update (and by whom)
	<p>Budget Options Consultation The council is currently preparing its budget for 2010/11 and would like to consult with residents on which budget options they feel are their priorities. The forum included a presentation on the budget simulation tool that the Council would like residents to use to let us know their views.</p> <p>The presentation was led by Councillor Lynne Hillan with contributions by Paul Stock.</p>		
	<p>Core Strategy - Direction of Travel The Core Strategy of the new Local Development Framework is open for consultation. The forum included a presentation from Planning on the Core Strategy and how residents could get involved. If residents would like more information on the Core Strategy and the consultation period, please see the homepage of the council's website www.barnet.gov.uk where there is a link to more information.</p> <p>The presentation was led by Lucy Shomali and Martin Cowie</p>		

	Issue Raised	Response	Update (and by whom)
1	<p>Michael Bernstein At a recent residents' meeting, with a large number of residents present, is that local roads are being used as a rat run at all times of the day, thus turning what should be quiet residential streets into traffic disasters. A very detailed traffic survey was produced by the residents which did show that there was a considerable number of vehicles using the affected roads at all times of the day.</p> <p>Residents are requesting that a traffic survey be undertaken which would replicate the one done by the residents. It would be assumed that if the borough's results did show similar traffic movements to that done by the residents, then maybe some traffic management could be undertaken.</p> <p>Mr Bernstein said that residents appreciated the fact that the Council would investigate and requested that a full investigation takes place as he felt that altering the phasing of the traffic signals would not solve the problems.</p>	<p>Lynn Bishop The Council appreciates that residents having clearly put a lot of effort into identifying the concerns relating to traffic volumes at this location, and we can confirm that Highway officers are grateful for this and will commit to looking at this matter in detail. As well as identifying vehicle volumes we will seek to identify why drivers are diverting onto these residential streets rather than using the main routes. In this case it will include investigation into the phasing of the traffic signals as it may be possible to alter the signals to provide a better movement of traffic through the junction and hence avoid the need to alter the access to the surrounding roads.</p> <p>Lynn Bishop assured residents that this issue would be investigated on the basis of what could benefit the whole area.</p>	<p>Lynn Bishop to feed back on the outcome of officer investigations</p>
2	<p>Mr Ashwood A question regarding The Stables at Barnet Lane as to what is the current position regarding a transfer of assets and the financial implications to the Council</p>	<p>Peter Cridland Lease terms have been agreed for a specific user clause which restricts the lessee to the provision of a disabled riding school. A stepped rent has been agreed over five years. The Delegated Powers report for the authority for granting the lease has been written but has not yet been formally approved, the financial terms will not be in the public domain, as they form part of the exempt report.</p>	

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3	<p>Mr Ashwood Raised a concern that there were proposals to fence off a part of the playing fields known as Stationers' field, and to erect floodlighting. It is his view that this historically is open land and that fencing would deny people a right of way. At the meeting, Mr Ashwood reiterated his concerns that this was an inappropriate use of green belt land. Another resident agreed with Mr Ashwood and said that decisions about this land had been taken behind 'closed doors' and that this land had historically been open to the public for more than 125 years.</p>	<p>George Church Cabinet Resources Committee approved the grant of a long lease of the property to Hadley Wood Football Club in 2007 on the basis that the pitches were fenced off to ensure that they were safe and suitable for sport use. Each side of the site can be walked around by the public. The planning application concerning the site included flood lighting of the pitches. At the meeting, Martin Cowie confirmed that in principle, there was nothing wrong in using green belt land for recreational purposes.</p>	
4	<p>Mrs Karen Miller At the previous forum meeting held at Dane Grove School, I specifically asked Martin Cowie to clarify where along Mount Pleasant the 4 coaches for JCOSS would be dropping off and picking up. Another member of the attendees also added whereabouts in relation to New Barnet Station the coaches would be sited for picking up and dropping off. From my recollection, the Chairman did indicate that the question was duly noted. I am therefore just reiterating that question and that of the other attendee. 1. "Exactly where along Mount Pleasant will the 4 coaches be stationed to drop off and pick up the JCOSS students?" 2. "Exactly where in the vicinity of New Barnet Station will the 4 coaches be stationed to drop off and pick up the JCOSS students?"</p>	<p>At the meeting Lynn Bishop Replied that there were still no exact details available and this would remain the case until the school had appointed a Travel Plan Co-Ordinator and that this was expected to take place during January 2010. Lynn confirmed that the school intake and travel requirements would rise incrementally and that different travel options would be put in place.</p>	

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5	<p>Mr T Green Referred to the LDF, and requested for Mr Cowie to explain why New Barnet has become the focus of the Planning Department's attention, despite a lack of hard evidence to back up its claim that there is a shortage of retail provision in the north and east of the borough, even after the opening of a Tesco Express and Sainsbury's in Chipping Barnet, and planning approval for a Tesco Express in New Barnet. And, if he does have new evidence, can he please share it with the Forum?</p>	<p>Martin Cowie New Barnet as with other town centres are a focus for the LDF as they are critical to the social and economic well being of the borough. As part of the preparation of the LDF the planning authority has undertaken a 'Town Centres Floorspace Needs Assessment' with the assistance of specialist retail consultants. This report, which is available on the council's website, concludes that there is capacity in the northern part of the borough for additional retail development</p>	
6	<p>Mr T Green Asked whether Mr Cowie would list for the Forum the criteria, which define a 'Town Centre', and explain how New Barnet qualifies for 'Town Centre' status (other than the fact that it boasts a large supermarket) while the likes of East Barnet, Mill Hill Broadway, Friern Barnet and New Southgate do not.</p> <p>At the meeting, Mr Howard said that New Barnet was extremely small and had no amenity apart from a Sainsbury's store. He asked whether this designation could be changed.</p>	<p>Martin Cowie The London Plan outlines 5 broad types of town centre. These are: International centres, Metropolitan centres, Major centres, District centres and Neighbourhood/local centres. New Barnet, is identified as district centre. The London Plan states that district centres have traditionally provided convenience goods and services for more local communities and are distributed across the city. It goes on to say that some District centres have developed specialist shopping functions, often as a result of their lower rents and that developing the capacity of District centres for convenience shopping is critical to ensure access to goods and services at the local level, particularly for people without access to cars. At the meeting, Martin Cowie said that issues such as this could be considered through the Core Strategy and added that despite New Barnet being a small area, it had historically been designated as a town centre.</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response	Update (and by whom)
7	<p>Mr T Green</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Has the Planning Department had any dialogue with Tesco or ASDA about their plans for New Barnet since another resident asked the same question in a Residents' Forum some months ago? If so, can it disclose any details about this dialogue for the Forum's benefit? - Has the Planning Department discussed the LDF with Tesco or ASDA with specific reference to New Barnet? <p>Has the LDF for New Barnet been deliberately devised to ensure that at least one additional large supermarket is built in New Barnet?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Has the Council ever asked ASDA or Tesco to make a financial contribution towards framework documents or other planning documents relating to New Barnet? - Given that the Planning Department considers the Tesco/Optex site to be sequentially preferable to the ASDA/Gasworks site (even though it would be more beneficial to the community for the contaminated Gasworks site to be developed), will the Council be asking Tesco to make a financial contribution to New Barnet's long-promised framework document? 	<p>Martin Cowie</p> <p>No the planning department has not been in dialogue with Asda or Tesco since.</p> <p>No the planning department has not specifically discussed the LDF Core Strategy 'Direction of Travel' document with either supermarket in relation to New Barnet.</p> <p>The LDF Core Strategy 'Direction of Travel' does not make reference to a supermarket development in New Barnet. The planning department is currently preparing a New Barnet Town Centre Framework which will consider current and future development opportunities in the context of an overarching strategy for delivering longer term economic and environmental improvements in the centre.</p> <p>The council has not sought a financial contribution towards the preparation of the New Barnet Town Centre Planning Framework or the Town Centres Floorspace Needs Assessment</p> <p>The Town Centre Planning Framework will consider a range of sites for bringing forward development in an appropriate and sustainable way which will benefit the town centre as a whole. The council will not be asking Tesco or any other developer for contributions towards the preparation of the document specifically.</p>	

