

Barnet
2024

DRAFT CORPORATE PLAN

October 2018



As a council, we want to create successful places, achieve great outcomes, deliver quality services and develop resilient communities. As we look to the future we want to build on our unique strengths: the parks and green spaces, excellent schools and diverse communities that get along and make an active contribution.

The pace of change in our world is fast, especially technology, so it's important that we move with the times, and make the most of the opportunities that come our way. This gives us the chance to embrace change and be innovative in the way that we deliver services.

Financial challenges

Like all councils, we're in a difficult financial situation, with more and more people needing our services, less money to spend, and uncertainty about how councils are funded in the future.

Our resources are limited, so we must be clear about what we can do and ensure that we care for the most vulnerable people whilst achieving a financially sustainable balance across the services we provide.

We need to save £69million over the next five years. That's on top of the £155million we've saved since 2010. To do that, the council will need to make the decisions we need to about priorities and how we spend our limited funds. We may need to stop doing some things or do them in a very different way. We will also look at how we can find opportunities to generate more income.

Ambitions for the future

Despite the challenges, we are ambitious for Barnet and the people that live and work here. We must now prioritise and use our limited resources effectively as we develop plans for the next five years.

We developed a draft plan – Barnet 2024 - which outlined outcomes we want to achieve for the borough, and priorities to focus on. These reflected what we know are important for Barnet, based on feedback from surveys, consultations, engagement events and your councillors. We also set out an approach for how we will deliver the plan within our budget.

We wanted to hear from residents, communities and businesses, so throughout the summer we gathered feedback through an online survey and events. We have taken those views on board and now incorporated them into a final draft.

What you told us

A key piece of feedback was wanting to see more detail around how we would be delivering on the priorities we've set out, as well as how they would be funded. We understand that it's important to demonstrate our approach in how we are going to achieve what we're setting out to do.

Therefore, we have now added in information around the 5-year strategic approach to delivery for each of our priorities, giving an extra level of detail. This will be further supported by the development of annual delivery plans for each Theme Committee, which includes the responsibility of delivering any corporate priorities that fall within its remit, alongside any additional priorities specific to the committee.

Further comments on our outcomes and priorities were very varied with the most common themes being around; street cleansing, tackling environmental crime and anti-social behaviour, improving air quality and investing in sustainable transport. As these have come out as particularly important areas to you, we have now reflected them with more emphasis within our corporate plan.

Feedback was also received on our approach for how we will deliver the plan within our budget, with comments relating to outsourcing of services, robust management of contract and service delivery arrangements and a commitment to remaining transparent in our work. There was also a clear theme around how we balance our council tax rates with being able to deliver services. This has been taken on board and language has been changed to ensure there is greater clarity around these points.

What next

The Barnet 2024 plan will be published in March 2019, alongside our Medium Term Financial Strategy.

2024

WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

Our proposed focus is on three main outcomes:

OUTCOME



OUTCOME



OUTCOME



PRIORITIES

A set of key priorities that we will be focussing on sit underneath each outcome, including detail of how we intend to deliver this. This doesn't aim to capture all that the council does, rather it provides a framework to guide us.

PRIORITIES

OUTCOME

A pleasant, well maintained borough that we protect and invest in

Getting Barnet clean through efficient street cleaning services, minimising and recycling waste, and weekly bin collections

Keeping the borough moving, including improvements to roads and pavements

Getting the best out of our parks and improving air quality by looking after and investing in our greenspaces

Ensuring decent quality housing that buyers and renters can afford, prioritising Barnet residents

Investing in community facilities to support a growing population, such as schools and leisure centres

Responsible delivery of our major regeneration schemes to create better places to live and work, whilst protecting and enhancing the borough

OUTCOME

Our residents live happy, healthy, independent lives with the most vulnerable protected

Improving services for children and young people and ensuring the needs of children are considered in everything we do

Integrating health and social care and providing support for those with mental health problems and complex needs

Supporting our residents who are older, vulnerable or who have disabilities, to remain independent and have a good quality of life

Helping people into work and better paid employment

Encouraging residents to lead active and healthy lifestyles and maintain their mental wellbeing

Ensuring we have good schools and enough school places so all children have access to a great education

Keeping Barnet safe

Tackling anti-social behaviour and environmental crime

Celebrating our diverse and strong communities and taking a zero-tolerance approach to hate crime

Ensuring we are a family friendly borough

Focusing on the strengths of the community and what they can do to help themselves and each other

