



## Cabinet

<b>Title</b>	<b>Our Plan for Adult Social Care 2024-2029</b>
<b>Date of meeting</b>	12 March 2024
<b>Report of</b>	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Councillor Paul Edwards
<b>Wards</b>	All
<b>Status</b>	Public
<b>Key</b>	Key
<b>Urgent</b>	No
<b>Appendices</b>	Appendix A – Our Plan for Adult Social Care
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### Summary

Adult social care makes an invaluable difference to people's lives. At its best, care and support mean that people can live a 'gloriously ordinary life.'

This plan tells the story of adult social care in Barnet – through facts and figures, but most importantly through people's experiences. The plan shows the difference that adult social care makes to individuals, families, communities and staff across the sector.

At the same time, we know that times are tough. There is less money for councils, including adult social care, with more people likely to need support.

Our aim in this plan is to show how we will focus our efforts to have the biggest impact we can, even within our constraints. We will set out our plans for the next few years, the priorities and how we will make a difference.

To write this plan, we spoke to many people across Barnet, including people who draw on care and support, families and carers, care staff, and experts. We engaged with over 300 people through surveys, focus groups and community visits. We also brought in what we have heard from people's feedback over recent years.

## Recommendations

**1. Cabinet is asked to approve Our Plan for Adult Social Care 2024-2029 and delegate authority for implementation to Executive Director – Communities, Adults and Health**

### 1. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 1.1 We have created this plan for adult social care in order to bring together in one place a clear vision, narrative and action plan for adult social care over the next 5 years.
- 1.2 The plan brings together key information about adult social care, data and evidence on our performance, as well as people's stories to illustrate the impacts of adult social care.
- 1.3 We also set out the national and local context for adult social care, and some the challenges and constraints we face. It situates adult social care in the context of Our Plan for Barnet – caring for people, places and planet , as well as other strategies and plans from across the council.
- 1.4 We worked with a wide range of residents, families, care providers and staff to put together the strategy. We involved people in different ways including surveys, focus groups, and attending community events. In total, we heard from 300 people.
- 1.5 We also brought together data and insight from the past few years, including what we know from residents' feedback and experiences.
- 1.6 There are 5 priorities for adult social care in Barnet which are set out in the strategy:
  - We will be ambitious about what people can achieve, and get the right support for each individual
  - We will support people to live well and be part of communities
  - We will work with people to shape and develop care and support
  - We will work towards more equal access and more inclusive services
  - We will be realistic in how we use resources, keeping up with changes and ways of working, and being creative in finding solution
- 1.7 For each area we have set out a number of actions – which will enable us to work towards each of these priorities
- 1.8 We have also developed an action plan which will enable us to track and report on progress

### 2. Alternative Options Considered and Not Recommended

2.1 Not applicable

### 3. Post Decision Implementation

We will promote the plan through different communications channels

Once approved, we will continue to update the action plan and provide updates to Cabinet and Adults and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub- Committee

## **4. Corporate Priorities, Performance and Other Considerations**

### **4.1 Corporate Plan**

Part of the Barnet Plan priority 'Caring for People' is the aspiration to enable all residents – particularly our older and disabled communities – to live well so they can lead fit, healthy and happy lives, feeling safe in their own homes and as part of a supportive community.

Adult social care is a huge part of achieving this aim, particularly working with some of the most vulnerable people in the community, promoting independence, keeping people safe, well and achieving their goals and aspirations. This plan will enable us to keep a focus on our key priorities to achieve these aims.

### **4.2 Corporate Performance / Outcome Measures**

The action plan will be used to track progress against outcomes and actions, this will also support the achievement of the goals of the corporate plan.

### **4.3 Sustainability**

The plan covers all elements of adult social care including financial sustainability and how we will make best use of resources, manage demand and prevent people's needs from escalating so people stay well for longer in the community.

### **4.4 Corporate Parenting**

In line with Children and Social Work Act 2017, the council has a duty to consider Corporate Parenting Principles in decision-making across the council.

Care experienced adults may go on to develop care and support needs and draw on council adult social care support. The services and initiatives described in this report are relevant and accessible to care experienced adults.

### **4.5 Risk Management**

The Council has an established approach to risk management, which is set out in the Risk Management Framework. Risks are reviewed quarterly (as a minimum) with risks rated 15+ reported to Adults and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

### **4.6 Insight**

The plan makes extensive use of data, insight, and people's feedback and experience. Each priority details relevant performance information and key findings from engagement and consultations. Some of the sources we used are:

1. Adult Social Care User Survey and Survey of Adult Carers (national surveys)
2. Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (national data collection)
3. Other performance data from adult social care
4. Data on disproportionality / inequalities
5. Findings from feedback surveys and engagement activities with people who use adult social care

- 6. A survey developed specifically for this strategy
- 7. Findings from focus groups about adult social care and proposed proprieties

#### 4.7 Social Value

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. There are no social value implications in relation to the recommendations in this report.

### 5. Resource Implications (Finance and Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT and Property)

5.1 There are no specific resource implications for the plan, which will be delivered within existing resources. In 2023/24 the adult social care net revenue budget is £137m (net)

### 6. Legal Implications and Constitution References

6.1 In accordance with the Council Constitution, Part 2D, Section 1 the terms of reference of the Cabinet state that “The Executive will exercise all of the local authority functions which are not the responsibility of any other part of the local authority, whether by law or under this Constitution.” It also includes the following responsibility, approving policies that are not part of the policy framework;

6.2 Cabinet is asked to approve the Adult Social Strategy for 2024-2029 which is a ‘key decision’. In accordance with the Constitution, *Part 2D - Terms of Reference and Delegation of Duties to the Cabinet, paragraph 4* - Cabinet is responsible for all key decisions. The approval of the Adult Social Strategy is a key decision for the following reasons:

- an executive decision which is likely to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area of two or more wards of the Borough;

### 7. Consultation

7.1 As outlined above, the strategy is heavily based on feedback, insights and experiences of people with lived experience of care and support. We did this through a variety of methods including:

1. Responses to a survey specifically about the strategy
2. Findings from feedback surveys from people with recent experience of adult social care
3. Engaging with residents at community meetings and events
4. Feedback from care providers
5. Feedback from the voluntary, community and faith sector

### 8. Equalities and Diversity

8.1 Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 sets out the Public-Sector Equality Duty which requires a public authority (or those exercising public functions) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010.
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not.

- Fostering of good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not.

The broad purpose of this duty is to integrate considerations of equality into everyday business and keep them under review in decision making, the design of policies and the delivery of services. The protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex and sexual orientation.

In order to assist in meeting the duty the Council will:

- Try to understand the diversity of our customers to improve our services.
- Consider the impact of our decisions on different groups to ensure they are fair.
- Mainstream equalities into business and financial planning and integrating equalities into everything we do.
- Learn more about Barnet's diverse communities by engaging with them. This is also what we expect of our partners.

8.2 This is set out in the Council's Equalities Policy, which can be found on the website at: <https://www.barnet.gov.uk/your-Council/policies-plans-and-performance/equality-and-diversity>

Equalities, diversity and inclusion are a key part of the plan and is one of our four pillars in adult social care.

8.3 One of the 5 priorities is: We will work towards more equal access and more inclusive services

8.4 As part of this we set out some of the inequalities and challenges within adult social care, which we know through our data and people's experience. We set out the key areas of focus that will enable us to achieve this priority.

## **9. Background Papers**

9.1 An earlier version of the plan was presented at Adults and Health Overview and Scrutiny sub committee on 24 January 2024

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1005&MId=11464&Ver=4>