



# Asset, Regeneration and Growth Committee

11 July 2016

Title	Annual Performance Report – 2015/16
Report of	Comissioning Director, Growth and Development
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	Appendix A: Asset, Regeneration and Growth Committee Commissioning Plan - Annual Performance Report 2015/16
Officer Contact Details	Luke Ward, Commissioning Lead - Entrepreneurial Barnet, Growth & Development Tel: 020 8359 2672. Email: <a href="mailto:luke.ward@barnet.gov.uk">luke.ward@barnet.gov.uk</a>
	Chris Smith, Head of Estates Tel: 020 8359 2987. Email: <a href="mailto:chris.smith@barnet.gov.uk">chris.smith@barnet.gov.uk</a>

### Summary

In December 2014, the Asset, Regeneration and Growth Committee approved a five-year Commissioning Plan for the period 2015-20, which set out the Committee's priorities and outcome measures for the following service areas — Growth and Regeneration, Entrepreneurial Barnet and Asset Management. All Theme Committees agreed a five-year Commissioning Plan.

This report provides a review of the Asset, Regeneration and Growth Committee Commissioning Plan for 2015/16 (Appendix A), against the commissioning intentions and outcome measures.

#### Recommendations

1. That the Committee note progress on the Asset, Regeneration and Growth Committee Commissioning Plan in 2015/16 (Appendix A).

#### 1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

1.1 The Asset, Regeneration and Growth Committee Commissioning Plan 2015-20 was approved in December 2014. It sets strategic priorities and outcome measures for the following service areas – Growth and Regeneration, Entrepreneurial Barnet and Asset Management – with targets to be refreshed annually. The strategic priorities are:

#### **Growth and Regeneration**

- Regeneration schemes are delivered to a high standard, maximising benefits to the community.
- New communities at Brent Cross Cricklewood and Colindale are desirable and attractive places to live, work and spend time, which set the standard for future development across London.
- Regeneration and growth schemes are supported by appropriate, high quality infrastructure.

#### **Entrepreneurial Barnet**

- Barnet is established as the best place in London to be a small business.
- Key town centres are thriving, with reduced numbers of vacant units.
- Residents and local businesses and residents play an active role in shaping their High Street as a place to live, work, shop and spend leisure time.

#### **Asset Management**

- The council's asset portfolio is managed and considered as a whole rather than considering assets in isolation.
- The Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP) drives a reduction in use of space to achieve savings.
- The SAMP drives reduced running costs and increase energy efficiency.
- The SAMP maximises letting income, balanced against community or social value.
- Efficiency is achieved by sharing assets across the public sector.
- The council's assets are used to support longer term regeneration and growth.
- Community assets are used transparently to support a range of activities that contribute to delivery of the council's corporate objectives.

#### 2. Review of Commissioning Plan for 2015/16

2.1 Appendix A provides a review of the Commissioning Plan for 2015/16, against each of the commissioning intentions and outcome measures.

#### **Growth and Regeneration**

2.2 Barnet's growth and regeneration programme combines a programme of physical regeneration schemes and economic development initiatives. The fourth annual update on the Growth and Regeneration Programme was presented to Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee on 17 March 2016 – and showed the progress being made towards delivering the Borough's regeneration and development pipeline schemes and skills and enterprise activities, including key achievements and successes since the report of March 2015.

#### **Entrepreneurial Barnet**

- 2.3 Entrepreneurial Barnet is the Borough's cross-public sector approach to becoming the best place in London to be a small business. The first annual update on the programme was presented to Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee on 30 November 2016, and showed good progress against each of the theme areas of Entrepreneurial Barnet. A second annual update is due to be presented later this year. Some examples of what has been delivered to date include:
  - Launching a "Town Centre Offer" to help local groups do things like secure external funding or hold an event
  - Extensive work to improve the business environment and public realm in Burnt Oak town centre
  - A number of events focused at local and small businesses to help them to do things like engage with the council's supply chain, or take on an apprentice
  - A business competition focused on identifying the entrepreneurs of the future
  - Developing a "Business Hub" model to support local businesses and entrepreneurs to succeed and grow
  - Working with Brent Cross to create jobs through the "Let's Talk Shop" project
  - Helping people find work through the Welfare Reform Task Force and "BOOST" project in Burnt Oak

#### **Asset Management**

- 2.4 Effective asset management planning provides a framework within which the council can deliver operational and financial benefits of an estate which aspires to standards of best practice. A detailed review of the published Strategic Asset Management Plan has recently been initiated, which will ensure that there are fit-for-purpose plans for all council assets to 2020 and in some cases beyond. The revised plan will take into account the following progress in asset management over the last year.
  - Asset rationalisation. The Accommodation Implementation Programme (AIP) was successfully delivered on 17 October 2015, enabling the council to vacate Building 4 at North London Business Park (NLBP). Also:

Planning consent was granted for the proposed new office block in Colindale, which, assuming the Final Business Case is approved and the project goes ahead, will result in the majority of staff being located in Colindale. This move

will also result in significant revenue savings for the council as expensive leased-in properties can then be surrendered.