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8	<p>J McKenzie Can the planners explain why A110 Cat Hill-Brookhill Road-East Barnet Road has been singled out in the forthcoming LDP for infill and intense development? Whatever the likes of Mr Cowie and his cronies say, building supermarkets and flats along this stretch of mainly residential road cannot but fundamentally change its character.</p> <p>Does this not contravene Mayor Boris's London Plan, which is in favour of maintaining the distinctive character of the Outer London suburbs?</p> <p>Why are Barnet planners still following the former mayor's planning policies, and is the GLA aware of this deliberate breach of policy?</p> <p>At the meeting, Mr Dix said that Cat Hill was shown on the map as a trunk road. Both Mr Newton and Mr Hope raised concerns on whether Barnet was promoting development and that the council was offering over and above that set by the Mayor of London.</p>	<p>Martin Cowie The LDF Core Strategy 'Direction of Strategy' document sets out in very broad terms where the council considers new development may be appropriately located.</p> <p>It therefore identifies areas of the borough which are subject to regeneration i.e. Colindale, Brent Cross Cricklewood, major brownfield re-development opportunities i.e. Mill Hill East and the four priority estate schemes and focuses on other locations where new housing in particular can be delivered in a sustainable at such as town centres and major transport corridors.</p> <p>The planning department is preparing the LDF in accordance with the Adopted London Plan (Consolidated with Alterations since 2004) and it is also having regard to the emerging draft replacement London Plan.</p> <p>At the meeting, Martin Cowie Referred to ongoing consultation including the identification of main transport corridors where some infill development might be appropriate. He referred to Barnet's contribution London and that the council was focussing development through the Core Strategy to housing to protect the borough's suburban areas. He added that the area in question was referred to as the A110 and not specifically as Cat Hill.</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response	Update (and by whom)
9	<p>Gennaro Tassimo</p> <p>1. The area discussed at the Chipping Barnet Forum is too big. I don't want to hear about Brunswick Park, they don't want to hear about High Barnet. Too much has to be covered in one meeting - why not split it north and south?</p> <p>2. Is it time for the Borough of Barnet to split back in two? It is a big borough with an east-west divide. I have never even been to Edgware or Hendon - I travel by public transport and it is almost impossible. Why not separate out the old borough of Hendon which focuses on the A5 corridor, and extends eastwards as far as Mill Hill. There is a natural divide there. If others support the idea, I would be glad for form a campaign group.</p> <p>3. Can you tell me if Barnet Borough Council plans to build a leisure centre with swimming pool near to me? I live in EN4 and to take my children to swim, I must go to Hertsmere to Borehamwood and Potters Bar. Church Farm is not often open to the public, and there is nowhere nearer.</p>	<p>These comments are noted</p> <p>This is not an issue that can be discussed at the forum as the constituency boundaries are within the remit of the Boundaries Commission and not the Council.</p> <p>It was understood that there were no plans to build a leisure centre in the EN4 area. Residents were reminded however of the free swimming offered by GLL centres for children under 16 years. www.gll.org for more information</p>	
10	<p>Michael Storey</p> <p>1. Could you tell me why the Council has not forced the owners of the derelict building on the corner of Victoria Road and East Barnet Road to renovate it? Is it because the landlord is (via a property company) Tesco, and the Council is keen to keep them onside so they will 'redevelop' New Barnet for them?</p>	<p>Martin Cowie</p> <p>The planning authority is liaising with Tesco to ensure that the condition of site is improved.</p>	

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	<p>2. It is now several months since Tesco was granted planning approval for a Tesco Express store on Victoria Road, EN4 (despite strong opposition from local residents). Can officers explain why work has not begun and the buildings are still derelict?</p> <p>As their huge plans for the Optex site indicate, Tesco are clearly keen to increase their share of the market in New Barnet. They also have a reputation for fitting new stores out quickly, indeed, they managed to fit out and open an Express store in Chipping Barnet in a matter of mere weeks after being granted approval. Given the Council's (erroneous) claim that there is insufficient retail space in New Barnet, can you explain why the Council are not putting pressure on Tesco to improve New Barnet's retail offer - especially that the Planners insist that we're all crying out for more choice in our corner of the borough. Is it because Tesco believe that they will get permission for a larger store on the opposite side of the road?</p>	<p>The council cannot force implementation of the planning consent, however it seeking clarification from Tesco as to its intentions in relation to the site.</p>	
11	<p>J McKenzie</p> <p>I have been campaigning for better speed controls on Brookhill Road for years, as the current flashing '30' signs clearly don't work.</p> <p>Now that I have seen the Council's Planned Direction of Travel document, all has become clear. Clearly the Council's long-standing reluctance to put in speed calming measures on Brookhill Road is linked to their plans to turn the A110 into a high-speed trunk road.</p>	<p>Paul Bragg</p> <p>Experience has shown that when vehicle activated signs have been introduced they have proven to be a very effective way of reducing vehicle speeds. However, we understand that this may not always be the best solution for all roads and we therefore need to react in an appropriate way when this method of traffic calming is identified as not providing the desired outcome to a speeding problem. Highway officers will therefore carry out further investigation to identify the extent of the problems and where appropriate seek to</p>	