Supporting local businesses to thrive

OUTCOME
**A pleasant,
well
maintained
borough that
we protect
and invest in**



Getting Barnet clean through efficient street cleaning services, minimising and recycling waste, and weekly bin collections

How we will deliver this:

- Supporting residents to reduce waste to below the London average by working on initiatives that promote waste minimisation and reuse
- Working with landlords and agents to reduce the hidden 'throw away' culture in many communal dwellings
- Fully utilising new street cleansing equipment
- Reducing bin clutter in town centres by continuing to implement time-banded collections

Keeping the borough moving, including improvements to roads and pavements

How we will deliver this:

- Improving the condition of our roads and pavements
- Encouraging the use of public transport, walking and cycling through the 'healthy streets' approach
- Lobbying for improvements to public transport and bringing back disused public transport such as rail lines
- Developing a cycle network to major destinations in the borough without impeding main traffic routes
- Promoting and continuing to roll out electric vehicle charging and car clubs
- Using enforcement to increase compliance and support traffic to move smoothly and safely

2024

Getting the best out of our parks and improving air quality by looking after and investing in our greenspaces

How we will deliver this:

- Developing masterplans that deliver significant improvements to parks
- Delivering the tree planting programme across the borough to alleviate the effects of pollution
- Identifying sites for using green spaces to promote health and wellbeing
- Working with TfL and Highways England to improve air quality on the main network corridors and areas close to schools

Ensuring decent quality housing that buyers and renters can afford, prioritising Barnet residents

How we will deliver this:

- Increasing supply to ensure greater housing choice for residents
- Delivering new affordable housing, including new homes on council-owned land
- Prioritising people with a local connection and who give back to the community through the Housing Allocations Scheme
- Ensuring that good landlords continue to provide accommodation and that poor-quality housing is improved

Investing in community facilities to support a growing population, such as schools and leisure centres

How we will deliver this:

- Investing in community facilities such as;
 - new and replacement schools;
 - enhancing our indoor and outdoor sporting facilities;
 - maintaining our 21st century libraries
 - transformation of parks and open spaces

Responsible delivery of our major regeneration schemes to create better places to live and work, whilst protecting and enhancing the borough

How we will deliver this:

- Working with partners to deliver the Brent Cross Cricklewood scheme which includes; a new town centre, train station, 27,000 jobs and 7,500 new homes
- Working with The Barnet Group to deliver housing on smaller sites across the borough
- Continuing to invest in Colindale, including through;
 - progressing the development of Grahame Park
 - enhancements to Colindale tube station
 - ensuring that the major housing developments in the area contribute to an overall sense of place

PRIORITIES

OUTCOME

Our residents live happy, healthy, independent lives with the most vulnerable protected



Improving services for children and young people and ensuring the needs of children are considered in everything we do

How we will deliver this:

- Improving children's services to get a 'good' Ofsted rating
- Providing effective leadership and empowering staff
- Improving the social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing of children and young people
- Preventing young people from getting involved in violence, crime, exploitation and anti-social behaviour
- Being a good corporate parent to children in care and care leavers

Integrating health and social care and providing support for those with mental health problems and complex needs

How we will deliver this:

- Working with local NHS organisations, GPs and NHS Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group to provide more health and care services closer to home
- Working with the NHS to achieve timely discharge from hospital for patients
- Offering, and signposting to, prevention support for people to stay active and more independent in the community
- Developing joined up services for those with complex mental health needs to prevent crisis and to enable residents to fulfil their potential

2024

Supporting our residents who are older, vulnerable or who have disabilities, to remain independent and have a good quality of life

How we will deliver this:

- Opening new extra care schemes for people that need additional support to remain living independently
- Providing enablement services that help people regain or increase their independence
- Using technology to enhance independence and assist with care
- Offering support for carers of people with dementia
- Providing equipment that allows people to stay more independent at home

Helping people into work and better paid employment

How we will deliver this:

- Working with partners to provide employment support
- Offering employment schemes and apprenticeships on the regeneration sites
- Offering specific support to help people find work such as care leavers, people with disabilities and Universal Credit claimants
- Promoting apprenticeships across Barnet and supporting businesses to make use of the apprenticeship levy

Encouraging residents to lead active and healthy lifestyles and maintain their mental wellbeing

How we will deliver this:

- Delivering new indoor and outdoor sporting facilities and enhancing existing sporting facilities, and ensuring participation in sport and physical activity is accessible to all
- Giving residents access to health and wellbeing information and activities through the Fit and Active Barnet (FAB) framework
- Completing the implementation of the new leisure contract (which includes a range of well-being services such as; the Fit & Active Barnet Card, weight management services, falls prevention, diabetes control and dementia friendly sessions)
- Supporting people to maintain and improve their mental health and wellbeing by raising awareness, tackling stigma and discrimination and making mental health everyone's business
- Providing residents advice, guidance and screening on substance misuse and ensuring that access to treatment is available to those who need it most
- Implementing the Healthy Weight strategy focusing on promoting physical exercise and healthy eating in schools

Ensuring we have good schools and enough school places so all children have access to a great education

How we will deliver this:

- Planning and forecasting to deliver school places to meet identified needs
- Improving pupils' achievement and narrowing the attainment gap
- Improving outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities
- Supporting children to have the best start in life and be ready for learning

OUTCOME
**Safe and
strong
communities
where
people get
along well**



Keeping Barnet safe

How we will deliver this:

- Maintaining low levels of crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse on our streets
- Ensuring the effective management of offenders to reduce offending
- Supporting victims of crime and anti-social behaviour to reduce the risk of repeat victimisation
- Delivering the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy
- Delivering a multi-agency response to violence, vulnerability and the criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults
- Reducing the fear of crime

Tackling anti-social behaviour and environmental crime

How we will deliver this:

- Delivering targeted multi-agency interventions in areas subjected to persistent crime, anti-social behaviour and environmental crime (such as fly-tipping and littering)
- Using enforcement tools and powers to protect communities, reduce offending and increase compliance

2024

Celebrating our diverse and strong communities and taking a zero-tolerance approach to hate crime

How we will deliver this:

- Raising awareness of Barnet's diverse communities and providing opportunities to celebrate and promote cohesion
- Preventing radicalisation and supporting victims of hate crime, including raising awareness
- Working with local community groups to respond to Hate Crime
- Mapping and building relationships with new and emerging communities

Focusing on the strengths of the community and what they can do to help themselves and each other

How we will deliver this:

- Encouraging individual and corporate volunteers to help build active communities
- Providing access to a comprehensive directory of community resources
- Supporting the voluntary, community and faith sector to build capacity for meeting the needs of residents
- Developing strong and resilient partnerships through the Communities Together Network and Barnet Multi-Faith Forum

Ensuring we are a family friendly borough

How we will deliver this:

- Helping children to live in safe and supportive families and communities
- Providing services that encourage and build resilience
- Increasing the participation, voice and influence of young people
- Embedding children's rights across policies and procedures
- Ensuring children and families know about and can influence decisions that affect them

Supporting local businesses to thrive

How we will deliver this:

- Streamlining council access for businesses and developing a clear business support offer through Entrepreneurial Barnet
- Reducing the numbers of vacant units to ensure key town centres are thriving
- Encouraging residents and local businesses to play an active role in shaping their high streets
- Supporting businesses to improve workplace health
- Making Barnet the best place in London to be a small business

OUR APPROACH

WE HAVE SET OUT BELOW HOW WE INTEND TO DELIVER BOTH OUR STATUTORY DUTIES AND AMBITIONS FOR BARNET WITHIN OUR FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS. WE WANT TO ENSURE THAT TAX PAYERS MONEY GOES AS FAR AS IT CAN.

A FAIR DEAL

- Delivering services that matter most by making decisions to prioritise our limited resources
- Providing value for money for the tax payer and ensuring we are transparent in how we operate
- Standing up for Barnet and ensuring it gets its fair share of resources including policing and general funding

EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE COUNCIL

- Managing our finances and contracts robustly
- Providing residents with the assistance they need at the first point of contact and greater access to online services and support
- Treating residents equally, with understanding and respect, with all having access to quality services





APPROACH

MAXIMISING OPPORTUNITY

- Taking a commercial approach to generating income, and looking for new opportunities to generate revenue from our estate
- Making use of evolving technology and innovation to help us achieve better outcomes and become more efficient
- Capitalising on opportunities from responsible growth and development to boost the local economy

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

- Working with residents and the community to share responsibility to ensure Barnet thrives
- Focussing on prevention and early help so residents can live independently for as long as possible
- Collaborating locally to achieve the best outcomes for Barnet



SCHOOLS

HEALTHY

COMMUNITIES

STRONG

SAFE

RESIDENTS

INVESTMENT