A draft Locality Strategy has been developed to ensure that specific council staff are suitable located, once the move of most staff from NLBP and Barnet House to the new Colindale office block takes place, in order to maintain staff access to customers and vice versa.

Planning consent was also granted for the relocation of services from the Mill Hill Depot to the new Oakleigh Road site and work on site to construct a highly efficient and fit-for-purpose facility is now underway.

Community assets. The Community Asset Strategy (CAS) was approved and an implementation plan developed, which includes the development of a Community Benefit Assessment Tool (CBAT) to allow rental subsidies to be fairly and transparently calculated for Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations. Work in accordance with the implementation plan continues and the CBAT has been trialled and refined in preparation for Policy and Resources (P&R) Committee approval in June 2016. Other projects for the construction of new community assets within the strategy include:

A new community centre at Tarling Road, for which planning consent was recently granted. The new hub will be used by a range of different groups delivering valuable services to the local community. Construction is scheduled to take place over the summer and be completed by the spring 2017.

The potential construction of a community hub at Daws Lane, in partnership with a local NW7 community group. Design work and negotiations on potential management and lease arrangements have taken place and whilst securing funding for the proposed building is challenging, it is hoped that planning permission will be granted in summer 2017.

Requirements definition for new community assets at Chandos Avenue and Sweets Way under Sect 106 obligations, and a Graham Park Community Hub designed to replace the facilities currently in the Graham Park concourse.

#### 2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 A key element of effective strategic and financial management is for the council to have comprehensive business plans in place that ensure there is a clear strategy for addressing future challenges, particularly in the context of continuing budget and demand pressures (resulting from demographic and legislative changes), delivering local priorities and allocating resources effectively.

#### 3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

3.1 There is no statutory duty to publish Committee Commissioning Plans but it is considered to be good practice to have comprehensive business plans in place for each Committee – which set out priorities and how progress will be

measured – to ensure that the council's vision for the future is clearly set out and transparent.

#### 4 POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Any revisions to the Commissioning Plan will be communicated internally and with key stakeholders.

#### 5 IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

#### 5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

5.1.1 This report invites Members to note progress on the Commissioning Plan in 2015/16.

## 5.2 Resources (Finance and Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2.1 In addition to continuing budget reductions, demographic change and the resulting pressure on services pose a significant challenge to the council. The organisation is facing significant budget reductions at the same time as the population is increasing, particularly in the young and very old population groups.
- 5.2.2 The Commissioning Plan has been informed by the council's Medium Term Financial Strategy, which sets out the need to make savings of £81m by 2020.

#### 5.3 Social Value

5.3.1 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2013 requires people who commission public services to think about how they can also secure wider social, economic and environmental benefits. Before commencing a procurement process, commissioners should think about whether the services they are going to buy, or the way they are going to buy them, could secure these benefits for their area or stakeholders.

#### 5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.4.1 All proposals emerging from the business planning process must be considered in terms of the council's legal powers and obligations, including its overarching statutory duties such as the Public Sector Equality Duty.
- 5.4.2 The <u>council's Constitution</u>, in <u>Part 15 Annex A</u>, <u>Responsibility for Functions</u>, <u>states</u> the functions of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee, including:
  - (9) To receive reports on relevant performance information on Delivery Units providing services under the remit of the Committee.

#### 5.5 Risk Management

5.5.1 The council has an established approach to risk management. Key corporate risks are assessed regularly and reported to Performance and Contract Management Committee on a quarterly basis.

#### 5.6 Equalities and Diversity

- 5.6.1 The general duty on public bodies is set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.
- 5.6.2 A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
  - a) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
  - b) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
  - c) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 5.6.3 Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:
  - a) Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
  - b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it:
  - c) Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- 5.6.4 The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.
- 5.6.5 Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, the need to tackle prejudice; and promote understanding.
- 5.6.6 Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others but that is not to be taken as permitting conduct that would otherwise be prohibited by or under this Act.
- 5.6.7 The relevant protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.
- 5.6.8 It also covers marriage and civil partnership with regard to eliminating discrimination.

- 5.6.9 In agreeing the Corporate Plan, the council is setting an updated strategic equalities objective and reiterating our commitment to delivering this. The strategic equalities objective is as follows:
  - Citizens will be treated equally, with understanding and respect, and will have equal access to quality services which provide value to the tax payer.

#### 5.7 Consultation and Engagement

- 5.7.1 The original Corporate Plan and Commissioning Plans were informed by extensive consultation through the Budget and Business Planning report to Council (3 March 2015).
- 5.7.2 The consultation aimed to set a new approach to business planning and engagement by consulting on the combined package of the Corporate Plan, Commissioning Plans, and budget. In particular it aimed to:
  - Create a stronger link between strategy, priorities and resources
  - Place a stronger emphasis on commissioning as a driver of the business planning process.
  - Focus on how the Council will use its resources to achieve its Commissioning Plans.
- 5.6.3 To allow for an eight week budget consultation, consultation began after Full Council on 17 December 2014 and concluded on 11 February 2015. Further consultation on the budget for 2016/17 has been undertaken following Policy and Resources Committee on 16 December 2015.

#### 6 BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 Asset, Regeneration and Growth Committee Commissioning Plan 2015-20.