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	If this is not the case, can the Council please tell me what they plan to do to combat the 'drag racing' on this stretch of road, both by motorbikes and cars, as the current combination of flashing signs and an annual visit from the police speed gun is not adequate	identify potential solutions. All such issues are assessed against the Councils agreed criteria in order to determine priority schemes for implementation	
12	<p>Linden Groves</p> <p>I would like to ask whether the council has made any progress on compiling more realistic figures for the cost of creating a new allotment site on Trott Road, and also to let them know that there is growing local interest in the new site.</p> <p>At the meeting Ms Groves reiterated her previous discussions that costs could be driven down by the participation of volunteers and to re-look at the type of fencing that could be used. She referred to a list of people who had already indicated that they would like a plot should the new site be opened up. She said that there was a feeling locally that this site was deliberately being left derelict so that it could be redeveloped.</p>	<p>Lynn Bishop</p> <p>The figures previously given to residents are realistic and it is not possible to break down these costs further.</p> <p>At the meeting, Lynn Bishop noted the issue about the possibility of volunteers being involved and added that there were other ongoing costs that required to be taken into consideration, such as maintenance which was expensive and time consuming.</p> <p>Lynn Bishop confirmed that she was not aware of any development plans for the site in question.</p> <p>She undertook to liaise with Ms Groves further.</p>	<p>Lynn Bishop to feed back on whether there has been progress in respect of the Trott Road land</p>
13	<p>Sheila Burton</p> <p>1. King George V Fields</p> <p>Where has the land that has been transferred by Barnet Council out of the charitable trust (with covenants attached) been moved to? Where is there an Ordnance map depicting the area of land moved (within the greenbelt), like for like?</p> <p>2. Who owns the greenbelt?</p> <p>This was the question posed to Cllr. Melvin Cohen at the recent Core Strategy meeting - with the reply that it belonged to us all.</p>	<p>Peter Cridland</p> <p>The plans attached to the Council's Committee report dealing with the transfer of the lands is on the website here:- http://committeepapers.barnet.gov.uk/democracy/documents/getdoc_ext.asp?DocID=46258</p> <p>Land ownership is conferred by title deeds. Green belt status is a planning designation which is applied to land, irrespective of ownership.</p>	<p>Lynn Bishop to feed back</p>

	Issue Raised	Response	Update (and by whom)
	<p>Therefore, why is Barnet Council granting long leases to associations outside the borough of Barnet for enclosed sports facilities, effectively depriving local residents of access enjoyed for centuries?</p> <p>3. The Stables on Barnet Lane was opened some years ago as a charitable concern for the benefit of helping disabled people. It started with one stable and a horse. It now has a paddock, a big car park, an office and several tack and stables all within conservation greenbelt. It is understood that LBB has withdrawn grant support recently from the stables and it is now a full working business concern. Why does its advertisement Board, which protrudes out on to Barnet Lane, still advertise it as a registered charity and where has the land transferred out of the King George V Playing Fields Charitable Trust gone to?</p> <p>4. In The Press recently stated that the residents near Quinta Open Space had applied for 'village green' status over their local community field and requested any other local resident with an interest to attend the public enquiry at Hendon Town Hall. An impossible task. Why are there no public parking facilities near Hendon Town Hall to be able to attend such a public inquiry? Fenella, Hendon Library, Middlesex University are all tucked up nicely with their car parks barriered to the paying public.</p>	<p>In granting leases on Council owned Land, the Council follows decision making procedures through the Cabinet Resources Committee or delegated to Cabinet Members or officers on more minor issues. Any decision to lease land on open space also has to be advertised publicly under Section 123 of the Local Government Act. The Council's Constitution requires the Area Environment sub Committees to consider those adverts and any responses made as a result. Those Area Committees can refer the decision back to the Cabinet Resources Committee which is the final decision making body.</p> <p>At the meeting, Lynn Bishop undertook to speak with Property Services in respect of public access being fenced off.</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response	Update (and by whom)
	<p>Local residents all have residents parking permits. Yet, the only ones not being accounted for are ratepayers, pet owners (PDSA nearby) and pensioners (Age Concern nearby).</p> <p>Are we Barnet residents tactically being banned while still paying the tax for the facilities of others be held closer to home?</p>		
14	<p>Sue De Botton Lives in Hollyfield Avenue Friern Barnet and am faced daily with overflowing commercial and residential bins located in Queen's Parade N.11. They are located on this slip road (the council has adopted this road) and attract fly tipping. I have contacted the council several times and whilst they remove rubbish this is not the long term solution. Can I have the council's assurance that they will find a way of resolving this on-going issue?</p> <p>At the meeting Ms De Botton welcomed the response given and asked for a timeframe as to when action would be taken.</p>	<p>Lynn Bishop There are a number of actions we can try to resolve this in the longer term and probably there will need to be a combination of these. We need to review the management arrangements, i.e. alternative location for bins, informing residents and businesses of collection times, reviewing trade waste agreements and this will need to be completed before we undertake any enforcement. The success of this will depend on the type of residents in occupation and a high proportion of transient population does prove more difficult to tackle. I will also seek some support from the Priority Intervention Team to lead on this problem solving approach to see if changing the management arrangements and monitoring will enable resolution. Lynn Bishop said that action would commencing during the following week.</p>	
15	<p>Graham Kantorowicz The pavement outside the shops on the south side of Friern Barnet Road between the junctions with Colney Hatch Lane and Hollyfield Avenue is heavily soiled with discarded chewing gum. Even when not sticking to one's shoes, this is unsightly and gives the area an appearance of neglect. Please can you advise what steps the Council will be taking to tackle the problem?</p>	<p>Lynn Bishop At the present time the council does not have the equipment to tackle pavement chewing gum. We are discussing sharing equipment with neighbouring boroughs as well as organising a demonstration of chewing gum removal equipment by a specialist company later this month. In the meantime high pressure hot washers are used to clean a number of our Town Centre and Friern Barnet is one of these.</p>	
	<p>Mr Kantorowicz welcomed the response and asked about when cleansing would take place.</p>	<p>Lynn Bishop Said that the cleansing would be in January 2010. At the moment, there was no indication as to when the Council would have the specialist equipment.</p>	<p>Lynn Bishop to update on the new equipment</p>

	Issue Raised	Response	Update (and by whom)
16	<p>Ian and Marilyn Hedley Originally Hollyfield Avenue N11 was lined with 16 trees (8 each side) . Over the last 20 years at least 3 have been removed from the west side of the road, not replaced: thus spoiling the symmetry of the Avenue. Moreover the eventual repairs(or lack of) to the pavement have been in Bitumen which is uneven, unsightly and in many cases dangerous Does the Council have a Green Policy in the replacement of trees? If so can the officers tell us when they propose to replace these trees and with what type of tree?</p>	<p>The tree officer will inspect in the next seven days with a view to replant this spring and report back about viability of planting sites and species choice to the enquirer.</p> <p>Although the council does not have a formal green policy with regard to planting of trees, we have an unwritten practice to ensure a sustainable tree stock and a commitment to replant more trees than we remove each year.</p> <p>Lynn Bishop took details of the residents so that they could speak with the council's tree officer.</p>	
17	<p>Lanny Silverstone Has the Council now received the necessary paperwork from Network Rail regarding moving the fence and transferring ownership of land in order to provide a footpath part way along York Road, New Barnet? Please confirm works are still anticipated to commence February 2010?</p>	<p>Peter Cridland Property Services have received some communication from the Highways, and I have asked the question of Legal Services. There may not be a requirement for any land transfer if it is a matter of extending the public highway to cover the land over which the footway runs. It is quite acceptable for Network Rail to still own the land even if a footway runs over it and the Highway Authority is responsible for its maintenance.</p>	
18	<p>Mr J Gardiner Asked why the council were so reluctant to delegate enforcement powers to the Police.</p>	<p>Lynn Bishop Advised residents that this remit had been handed over to her service within the past two weeks. Paul Bragg said that there were issues around the capacity of the Police to carry out certain functions. He added that there would be a focus on enforcement and it would be decided who was best placed to carry out these functions.</p>	<p>Lynn Bishop to update on the latest position</p>

	Issue Raised	Response	Update (and by whom)
19	Mr Massey Asked whether the Leader of the Council had struck a deal with traders in the High Barnet Area in respect of parking.	Councillor Perry Said that the Leader had met with traders at this venue earlier in the day. She said that he had put forward suggestions on how the area could be made more attractive to visit, and this would have included issues around parking	.
20	Mr Dix Referred to an issue he raised at the last meeting in respect of town centres Floorspace needs assessment	Martin Cowie Said that he would be contacting Mr Dix when there was something to share with him.	
21	Mr Howard Referred to the LDF document and he was concerned that the information was based on errors and there was no time for meaningful consultation.	Martin Cowie Said that should there be any concerns in respect of the direction of travel document, it would come back to the Local Authority.	
22	Mrs Miller Referred to the previous meeting and the lack of response to her question as to what was classed an 'estate based activities'.	Layla Hall Estate based activities are those that will be delivered on estates and within areas of high deprivation. A variety of activities on offer from inter estate community football sessions to indoor rowing offered on a roaming sports vehicle called the RBMax that goes into areas, offering a wide range of choice of activity and sport.	
	DATES AND VENUES OF FUTURE MEETINGS	12 January 2010 23 February 2010	Coppetts Wood School Coppetts Road Friern Barnet, N10 1JS North London Business Park Oakleigh Road South London N11 1NP Conference Room 1, Building 2

The meeting finished at 8.45 pm

Officers Present:

Lynn Bishop

Paul Bragg

Martin Cowie

Paul Stock/Maria Christofi

Lucy Shomali

Lead Officer – Environment and Transport

Environment and Transport

Head of Planning and Development Management

Presentation on the Budget Headlines

Presentation on the Core Strategy

Pauline Bagley
Victoria Blyth

Democratic Services
Democratic Services (Leader Listens)

Councillor Lynne Hillan was also present to lead on the presentation on the budget headlines
Councillors Barry Rawlings and Brian Salinger was also present

In addition, there were approximately 45 members of the public.

**FORTHCOMING PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

(meetings usually start at 7.00pm)

AREA PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE: - ALL TO BE HELD AT HENDON TOWN HALL, THE BURROUGHS, NW4 4BG

Chipping Barnet

Democratic Services Contact: Pauline Bagley, Tel: 020 8359 2023

Hendon

Democratic Services Contact: Paul Frost, Tel: 020 8359 2205

Finchley and Golders Green

Democratic Services Contact: Stephanie Chaikin, Tel: 020 8359 2019

Forthcoming meetings:

Finchley & Golders Green

5 January 2010

4 February 2010

Chipping Barnet

5 January 2010

4 February 2010

Hendon

5 January 2010

4 February 2010

Public requests to speak at Area Planning Sub-Committees on planning applications

Written requests to speak on planning applications should be notified to the relevant Area Planning Officer by 10.00am on the 2nd working day before the day of the meeting.

Public requests to speak at Area Planning Sub-Committees on matters other than planning applications

Written requests to speak on matters other than planning applications must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 2nd working day before the day of the meeting.

Public requests to ask questions at Area Planning Sub-Committees

Any request to ask a question (exact wording) on the work of the Sub-Committee must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 7th working day before the day of the meeting.

• **AREA ENVIRONMENT SUB-COMMITTEES:**

Venue: Hendon Town Hall, the Burroughs, NW4 4BG

Chipping Barnet

Democratic Services Contact: Stephanie Chaikin, Tel: 020 8359 2019

Finchley & Golders Green

Democratic Services Contact: Nick Musgrove, Tel: 020 8359 2024

Hendon

Democratic Services Contact: Jonathan Regal, Tel: 020 8359 2012

Forthcoming meetings:

Finchley & Golders Green

24 February 2010

Chipping Barnet

24 February 2010

Hendon

24 February 2010

Public requests to speak at Area Environment Sub-Committees

Written requests to speak on issues on the agenda must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 2nd working day before the day of the meeting.

Public requests to ask questions at Area Environment Sub-Committees

Any request to ask a question (exact wording) on environmental matters must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 7th working day before the day of the meeting.

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Venue: Hendon Town Hall, The Burroughs, NW4 4BG

Democratic Services Contact: Maria Lugangira (tel: 020 8359 2761)

Public requests to speak at Planning & Environment Committee

Written requests to speak on planning applications should be notified to the relevant Area Planning Officer by 10.00am on the 2nd working day before the day of the meeting.

Public requests to speak at Planning & Environment Committee on matters other than planning matters

Written requests to speak on matters other than planning applications must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 2nd working day before the day of the meeting.

Public requests to ask questions at Planning & Environment Committee

Any request to ask a question (exact wording) on the work of the Committee must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 7th working day before the day of the meeting.

Forthcoming meetings:

9 December 2009, 20 January 2010, 18 February 2010

Options for the 2010-11 budget

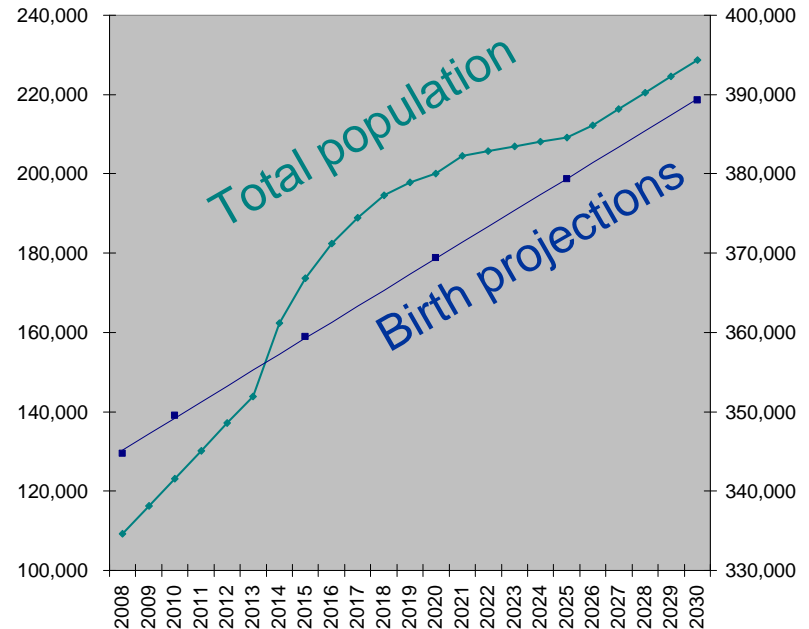
Cllr Lynne Hillan – Deputy Leader of the Council

Zina Etheridge – Assistant Director of Strategy

The challenge we face

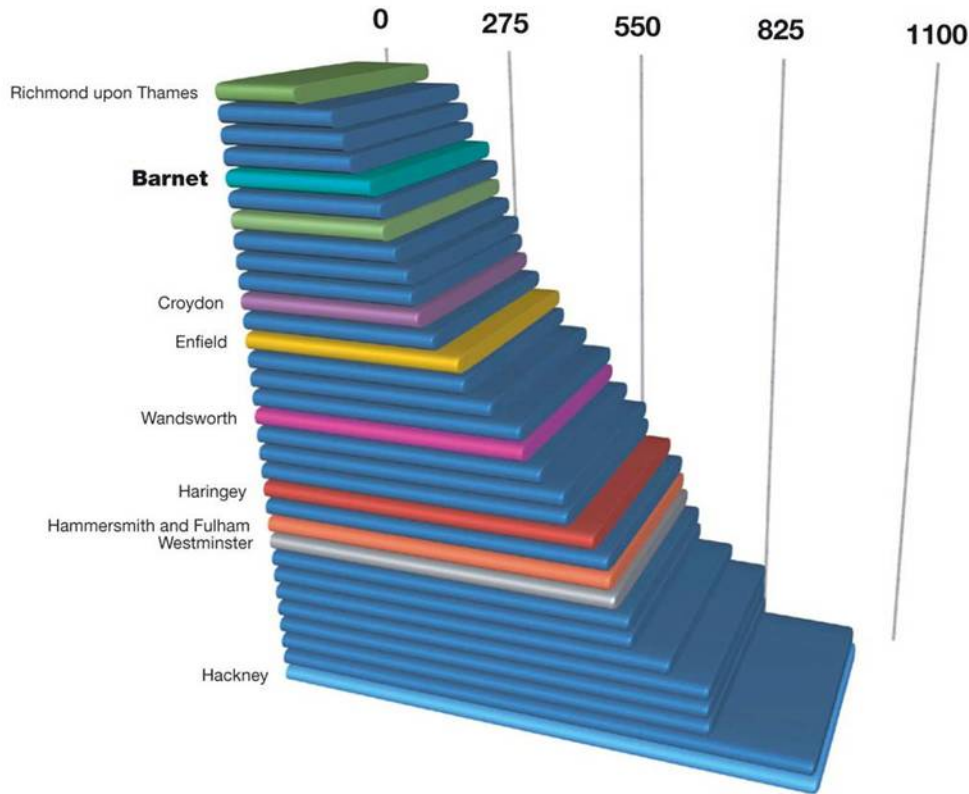


Birth projections and total growth



Barnet will overtake Croydon to be London's **most populous borough by 2012**

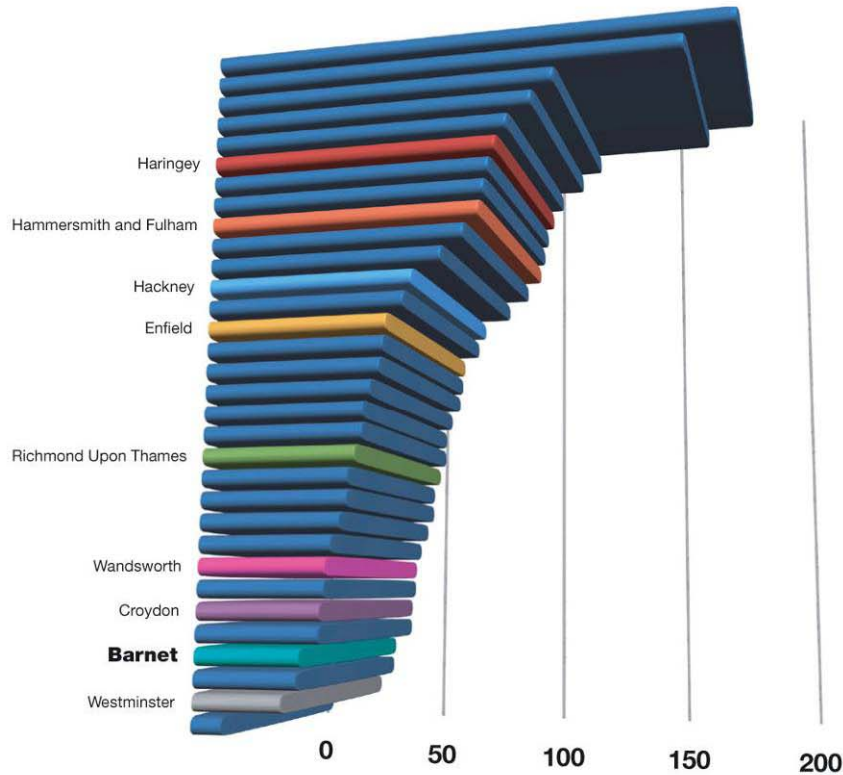
Money from Central Government



‘Formula Grant’ from central Government, by head of population*

Barnet receives substantially less financial support from central Government than the London average. A full graph of all London councils is available at www.barnet.gov.uk/budget

What about efficiency savings?



Back office costs per head of population*

Barnet Council's back office costs are among the lowest in London.

All London councils are listed at www.barnet.gov.uk/budget

*Figures from CIPFA/Audit Commission excludes City of London

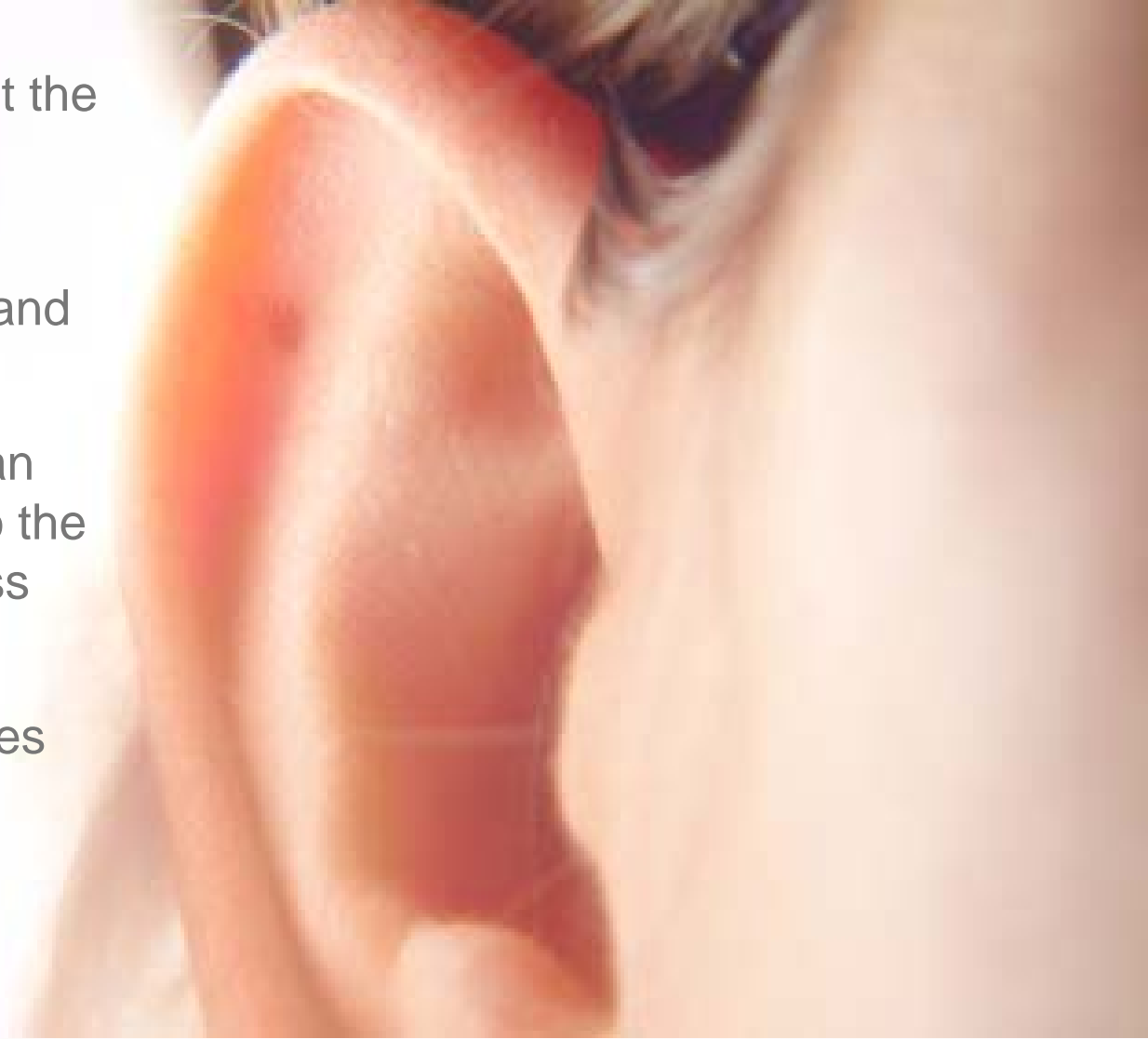
Tough choices

There are two options to ensure that your Council continues to provide the services you want...



What's the point of consultation?

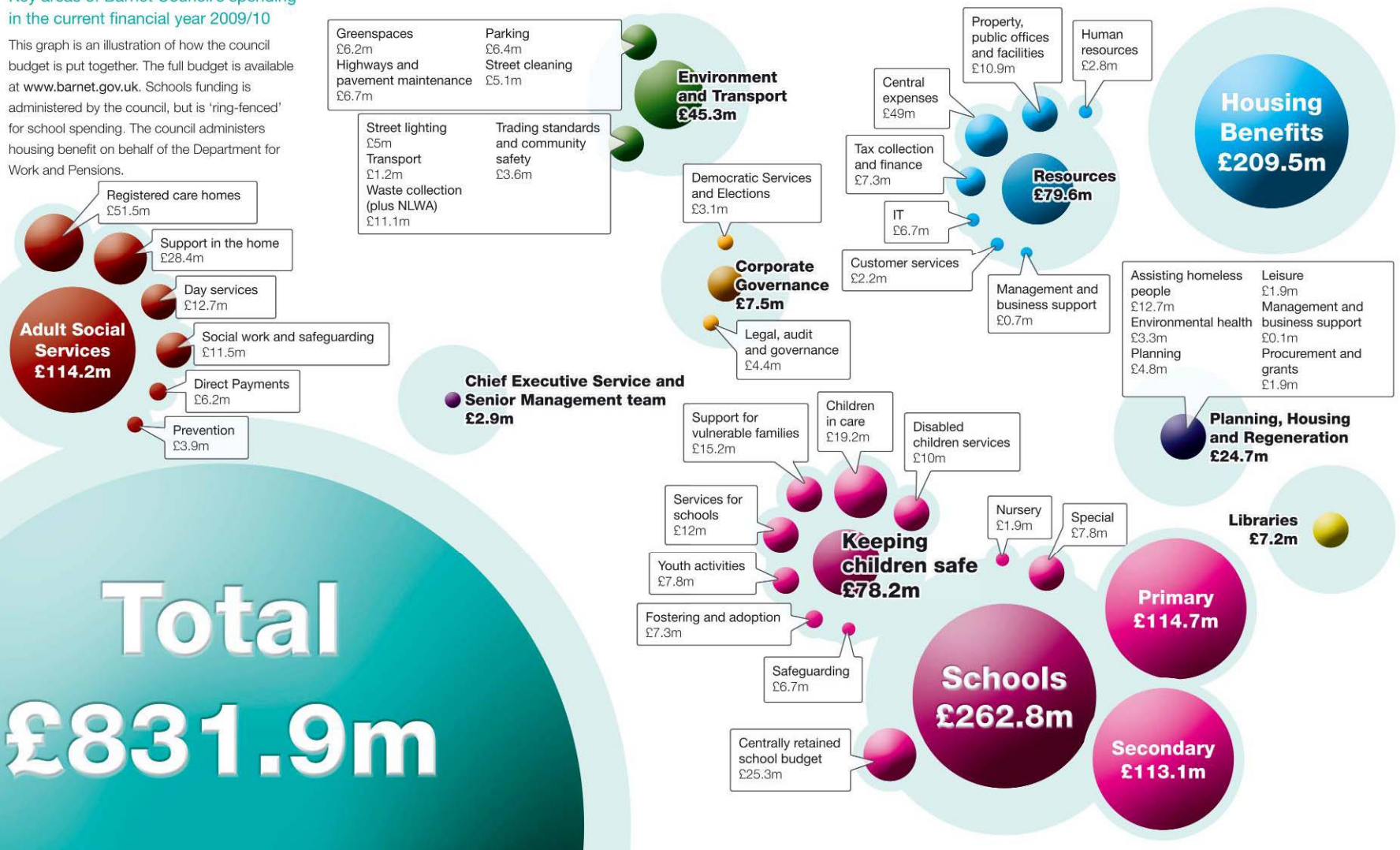
- To be transparent about the pressures and the challenges
- To clarify our priorities and limitations
- So that you can make an informed contribution to the decision making process
- To ensure that your priorities are our priorities
- **Because it's your money!**



The current budget

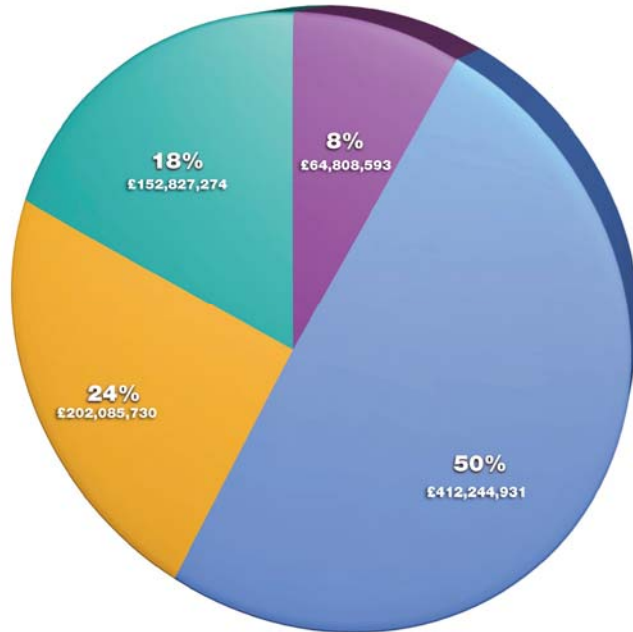
Key areas of Barnet Council's spending in the current financial year 2009/10

This graph is an illustration of how the council budget is put together. The full budget is available at www.barnet.gov.uk. Schools funding is administered by the council, but is 'ring-fenced' for school spending. The council administers housing benefit on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions.



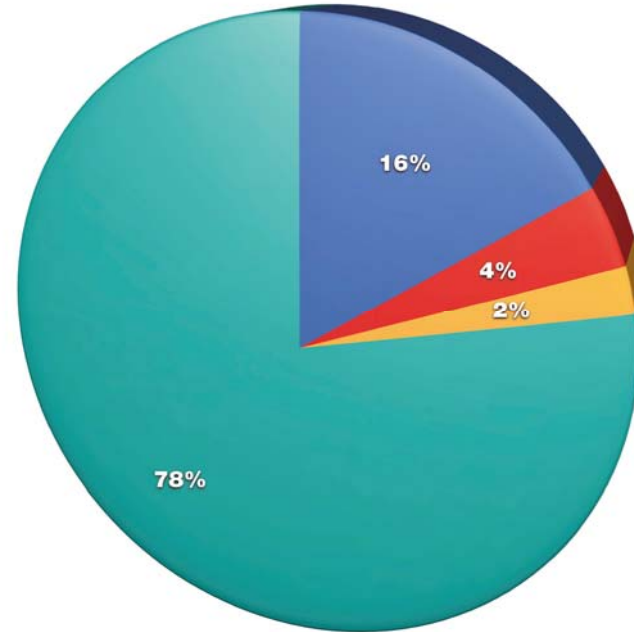
Budget Context

Where our money comes from



- Fees and services
- National funding
- Dedicated Schools Grant
- Council Tax

Where your Council Tax goes



- Metropolitan Police
- London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority
- Mayor, Admin, TfL, Olympic Games and Boroughs' collection fund balances
- London Borough of Barnet

Looking ahead – strategic context

- Medium Term Financial Strategy
- Capital and Asset Plan 2008-2013
- Financial Forward Plan (FFP) – 3 Year Rolling Position
 - forecast changes in service demand
 - forecasts of inflation, pay awards and interest rates
 - planned service reductions and efficiencies
 - demographic pressures e.g. children's social care, adult placements
 - **runs to £12-15 million each year for Barnet**
 - already squeezed down below this, but new pressures emerging e.g. Waste, Fares
 - Future Shape driving efficiencies

Spending less by Corporate Priority

- Online budget simulator launches mid-November
- Open until end of the year as part of Phase 1
- Seeks views on spending less on areas within each priority



More Choice Better Value

Option: Reduce investment in the council's website

The screenshot shows the Barnet London Borough website. At the top left is the 'BARNET LONDON BOROUGH' logo. To its right is a search bar with the text 'Please enter your search' and a 'Search' button. Further right is a 'Site preferences' section with four icons for font size and color. Below the header is a 'Welcome to Barnet Online' section with a navigation menu. The menu includes categories like 'Advice and Benefits', 'Business', 'Council Living', 'Council Governance and Democracy', 'Education and Learning', 'Environment and Planning', 'Health and Safety', 'Leisure and Culture', 'Jobs and Careers', and 'FAQs and Contacts'. A large banner for 'REMEMBRANCE DAY 11 NOVEMBER 2009' is visible on the right side of the page. Below the banner is a section for 'Online services' with a list of links: 'Online forms', 'Online payments', 'Planning cases', and 'Barnet maps, facts and figures'. At the bottom of the page are social media icons for Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and Flickr.

■ Pro:

- Looks straightforward, minimal impact on frontline services?

■ Con:

- However, reduces ability to transact online and pay bills etc;
- Limits amount of reduction in manual processes;
- Limits back-office efficiencies and therefore opportunity lost

Questions and debate



Chipping Barnet Forum

**Local Development Framework - Core Strategy
Direction of Travel
November 24th 2009**

**Lucy Shomali – Head of Strategy (Planning and
Housing)**

What is the Local Development Framework (LDF)?

- ❑ Incremental replacement of Unitary Development Plan – the current local planning policy framework for Barnet
- ❑ LDF is a folder of documents
- ❑ higher level ones are Development Plan Documents (DPDs)
- ❑ lower level ones are Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)
- ❑ Core Strategy is the key DPD – it sets out where, when and how change will take place by 2026



What is the Local Development Framework (LDF)?



- Also in the LDF :
- Site Allocations DPD - identifies future development sites – launch early 2010
- Development Management Policies DPD sets out framework for planning decision making – launch early 2010
- Mill Hill East Area Action Plan (adopted Jan 2009)
- Colindale Area Action Plan (Examination in Public – Nov 2009)
- North London Waste Plan (Mid Stage – Oct 2009)

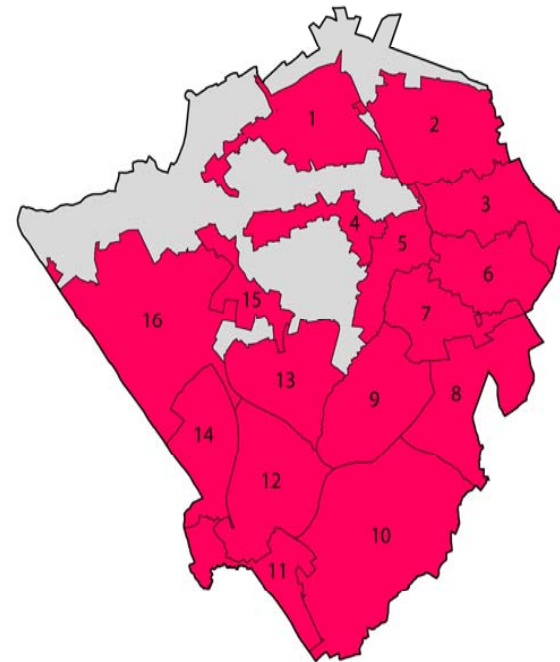
Core Strategy - Direction of Travel

Mid point of Core Strategy production in which

- ❑ We emphasise Three Strands Approach of
 - ❑ **Protection** of Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land and other valued open space from inappropriate development
 - ❑ **Enhancement** and protection of suburb's, town centres and historic areas
 - ❑ **Growth** that is sustainable to deliver successful regeneration and high quality development
- ❑ We justify our approach and why alternative options not pursued
- ❑ We respond to main issues raised from consultation
- ❑ We accord with London Plan and London Plan Review (incl. movement of Outer London Commission)

LDF Evidence – Some Key Findings

- **draft Characterisation Study – distinctive suburban places at risk from growth and worthy of greater protection**
- **Employment Land Study - smaller spaces most in demand**
- **Town Centres Assessment – future demand for food retail in north and east, for non-food it is in west**



Key Findings from LDF Evidence Base

- ❑ **Draft Open Spaces, Sport and Outdoor Recreation Assessment – good geographical provision but quality an issue**

Other Evidence in production

- ❑ **Strategic Housing Market Assessment**
- ❑ **Community Spaces Study (with BVSC)**



Why should you get involved ?

What can you do ?

- ❑ **This is your opportunity to help shape what Barnet will look like in 2026**
- ❑ **Tell us what you like or dislike about the Core Strategy – Direction of Travel**
- ❑ **What do you want to change in the Core Strategy ?**
- ❑ **Why do you want it changed ?**
- ❑ **What are your proposed changes ?**
- ❑ **Have we missed key issues for Barnet ?**

Suburbs and Housing Growth

Our approach is to focus housing growth in the growth areas of

- ❑ Brent Cross – Cricklewood
- ❑ Colindale
- ❑ Mill Hill East

And promote sustainable accessible locations ie

- ❑ Town Centres
- ❑ Major Transport Routes

And promote regeneration of priority estates

Seeking a range of dwelling sizes and types that meet housing priorities, provide choice and does not undermine suburban character

Seeking to identify places of architectural character outside Conservation Areas. Within established residential streets with a uniform character we will only encourage development of a similar scale for family homes



Community Facilities

Our approach is to ensure that community buildings including schools, libraries and meeting spaces are located where they are easily accessible and that new and existing provision is used more efficiently for joint service delivery.

We will do this by :

- ❑ using schools estate investment programme to address needs of a changing population**
- ❑ ensuring efficient use of existing community facilities to provide range of services**
- ❑ securing contributions from development to new or improved facilities**



Protecting our Open Space

Our approach is to ensure a greener Barnet and that access to open spaces is improved and that they become more attractive as places to a wider range of users

We will do this by

- protecting designated open spaces**
- securing additional open space in the growth areas in west of borough**
- improving provision for children's play and sports facilities**
- protecting allotments, incidental greenspace, trees and hedgerows**
- protecting and enhancing biodiversity**



Town Centres and Economic Advancement

Our approach is to set out

- ❑ priorities for improving larger town centres
- ❑ promote Brent Cross – Cricklewood as a metropolitan town centre
- ❑ ensure new development of appropriate scale and character in smaller town centres
- ❑ provide protection for local neighbourhood centres

We set out how we support businesses (especially small to medium enterprises) and residents (particularly in developing skills) to access the regeneration opportunities in a changing borough



Next Steps

- ❑ **Nov 2009 – Jan 2010 - Direction of Travel (Consultation)**
- ❑ **Summer 2010 - Publication (Consultation) and Submission to Planning Inspectorate**
- ❑ **Late 2010 - Examination in Public**
- ❑ **Early 2011 - Inspector's Report**
- ❑ **April 2011 - Adoption of Core Strategy**

